Henry & Grêttel GONZALEZ

Serving with GMI in PARAGUAY NOV. 2024

Hello!

We're Henry and Grettel González and we recently joined the team at Grace Ministries International (GMI) as missionaries to Paraguay. We were born in the beautiful, tropical country of Costa Rica to families who had limited resources but were full of love. We both came to know the Lord during our adolescent years. After high school, we continued our studies, Henry in theology and Grettel in business administration, at the Word of Life Bible Institute in Costa Rica, which is also where we met. After four years of dating, we were married on March 28th, 1998. As a couple, we've been involved in many areas of ministry over the past several decades including teaching Sunday School, youth ministry, Bible doctrine courses, marriage ministry, discipleship, Bible studies, church planting, and more.

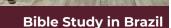
In 2006, with the assistance of GMI Executive Director Jeremy Clark who served as a missionary with GMI in Costa Rica at the time, we started Grace Bible Institute in Costa Rica. This training center for ministry leaders was organized in cooperation with Comunidad Bíblica de la Gracia, a Costa Rican church affiliated with GMI. The goal of Grace Bible Institute was to provide theological and ministerial education to a wide range of people comprised of believers of all ages, including Sunday School teachers, ministry leaders, missionaries, and pastors.

Over the years, Grace Bible Institute has taught more than seventy-five different courses to over one thousand students across Latin America. Our graduates have become pastors, missionaries, and youth pastors. Three years ago, Grace Bible Institute went exclusively online and currently offers thirty-five courses to more than one hundred students from various countries including Brazil, Costa Rica, Colombia, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, and Paraguay.

In 2010, we also started a devotional ministry called, MiDevocional.org. Through this ministry, we have been able to reach millions of people with messages of salvation, encouragement, and spiritual growth. Today, we are nearing a million followers on Facebook, with around 200,000 people interacting with our content across several social media platforms every month.

Our Missionary Calling

From the time we married, we have had the desire to serve on the mission field. In 2008 we started traveling across South America visiting Bolivia, Peru, Chile, Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, and Paraguay to lead discipleship workshops and marriage seminars. We also had opportunities to teach on the life of Jesus and dispensationalism while exploring the possibility of becoming career missionaries. During these trips, Ciudad del Este, Paraguay caught our attention. Located at the junction of three countries, Paraguay, Brazil, and Argentina, it's a strategic location with a strong potential to expand the Lord's work in those countries.





Grace Bible Institute Graduation

Us with some of the GMI Paraguay team



Years later, the Lord provided us with the opportunity to visit Paraguay again, where a GMI-affiliated church had since been established. During our visit, we met some of the members of the GMI team in Paraguay and were able to experience the Paraguayan culture. This experience was invaluable for us as we considered plans for becoming missionaries to Paraguay and we could clearly see the many opportunities to grow the Lord's work in that area. In 2024, we visited again, confirming our calling from those earlier trips and realizing the vast potential of this area, where the borders of these three countries are less than an hour apart.

Our Desire to Serve

We are eager to join the team of missionaries in Paraguay that includes Cory and Kim Hodgson, Cleiton and Viviane Menor, and Tati Faria. We hope to serve in the areas of men's and women's discipleship, youth ministry, and children's ministry in the city of Presidente Franco, where the GMI-affiliated Berean Bible Church is located. We also plan to work with the GMI team in the La Blanca neighborhood of Ciudad del Este, where the team has already established a children's outreach ministry in the community called Mi Tãnguéra Aty. Building on the children's outreach we hope the Lord will soon bless us in planting a new church in that neighborhood.

Another passion we have is that of training leaders in the local church who will multiply the Lord's work in this region by utilizing the spiritual gifts and tools God has given to us, as well as the resource of Grace Bible Institute in Costa Rica. We also wish to promote Bible study and evangelism through workshops and conferences, as well as continuing to promote our ministry, MiDevocional.org. Additionally, we aspire to encourage the planting of new churches in Paraguay and take advantage of the proximity of Ciudad del Este to Brazil and Argentina to launch new mission fields.

We invite you to be part of our journey with Jesus in

Paragnay!

Over the years, we have come to understand that prayer and unity among believers are essential components to achieving the goals God sets before us. We invite you to partner with us as we begin our journey with the GMI team in Paraguay. We would also appreciate your prayers as we travel to the U.S. in early 2025 to participate in mission conferences. We are confident that with your prayers, support, and gifts we can accomplish the goals the Lord has set before us in the coming years as we serve Him in Paraguay and beyond.

"But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God." – Acts 20:24

In Jesus Christ,

Henry and Grettel

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Leading a Bible Study



Marriage Course in Paraguay





Sunday School at the Church in Costa Rica

