

**Abide In Christ  
Ecuador Missions  
*Guayaquil - Spring 2023***

**MAKING KNOWN THE GOOD NEWS**

The old saying “a picture is worth a thousand words” is so true when it comes to describing this mission location. The past years of Ecuador missions for Abide in Christ had been in the mountains and jungle regions. Now shifting focus to the coastal region to serve with the Peniel extension in Guayaquil and help spread the gospel to areas that lacked an evangelical presence, the climate and landscape was much different. Not only that, the culture was much different.



**“THE GOSPEL IS ONLY GOOD NEWS IF IT GETS THERE IN TIME”**



Carl F.H. Henry said, **“The Gospel is only Good News if it gets there in time.”** The Holy Spirit used a Gospel tract explaining the plan of salvation via “The Roman Road” to lead a hungry young man to seek out answers. He was cleaning off tables after people finished eating on the river walk in Guayaquil for leftover scraps to eat. Don Dumas handed him a gospel tract. Evidently the young man read the tract after we had walked away. He followed and started trying to talk to Bill Clements. Bill sought Don, who was talking to a Christian couple sitting on a park bench reading their Bible, to help translate. Don took the young man over to the Christian couple who spoke Spanish. Through the power of the Holy Spirit and hearing the Gospel proclaimed, with tears streaming from his eyes, the young man accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Lord and Savior. For this hungry young man, the gospel got there in time!

What he was hungry for was not food to satisfy his physical hunger, but the gospel to satisfy his spiritual hunger!

“How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, ‘How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news,’”

Romans 10:14-15



Don, Jonathan and I had walked quite a ways from the clinics when we stopped to get something to eat. An expecting mother comes over and sits down in a chair next to us in front of the store. Don, with Jonathan interpreting, shares Jesus with Jenny and leads her in prayer of salvation. Jenny had been to the medical





laboratory in Guayaquil for a blood test and was anemic. Later in the day when we arrived back at the clinics they were about to finish up with patients. I asked Billy if he had something for a pregnant lady with anemia. He happened to have some vitamins with iron. Due to time and distance Edwin drove us back to where we had met Jenny to give her the vitamins. We found her at her house close to the store. She was there with her husband, Josue, who was getting ready to go to work.

Taking time to hear the gospel presented, God opened Josue's heart and he received Jesus as his Lord and Savior. Tears

of joy filled Jenny's eyes as her husband prayed to receive Jesus! What a blessing to witness this young man and his wife both, but at different times, accept Christ. What better way to begin a new family! We had a prayer of thanksgiving and blessing for them before leaving.



LEFT: Alejandro and Dámaso provide patients with reading glasses and sunglasses.

RIGHT: Mother and oldest son respond to the gospel and profess Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior!





RIGHT: Bro. Wil translates for Billy Windham as he provides medical treatment for this mom and daughter. Billy and his friend Tanya spend much time purchasing, packaging and labeling medicine for Billy to take to Ecuador. They never miss an opportunity to share Jesus with the patients.



LEFT: Don and John spent the week working with the Peniel students from the Guayaquil extension campus doing local and street evangelism (door to door evangelism is not a descriptive statement). The students love making the most out of photo opportunities.

RIGHT: Bill Clements interacting with Peniel students. Being a former educator, Bill connects well with the students. For many years, in both Ecuador and Honduras, Bill has faithfully taken care of sterilization in the dental clinics.







LEFT: Bro. Wil visiting with Damaso and Maria. Maria does a great job registering all the patients for the clinics.

RIGHT:

Don discusses plan with Martha and Edwin.

“I’m glad they are coming over here!”



RIGHT: I would have never expected these 3 Catholic men to respond to the gospel but God had prepared their hearts and opened them to receive. What a tremendous blessing to watch God at work saving sinners!







“Faith is not only the assent of our minds to doctrinal propositions: it is the commitment of our whole selves into the hands of a faithful Creator and merciful Redeemer.” William Temple, English theologian (1881-1944)

**D.L. Moody once said, “I like my way of doing evangelism better than your way of not doing evangelism.”**

John Howell, Jr.

**2023**



