

²⁶ [Jesus] also said, "This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man scatters seed on the ground. ²⁷ Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how. ²⁸ All by itself the soil produces grain— first the stalk, then the head, then the full kernel in the head. ²⁹ As soon as the grain is ripe, he puts the sickle to it, because the harvest has come."

Mark 4:26-29

Quichua Bible Studies

Rick: Thank you for continuing to pray about our Quichua Bible studies. We continue our cooperation with the [Pan de Vida](#) ministry next door to our host church. On December 16 they had their annual Christmas bash, with the largest crowd yet coming to be fed, both physically and spiritually, more than 400 people.

Since this was planned as a special evangelistic Christmas program, we held our Quichua meeting there, instead of taking them across the street to our host church the way we usually do.

We had 32 adult Quichua speakers, plus quite a few children. I read the Christmas story to them from the Quichua New Testament, and then Segundo shared an evangelistic message. A number of them made professions of faith, which was very encouraging for us, especially as some of these have continued to attend in the new year, and to show an eagerness to feed on the word and grow.

However, churches are not grown from one-shot events, no matter how effective. After things settled down in the new year the attendance has been much smaller, so please continue to pray for a faithful core group to come out of the seeds that we are planting and trusting God to make grow.

Betty's Brother's Accident

Betty: Thank you to many of you who have been praying for my brother, Larry Unruh. He had a bad car accident December 8. The pickup truck he was driving ended up underneath a semi-truck on the icy roads. He was airlifted to a trauma hospital in Denver in critical condition, where he was in ICU for several weeks. Following that, he went to Kearney, Nebraska for weeks of rehabilitation. He is now home, and got the go-ahead from doctors to put weight on his right leg. He is just starting to walk again. Praise God for his recovery; he should be able to recover completely in time, in spite of his leg being broken in three places, his neck fractured, and 8 inches of his intestine and his spleen removed. God is good. Larry thanks you for your prayers on his behalf. Your prayers for his continued therapy and for his wife, Sharla, would be appreciated.

Bilingual New Testament reprinted!

Rick: Praise God for another printing of the Central Highland Quichua bilingual New Testament that was published in [early 2017!](#) One of our supporting churches generously (and unexpectedly) gave a **large** donation for that purpose, and the local office of Biblica (formerly IBS) arranged to have more than 1000 copies printed. I just got an e-mail from the director saying he expects them to be out by the end of March.

This is a big answer to the request we put in our last letter,



Segundo preaching the Christmas gospel message



The crowd at the big Christmas bash

E-mail address:	RAschmann@mtwsa.org
Personal web page:	www.Aschmann.net/Rick
Quichua web page:	www.Quichua.net/Q/Ec/English.html
Mailing address in Ecuador :	Rick & Betty Aschmann (No packages please, or check with us first) Villalengua OE4-342 y Bobadilla Quito, Ecuador South America
Virtual U.S. phone:	972-535-4356 (works in all countries)
Rick's cell phone:	(011)-593-98-040-0192
Home phone:	(011)-593-2-292-1549
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→ Give	Atlanta, GA 30374-4165
	Memo line: Rick & Betty Aschmann, acct. #10107

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

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

since this bilingual New Testament sold out early last year. There continues to be a big demand for it, and we use it constantly in our ministry. We only had a couple of dozen copies left, and that was before we gave away 10 of them at the big Christmas bash! So thanks for praying, and thanks to the church that blessed us with this gift (you know who you are).

The Jesus Film in Quichua

Rick: Thanks for praying about this project. Things are moving toward completion in both the Central Highland Quichua and Imbabura Quichua languages.

In January Eva Mamani came to visit us from the Jesus Film office in Peru. Segundo and Laura and I worked with her for a week using special software to clean up the script for Imbabura Quichua. We synchronized it with the Jesus Film so that the spoken Quichua fits with what is happening on the screen.

Also in January, Daniel and a large group of Quichua-speaking voice actors recorded the new Central Highland Quichua version of the Jesus Film. This film should be finalized and made available in the next few months.

Now please be praying for Segundo as he makes contacts with church leaders in Imbabura and recruits the voice actors needed to record the film. He needs to find Imbabura Quichua speakers who read well in Quichua and can act the parts well, so this is a big job! Plans are to do the recording up north in Imbabura Province in the next few months.

(You can watch the English version of the film at jesusfilm.org/watch/jesus.html/english.html.)



Eva, Laura, Segundo, & me, with the finalized script for Imbabura Quichua

Prayer & Praise

- Please continue praying for our two Quichua Bible studies, that many more will turn to the Lord in the evangelistic meeting, and for continued growth both in size and in Christian maturity for the ongoing group. Praise God for the opportunity to share the gospel with the many new visitors each Sunday.
- Please continue praying for our online video project, as we continue to film and upload more teaching videos, and that God will use these videos in the lives of many Quichuas. We did a rework of the first video based on suggestions from our Quichua friends. Now we are ready to record more programs.
- Please pray for our family's health. Since January we have all been battling various ailments, most colds and flu, but Nathan in particular has been struggling with multiple symptoms, and our missionary doctor is working to get him well.
- Please continue praying for the Jesus Film projects in Central Highland and Imbabura Quichua, that they may be completed quickly and well, so that this tool may become available to reach the Quichuas.
- Praise God for the reprinting of the Central Highland Quichua bilingual New Testament mentioned above.

Cultural Closeup



Betty: I thought it might be interesting to let you know which U.S. food franchises are available here in the capitol city of Quito.

McDonald's	Pizza Hut	Cinnabon
Burger King	Domino's Pizza	Dunkin' Donuts
Kentucky Fried Chicken	Papa John's Pizza	Johnny Rockets (at the airport only)
Subway	Baskin-Robbins	Chili's (just one in Quito)

(For all of the above, menus may vary according to likes and dislikes among Ecuadorians, and products available in this country.)

There are many, many local chains and restaurant franchises from other countries such as Colombia. Chicken is a very big thing here. There are many local chicken fast-food restaurants. KFC also thrives in Ecuador. I find it interesting that the pizza chains have made it big here, maybe because pizza was not a major food originally in Ecuador, so the U.S. franchises have come in full-force. (What makes you think I was hungry while writing this?!)