

Aschmann Action

June 2022

¹⁴ "Because he holds fast to me in love, I will deliver him; I will protect him, because he knows my name.
¹⁵ When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him.
¹⁶ With long life I will satisfy him and show him my salvation."

Psalms 91:9-16

Old Testament Translation Update

The Old Testament translation for the Central Highland Quichua language is continuing strong. Daniel has finished 10 books in first draft. Just this week he asked me how to deal with a verse like 1 Kings 2:3: "and keep the **charge** of the Lord your God, walking in his **ways** and keeping his **statutes**, his **commandments**, his **rules**, and his **testimonies**, as it is written in the **Law** of Moses...". The problem was with the words in red. He said, "I think I can translate "ways" as "paths", but what exactly is the difference between all of the others? Some of them seem to mean almost the same thing! I keep running into these words, and I really want to be consistent in translating them into Quichua!" I told him I would consult the Hebrew original to see exactly what the differences are. Please pray for lots of wisdom in this great responsibility of translating God's inspired Word!

Crime Problems in Ecuador

Violent crime has become a huge problem in Ecuador. A couple of weeks ago, our neighbors had their car stolen out of our driveway. Someone came in at night, broke into our yard, cut the lock off the gate, and took their car out silently. It was right under our bedroom window and nobody heard anything. It even had an alarm set!

Armed people on motorcycles are robbing cars, pedestrians, and businesses day and night. We see on the news nearly every day a shootout with police. Gangs are breaking into houses during the day and tying up families to rob the house. And gang and drug related violence is rampant. We hear of murders daily on the news.

We only live about 8 blocks from Nathan's high school, and he's now over 6 feet, but he doesn't walk back and forth by himself. High school students have been targeted for robberies and two have been killed by knife attacks in the past couple of weeks in our area.

We certainly appreciate your prayers. And we are praying for you, too, knowing that the entire world is facing increased violence.



Our building. The car was stolen from the left driveway. Ours was in the right driveway.

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

Prayer & Praise

- Thank you so much for praying for Jared and his desperate need for medication for his hemophilia. Finally, after nearly 5 months, the medicine is now available again. Praise God for keeping him safe in the meantime.
- Praise God for keeping us safe. We appreciate your prayers for our safety and health.
- Thank the Lord that we have been able to meet with our church plant on Sundays since mid-March. And our pastor in training, Segundo, has gotten some help for his health since a car hit him in January.
- We thank the Lord that Daniel Sigla has been able to continue translating the Old Testament for the Central Highland Quichua language. Continue to pray for Rick and the editing team as they work to keep up. Please pray as we get Quichua community leaders started on checking the translation, also.
- Please pray for our summer plans. We will be visiting Anne and Betty's family, and checking out some colleges for Nathan. He will be starting his senior year of high school in August.



Cultural Closeup

This time we will feature a different culture. Recently I was asked to be a consultant for another Old Testament translation project, in the Cofán Indigenous language. This language is spoken out in the eastern jungle of Ecuador in the Amazon basin. Unlike Central Highland Quichua, which has close to a million speakers, this language only has around 1500 speakers. However, the language is being vigorously used in all of their communities in Ecuador by all ages, and there are growing churches in a number of the villages. They have had the New Testament since 1980, translated by Wycliffe translators Bub and Bobbie Borman, and later portions of the Old Testament. ([Video](#)) Now they really want to have the whole Bible. The Borman's son Ron, who grew up in the Cofán community and speaks the language fluently, is heading up the translation project, along with a team of native speakers. But he isn't a linguist, and they need a linguist with experience in Bible translation. So Ron, a good friend, asked me to help.



Ron and Rick



Some of you may be thinking, "But wasn't Rick busy enough already?" That was my wife's reaction, too. So far it hasn't taken a lot of my time, but so far what input I have given has been critical, so I'm glad I can help.

Of course, I don't know this language, and it is totally different from Quichua. In fact, it doesn't seem to be related to any other language, and all of its vocabulary and grammar are unique, except that it has borrowed a few words from surrounding languages, including Spanish and Quichua.

It has one thing in common with Quichua, though: it also has really long words! (See our [December](#)

Psalm 82:3b: ¡Va'chandeccoma,
noñangiañesundeqquia'can'ma'qqe
ñoquiamba tise'pane tansintsse afa'faja!



[newsletter](#).) In fact, the longest word in their Bible so far is slightly longer than the longest word in the Quichua Bible: 32 letters instead of 30, if we count the symbol ' which is a glottal stop. It's the word in red in the box above. Ron tells me that it means "also like those who are being harrassed", and that it has 6 suffixes.

I also explained that such long words make reading quite a bit more challenging. But I was very impressed that all of the members of the Cofán translation team were able to read fluently without hesitation. They have obviously worked hard at it, because they want to read God's Word!