

# Aschmann Action

March 2017

How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! ...  
Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

Psalms 119:103, 105 ESV

## Bible Translation Projects

Rick: Thank you for praying about the Imbabura Quichua Bible revision project and the technical issues holding up the printing. I was finally able to arrange some meetings with the organization that is sponsoring and printing it, including one with the director. I am still not clear about the reasons for the long delay, but the process is moving again, and we should be able to finalize the text in April so that it can go to press. But please keep praying!

But the great news is that the revised Central Highland Quichua New Testament we worked on has now come out in a bilingual edition! It has two columns on each page, Spanish on the left and Central Highland Quichua on the right. (The Quichua column is wider because the words are longer, but the publishers made sure everything lines up perfectly.) And it has lots of nice color pictures. The Quichuas really like it, and it has been selling like hotcakes.

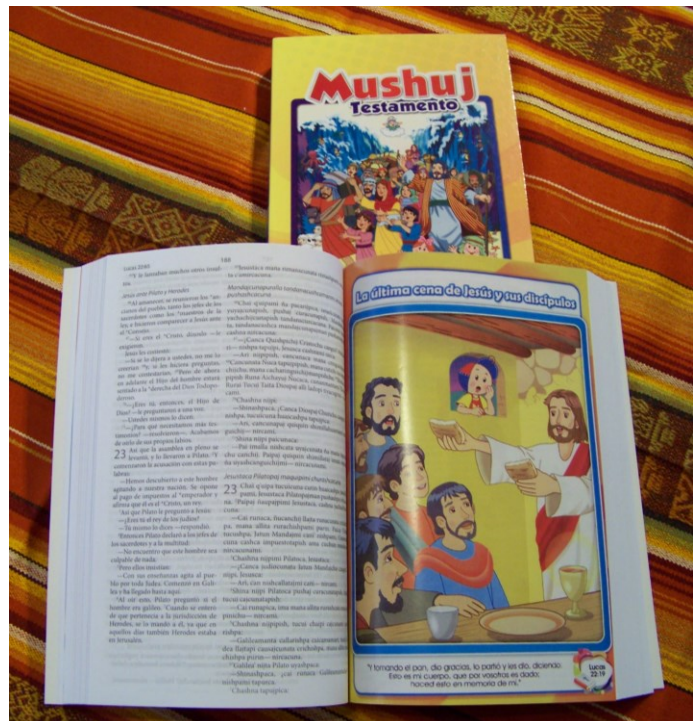
## Trip to Chimborazo Province

We have been seeking opportunities to get to know the families and relatives of some of those attending our weekly Quichua Bible study a bit better. In February Patricio invited us to go with him and his family out to their home village in Chimborazo province over the school semester break. He especially wanted us to meet his grandmother, who is elderly and in poor health. We took them in our 21-year-old Trooper on the long trip through the mountains. It was a great chance for fellowship.

We got to meet many of their relatives and friends, and got to enjoy the beautiful Andean scenery we love so much. As expected it got really cold at night, down



Patricio with his children, grandmother, and mother with Rick, Anne, and Nathan



Bilingual Quichua-Spanish New Testament ([enlarge](#))

into the 40's, even inside, but the family gave us plenty of blankets, so we did all right. Patricio's grandmother is a sweet Christian lady who loves Jesus, though she is beginning to get a bit confused. We prayed with them various times, which they greatly appreciated.



Nathan holding a guinea pig (*cuy* /*kōōē*/). The Quichuas raise them to eat, and consider them a delicacy!

## Trip to Paltapamba

Another trip I took recently with Segundo was to the Star of Bethlehem church in Paltapamba in Bolívar province. It had been a while since we had been able to visit them, and they were very glad to have us. We had good teaching times with them. They are dealing with several thorny issues right now, including how to choose a pastor and various family issues, so we did a lot of counseling.

We also took along a big box of 42 bilingual New Testaments on consignment, and sold a bunch there!

Segundo's wife Laura and her sister-in-law Fabiola went along also, so that they could sell some of their woven artisan work in the nearby town of Guaranda. This is an important part of their income. In Guaranda they were celebrating their well-known Carnival festival (Mardi Gras), for which huge crowds always show up. (No, it's not like Carnival in Rio. Guaranda is a cold place, but they like to throw water and other things.) Unfortunately, it rained a lot on the day they went to sell, so they didn't sell much. But one of the church leaders mentioned that they were having a big evangelistic campaign in a nearby village, and suggested they sell things there between the meetings.

So we stopped for a visit. Both Segundo and I had met the pastor before, and we showed him the New Testaments. "Please come into our meeting and talk about them. Many will want to buy one." We did so, and many tried to come up right then to buy one, but the pastor said, "No, you need to wait until after the meeting." And then he said, from the pulpit so everyone could hear, "Our guest speaker didn't show up. Which of you is going to preach for us?" We have had enough experience among the Quichuas that we are always prepared for this possibility, and Segundo preached a great gospel sermon from John chapter 1. Never a dull moment in mission work! Needless to say we sold the rest of the New Testaments, and could have sold more. And I had thought 42 would be plenty! The ladies also sold a lot of their wares, so it was a very successful trip all around.



Segundo preaching in the big evangelistic tent meeting

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/En/English.html">www.Quichua.net/Q/En/English.html</a>
Mailing address in Ecuador:	<b>Rick &amp; Betty Aschmann</b> (No packages please, or check with us first) <b>Villalengua OE4-342 y Bobadilla</b> <b>Quito, Ecuador</b> <b>South America</b>
Virtual U.S. phone:	<b>972-535-4356</b> (works in all countries)
Rick's cell phone:	<b>(011)-593-98-040-0192</b>
Home phone:	<b>(011)-593-2-292-1549</b>
To give online:	<a href="#">Donate</a>
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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).

## Cultural Closeup



Betty: Ecuador just held a major election in February. And like the U.S. in November, it was a major presidential battle and the incumbent president, Rafael Correa, was not eligible to run. But unlike the U.S., the straight popular vote is what counts (there's no electoral college), and there are many political parties that get a significant percentage of the vote. Eight people ran for president.

The rule here is that to win, a presidential candidate has to receive more than 40 percent of the vote, and have 10 percent more than the nearest rival. That did not happen on February 19th, so there will be a second round of the election April 2nd. The two top candidates will be running in that election to determine president.

Another interesting feature of the Ecuadorian elections: it is a requirement to vote, and it has to be done in the area where the person originally registered. That means that on election day (always a Sunday), the country's businesses nearly shut down, except for transportation. Everyone has to return to his or her original home to vote. It sort of reminds me of Caesar's edict in Luke 2. Anyway, we did not hold our Quichua Bible study that Sunday because our Quichua friends had to travel to vote, and we will not meet on April 2 for the same reason.

## 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.
- Praise God that the Central Highland Quichua bilingual New Testament is printed and that many can now feed on God's Word in their heart language and have it light their path.
- Pray that the Imbabura Quichua Bible revision project may be completed well and in the near future so that the Imbabura Quichuas may again have God's Word available to them in their heart language.
- Praise God! Our mission account balance, which was critically low over the last several months, now is higher than it has been for a year. Thanks for praying, and thanks to so many of you who responded with special gifts or with new or increased monthly pledges. Please pray that our support will remain strong so that our work will not be hindered.