



Matthew 5:6

The Furlough Fifteen

May 23, 2014

Some friends once told us about “the furlough fifteen,” referring to the fifteen pounds you tend to put on while visiting family and friends in the U.S. How ironic is it that our first furlough will be in 2015?

In January we completed our first year here in Guatemala and are so amazed at all that God has done in just one short year. He has allowed us to build stronger relationships and have opportunities to minister in incredible ways to the families the Lord had called us to serve here. He has allowed us to integrate quickly and start much needed ministries with the church we serve. We have been given opportunities through the church to do community outreach. We have had the blessing of working with some of you who have come down on teams to serve the people of Guatemala with us. We are so grateful to the Lord for allowing us to do all of this and so much more! We look with excitement to what God is planning to do *in* and *through* us throughout this next year. It has been so amazing to see God work and provide in ways that we never would have imagined possible!

We want to thank all of you for answering the call to be a part of that provision. We are so grateful that God has provided us with such a strong team of prayer and financial supporters to allow us to continue to do what He’s called us to do!

As we neared the end of 2013 we were thankful that God had provided for us every step of the way but at the same time we were waiting on God to continue providing because we spent all of 2013 under budget. This meant that while we were blessed to have our daily needs met we did not have money left over to save for furlough or put into savings for emergencies (this is something we are to be doing every month). As always God was incredibly faithful and in November we received a donation from one of our ministry partners that was exactly the amount that we should have been putting into savings up until that point. Praise Jesus for His amazingly faithful provisions!!

We are now 7 months past November, our committed monthly support is still short of our budget, and we have had a few financial supporters who have had to cut back their support or stop giving all together. We have used almost all of the small amount we put into savings when we quit our jobs to serve here, as we have been using it to supplement our support. We have been praying and discussing different ideas for fundraisers to provide for our furlough in 2015. We are so excited to come back to the states and have the opportunity to visit with you to share more about what God has been doing in Guatemala and to catch up on what God has been doing in your lives! Along with that excitement we have been seeking God on how He wants to provide for the time of reconnecting and bringing Guatemala back to our friends, family, and partnering

churches.

Recently Missy felt God leading her to this conclusion "When was the last time you let your friends and family know where you guys are at with your support raising? You haven't talked about support raising in over 6 months with the exception of those who have specifically asked you about it. I've given you an amazing group of friends and family who are SO supportive of what I've called you to do in Guatemala and if you don't ask the answer is always going to be no." So that's what we are doing. Before we further explore fundraisers and other ideas we would like to ask if you, our friends, family, and supporting churches would be willing to partner with us for our furlough in 2015 which we've started calling **The Furlough Fifteen**?

We are grateful that a good number of you are already faithfully supporting us through prayer and monthly financial support. There are others of you who partner with us through graciously giving financial support when you can and cover us in prayer support faithfully. Others have covered us in faithful prayer but just haven't been able to partner with us financially yet. We appreciate everything you do and we are not saying you aren't doing enough. However, we'd like to ask that as you pray for us will you also pray and see if God is leading you to increase your partnership with us in some way?

Perhaps you have a relative, friend, or coworker to share our ministry updates with who might be able to join our support team. Maybe God will lead you to increase your monthly support, maybe he will lead you to give another lump sum donation sometime throughout this next year, or maybe He will say what you're doing now is what He wants you to be doing for now. Whatever God's answer is we know it will be the right one for you and for us! We have no doubt that God will provide in some way for **The**



Furlough Fifteen (which we really hope will NOT result in 15 pounds of weight gain...); He has provided for every step of this journey and we want to start this **Furlough Fifteen** campaign by giving those closest to us the opportunity to be a part of God's provision.

What can you do?

PRAY

We never want to encourage anyone to act outside of God's will. Our desire is always that those who support us financially are doing so because God has called them to do so. You can also keep up with current prayer requests by [clicking here](#).

RESPOND

We have learned from experience that when God calls us to do something and we don't do it we miss out on huge blessings. We encourage you to follow through and be a part of this in whatever way God reveals to you. [Click here for more info](#).

SHARE

Tell your other family members and friends about how God has inspired you to Unite 2 Serve with us in Guatemala! Forward this email to friends and family!

Thank you all for your faithful prayers, love, encouragement, and support! We appreciate all that you allow God to do through YOU so that we can allow God to work through US here in Guatemala!

Love and blessings,
Missy and Dylan

