



The Spear Family

Missionaries to Puerto Rico
spearfamilypr.com



Dear prayer partners,

Mar-Apr 2020

¡Quédate en casa! (Stay at home). That has been the theme of our last two months here in Añasco and in all of the island. As with many of you, we are on lockdown, but here we are on the strictest rules of any of the states. We are adjusting to what seems like a **“new normal” for the foreseeable future**, at last until May. Through these uncertain days we continue to look to God to offer hope for ourselves and also those around us.



Going in public is very different, if and when it is possible. Grocery stores and a few other essential businesses remain open, but **the rules are strict, hours are limited and selection is varied**. Only one person from the family can shop, and only with mask and gloves on. We have tried to limit grocery trips to once monthly. Food delivery is available from our local supermarket, but there is a three-week delay in the order being delivered!

We are trying to **maintain a healthy balance at home** to care for our spiritual, emotional, and physical health. We are singing together, reading together, planning more family time, and exercising three times a week. We are also growing a garden. One funny side effect of quarantine was when we needed to leave the house the other day together, the kids seemed to forget why then needed to wear shoes!



Church has changed completely. Though we had prepared to continue having Sunday services in person, the governor announced **all gatherings would be suspended to prevent the spread of Coronavirus in mid-March**. Fortunately, we had already set up a **Facebook** page and had been growing it slowly since the church started four years ago. We began offering prayers every night as well as Sunday services online. We continue to offer Christ centered preaching and teaching to those around us all week. We have seen **nearly 100 views every week**, many of them from people we know are not saved. Pray that we can use that technology to see the church grow even as we are separated.



We have been in touch with each of our church families by phone, offering encouragement as we can. Kristen has started a chat group with the ladies. One of our men, Ezequiel, has had to close his pizza restaurant temporarily. The unemployment rate has grown greatly in these two months and many are suffering.

It is interesting that in our **sermons I am preaching through 2 Corinthians 8-9 and teaching on generosity** in a time that many are hurting. As I preach through the book it is amazing how God has timed these sermons. We are trying to balance the idea that many think “The church just wants your money” with the idea that you can live generously in times of difficulty and see God provide. Pray this series will impact many with the truth that **God is the one that provides and uses us to meet needs**. I think we could all use this reminder right now. Thank you for giving generously and sacrificially. **We are forever grateful for your generosity and liberality!**



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