

Aschmann Action

March 2022

8 This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. 9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.

Joshua 1:8-9 ESV

Church Plant

It certainly has been a challenge trying to plant a church in these past couple of years. Our host church shut down in-person meetings again during the month of January because of new (thankfully temporary) government regulations, and we weren't able to start up again until mid-February. And since then, attendance has been sporadic because several of the Quichua families were sick. Also, our pastor in training, Segundo, was hit by a car while crossing the street in February. We praise God that no bones were broken, but he had a concussion and was very beat up. He got back on his feet a couple of weeks ago, but now he is down with a bad cold with sore throat and laryngitis. Also, there were 3 deaths in his wife Laura's family due to Covid. You could pray for them. Things have been really tough since the beginning of the year.



It was great to have our daughter Anne home from college for Christmas.

Old Testament Translation Update

The Old Testament translation for the Central Highland Quichua language is continuing strong. We just paid Daniel Sigla for finishing the first draft of Deuteronomy and are about to pay him for Joshua. That is the 8th book he has finished in first draft. I (Rick) have been working on making sure the names for God are consistent throughout the translation, based on the original Hebrew.

Update on Jared

Thank you for praying for Elsa and her 7-year-old son Jared who has hemophilia. During February, Jared wasn't able to get the blood-clotting medicine he needs on a regular basis because the government hadn't imported any and it just wasn't available. And there are more than 1,000 patients in Ecuador in the same boat. When Jared was really bad the last week in February, Elsa took him to the hospital. At the hospital, another mother had some extra doses, and she loaned them to Elsa until the government could get everyone supplied again. We praised God for His provision! But the government still does not seem to have solved the problem of providing the medicine on a more regular basis, so please keep praying.

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

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

Crime Concerns

Thank you for your prayers on a regular basis. Crime is skyrocketing here in Ecuador. Gang wars are leaving many dead on the coast, and here in Quito violent robbery has increased drastically. In our neighborhood we recently heard that every night for one week someone had their house broken into.

Prayer & Praise

- Praise God for keeping us safe. We appreciate your prayers for our safety and health.
- Please pray that God would continue to grow our church plant in both numbers and depth. And also pray for Segundo and Laura who have been struggling with many battles this year.
- We thank God that Nathan has been able to attend Alliance Academy in person most of this year. Also, thank the Lord that Anne has been doing really well in college and with her health.
- Thank the Lord for the continued progress of the Old Testament translation project. Please pray that we can keep up the momentum in order to finish as soon as possible.



Cultural Closeup

This time I decided to write about something that we have grown accustomed to, but that is very different from life in the U.S. Throughout the day, vehicles drive by playing soundtracks to get everyone's attention. A truck comes by advertising that they buy junk:

"We buy old washers, refrigerators, aluminum, junk, plastic bottles...!"

Or that they sell fruits and vegetables:

"Oranges a dollar a bag, avocados, potatoes, onions, tomatoes, the best prices!"

Also, people walk up and down the street, hollering at the top of their lungs:

"Brooms for sale!"

"Empanadas (turnovers) for your supper!"

We do not have natural gas lines in the city, so trucks come by to change our empty gas tanks with full ones. They used to honk (very loudly) to let everyone know they have gas tanks available. But the neighborhoods complained about the honking, so the city prohibited that and gave them a song soundtrack to play instead so that everyone knows that it is gas. It's a catchy little children's tune, so it gets stuck in your head worse than the honks!

This is our gas tank vender. Angel, the owner, is in the pickup and his assistant carries the full gas tank up 3 flights of stairs into our house to the roof where we have the hot water heater. Then he takes the empty one away with him. These tanks weigh about 70 pounds when full, so those guys stay in shape! It costs us only \$3.50 to refill a tank.

