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Sent: Saturday, November 04, 2006 8:08 PM



Update
11/03/06

PRAISES:

- Completed 1 week of "Barefoot" (meeting with a Spanish tutor 3 hours per day, 5 days a week; homework assignments require us to go out and share what we have learned with the nationals)
- Improving our relationship with the Tica family we are living with and learning the culture more each day
- Sleeping well at night (thank you, Lord!)

REQUESTS:

- Keith has a difficult time with phonetics and we both have a toilsome time in pronunciation
- Boldness in speaking to the nationals about Jesus Christ
- Sensitive to the Holy Spirit's leading

Explanation of pictures:

1&2) the flowers are beautiful here, these we pass every day on our way to Susan's

3) Ricardo & Keith working together (Ricardo is 24, the son of our Tica mom)

4) Jessica working on a paper, she is 18 in a local college (the daughter)

5) Dulce working in the kitchen (our Tica mom, she feeds us too well)

6) View off our balcony; the mountain farthest to the right has 3 crosses on it which you can see during the day if it is not cloudy

7) the door to the left is our bedroom

8) View to the right will show you how close the houses are (all that separates them are block walls)

IF YOU WANT TO READ MORE:

We feel immersed now into the culture. The last 2 days have been like a monsoon. We were drenched, or I could say 'baptized', walking home 1 day from Susan's house (our Supervisor, ½ mile from where we live). We had umbrellas, but the top of our heads were even wet. We each have a pair of Keen's (they are like a set of tires on your feet which is good here in Costa Rica, for the sidewalks are very busted & have moss caked on which gives a very slick surface, making it much safer to walk on the road instead. You see

& hear flocks of parakeets & the natives say that is a sign that summer is very near - I do hope they are right.

One thing you will notice are bars on the windows & doors and fences; some with razor wire on top. There are guard shacks every ¼ of a mile & the guards ride bicycles around, blowing their whistles (I guess to let people know they are patrolling). This happens every 30 minutes at night & those whistles are a lot louder than any other time (all the windows are opened because we do not have air-conditioning).

We were invited on Tuesday evening to go to church with our Tica mom; she is Pentecostal. There are lots of little hills here & the taxi ride was more like a carnival ride with lots of potholes. They prayed for 15 minutes, sang for 45 minutes (standing up) & the Pastor preached about 20 minutes. Very friendly people.

The internet was just installed on Friday & that is a whole other story. Things are quite different here, although it may sound like it is the same, things do not happen here as fast as they do in the US, nor do they turn out the same. I am learning not to expect them to!

I came here with a lot of familiar things (brands from the US), but if you can find them here, they are about 1/3 more the cost of what you pay in the US. Yes, they do have reduced-fat Jiff peanut butter, but I have yet to find the white popcorn. Keith is having a hard time not feeding his sweet tooth. There are bakeries on almost every corner & they are quite good, so he has to be very careful.

We are so grateful to you for sustaining us here. Your prayers mean a great deal to us & we always pray that our Father will take care of your needs as you pray for ours. We are amazed at His provision & care. We miss seeing and talking with many of you. 'Hasta Luego' (til we meet again), as we say here in Costa Rica, & 'Dios los acompañe' (God be your companion) -

blessings,
keith & glenna
Apartado 100-2350
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Ps 90:17 "Let the favor of the Lord our God be on us;
establish for us the work of our hands-
establish the work of our hands!"