



## Headed to México

JUN - JUL 2015

Then and Now

We are thankful for the advancements in technology that have simplified some aspects of deputation. I have had the privilege of sitting down with some veteran missionaries who did their deputation a few decades ago. It is fun to share stories with them and show them what changes have come about.

One missionary friend of mine told me how he used to have to stop in different towns and use a public pay-phone to contact pastors. Not only that, but he had a totally different way of looking the pastors up. He couldn't just get on the internet, after all. He told me that he was known in some places for being the missionary who used a CB radio to find out what good churches were in the area. After he told me about his long and tiresome methods of finding churches, I pulled out my phone, pressed one button, and said "find Independent Baptist churches in my area." Instantly it showed me a map with eleven churches, their directions, web pages, and phone numbers! This older missionary smiled at me and said, "That's cheating!!!" We both had a good laugh.

Next time you run into an older missionary, ask him about how his deputation went: you will not regret it. It is true, we as missionaries of the twenty-first century do not sacrifice as much as the missionaries of old.

Having a GPS on hand that tells how many miles we have to go; how much time it will take; and where gas stations, food marts, drycleaners, banks, etc. are is very convenient. Having Internet on phones has made it possible for missionaries to keep in contact with their families and supporting churches anywhere in the country. Having DVD/CD players in the car has helped some missionary parents retain their sanity. Having massive digital libraries of Christian books on computers, tablets, and netbooks has made it possible for missionaries to study and prepare sermons and lessons

### **PRAISES:**

We had a blessed mission family week.

A brother in Christ donated a cargo box to us.

We were able to maintain a good testimony to our landlady for two years.

Our new van has been running very well.

### **PRAYER REQUESTS:**

We will have multiple opportunities to work with kids in different VBS and camp activities we will be involved in over the summer.

We are traveling 3,000 miles out west the 18<sup>th</sup> through the 21<sup>st</sup>.

Our second daughter Viana is due at the end of August.

almost anywhere. Having apps, Facebook, and email accounts has made sending prayer letters out faster than ever. This list of advancements could be multiplied many times over, but, interestingly enough, in the last ten or twenty years the process of deputation has not really sped up. I think part of the reason that deputation takes the same amount of time is because missionaries take the same amount of time to be prepared to go to the field. God uses deputation to teach missionaries to trust Him. He uses the missionaries to inspire other people's faith. He uses them to encourage children to be future missionaries. God, in His perfect timing, is preparing the missionary for the field, and He is preparing field for the missionary. No amount of advancements in technology will change God's perfect timing. I thank God for the missionaries of old who sacrificed so much. I thank God for the helps we have today (I do not intend to waste them). I want so much to be on the field soon, but I leave the perfect timing to the Lord of time.

So this is what we have done lately: Early June consisted of organizing, reducing, and packing. We had yard sales to get rid of as much as we could, we donated, and we used quite a few trash bags! It's amazing how much can be accumulated, even in a small house. The 15<sup>th</sup> through the 18<sup>th</sup>, we got to see our World Wide New Testament Baptist Missions family (those who are stateside), and at our church no less! It was our church's turn to host

the family week, and we were greatly encouraged and uplifted by all the preaching and fellowship! After another weekend of packing, we headed the next Monday to camp to help some sister churches. Next on the list was Michigan. We were again well received by the pastors there, and we were given a cartop carrier to ease our traveling. The beginning weeks of July have been rushed and blurry as we drove back to NC through the night to attend a pastors' fellowship to which we were invited, spent the next day in VA, and have hurriedly tried to finish up the packing and cleaning before heading back to VA for a prayer rally for the God Bless America Crusade in Richmond. Sunday the 12<sup>th</sup>, we had been rescheduled to Wednesday, so we dropped in on a church for a visit and were sweetly refreshed by the church's spirit and their love toward us!

Today, we head to camp again to help our own church, along with some others. The next big step is heading west. We leave Friday night of camp so we can make a meeting with a Hispanic church in Iowa and on then to Idaho! Once there, we will settle in to await the "coming-out party" of our 2015 model (Viana)! We have many opportunities awaiting us with the Idahoan churches, and we are greatly anticipating these three upcoming months! Please, do pray for us as we make the 36-hour journey between the 18<sup>th</sup> and the 21<sup>st</sup> or 22<sup>nd</sup>.