

HAYSTACK :

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QUARTERLY MISSIONS NEWSLETTER OF MORNINGVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH

Ecuador: Pastor Training

By Billy Cox

If you have ever wondered what God's bride should look like in her finest practice in a fallen world, you should visit the Baptist churches in the two associational regions of Central Ecuador. God has certainly blessed our church with reformed biblical awareness and practice over the past 17 years, but what does the end result of His reforming work look like in real life? I got a glimpse and oh she is beautiful! She is worth the costs of her calling...*"deny yourself, pick up your cross daily and follow Me."* (Mk 8:34). She shines like the Son as she attracts and illuminates people to Jesus out of a world of bondage and darkness. She walks in humility, in His power, yoked by faith, never looking back.

The churches of Central Ecuador teach and disciple in truth, they are sound in their theology and polity. Her ministry bears fruit beyond their own capabilities. They plant new churches in obedience and trust in God's provision for additional leadership, church growth, money and wisdom. They are patient and persevere knowing God has led them to where they are working. They fear not man and work together with other churches to accomplish the mission. There is no place for pride within her walls.

Our team had a tremendous opportunity to spend hours hearing from pastors in the Central Andes mountain area and in the jungle region of East Central Ecuador of how God has been working to build His church. Al Mohler once said our greatest heroes are pastors and perhaps the greatest of these may well be those that serve in the remote areas of the world where we may never hear one of their sermons. After hearing from the pastors in Ecuador I would agree. Time with these men was more valuable than an hour alone with John MacArthur or John Piper as we heard their testimonies of God's work.

We also led a Pastor's Shepherding Conference at a local Baptist church for 4 nights. The 22 pastors and their leaders were overwhelmed by your generosity to provide a resource library for their use. The pastors have made plans to begin reading "Don't Waste Your Life" by John Piper and each pastor was asked to write a book review and be prepared to discuss it in one month. I found

these men to be genuinely called, well disciplined and committed to the ministry.

We didn't know that this ordained event was being used to help these men obtain newly required government certification until we arrived. We learned that the certification process will also mean that these men must become seminary trained within a few years and that they were being called to establish a Baptist seminary at the camp where we were staying. Our hearts are equally yoked to this mission as we know first hand that a theologically sound seminary produces pastors that preach the word to redeem and sanctify

His flock, equipping them for service and building them up for every good work. (Eph 4:12-16). The blessings of obedience will sustain the gospel going forward for generations to come.

Our visit was an invitation for our church to join Him in prayer, give for the seminary and for church missions and teach discipleship classes for their leaders. In return our

leadership will learn how to finish the task in evangelism, church planting, missions, overcoming persecution, overcoming our culture, and more. *"Who will go for Us?"* is our call. I am confident in our Lord that your response is the same as mine...*"Hear am I send Me."* (Is 6: 8)



Other Summer Missionaries:

Bella Epps—Kenya

Sarah Kathryn Portis—Kenya

Abby Duke—Ukraine

"Is not the commission of our Lord still binding upon us? Can we not do more than now we are doing?" -- William Carey

Southeast Asia

By Jordan Nelson

Opportunities are given to everyone and I am very fortunate that Christ gave me the opportunity to go to Indonesia to share the Gospel.

I really can't begin to describe what I've experienced and learned from this trip. I can tell you that I know God is completely sovereign. I see it every day through the beauty of His Creation and the wonderful learning and teaching of His Law which I am trying and failing to keep everyday.

When we first arrived in Indonesia we had no idea what was in store. Ultimately we were to study the culture and transportation of some indigenous tribes in North Kalimantan of Indonesia. During this time it was very difficult to share the Gospel due to the language barrier. Christ was very good to us during this time and gave freedom to travel all throughout Indonesia. Eventually we settled in Malang and we taught English to many Islamic students. This gave us the opportunity to have a way into their lives. They quickly trusted and loved us as we grew to love them as well. The Gospel was continuously shared during this time. There were times of danger and times of relaxation. To summarize my experience is that I will definitely be in some type of affiliation with the country and its people. I hope that through this Christ was shown to His people in a mighty way.

I can go on for pages and it still would not give a true glimpse of some of the things I experienced. I am so fortunate to be a part of a church that loves the Word, which challenges me to share that very same Word to the people of Indonesia.



Ecuador: Vacation Bible School

By Monica Lott

The Morningview mission team of nine members held a Vacation Bible School at a small mountainside school in Patate, Ecuador on Monday, June 30 through Wednesday, July 1. This school had about 40 students. We would travel to the school from Camp Chaucau by way of pick-up trucks. The ride to and from the school was an experience in itself.

The team would arrive at the school around 10:45 and stay until 12:45. The central theme of the VBS was Light of the World. Each day began with us playing with the kids as they came from their break at the school. We had jump ropes, side walk chalk, soccer balls and parachutes to engage the kids. The kids were excited to see us and would gladly join in the activities. The Camp Chaucau staff would help get the kids settled down and would introduce the theme of the day and lead in songs and skits. Roberto and Esther, Camp Chaucau staffers, are fabulous leaders in this area. Emily Cox and Erin Sellars would then tell the Bible Story with Roberto translating in Spanish. Other Morningview students and the kids at the school would be involved in acting out the bible story. We would conclude this beginning time together with a song and then split into two groups, younger and older, in order to proceed to games and crafts. Each day the games and the crafts went along with the theme. The themes for each day were: Monday - Jesus is the light, Tuesday - Jesus is the True Word and Wednesday - Let your light shine. The children were taught a response to these themes. The response was: it is the truth (Es la verdad). After each group had a time in crafts and games, we would come together for some final songs and review of the themes. As each child was leaving, they would be given a snack and drink. Many of the children would hang around for us to give them a ride in the trucks. They were very thankful for the rides home.

It was very rewarding to see how the kids would respond with the information they had learned each day. I believe seeds were planted during these three days. It was also refreshing to see their excitement over the paperback new testaments that we gave them. Many were reading them the minute they received them. God will use His Word to change Ecuador. Thank you for the opportunity to spread the gospel to those who would not have heard unless we went.

Missions Calendar

Sep 14	<i>First Night Free! Start of Encountering the World of Islam Course (Eastwood Church)</i>
Sep 20	<i>Ken Temple</i>
Oct 10 - 21	<i>Missions Trip: SE Asia</i>
Nov 6 - 7	<i>Digging Deeper Retreat with Bob Sjogren</i>
Nov 8	<i>Annual Global Missions Conference / International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church</i>