## WHERE HE LEADS ECUADOR Spring 2016 John Howell, DDS

Many thanks for the work Bro. Wil is doing in Ecuador with the Quechuas, the Shuar and with Peniel Seminary in Riobamba. The first week of a two week ministry involved evangelism and dental clinics. Through Bro. Wil's work, led by God, others like Bro. Carl Mason, Bro. Bobby Franklin and myself, are able to be a part of seeing God at work in Ecuador.





After a short night's sleep in

Quito, we left out the next morning for Sucua, with a brief stop at Peniel Seminary in Riobamba. When the classes that were in session concluded, we visited with seminary President Alberto Copa.

Bro. Wil presented him with a check from Abide In Christ and others who had given generously toward the purchase of property for construction of a seminary campus. What amazing things God is accomplishing through Peniel. Plans are being made for Abide In Christ to partner with Peniel Seminary for a medical

dental evangelism team in October 2016.



Sunday morning we drove out to Chivas for the day. We saw a few dental patients for exams while Carl and Bobby did activities with the children and also did door to door evangelism. Bro. Wil had the opportunity as we were leaving to encourage and pray for an elderly man on his death bed who was a new Christian. He wanted to be baptized before he died but was not physically able due to his condition.



Monday morning we went to the village of Santa Teresita, a



Shuar community that we happened upon last year. Alejandro had been back to there and made connections with the mayor. We saw 38 dental patients (18 extractions) most of which were school children. Sure

could have used a Pedodontist! Bobby and Carl did activities with the children. Tuesday we repeated the ministry in Santa Teresita. We did not see as many dental patients but did have a lot of time for working with the children and door to door evangelism.

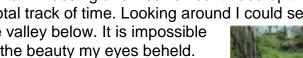
Wednesday we drove along the north side of the river looking for San Marcos. San Marcos is further west than Santa Teresita. We drove past the school to where the road was too rough to travel further. Walking across a bridge, we came to a village where no one was there. I saw a trail leading up a valley and into the mountains. It was like something was drawing me up the trail. As I

walked my mind kept telling me I needed to turn around and go back to the group. But it was as something was drawing me

up the mountain. Passing a few cows I continued up the trail. I lost total track of time. Looking around I could see

out over the valley below. It is impossible to describe the beauty my eyes beheld. Feeling the urgency to get back to the

group so we could locate our destination for the day, I walked down the trail in haste. I passed by a man and his wife out it a field, trying to get fruit out of a tree. We waved to each other. I had completely missed seeing them when walking up the trail.







Returning to the group, we set out to find where we were to be. We had driven past the village. We set up clinic under a school pavilion and saw the students, 70 in all. Pedodontist please! It was fun to examine each of the children. There was so much decay in "baby" teeth but parents weren't there to give permission for extraction. The only option was to recommend they see a dentist in Sucua if need be. And at the end, an elder man who had walked down the mountain asked me to check him. It was the man and his wife that I had waved to up the trail. What a day!







Thursday we drove back to Riobamba and out to the property for the future home of Peniel Seminary. As we walked about the undeveloped plot of overgrazed land, sheep grazed as children tended to them. Possibly the situation was much similar to that of David and his occupation as a young lad. I cannot describe the feelings and emotions as we stood on the ground that will one day house Peniel Seminary and will equip many students to share the gospel

of Jesus Christ throughout the land! Many thanks to Bro. Wil and Ann Pounds and their years of ministry in Ecuador. God continues to open doors of opportunity for Abide In Christ.





In the fall of 2016 we look forward to teaming up with Peniel Seminary to work with them in a dental, and prayerfully medical, evangelism mission team serving the Quechua communities around Riobamba. Will you partner with us in prayer for this new partnership witness ministry, for Abide in Christ, and for resources to purchase the land and build Peniel Seminary?