

Dear Friends,

Romans 8:28 "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose." We are learning the reality of this verse more each day. We are praising the Lord that our container was shipped from Missouri this last week. Why will we have had to wait 3-4 months before getting it? Only the Lord knows fully, but we are just now finishing up the painting and repairs on the apartment. It has been a lot easier doing it without worrying about the furniture and other things. However, we are really ready to have our things to make this apartment a home. We are looking forward to seeing our wedding gifts again since they have been packed away for 1 year and 8 months now. It will be such a blessing and a lot like Christmas again. We would appreciate your continued prayers that we will have no hold-ups through the customs process and that things would go smoothly.

Although missionaries go to the foreign field to teach and preach, there is much to learn from the people themselves. On one occasion, the Lord set up Hannah for the unexpected. After being tired from working hard on some necessary paperwork all week, she was feeling the stress. She went to visit and try to encourage a young lady named Beulah, who had been burned from head to foot in a car accident. Beulah has been in bed for 10 months and is covered with scar tissue and has a broken foot as well. She has been married only 4 1/2 years and has a son who is about 18 months old. Beulah is a beautiful young lady, or so she was as some would say. God did spare her face, but the rest of her body is badly scarred. In spite of the disfiguring scars, her face was glowing, and she was thanking God for sparing her life. Her testimony is that she knows God spared her for a purpose, and she has committed her life to whatever God has for her. She shares this with all her friends and family that come to visit her. What a testimony! Hannah returned home humbled, and thanking the Lord for the reminder of how trivial some things can be-even government paperwork. Please pray for Beulah as she is still young in the Lord.

We have started studying Spanish three days a week with a tutor, and have been learning many helpful things about the culture and the way of thinking here. Please pray for the salvation of a man named Santiago. He is our upstairs neighbor and has had 3 bypass surgeries. Hannah has been working (discipling) some with his wife Elisa, who is a new Christian. We are excited about the ministry the Lord has for us here with the Dominican people. The Lord has been so good to us; and we thank Him for the special people He has put behind us to accomplish His work in the Dominican Republic. God bless you for your faithful prayers and support.

Starting with our last prayer letter, we have begun sending our prayer letter in Spanish by E-mail to those who request to receive it that way. If you would like to receive the Spanish edition as well as or instead of the English edition please let us know at lhtownsley@mindspring.com.

In His Service,
Luke & Hannah Townsley