



**HOPE.
INSPIRE.
LOVE.**

Thurston Report

SPRING 2018

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We're Back in Chile!



Arriving back in Chile was a big transition from the cold weather of Washington State to the dense heat of Santiago. We experienced rain most of the time while visiting Washington, and now we have gone from the 30-50 degrees to 80-90's. Our winter coats have been quickly put to rest in our closet. Now it is time to put on our shorts.

Our flying schedule took us through Los Angeles instead of traveling through Dallas like we usually do. When we arrived in Los Angeles, the airport was under construction and there was no easy interconnection between the national and the international terminals. We ended up walking over an hour pulling our carry-on luggage to get to the international terminal. Fortunately, most of our large luggage was checked from Seattle directly to Santiago which made the long trek easier than it could have been.

On arrival at the airport in Santiago, our family was there to welcome us. It was wonderful to see them again after our furlough in the United States.

New Church Partners with Our Ministry

We would like to thank **Living Waters's Church** in Bellingham for beginning to financially invest monthly in our ministry. This monthly gift is helping us fill our financial gap. Several of our longtime supporters have gone home to be with Jesus this past year so our monthly support has slowly diminished over the course of the year. Living Water's financial support came at a key time of need in our ministry.

We also want to thank all of our other supporting churches, partners and friends for your continued investment in the ministry of furthering the Gospel

through partnering with the local church and training leaders for ministry in Chile. We believe that the joyful giving of our finances is part of a lifestyle of worship. We are so grateful for the generous gifts that provide the resources for the equipping of believers, so that the Gospel of the Kingdom is proclaimed and demonstrated, and the Kingdom of God is advanced throughout the earth.

When you give financially, you are investing in what God is doing in Chile. Our work is made possible through the generosity of partners like you. Thank you!



Our Studio Was a Bit Dusty

With the studio not being used for the entire time we were away on furlough, dust was everywhere. It took a few days to get our equipment and recording studio back to normal. We are now ready to start getting things into gear to continue producing videos once again.

Sally and I are still praying for a new editing system we need that will help us produce more Bible teaching videos.* If we are able to purchase this equipment, it will allow us to keep producing and uploading our 35-years of videos to YouTube so they can be watched by any Spanish-speaking person in Chile and around the world.

Right now, our current editing system is getting old and slowly becoming less-functional and reliable as we would like. A new system will allow us to continue editing videos at a higher capacity for the next ten years.

We believe God is going to provide the necessary funds to purchase this new system this year.

**If you would like to know more about how to help financially towards the purchase of this well-needed equipment, please email me at jim@thurston.cl*



Jim Thurston, Recipient of the Chilean National Merit Ministry Service Award

His Servants,

Jim & Sally

While on furlough, we had a great time visiting several churches and long-time donors and where able to spend quality time ministering in Washington. We also visited a dear friend who has a Bible study group in Bellingham. Many of these precious people attending this long-time Bible study have been investors in our ministry for over 35 years. They asked Sally to share her testimony one evening and she poured out her heart about past spiritual earthquakes in our lives. Although we can't forget these earthquakes, through Christ, God turns them around so we can give the glory to Him and help others going through similar earthquakes in their personal lives.

Psalms 138:7-8

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“I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.”

Philippians 3:14 (NIV)

Prayer Service with the New President of Chile

Chile kicked off the year with a new president. This past March, a special meeting was held to pray for the new President of Chile, Sebastian Piñera, his cabinet, and many of the Ambassadors to Chile. The majority of his government officials attended the event and Bibles were given out to heads of the president’s cabinet.

The Scripture tells us we need to pray for those in authority. “I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people, for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.” (1 Timothy 2:1-2, NIV).

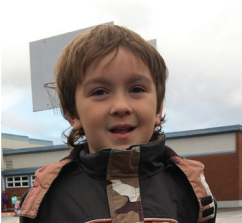
As Charles Spurgeon said, “Prayer is the slender nerve that moves the omnipotent muscle of God.” The Bible in Romans 13:1 NIV says, “... for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God.”

The leaders of the Evangelical Protestant Church gathered in the largest Christian church in Chile. Once again, we participated with the church leadership of Chile and was with them on the platform when the prayers and message were given. It was exciting to be part of such an important meeting for the beginning of the administration’s first year after elections. Continue to pray for us, as one of our outreaches is to minister to the government leadership in Chile.

Teaching About Chile in a Ferndale Classroom

Our great grandson Bryton is 7 years old. While we were visiting in Washington, his teacher asked if we could come to his school and visit with his classroom because they were studying about Chile.

Wow! What a great opportunity for us to share about this beautiful country and the work we do there. We talked and showed pictures of Chile and brought Chilean money for them to compare with their U.S. money. The highlight of the visit was calling our granddaughter Sarai in Chile via Skype. Sarai is also 7 years old and in the same grade as our great grandson.



Sarai showed off her school uniform as the students were surprised that she spoke both English and Spanish. She answered the children’s many questions about her school and studies. Needless to say, the students are still talking about this visit.

A Journey of God’s Purpose

A close family member walked away from the Lord the day her father went home to be with Jesus, January 13, 2012. This was unbelievable and broke our hearts. While we were home on furlough, we sat down and talked to her regarding her journey. She said that she still believed in God, but was not serving Him. It was expressed that she was planning to go back to church...someday. We asked, “When?” After a few moments, we continued our conversation and stated that we would pick her up to go to church the next morning.

We will never forget walking through the doors of this church that next morning. When she entered, she began to cry. The sermon that morning was just for her. We got to see her walk back into the arms of Jesus this past September. Where is she now, and what is she doing? She is still in Ferndale attending that church twice a week with her grandchildren. She has also gone back to college at the age of 49. Presently, she is an online student at Regent University, majoring in Psychology and family counseling. Is life easy now for her? No it isn’t, but God is faithful. She continues to work hard toward helping children who are hurting. This wonderful Ferndale congregation invited us to share our testimonies on how God has always been faithful in our ministries and it was a blessing to see this journey of hope and transformation as her purpose aligns with God’s purpose for her life.

