



Daily Ritual #1
Filtering Drinking Water

High Risk Venture!!!

MARK COOPER

IN

COLOMBIA, SOUTH AMERICA

Vision Focus - Missions

As I approach my 2nd year anniversary as a missionary here in Colombia I realize that this is a *High Risk Venture* where the outcome is uncertain and the way is often unclear. Missions itself is a High Risk Venture. It has cost more than I wanted to pay and looks like it may take longer than I had planned to stay. It is still hard for me to grasp the weight and importance of the fact that God's plan for the salvation of the world is for us (You & I) to be His witnesses into all the world, and *He does not have a Plan "B."* What is clear, is that we have an enemy who wants to steal, kill and destroy. We are reminded of this by the news every day. Also clear is that we serve a Big God. He came to seek and save the lost and He came that we all might have life and have it to the full. Will you join me in this High Risk Venture of Gods' plan for the salvation of the world?

Here are a few of the things your generosity has enabled us to do this month:

- Thanks to your generosity, we just planted a new church here in Bogotá called "Conexión Vital"
- College Student Ministry on a Catholic University Campus - Based on the success of a joint ministry venture at (City of God) Catholic project in an impoverished area, we have been invited in to start an evangelical College student ministry. This is a huge breakthrough! As Chris Williams OMS Missionary pointed out to me: In the recent past, evangelical missionaries were attacked with machetes by Catholics in the jungle to prevent them from spreading the gospel. Now we have been invited in to do evangelical ministry in a Catholic university! God is Good!
- Youth Ministry in another High School/Neighborhood (7 total now in the Bogotá area alone) and a prospective new High School that we are going to ask if we can come in and do ministry with the students.
- The Prayer ministry that I came down here to start has really just taken off - I now have people leading two prayer meetings on a weekly basis, and I am starting a third.
- Training of Youth Leaders - 12 on a weekly basis, but I am taking about 80 youth leaders out of town to a training retreat this month to help them grow spiritually in their own relationship with God and prepare them to share their faith and disciple Youth and College Students.
- Finally, you know that I have a heart for the Military and I have just been given access to a Colombian Military Facility where I have begun to go and hang out, meeting members of the Colombian military with whom I am able to share my faith.

Obstacles to spreading the Gospel here - PLEASE PRAY!

It is important for you to understand that less than 4% of Colombians would identify themselves as Christians. There is a great spiritual battle going on for the future of Colombia and Latin America. As Albert Luepnitz (Missionary to Colombia for more than 30 years) points out, the guerrilla movement here that has been waging war against the Democratic Government of Colombia and has caused so much pain and suffering is rooted in witchcraft and satanism.



Voodoo, witchcraft and the occult are commonplace and a deep rooted part of the culture here. Just this month, I happened upon a group of young ladies at our church who appeared to be practicing witchcraft in the form of divination. Our senior pastors wife, happened upon this about the same time and begged "Please stop this ladies! It is witchcraft and I rebuke this in the name of Jesus!" She then explained to me that "If you scratch the skin of a Colombian, underneath you will find a Catholic, and if you scratch a little deeper you will find the occult." She let me know that this comes from their long history of indigenous peoples who continue worshiping all sorts of gods, spirits and idols.

Opened Doors

Because of your prayers and generosity, God has opened the door for me to be able to work with missionaries from Wycliff, OMS, Young Life and others to spread the gospel. Just this past month we hosted Ron Metzger, Wycliff Missionary who went out into the jungle taking with him the bible translated into the native language of the Carapana.



A Transformed Life

Thank you for partnering with me through your prayers and giving. Lives continue to be changed through our ministry. Sara has been able to get to know God in a real way. She says, "I'm so in love with Him; it is amazing!" She made her faith public by being baptized, and now, a year later she is living out her faith by discipling others as a part of our team of young leaders. She says that there were some problems in her life and it has been beautiful to see God work through those areas of her life.

WANTED: Ministry Partners

WANTED – Persons with a high tolerance for pressure and a desire to make a difference!!!!

REWARD – An exciting adventure that requires 100% effort and fulfillment at life's end!!!!

My ministry is funded entirely by the individual regular investments of you, my sending team. I would like to invite you to partner with me financially using one of the methods below in order to realize the vision and help us continue to reach people all around the world.

- Mail checks to: **GlobeWorks International Ministries,**
P.O. Box 661435, Birmingham, AL 35266,
and write "Mark Cooper in Colombia" on the memo line

- Or, donate online with PAY PAL at:
globeworks.org

NOTE: for PAY PAL where it says (Use this donation for) enter: "Mark Cooper: Colombia"

My heart is broken for these people and I invite you into that brokenness.