

Ecuador Trip

by Carlos Tellez

"Hungry, very hungry for the Word of God!" describes the people of this beautiful country whose hearts were prepared for hearing the truth.

"Pacha Mama" is the ancient "Earth Mother" that in Incan mythology is a fertility goddess who presides over planting and harvesting, embodies the mountains, and causes earthquakes. A good portion of the indigenous people of Ecuador still worships this goddess. However, as some of these indigenous, as well as mestizos (mixed ethnicity), listened to the teaching of the Word of God, their eyes were opened to understand who the one true and living God is and what He has done for them.

Blake and Allison Bess are missionaries in Cotacochi, Ecuador in the northern part of the Andes mountains. In March, I had the opportunity to lead our small teaching team to Ecuador as Blake invited Salvador Sanchez and me to come and teach through Romans chapters 1-5 to the people of their church and other local pastors. The hunger for the riches of God's Word was palpable and lives were changed as they learned of the righteousness of God revealed in the gospel of Christ. As they understood God as creator of all things as well as their Savior, they were amazed at how personal God is by way of the cross.

Please pray alongside us that this new mission field will continue using the materials we provided to disciple their own people. We look forward to returning soon, if the Lord so desires. Thank you for your prayers and support in reaching the people of Ecuador. We have prayed for this country for many years, desiring an opportunity to reach out to them for Christ.

Testimonies:

What impacted you most in the workshop?

- "Understanding the gospel. This has saved me, transformed me, and helped me to grow." - Mariana
- "The clear explanation of the Word of God, especially the gospel. Now more than ever I know that one day I will be in the presence of God. Often, I felt frustrated because on many occasions I have failed God. This study of Romans is very clear about how we can be in peace with God and with ourselves." - Diana



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Missionaries Blake and Allison Bess with Carlos Tellez and Salvador Sanchez



- "It impacted me to know how easy it is to be saved. I became aware that nothing I do can help me to be saved. Also, it impacted me to know that once I have been saved, I can never lose it." - Maria Angelina
- "Thanks to this conference, all of the doubts that I have had, all of the questions and insecurities, are now gone. Now everything is much clearer." - Fernando

What did you like best about the workshop?

- "I understood very well, and I left the darkness of ignorance. I left behind many doubts." - Mariana
- "I really liked the clarity with which the Word of God was taught." - Diana
- "This clarified many doubts that I had. Previously, I didn't understand well and was teaching the Word of God incorrectly, but at this conference I came to understand the Word and how to evangelize correctly to the people that do not know God personally." - Jacqueline
- "Every word taught was from Bible passages, not invented. I was saved by the grace of God in this conference. I understood and I now rest in Jesus Christ and my life is in the will of God." - Jorge



Prayer Requests:

- For a good finish to the 3DTC 2022-2023 school year. Graduation is planned for June 4.
- For various workshops happening in Bolivia and Venezuela, led by those we have trained and their disciples.
- - For Carlos Tellez and Rob Armstrong from the USA and Ismael and Angel from Bolivia as they travel to Argentina April 12-25 to teach through Romans 1-8 and the Making Disciple-Makers curricula
- For getting all curriculum ready to go for 2023-2024 as we seek to implement year two of 3DTC for those who wish to get a bachelor's level degree
- For getting the needed permit to be able to confer degrees in the state of Texas
- For potential students for next year
- For finances for those who are here this year and would like to continue their studies for another year
- For a maintenance person for the 3DTC campus, as well as for future expansions and improvements