



# ¿qué pasa con los Spurlings en Paraguay?



## en Paraguay?

### July 2005



*We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you... All over the world [the] gospel is bearing fruit and growing, just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and understood God's grace in all its truth... For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you and asking God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all spiritual wisdom and understanding. (Colossians 1:3, 6, 9)*

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The above text is not a type-o. Phonetically it says:  
“Greetings, we finished our classes at Wheaton College.”

We spent the month of June taking the Second Language Acquisition course at Wheaton College. We were there along with other missionaries that are being sent out with the Christian and Missionary Alliance (C&MA) this year. The two main areas of study included:

**Phonetics:** This has enabled us to recognize, write down and reproduce different sounds made by the indigenous people to whom we will be ministering.

**Language Learning Techniques:** This material will help us structure our own language learning development. It introduced us to the tools that would best fit our personal learning styles and equipped us to recruit national language helpers.

We didn't know what to expect prior to taking the classes, but we are so thankful for this past month as we know it will be a great benefit to our learning Spanish. We continue to be grateful for the C&MA's missionary preparation process.



**The Christian and Missionary Alliance commissions their new missionaries (J and Karen are to the right of the podium).**



**We were able to make connections with part of our future Paraguayan team at Wheaton College. (left to right: Forest, Caleb and Sarah Schell, Melanie Bagamary, Jeffrey, Karen and J Spurling)**

Prior to Wheaton we were commissioned at the C&MA's general council in Cincinnati. It was a meaningful service that we shared with J's parents, his sister Barb, and David and Alice Pletincks (our pastor and wife). Following council we spent five days in Montreal visiting with J's sister Denise, who is a C&MA missionary there with her husband Doug and children Jonathan and Karissa. It was a wonderful time to connect with them prior to leaving for four years. It was also one of the most relaxing times we've had in a long time.

Currently we are in Trinidad visiting with Karen's family.

This is Jeffrey's debut with his Trini people and he seems to be winning the hearts of all. He met the other half of his namesake the other night—Grandpa Andrew—and had a grand time dancing around the house and acting silly. We really are having a good time.

We will be back in Florida for two weeks in the beginning of August prior to going to Costa Rica for one year of language study. During this time we will be packing, visiting doctors, filling out paper work for visas and many other things I'm sure we don't even realize.

We wrote the Scripture on the first page from Colossians because we share Paul's consistent love and appreciation for the body of Christ. We know that it is because of you that we are in this position. We realize it's because of your understanding of God's grace that you are supporting us with your prayers and finances. Please know that we are praying for you--we're praying that your knowledge of Him would continue to increase and that you would experience His blessings.

Love, your missionaries,

J, Karen and Jeffrey Spurling  
[www.thespurlings.com](http://www.thespurlings.com)



**Karissa, Jeffrey and J enjoying Montreal.**



**Karen and Denise (not Jeffrey) enjoying Montreal.**

## Pray for us...

- 1. That we would be a blessing to Karen's church during our time in Trinidad.**
- 2. That J's knee would be healed. He has an ongoing cartilage problem that was aggravated while at Wheaton.**
- 3. That we would get everything done that needs to be done prior to going to Costa Rica.**
- 4. That our time with family would be memorable prior to going overseas.**
- 5. That we would raise our outfitting costs prior to going to Paraguay in September 2006.**