SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER

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HANSENS TO CHILE



"Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified, even as it is with you: And that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men: for all men have not faith." 2 Thessalonians 3:1–2

September 18th, Chile celebrated its independence from Spain. As a church, we celebrated by handing out our independence tracts during evangelism and enjoying fellowship after the church service. Currently here in Punta Arenas, Chile has announced plans to strengthen and modernize its Armed Forces, particularly in the southern region. The plans include modernizing military equipment, expanding naval patrols, improving port infrastructure, and constructing new military bases. This news comes amid increased tension between Chile and Argentina over the Strait of Magellan and trade with the Falkland Islands. Chile established its sovereignty over the Strait through an 1881 treaty. Recently, Argentina has objected to a proposed maritime trade route between Punta Arenas and the Falkland Islands, and officials have discussed possible economic sanctions against participating companies. For those of us living in Punta Arenas, the proposed military expansion and port infrastructure improvements could bring more people and continued growth to the region.

Amid these developments, we have been encouraged to see new people attending the church. Miguel and Patricia started attending, along with a family from the island of Chiloé: Patricio, Rosa, Debora, Damaris, and Isabella. Rosa's husband is a sheep shearer who works on the island of Tierra del Fuego, moving from camp to camp. I have not had the opportunity to meet him yet.

During our evangelism along the Costanera, we encountered a group of Chinese tourists who spoke very good English. One lady named Ying had many questions about different religions. She told me that her grandmother read the Bible and had told her about Jesus Christ. Although Ying has heard about Christ, she is not saved. Mauricio had the opportunity to present the Gospel and publicly pray for the group of Chilean teenagers. Our Saturday night evangelism also brought another visitor to the church. A young lady from Taiwan named Kaylie attended our English church service on Sunday morning. She told me that she was saved. It is encouraging to see the opportunities the Lord gives us to share the Gospel with people from different parts of the world.

In October, I had the opportunity to participate in a Bible conference in Peru. Expecting to strengthen the brethren in their faith, I found that they strengthened mine instead. An American missionary established the hosting church, but local Peruvian believers now support and operate it entirely.

As a pastor, I am accustomed to praying for others, the church, and my family, but not for myself. About three months ago, I knew something was not right in my abdominal area. I consulted with a specialist and underwent imaging. After reviewing the results, it was confirmed that I have two small abdominal hernias and separated abdominal walls. Because of their size and location, surgery is my only option. I know that some people have lived with hernias for years, but I also realize that my condition cannot be ignored. I would appreciate your prayers concerning my health and the surgery ahead.

Over the last few months, my wife and I have faced a great deal of opposition in both our personal lives and the ministry. Most notably, someone threatened me and our ministry. Given the individual's history, I took the threat seriously. We would appreciate your prayers for our health and safety as my wife, and I continue the work the Lord has called us to do.

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