



Doctors on Mission Bolivia April 2008 Prayer Topics

The Celie family

- Rik and Sabine have **safely arrived in Bolivia**, in spite of difficulties. The luggage was delayed; and at the last moment their plans were altered by the Lord. The original plan was to fly to Santa Ana (in Beni), but they had no idea of the vast flooding in the whole region of Beni. They were led by the Lord to Sucre instead of Santa Ana.
- The Lord has placed **Sabine** back in her (very beloved) original ministry as a teacher in the churches, at the Christian university, and in the local (ADD) seminar. She is often invited for special series of talks about marriage and family, about Bible and Science, and about our Hebrew roots. For that, she stays in Sucre for the first part of each week. The second half of the week, she is available for our team in Yamparaez, and everything concerning the ministry of Doctors on Mission. For Rik and Sabine, as a couple, this is a very good arrangement which only the Lord could have made, and for which they are very grateful.
- **Rik** enjoys the responsibility for the logistics, administrative, and financial tasks of Doctors on Mission. In spite of the new challenges for the management of the extra bases in Tarija and Beni, the Lord gives him wisdom, insight, and the strength to travel throughout the country and abroad. They are especially grateful for your faithful prayers that they can persevere in all circumstances.
- The children continue to be brave, and are getting good grades in school. Though of course they miss each other often, they keep everything in its place by God's grace. God gives them His peace. God has taken special care of **Karolien** this year, by giving her two new close girl friends, who sometimes also invite her to spend the weekend at their homes, which is of course a very welcome change for children at boarding school ☺.
- **Bart** also has his group of friends, and is absorbed in the many (sport) activities for his age. Bart and Karolien regularly consult mummy about spiritual matters at school and in their lives, which proves that the Lord - thanks to your prayers – is keeping His hand on them. Also, recently 6 youngsters were baptized in the school! Thank you for your prayers for Canyonville Christian Academy!
- They also thank the Lord for his ongoing **faithful provisions every month!**
- They are both grateful for good **health**.
- Please pray for health, protection, divine wisdom, and an excellent testimony for Karel-Bart and Karolien in Oregon.
- Please pray for clear **guidance** from God for activities and timing for Rik and Sabine, for the development of their many responsibilities together.
- Pray for **strength, courage and anointing for Rik**, who represents this ministry in many places within the country and abroad.
- Please pray for **God's blessing and anointing for Sabine's teaching** and ministry within and outside of Doctors on Mission; that many lives can be ministered to and touched, blessed to bless at their turn, strengthened, sanctified and totally ready for the good works God has for each of us.



- In May, **Rik** travels to **Norway** to a conference of Christian Doctors where he can present the ministry to doctors from all over the world. They believe the Lord has a very special purpose for this. Please pray for a safe journey, for an anointed speaking ability, and positive responses as directed by the Lord. Pray for His will to be done. Please also pray for **Sabine**, who will "hold the fort" in **Bolivia** meanwhile ☺. Pray especially for physical, mental and spiritual protection during that crucial period.

The Doctors on Mission team in Bolivia

- Also pray for the whole team here in Bolivia for health, protection, divine wisdom, and a good and strong testimony.
- Please pray for **God's guidance for the planning** of all mobile medical teams in Chuquisaca, Tarija and Beni this year. So that they will be done in God's time, with the people He chooses, at the places where Jesus precedes us to be His hands and His mouth.
- **Pray that each team can be a huge blessing in its own way** to the population and very specially also for the brothers and sisters living scattered and forgotten in the jungle, that they (and DOM) can remain a great testimony of the love of Christ for every individual on our way.
- Pray for the gift of **fruitful silent time** in the presence of the Lord, that He can keep working in the depth of our hearts; and give us strong roots in Him, and in Him only, through our connection in His unfathomable great love.
- Pray for a **strong team**, ardent for the Lord and for the fellow-man! Pray for the sanctifying action of the Spirit, through which the power of Christ can be disclosed in our life.

Yamparaez (Andes cordillera, Central-Bolivia)

- It is very nice to see and to experience that the infrastructure of our base in Yamparaez is used for Christian meetings and retreats (by groups of believers from the neighbourhood), where people always seek to reload the batteries and to strengthen the unity to be able to serve the Lord even better!
- The Bolivian "pillars" in our ministry keep standing and growing. We especially notice good growth in insight, leadership, and responsibility in **Tania and Juan Jose**.
- Despite the continuous rainfall the team of youngsters lead by Doctor Oscar and Doctor Betsabe - with careful route planning from Rik - was able to outreach to several communities in the mountains.

Tarija (Chaco region, South-Bolivia)

- Keep praying for **Doctor Ino and his family** in their new position in Tarija; and for everyone the Lord calls in His service. That these young people can answer eagerly and obediently to the Lord's call to serve with their life and talents, anywhere and in every way! May God remove all obstacles! God calls warriors, may they hear the battle cry and answer eagerly!
- Please pray for a better housing as mission base for the Tarija expeditions.

Santa Ana (Beni, Amazon region)

- Because of the flood in Beni, it is not wise to set up an expedition. To be able to do useful work, a good logistic planning had to be made, and cooperation with local people had to be agreed upon as well.



- Meanwhile, the **logistics and the exploration work in Beni** (where Rik was travelling with pastor Romulo) are proceeding under the full blessing of the Lord. Thank you very much for your prayers! The local churches are enthusiastic that "fresh" troops are coming for God's Kingdom, and they have promised full cooperation. Praise God, who is never mistaken!
- Please pray for effective cooperation during the development of the work in the enormous Amazon region of Beni.
- Even before we arrived in Sucre the Lord had put us in contact with a pastor in Beni in a very special way (via a contact in Santa Cruz). Out of a place called Guayaramerin, he occasionally sends small teams of young doctors to help the people in the region. No coincidence! We have made plans to learn to know each other's work better and to join forces if possible.

The status of the work in Bolivia

- In Sucre, the doors are wide open for ministry! Suddenly, many requests were received (by Sabine) for solid Biblical teaching; and apparently this is also a special time to outreach everywhere as a married couple to testify of God's work to build the faith of many people. Especially many young people are starting to move, willing to help us on the mobile expeditions, praise the Lord! And **the church** in general, indifferent towards this ministry for a long time, **is suddenly very interested** and would like to cooperate praying and working where possible. God's time begins!
- We notice **more unity** (instead of rivalry) between the different churches. There is communication and cooperation in various areas, with enormous benefit for the testimony of Christ in the city of Sucre of course.

Help from abroad

- **Doctor Iris Bakels** (from the Netherlands) is a tremendous blessing for the ministry here. She has indeed a real "mission profile", and contributes in many ways. She has adapted in a short period, and is at full speed now. We see the Lord taking good care of her, and also working through her. Please keep praying for her; that she can keep seeing God's way clearly, and keeps following Him only, like she has done wholeheartedly until now.
- Pray for **doctor Mattanja** from the Netherlands, currently preparing to help us a couple of months. Please also pray for **Bert and Letta and Rachel** Vanden Top who in mid April will start doing a monthly children's ministry in different places here in Bolivia. Pray for their safety, health, and God's abundant blessing for our joint efforts as a team; and for an excellent understanding in the peace and joy of the Lord.
- We are grateful for our **fellow-workers, sponsors and prayers in Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany and the USA!**
- Please pray for the **funds** expected from the Netherlands to finalise the construction works at the Yamparuez base.

The political situation in Bolivia

- Politically, it remains quiet at the moment. The government is working (illegally - only with the ruling party) on the new (extremist) constitution for the country. Uneasiness is breeding underground, riots occur from time to time, caused also by the receding economy. There is a lot of unemployment and prices for food have risen enormously. People are hungry and unsatisfied. But God's people pray and fast (out of conviction ☺); and we trust that the political



situation will not get out of hand. We are grateful that everything is endurable for the moment, and that God's people stand in the breach. Amen!

MANY THANKS FOR YOUR FAITHFUL PRAYERS.
YOU ARE AN ESSENTIAL PART OF THIS WORK OF GOD!
FROM ALL OF US HERE.

CONNECTED,
IN HIM, WITH HIM, AND FOR HIM,
JESUS IS LORD!

RIK & SABINE CELIE,
BART AND KAROLIEN,
AND THE WHOLE TEAM.