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Missionary to Ecuador

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^{KJV} **Romans 5:5** *And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.*

Hello from El Quinche, Ecuador. What great consolation we have with the presence of God in our lives if we have believed on Jesus Christ as Savior. Ecuador led Latin America initially in corona virus cases and deaths, but now leads in unemployment with eighty-five percent of the population without jobs. This is due to the extreme lock down measures that have shut down the economy. The reason for the shut down was to slow the spread of the virus so that the health system did not collapse. As of yesterday, the state of emergency has ended and now each county has the ability to put in place their own restrictions. Since we are a part of the big city of Quito, we continue under tougher restrictions than most parts of Ecuador. We can only use our vehicle three days a week with curfews. For us to meet for services, there is now a thirty percent capacity restriction with six foot distancing and masks. In our small auditorium, this will limit us severely on the number of people who can participate. With much of the congregation here being older and having risk factors, we have not been meeting and have done all services on Facebook live. Little by little we have been improving the quality of services with new equipment and better technology. Please pray with me about the right time to start in-person services. I hope to be starting soon.

Our outreach ministry has been limited, but continues. At the end of July, our newest baptized member, Cristina, passed away from cancer. There was opportunity to share the Gospel with several at her funeral and memorial service. Please pray for her family. A week ago, we drove to a nearby city called Nayon to pass out tracts. We were able to buy a trampoline so our son and the neighborhood children who have not been able to leave their homes for months could get some exercise. Nearly every afternoon we are out watching them jump and we have a short Bible story time. We are getting to know our neighbors better, and have had some interesting conversations through this.

I have been working on printing two Kichuan hymnals for the brethren in the mountains. I cannot go up there due to my heart condition and the altitude, but I can help with the literature. I have been working with Brother Segundo on translating a Gospel tract into Kichua that I wrote and printed in Spanish. Hopefully he has finished the translation so that I can start printing it in Kichua as well. Many of the indigenous people do not understand Spanish very well, so with this, we will be better able to reach the Kichuan community.

Please continue to pray for my health because the altitude continues to affect me. Pray for the brethren here that they can get jobs. As always we appreciate your support! God bless!

In Christ,

Michael Lea and family

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Brian Disney, Pastor