

**“Pastor, what should I do!? I had a terrible dream that my lifeline was cut!”** I heard the panicky voice of one of the Quichua ladies we have been ministering to over the phone. In many indigenous cultures like that of the Quichuas, dreams are taken very seriously. I was able to read her Romans 8:37-39 and assure her that nothing can separate us from the love of God; that we can have confidence in Him and don't have to fear dreams. I have been calling the Quichuas that have attended our Bible studies during this Coronavirus quarantine weekly to read them God's Word and pray with them. I'm sure that several of them have never had someone call to check up on them during a crisis. And many have called me for counseling during this time. We are even able to video chat with some, and Anne can read Bible stories to the children she teaches every Sunday.

<sup>37</sup> No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. <sup>38</sup> For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, <sup>39</sup> nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:37-39 ESV

## Steps Forward for the Old Testament Project


We have the go-ahead to translate the Old Testament into the Central Highland Quichua language... and God has provided the funding for the first year of work! Rick is working with Daniel Sigla and Biblica to get everything set up for the consultant team to get started. Meanwhile, Daniel has the first draft of Genesis done as well as 50 Psalms. The plan is to publish this Old Testament translation with the New Testament that was finished in 2010 in a bilingual (Quichua-Spanish) edition.

## Thank you for helping us remain faithful!

We want to thank God for those of you who have been able to give during this crisis to keep us here and to allow us to be generous to the Quichuas who are out of work. Please pray for financial provision for us to remain here in Ecuador. We are still lacking about \$2000 per month in monthly pledges, so if you would like to join our partnership team, please let us know. You can give as shown on the right.

## Feeding the Hungry

Just like in most of the world, many of the Quichuas that we minister to don't have jobs or can't do their jobs right now. The ministry we have worked with on Sundays, Pan de Vida (Bread of Life), is trying to provide food for hundreds of families, including our Quichua friends. They package up enough food for a family for 2 weeks and pay for a taxi to and from the ministry so someone in the family can get it. (Taxis have been the only way to get around since public transportation is shutdown.) They have been doing this since mid-March. We are helping to coordinate with the Quichuas that get this food and are chipping in for some of the costs. If you would like more information about Pan de Vida or would like to help this ministry, check out this link: [pandevida.org.ec](http://pandevida.org.ec).

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| E-mail address: <a href="mailto:RAschmann@mtwsa.org">RAschmann@mtwsa.org</a>                                 |   |
| Personal web page: <a href="http://www.Aschmann.net/Rick">www.Aschmann.net/Rick</a>                          |   |
| Quichua web page: <a href="http://www.Quichua.net/Q/Ec/English.html">www.Quichua.net/Q/Ec/English.html</a>   |   |
| Virtual U.S. phone: <b>972-535-4356</b> (works in all countries)   |   |
| Rick's cell phone: <b>(011)-593-98-040-0192</b>  |   |
| <b>To give online:</b>  | <b>To give by mail:</b><br>Mission to the World<br>Account #10107<br>P.O. Box 744165<br>Atlanta, GA 30374-4165<br>Memo line: Rick & Betty<br>Aschmann, acct. #10107 |
| Or go to <a href="http://www.mtw.org">www.mtw.org</a>  |   |
| → Give   |   |
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| → Give   |   |

**Other sites:** [www.hcjb.org](http://www.hcjb.org), [www.wycliffe.org](http://www.wycliffe.org)  
**Our newsletters:** [www.Aschmann.net/Rick/Newsletter](http://www.Aschmann.net/Rick/Newsletter).

## *New Doors Opening*

We're searching for new ways to keep in touch with those we are ministering to. We made several special Bible teaching videos in Quichua for our YouTube site, but found that many Quichuas do not have Internet. But nearly all of them have cellphones, and the phone companies here are providing a service called WhatsApp to most people, even if they don't have internet on their cell phones. This allows us to send them videos or video chat with them. God always provides a way!

### *Prayer & Praise*

- Please pray that more people would come to know the Lord Jesus Christ through this crisis, and that those struggling financially will see God's provision.
- Pray for Quichua translator Daniel Sigla to be able to get a new computer during this shutdown. He needs this to translate the Old Testament in a format that can be easily edited by Rick and the consultant team.
- Praise God for his continued provision in this tough time.
- Praise God that Alliance Academy International is doing a super job helping the students keep up with high school. Please keep Anne and Nathan and the teachers in your prayers. They will finish at the end of June.



### *Cultural Closeup*

Strict restrictions are still in effect here because of the Coronavirus crisis. Since March 15<sup>th</sup> we have been quarantined and restricted in driving our vehicles and leaving our house.

- Curfew hours are 2 o'clock in the afternoon until 5 o'clock in the morning every day. Exceptions are medical or emergency workers, bank employees, and those transporting or selling foods and medicines.
- There is no public transportation available. Some taxis are allowed out and anyone delivering food and medicines (nearly always on motorcycles).
- Personal vehicles are severely limited. We are only allowed to use our car one morning a week depending on our license plate number. (Our day is Wednesday.) No personal vehicles are allowed out at all on Saturday and Sunday. If you drive on a day you should not, you can be fined and your car impounded for a week!
- Only one person from each household is to go out to the bank or grocery store. And upon arrival, many places take your temperature, require you to wear a mask (and sometimes gloves), and spray you down with rubbing alcohol or another disinfectant of some sort.

We've just been told these restrictions may let up a bit at the end of May, though international and intercity travel will continue to be restricted. But we may get to drive 2 mornings a week!



Segundo and Laura have been travelling back and forth between Quito and Imbabura Province during the crisis to take care of their farm and her 87-year-old father Antonio (pictured with Segundo). Thankfully, not long before it began, their daughter Doris, a nurse, was able to buy a car for her work, the only vehicle the family has ever had. With no public transportation, this has been a godsend!