

SEND me!

God often uses small groups of insignificant people to accomplish his significant desires. Scripture is full of accounts of God using one, or a few, willing souls to accomplish his plans. Reservations had been stirring when several "experienced children" were unable to join the spring team to Ecuador. How would only three, be able to conduct evangelism, dental, medical and eye glasses in a worthy manner? Surely there would be local team members to take part. The words of Isaiah ring out in his response to the Lord's question "Whom shall I send, and who will go with us?" And Isaiah answered, "Here am I! Send me"! No one is insignificant in God's eyes!

Lord may this week be one others see your love first hand as demonstrated by our love for you and love for others. May it be one where our Ecuadorian brothers catch a vision for missions and their hearts burn with that passion. Lord, be glorified and lift up your name among the peoples this week as we approach the day our Lord and Savior was lifted up. May our hearts desire be that you use us oh Lord as you desire. Be glorified through our humble and meek offering of self. Amen!



Fabian Gomez after accepting Christ as his savior



Bro. Wil translates for Billy as he assesses Quichua child

You would have been hard pressed to put together a smaller U.S. "evangelism health ministry" team than this team of three (Bro. Wil Pounds, Billy Windham, John Howell). Dependent on Alejandro to make plans for the time in Ecuador, and not knowing what lies ahead, might be a little unsettling for most who follow the Master.

Bro. Wil's experience and total dependence on God is an encouragement to those who follow. Alejandro's willing spirit to seek out areas without any evangelical witness has led him to the mission fields God has prepared. The North American brothers are blessed and thankful for the Ecuadorian brothers who are joining and experiencing God at work through the teams. Our vision is to create a self supporting local Quechua team that can be self sustaining and reproducible.

Arriving in Riobamba in time for Alejandro to teach his course at Peniel Seminary at 12:00, Billy and John shared with the students their journey in missions, encouraging the pastors, future pastors, and church leaders, to direct and lead their respective church in a mission focus strategy. Bro. Wil translated and led the class in the priority of missions and the churches role. A.T. Pierson said, "Christians need a conversion to missions like a heathen needs a conversion to the gospel." How true is this in our own lives as well as our own North American Churches?

Sunday clinics were held in the small community of San Miguel de Pantano, just a short distance from Riobamba. It was a busy day with many patients seen, despite the opposition that had occurred when we arrived. In this area there is great persecution from the catholic priest toward the locals. Fortunately, it did not prevent the people from coming to the clinic nor did it prevent, Fabian Gomez, from accepting Jesus Christ as his Savior.



Monday and Tuesday the team ministered in the community of Santa Cruz de Guamote, south of Riobamba.

Both were very busy days for the dental and medical clinics. Dr. Brian saw a steady flow of patients needing extractions. Billy was very busy the first day in the medical clinic but had some time on Tuesday for door-to-door evangelism. Jonathan and John spent some time sharing the gospel among willing listeners. A divine appointment happened with a brother (Hector) and sister (Stefania) who were busy working in their family owned cheese factory. Taking a break from their work to hear the gospel, led to both accepting Christ as their savior, despite the distraction of their father who remained silently outside using facial expressions and body language in attempt to make them get the North American to leave.



Wednesday the team moved to Puelazo to conduct clinics. Dr. Brian chose to set up the dental clinic outdoors. Alejandro conducted the eye clinic as he had done the past three days. The day ended with the opportunity to share personal testimony and the plan of salvation with Dr. Brian who accepted Christ as his savior. One of the greatest blessings following salvation is witnessing the salvation of another.



God put together a team of majority Quechua members who took the leading role in serving their own brothers and sisters. Pray for encouragement for them as they go forth, that they will be self sustaining and reproducible. Pray for Alejandro as he leads, following God's direction. Pray for Abide In Christ, that this ministry continues to follow God's direction as He provides!



REJOICING TOGETHER TIL' ALL HAVE HEARD!

