



Abide in Christ

Prayer and Praise with Wil and Ann Pounds

God's Perfect Timing

Above photo of Ann and Bobby Franklin fitting reading glasses to patients.

The Abide in Christ medical dental evangelism team in February 2020 included Ann and Wil Pounds, Jerry Starnes, Bobby Franklin, Billy Windham and a new nurse, Amy Holmes.

God's perfect timing was evident since we had originally scheduled the team for March-April. Our team arrived back to the States before the coronavirus travel restrictions were enforced. Ecuador closed the frontier soon after, and the embargo is still in effect. Please keep our Ecuadorian brethren in your prayers. Ecuador is the hot spot in Latin America. A number of pastors have died from the virus.

"Ann, do not fear. Return to Ecuador! I will be with you." What an unexpected response from God! He took my desires and made it reality. Back to Ecuador. My adopted homeland. "What is impossible with man is possible with God." How exciting! How wonderful!

So God hand-picked six Americans: two pastors, one nurse practitioner, one upper respiratory nurse, and two old missionaries to join Ecuadorian nationals to evangelize a God-mapped community where no evangelical work existed.

A mountainous Catholic church, erected on a high hill, beams over this spiritual deprived area where the virgin Mary is worshipped and Jesus as a mere tag-along. Quechua Indians go about their daily lives steeped in staunch traditions, and religion.

Our focused, prepared team arrived with one mission -- preach Jesus and Jesus only. Medicine was used as a magnet to draw people in and eye glasses fitted so they could read the Bible for themselves. It was beautiful watching God opening glued eyes and redeeming men. And I must include a very unexpected blessing! My dear friend, Nancy Copa, was my right hand in fitting glasses. God hovered over us as we shared together the Gospel to an appointed people. God chose us. Sent us. Used us. Now the rest is left to the Shepherd of the Andes.

"FOR IF I PREACH THE GOSPEL, I HAVE NOTHING TO BOAST OF, FOR I AM UNDER COMPULSION; FOR WOE IS ME IF I DO NOT PREACH THE GOSPEL" (1 CORINTHIANS 9:16).



Wil sharing the plan of salvation with a patient.

For me this small team was God's answer to my prayers demonstrating to the Ecuadorians what God could do through them in reaching their communities with medical-dental and evangelism teams. Alejandro and Damaso provided excellent leadership before, during and after our arrival. I was excited about the excellent participation of Peniel Seminary board members and students and a Ecuadorian medical doctor and dentist.



Jerry Starnes preaching with Wil translating at La Iglesia Evangelica Bilingual Nuevo Genesis. Foto on bottom right Billy Windham with a patient.

Here are Ann's reflections on this team:



At the time of writing this report el Ecuador is under quarantine, and the virus is spreading rapidly to the large cities in the country. All churches and the Seminary are closed. Construction is temporarily halted at the Seminary.

Wil is teaching Ecuadorian pastors and students using the method "texting classes," and Zoom. Please pray.



Nancy & Ann praying with new believer.



Ecuadorian nurse teaching dental hygiene. Below and on lower right: Bobby with patients.



Amy with two translators and a patient.



Amy with patients.

PRAYER & UPDATES ON MISSION PROJECTS

- ✓ Pray for God's wisdom for future ministries at Peniel Seminary after the coronavirus pandemic.
- ✓ Pray for wisdom as the construction proceeds at the Seminary, and for volunteer construction work teams in the future.
- ✓ Alberto and Nancy Copa, and professors at Peniel Theological Seminary in Riobamba.
- ✓ Wisdom for Wil and Ann Pounds as we seek the Lord's direction for future ministries of Abide in Christ.

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Your gifts and prayers make this ministry possible. Thank you!

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For Abide in Christ mission updates go to:

www.AbideInChrist.com/missions/