

#### FEBRUARY, 2009

### SALMONELLA:

As I recover from a long bout with Salmonellosis, I am especially thankful that Crystal and Abby were not affected. And though it may sound a bit cliché, I have also been marveling about how similar sin is to salmonella infested water. You're dehydrated, you're thirsty, and it looks so refreshing, so satisfying... so you drink. It feels good going down, but in a couple of hours it begins to dehydrate you beyond



recovery. Few would ever knowingly drink salmonella water, especially right after having been infected! Yet how often do we knowingly gulp down sin, over and over again, even after Scripture and our devastating experiences clearly remind us of its poisonous effects.

May we find in Christ the only drink we need, forsaking the deception that sin constantly holds out to us. "...*They have forsaken me, the fountain of living waters, and hewed out cisterns for themselves, broken cisterns that can hold no water.*"

## MINISTRY:

We grow more and more thankful to the Lord for the many opportunities He has given us to serve Him here in Mexico. Please pray that He would be pleased to fill us with the wisdom we need to do His will, for His glory. We've been keeping busy doing pre-marital counseling with two couples, teaching weekly at the seminary, preaching every Wednesday evening, and also preaching most weeks at Sunday services or conferences.

# FAMILY:

Crystal is pregnant! We covet your prayers for our baby #3 :), who is due, Lord willing, on Oct. 9<sup>th</sup>. The salvation of our children is always our constant plea before the Lord. May He be pleased to use us to draw them to Himself. Please also pray for Abby's belly-button surgery which will take place in Los Angeles next week.

# LOS ANGELES:

We will be in Los Angeles for about a week and a half this next week, Feb. 24-March 4. We will have the blessing of attending two conferences (one for seminary professors and one for



pastors), and also take advantage of our time to see lots of doctors, friends, and family! We are keeping our schedule flexible, since we don't know exactly when Abby's surgery will take place, but we would love to see and/or hear from you. During our brief stay, our cell-phones will be re-activated, so please don't hesitate to give us a call. (323) 371-3262 – Josiah

(909) 239-0693 – Crystal