



GOOD NEWS

from a far country.

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SPONSORING CHURCH

During our last day in Memphis, we were blessed with the opportunity to talk with the elders at Somerville church of Christ, in Somerville, TN, and they accepted to take the challenge and opportunity to be our Sponsoring Church.

If you would like to support our ministry, please get in contact with them,

Go Ye Into All Missions (Panama Mission)

Somerville Church of Christ
15925 Highway 64
Somerville TN 38068

901.465.2632

<https://somerillecoc.org/>



OUR JOURNEY STARTED EARLIER

Heat, heavy traffic, running long distance in Miami Airport to avoid losing the flight, some bad customer experiences, and adapting our Spanglish are just a few inconveniences we found on our way back home to Panama, but, besides that, it is good to be here.

While we still have our own house, it is like moving to a brand new place. We are still in the paperwork process to ship our belongings from Memphis to Panama, but, there were some things in our house that are in need of being repair/replace, so, we are still in that stage.

If there is a feeling that is just right, and wonderful, is when you cross the doors of the airport and see your beloved ones waiting there for you. It was almost 2 years before Jacky was able to see her parents again. It has been longer for me to see my parents, but I know that I will be able to see them soon. It was hard to leave several good friends and family in Memphis, but we rejoice that we know that they are still there, praying, supporting, and keeping in touch with us, as distance might be a factor, but love is beyond any distance.

We had some inconveniences to get the internet service installed, but, it is now working and we are ready to continue our studies, and while it was not as we planned to do it, I will be able to finish my Missions Program with MSOP online. Our instructors have been a great example not only of dedication, but also of service, and they are doing their best to help us to finish what we started in Memphis.

Since we are back home, but I am still a student, I might not be able to start our plans until I finish school, but, there are good probabilities of starting some bible studies, as well as devotionals at home in the coming days. I will preach during some occasions at the congregation where we use to attend here in Panama, which is Torrijos-Carter. More details about them, and our work here will be provided in future newsletters.

The first thing that came to my mind when I found that we needed to leave earlier than expected was, how do I do it? I did not have the funds yet to pay for our tickets and shipping all my books, plus our belongings. It was amazing to see how quickly, as soon as we announce about our situation, that several brethren and congregations get in touch with us and asked us how they can help us. In less than a couple of days we were set, as support came from all this beloved brethren,

to help us. We will be forever thankful for all of our supporters, but most important, to our heavenly Father, for all the blessings that He provides to His children, all the time.

“Rejoice evermore. Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you”

(1 Thessalonians 5:16-18).

Three short but powerful statements were given by Paul to Timothy, to encourage him to do the work of the Lord. Three powerful sentences that, today, as Christians, encourage us to continue doing the work that faithful Christians did in the first Century. Dear brethren, let us never forget that God is in control, and even when we do not know why some things happen in our lives, He knows why.

Yes, we came back before our plan; yes, there are a lot of things to do; yes, we are adapting to a lot of changes; but, YES, we are all aware that, in Him, we can do all things (Philippians 4:13), we are willing to do whatever it takes from us to do His will and Obey him, because we love Him (John 14:15).

Dear brethren, please keep us in our prayers, as we also do with all of you. Your love, encouragement, and support is greatly appreciated and while we seek for opportunities to see you again on this side of heaven, we know that there is an assurance in the promise of our almighty Father that we will see each other again in heaven, and when that happen, we know that we will never depart again from each other. God bless you.

THE LORD HAS BEEN MINDFUL OF US.

Marlon Retana.

Brother L. O. Sanderson wrote the hymn, “The Lord Has Been Mindful Of Me”, and in his short autobiography wrote about his conversion and why did he write that song. As part of my final chapel at MSOP, just a few days before we traveled back to Panama, I decided to preach on this topic, making the emphasis that our Lord has been mindful of us, before we were Christians, during our Christian life, and He will be mindful of us after our Christian life, when we depart this world, and be ready for the Judgment Day.

There are trials in this life that might make us ask ourselves, “*Why Us?*”, “*What did I do wrong?*”, “*Why is this happening to me?*” While we do not have the answers, there is a simple answer to all these questions, “***God is in control.***”

Dear brethren, we must never doubt the power of God, and his infinite love, mercy, and grace toward us. While we might have some challenges in our lives, or some things might not work as we planned, let us always remember that there is a reason for that, it might not be the time for different results, but, we must trust in God and keep as the faithful servants that He is worthy to have.

When we applied to go to Memphis School of Preaching, there was a solid idea in our minds, “*We will return to Panama.*” We enjoyed our time in Memphis, the school provided us not only the material and knowledge to do the work, but also the experience to do it. The brethren at Forest Hill as well as every one of our supporters, provided the family that encouraged us to keep going and to keeps giving our best to serve our Lord as much as we can. Today, we are back home, ready to do the work, remembering that our Lord has been mindful of us, all the time. Psalm 115 is a beautiful song that remind us that, no matter what the world is looking for, God is better than any idol, He is the one worthy of all praise and glory (115:1,18), He is mindful of us (115:12), and He blessed us (115:12-15). How beautiful will be the day when we will hear these words coming out of His mouth, “*Well done, thou good and faithful servant*” (Matthew 25:21, 23). God bless you!

CONTACT INFORMATION

This is our most current contact information and is provided in order to make it easier for you to reach us,

Phone Numbers:

- Marlon's cellphone: +507 6288-7718.
- Jacky's cellphone: +507 6278-6799.
- Home: +507 343-7116.



We strongly recommend the usage of **WhatsApp** (<https://www.whatsapp.com/>) as it is a free app available for smartphones, in which you register your phone number as username, and it connects to your contact list, allowing text messaging, audio and video calls from it, only using the Internet data service (it also works on WiFi) that you have, instead of causing long distance calls or international messaging charges,

Mailing Address:

The mailing system does not work in Panama as it does in the United States of America. There are some companies (such as <http://airbox.com.pa/>) that provide the service to mail/ship to Panama from their local office in Florida. There is a fee for each of their service that is paid by us one when the envelope/package comes to Panama. Packages with a value less than \$100 do not pay taxes (but invoice might be required to confirm it). I am still researching about this service, and as soon as I get more details, I will get back to you.

E-mail and Social Media.

- Our website, <http://www.goyeintoall.org>
- Social Media: **@goyeintoall** (Facebook and Instagram) / **@goyeinto_** (Twitter).
- Social Media (Spanish): **@idportodo** (Instagram and Twitter, Facebook is still pending for registration, but the content is available).
- E-mails: marlon_retana@hotmail.com / jacky_haughton@hotmail.com