

The Griffins

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The Griffins' DR Mission Newsletter

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News from the DR

The integration of our "Brownie Night" group and the Youth Group is going very well. We have seen a steady rise in the number attending youth group each week. It wasn't long ago that I told you about Shany and told you that she was the only one from Brownie Night that had been coming to youth group. Well, we are very happy to report that this is no longer the case and we have anywhere from 7-10 brownie night kids showing up for youth group over the past several weeks. I feel like one of the biggest things that has helped the attendance is the fact that we started to invite some of the Christian kids from the youth group to Brownie Night, so they could start to become friends with the BN kids. It has worked very well, and our Youth Group kids have done a great job of befriending and making the BN kids feel welcomed at youth group.

Two weeks ago, we started a mini-series on love, purity, and trust. We have been watching videos by Joshua Harris, and then having a question and answer time. It has been very encouraging to see these young folks asking good questions and learning so much about how to treat members of the opposite sex. Proper dating is a serious issue here and we are trying to be proactive and teach these young folks how to act in dating and relationship situations before they make any mistakes.

Unexpected Trip

Recently, we have been following new developments in the Dominican government that affect us. For years, missionaries have enjoyed the freedom to come and go from the DR with nothing more than a standard issued US passport. Well, that is all changing. Basically what is happening is, the Dominican government, as of June 1st, is bringing stricter enforcement of its immigration laws and is now requiring ALL foreigners to apply for and receive a Visa to be legally living in the country.

What this means for us and many other missionaries

is that we have to make an unscheduled trip back to the States to obtain our Visas. We leave July 1st for the States and will be there indefinitely until our Visas are approved. This process should take about 6 weeks, but there are no guarantees. The DR has recently eliminated the "Religious Visa", so it is getting harder for missionaries to obtain a Visa. We do have other options, but we have even heard of a missionary family who was recently rejected for their Visas.

We have estimated that this trip and the Visas will cost us in the neighborhood of \$7,000. We are asking everyone to pray for us during this time for two specific things. 1.) That God will supply our need of \$7,000. 2.) That we will be able to obtain our Visas in a timely fashion and be able to get back to our ministry here.

Language Studies

Our formal language studies are coming to an end. (Yay!) We have basically completed all that we need to speak the language fluently, and now we just need to keep practicing and use what we have learned.

I (Steve) do have 2 more goals to meet in my language studies. On June 28th I will be preaching in Spanish in the youth group for the first time, and then later, I will be preaching in church. Prayers would be greatly appreciated!

Prayer Requests

- Pray for our Visa process.
- Pray for the youth of San Pedro.
- Pray for our church plant in the village of Ramon Santana.
- Pray for Team Dominican.
- Pray for hearts of the Dominican people to be open to the gospel.



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