

Aschmann Action

September 2018

⁷ The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

⁸ The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.

Psalms 121:7, 8



Our faithful loaner car

Back Home in Ecuador

Rick: Thanks so much for praying for our whirlwind Home Ministry Assignment this summer. We told you in our last letter that we would be visiting 16 churches in 6 states in 7 weeks, but it actually ended up being 17 churches! We put nearly 7,000 miles on a loaned vehicle. We had never tried to pack quite so much into so short a period in our entire missionary career, and by the end we were pretty worn out and were glad to get back to Ecuador to rest up a bit. But we didn't get sick or have any accidents or breakdowns. And it was a very pro-

ductive and fruitful time, and an important opportunity to report on what God is doing in Ecuador with churches and friends who have supported us for many, many years. I found myself remembering back on each visit, "Let's, see... y'all have supported us in prayer and financially for... 25 years... 30 years... 35 years... even 39 years. Wow! God has been very faithful, and so have so many of you! Thank you!

Quichua Bible Study

Thank you for continuing to pray about our Quichua Bible study. Our partnership with the Pan de Vida (Bread of Life, pandevida.org.ec) ministry that we mentioned in our last letter continues, and each Sunday we have had a good group attending our study, some for the first time and some returning week after week.

Our connection with Pan de Vida also gave me an unexpected opportunity to share a word and pray at a funeral. We had met a Quichua family who was being disciplined and helped by Pan de Vida, and we had invited them to our meeting, though they hadn't had a chance to attend yet. The director of Pan de Vida had told me that the husband of this family had professed faith in Jesus for his salvation not long before this. Then, just a few days later, we were told that this man had died of an extremely



Workers cementing in the niche during the funeral, after placing the casket

fast-acting cancer, which he had not even known he had when we met him. What a shock! But obviously so much more so for the family. We were invited to the funeral, and I was able to give a brief word about our precious hope from 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 and a prayer for those who were bereaved. Please pray for his widow and other family members, that God will draw them to himself in the midst of their grief.

Pray also for our original three families. One of them has begun attending another church in their home neighborhood, and we are glad of that, but the other two seem to have become somewhat discouraged. Some attrition of the initial members of a new church plant is not unusual, but we do not want our excitement over these new visitors to discourage our regular families. We are toying with various strategies like giving them supplemental teaching after the evangelistic meeting.



A dinner with our original families before we left in June

Ecuador Video Productions Project Fully Funded!

Betty: Thanks for praying about this project, and thanks to the many of you who contributed, both churches and individuals! The project is now fully funded, and we are forging ahead with production of teaching videos for the Quichuas. (Here is the link to the project for those who don't remember all the details: aschmann.net/Rick/Newsletter/EcuadorVideoProductionsProject.pdf.) I even bought a new video camera and brought it back with me from the U.S.!

The Jesus Film in Quichua

Rick: Thanks for praying about this project. Segundo and Daniel have finished the scripts for the Jesus Film in Central Highland Quichua and Imbabura Quichua in draft form, and we have almost finished editing them into their final form. These should be recorded using native Quichua actors sometime this year. (You can watch the English version at jesusfilm.org.)

Prayer & Praise

- Please continue praying for our Quichua Bible study, for continued growth both in size and in Christian maturity. Praise God for the many new visitors, and pray that some of them would make solid commitments to the Lord and swell our ranks long term.
- All the copies of the Central Highland Quichua bilingual New Testament that was published in [early 2017](#) have now sold out. Please be praying that it can be reprinted soon, since there continues to be a big demand for it, and we use it constantly in our ministry.
- 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.

Cultural Closeup



Rick: In Ecuador people naturally walk a lot, for a number of reasons. Most people don't own a car, and houses and stores are packed much closer together. And there are corner stores in almost every neighborhood, so it is often more convenient to walk than to drive. To go farther away there is inexpensive public transportation to go most places, so a car is not absolutely necessary.

But in the United States in most places nearly everyone owns a car because it is the only way to get around. In many places almost no one ever walks just to get from point A to point B, because things are so spread out. Even to get exercise people will often jump in their car to go to a walking track or a gym.

This summer we were staying at a hotel in a city in the southeast, and we asked the desk clerk to recommend a restaurant. She pointed us to a nice family restaurant right across the avenue, in plain view from the hotel. So we said to each other, "Okay, we'll walk. We've been sitting in the car too long!" Big mistake. There was no provision of any kind on that avenue for pedestrians to cross it anywhere. Even at the light there was no crosswalk or pedestrian light. The four of us got across at the green light, but frightened several drivers who were turning. Then we thought, "Wait, people here don't walk, they drive, so no one expects us to walk, even this short a distance. I guess the desk clerk just assumed we would drive!" Oops! Then we had to cross again coming back, which wasn't any better. But we were so used to walking everywhere in Ecuador and Colombia that it never occurred to us that this was not normal. In many places in the U.S. the only people you see walking to get somewhere are the foreigners, and it will never occur to them that this is not normal, and they may get into similar difficulties.

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