

January 2017 Costa Rica Mission Trip Report

For Front Range Bible Church

Where: Santa Maria de Dota, Costa Rica

Who: Titus Kennedy and Mark Perkins

What: Preaching and teaching ministry.

Ryan and Lauri Bickel and their family have spent 11 years in Costa Rica. Currently, they have a godly, biblical, grace-oriented ministry near Santa Maria de Dota, Costa Rica. They have a feeding ministry for the migrant workers of the Ngabe indian tribe who come to pick coffee there during the harvest. About 4,500 indians come up from Panama during that time, doubling the population of the area. The Ngabe are exceedingly poor, living in difficult poverty while picking the coffee. The Bickel's also run a children's home, rescuing abused and completely impoverished children, sometimes adopting them, and sometimes after a period of time recuperating with the Bickel's, restoring them to their families. There is an alarmingly high infant mortality rate among the Ngabe. Lives are saved.

Alongside the feeding ministry and children's home, they also conduct a Bible study and church ministry among the Ngabe, two nights per week and on Sundays. On one weeknight they go out into the Ngabe areas for Bible study, and on another they have a Bible study for their neighborhood. On Sunday afternoons they bus them in to their home. The busing is a two hour operation that goes in all directions of the compass from their home.

All of the Bickel's operations are Christ-centered and grace-oriented. After many conversations I have found them to be sound of doctrine and pure in Christ's love.

Regarding their current ministries I give them the highest recommendation that I can. They are doing the Lord's work and doing it well.

There is future potential to do more with them in the area of Bible teaching and pastor training. This will be discussed in the coming months.

Evaluation of Costa Rica as a country: easy to travel to, relatively safe, extraordinarily beautiful.

<http://www.faithministriescostarica.com/>

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