

Aschmann Action

March 2018

Salasaka Kichwa New Testament Dedication



Translators and close friends Larry and Susan Salay

Rick: On March 24 we attended an exciting celebration: the dedication of the newly published Salasaka Kichwa New Testament! (Kichwa is a variant spelling of Quichua, both pronounced *keechwah*.) No, that is not one of the Quichua languages we are working in. It is a smaller group of Quichua speakers in the province of Tungurahua whose language is very different from any of the other Quichua languages in Ecuador, and needs its own literature. And now, after decades of hard work by Bible translators Shedd and Kris Waskosky and Larry and Susan Salay and the native Salasaka translators, the New Testament is finally printed and available in the heart language of the Salasaka people!

Betty was asked to film the event, which lasted all day and included lunch, and we got lots of great pictures. Betty will be preparing a video to commemorate it.

Imbabura Bible Revision

Rick: Thank you for continuing to pray about the Imbabura Quichua Bible revision project. It continues full speed ahead, and the translation committee is keeping me hopping trying to keep up. They have done close to half of the New Testament in rough draft, though that will still need a lot of editing before it is finalized.

Some of you may remember that over the years I developed a spell checker for Central Highland Quichua. I discussed this spell checker in our March 2010 newsletter (aschmann.net/Rick/Newsletter/NLet-2010-03.pdf), and explained how it is very different



After lunch

from other spell checkers. I have now adapted it so that it also works in Imbabura Quichua, and I have found ways to speed it up so that it is saving me a lot of time in checking over the work the committee is doing. Your prayers are bearing fruit!

Quichua Bible Study

Thank you for continuing to pray about our Quichua Bible study. The family that had the baby boy several months ago that I mentioned in our last letter has returned. We are continuing our study through the book of John. Recently we studied chapters 11 and 12, which feature



Michael, the newest member of our Quichua Bible study



Salasaka Kichwa New Testaments

Prayer & Praise

- Please continue praying for our Quichua Bible study, that the group will continue to grow both in size and in Christian maturity and knowledge of God and his Word. Pray that God would lead more unchurched Quichuas to our fellowship as we visit them in parks, businesses, and on the street.
- Praise God that the revision of the Imbabura Quichua Bible is moving forward. Please continue praying for stamina and wisdom for me and for all the members of the translation committee as we work to complete it over the coming two years.
- Praise God that the Salasaka Quichuas now have God's Word in their own heart language.

Mary, Martha, and Lazarus. And we looked at the story of Mary and Martha in Luke 10:38-42, where we see how different their personalities were, but more importantly how different their response to Jesus was. The Quichuas are incredibly hard working people, to the point that they seldom take rests, and their reaction to the passage was, "Wow, we are a lot like Martha, but we really need to be more like Mary, and stop and listen to Jesus!" And then in the lead-up to the Easter season we read the passage in John 12 where Mary poured out a whole pound of expensive perfume on Jesus' feet just to show her love for him. It cost about a year's wages for a common laborer, and we did the math and realized that with that amount of money you could buy a small car. None of the people coming to the study owns a car. They were impressed: "Wow, she really loved Jesus."

Betty's Travels to the U. S.

The end of February and the first part of March, I took a two-week trip to Nebraska to help my parents while my mom had lower back surgery. Thank you to all of you who knew about it and were praying. The trip was certainly worthwhile. Mom's surgery went well, but she had quite a lot of pain afterwards. And a few days after returning home from the surgery, my dad fell and was hospitalized for about five days. The pain from the fall was complicated by his congestive heart failure and diabetes. I was able to help move them to an assisted living home in North Platte before I left. It was an emotional two weeks, and great to see Mom and Dad, as well as my brother and his family. It is hard to be away from them during this time, but was also hard to be away from Rick and the kids in Quito. We would appreciate your continued prayers for my parents.



Cultural Closeup

Betty: In big events like this New Testament dedication the Quichuas always include food. They usually serve the crowd a special lunch.

That Saturday we got soup and corn on the cob, and then a second course of *cuy* (guinea pig) with rice. There were several hundred hungry people there. The Quichuas never bother to do a head count, they just make lots!



Fixing lunch for hundreds of people

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Other sites: www.hcjb.org, www.wycliffe.org

Our newsletters: www.Aschmann.net/Rick/Newsletter.