

ACTS AND LOVE IN ACTION

An Update from your BGs Et Al

ABFMS - International Ministries
Regional Consultants for Discipleship
in Iberoamerica and the Caribbean

January 2024

Kilometer 0...



This New Year 2024, God provides us a new opportunity to share through acts and love in action in Iberoamerica and the Caribbean. Our third post pandemic international missionary journey takes us this month to kilometer 0: Chile! Read more...



The National Baptist Convention of Chile meets on January 25-27 in Cerro Verde for their annual gathering. We are not new to their gatherings, but it's been a while since we last accompanied them in an annual gathering. We are truly looking forward to this opportunity to reconnect in person with our siblings in Chile! Many of them remain in touch

through social media which has allowed us to keep up with each other. We are grateful for the bonds of love that were established at the beginning of our ministry that have been strengthened and deepened as time has passed.

Our first assignment was to Chile in 2000 and in January 2001 we attended our first annual gathering with the Chilean Mission, as it was known then. Lonquimay is 733 km / 455 mi south of Santiago (more than 8 hrs. drive) in the Lakes Region, south of Chile. Pastor Daniel Manriquez welcomed us, the Bolicks, and the Heneises (fellow missionaries in Chile at the time), and



made sure all of us were comfortable and enjoyed our stay in their midst. The beauty of the place captivated us as the araucaria tree held high in front of beautiful volcanic mountains covered in snow. Our two older MKs were with us. Our youngest daughter hadn't been born yet. Many new siblings and friends were met then; many of whom we are connected with to this day.



Saying "good-by/farewell" has always been one of the hardest things in our ministry. In January 2009 we attended our last annual gathering with them. It was held in Santiago, so we didn't have to travel as much, though in those 9 years we traveled from La Serena (north) to Quellón in the Island of Chiloé (south). Many were the trips whenever we would

be asked to offer a workshop or preach. All this, in addition to our primary role leading their Baptist Theological Institute until the nationals were ready to continue in their leadership. And, the nationals are still leading it!

After leaving in 2009, we returned in 2017 to visit with them as our siblings and friends, beyond the conventional responsibilities. Some of them visited us in Colombia in 2019 for an UBLA gathering. Once we were reassigned as regional consultants for discipleship in Iberoamerica and the Caribbean in 2020, they were the first ones to invite us back to resume ministry together. During the pandemic we connected online to have our discipleship encounters and now we will be exploring more ways to continue deepening those encounters with their churches.

To us this trip to Chile is truly going back to kilometer 0, square one, where our ministry through our mission society began in 2000. Chile is also part of the fulfillment of Acts 1:8 as we started in Jerusalem in the 90s (including Judea and Samaria) and then went in 2000 to Chile (ends of the earth in the Aymara language, one of their indigenous languages!).

Right after we return from Chile, we will continue to California for the Transformation Ministries Conference in Pomona (Feb. 1-2). We are grateful that just as Yocheved helped so we could go to Spain and Colombia, now Bastid will be at our home so we can go to Chile and California. God is faithful to provide for Mami's care in our absence. Thanks for your part in praying, encouraging, and providing us adequate resources to make more disciples!

Responding together for good, "where it all began,"
your BGs Et Al (www.facebook.com/BGSEtAl)



You are invited to join **Acts and Love In Action Team & Network** of individuals and churches who support the ministry of the Bonilla-Giovanetti family (your BGs Et Al) through prayer, encouragement or financial support. To learn more or join their Mission Partnership Network (MPN), email Jan (jmackson815@sbcglobal.net) or call Cori Catellier at 317-626-6169.

To read more about their ministry and of other American Baptist missionaries, global consultants and development workers, visit www.internationalministries.org, click on **Who we are** and then **Global Servants**. To commit your support, visit <https://portal.internationalministries.org/give>.