

## THE SUDDETH FAMILY MINISTRY UPDATE

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Exalt God | Encourage Others | Evangelize the Lost



Dear Partners in the Gospel,

This morning, beneath the sweltering heat of the sun that seems just a little bit closer to Earth during a Panamanian summer, I (Clip) did what no pastor, no missionary, wants to do - I preached the funeral of a baby who died at nine days old.

Amari Saraí Tuñon Guerra was born on March 15, and she went to be with the Lord on March 24. She passed away due to complications with her lungs. She is breathing just fine right now.

Her parents, Alvis and Madeline, her grandparents, César and Dayra, and her uncle, Andrew, are members of our local church. For those of you who have lost children or grandchildren, you know the pain that they are currently experiencing. Mary and I cannot totally relate. We have lost loved ones, but we do not know the pain that accompanies the death of a child. We hope we never know that pain.

Yes, their pain is real. If you are a believer, as they are, you also know the hope they have is just as real as the pain. As Christian, our hope is in the gospel.

**The hope of the gospel.** That is what has stood out to me over the past days. Whether a person is in the remotest village or the largest megacity, everyone needs the hope of the gospel.

Of course, for those of us who are believers, we know this is *gospel* hope. It is an assurance based upon the work of Jesus Christ and our salvation in Him. As Paul wrote in Colossians 1:3-6:

3 We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, 4 since we heard of your **faith** in Christ Jesus and of the **love** that you have for all the saints, 5 because of the **hope** laid up for you in heaven. Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, **the gospel**, 6 which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is bearing fruit and increasing—as it also does among you, since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth,



In the gospel, we find hope. It is for this reason alone that Amari's family can grieve and celebrate at the same time.

It is exactly because everyone in the world needs gospel hope—the hope that is offered by God through Jesus—that missionaries go throughout the world. It is because of the hope that you have in the gospel that you are partners with us in the gospel.

May Amari's family continue to be comforted and encouraged by the hope they have in the gospel. May you be comforted and encouraged by the hope that you have in the gospel. May each one of us faithfully share the gospel and make disciples because others desperately need the hope we have in Jesus Christ. And, may we do so with great joy for the glory of God.

In Christ,

Clip, Mary, and Isaac



There is much we could share this month. For instance, we could write about the Missions Sunday our church had on March 26, or we could write about the small groups, or we could give an update on a property in Costa Verde, or we could write about our work to establish the Latin American Missions Society. In fact, we will probably share updates about each of these in the near future. **God is doing much!**

### Prayer Requests

- For Amari's family over the coming days and weeks.
- For our local church. We are still a young church, and it is extremely important that we build a strong, biblical foundation, so the church can be healthy for years to come.
- For us as parents. We want to raise Isaac for the glory of God, and we realize that we only have one shot at it.



The card reads,

*Although the time you had on this land was too short, it was enough so that we will keep your memory in our hearts. It is not goodbye, but only see you later.*

*We will love you forever!*