**August 2016**

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**Dear Brethren in Christ and Friends:**

**“And they entered into a covenant to seek the Lord God of their fathers with all their heart and with all their soul.” – II Chronicles 15:12. I want to learn to seek Him with my heart and soul.**

**“Our son has other problems besides being deaf” Gustavo, the father said. “We put him in different schools since he was 3, but he has never learned anything; he is now 17 years old.” This is a common cry of many parents of deaf people we meet. We proceeded to tell him that the deaf need to learn Sign Language to understand concepts that leads to communication. Fernando is autistic, and he is very smart. I shared with Gustavo about our church, the deaf school ministry we have, and how we work with the deaf who start from scratch, etc. He was very much touched. I explain that our motivation for doing what we do, is the Lord and His Word. I shared the precious Gospel of hope with Gustavo, and he received our Lord Jesus in his life. Very thrilled about his decision, he said “You smoothly convinced me, Wow!” I said only the Holy Spirit of God convinces people of sin. Thank God, we led his wife, Anita to the Lord three weeks later. Fernando is in church and school now and is learning faster than we expected. Praise God.**

**We had a treat from the Lord recently; Dr. Ray Thompson and his dear wife Jean came for our Bible Conference. We were blessed with the preaching and teaching of the precious Word of God. 5 people came to know Christ that week. Praise the Lord for His work in the lives of the Thompsons and for using them in missions for more than 61 years. The Lord brought them here to be a great blessing to us and our church people. We all saw what God can do if we follow His leading.**

**Thank the Lord for the church in Puyo; the deaf are able to attend church there every week now. Pastor Melvin Matos and his wife Belen are applying themselves to learn Sign Language. Dennis and Ruth , our missionaries who work in Ambato are able to go to Puyo every Sunday evening to interpret for the deaf. Please pray for someone to help Pastor Melvin (full time) with the deaf. We still go there once a month to help and disciple some deaf people like Nelson and Fiama who have a great desire for the Lord.**

**After I graduated with my Master´s degree and started to teach. As a deaf person, I thought I had achieved something, but I was empty inside with no real purpose in life. With His unfailing love, the Lord sought me by letting my cousin Norm Reynolds witness to me; I accepted my most precious Savior Jesus on August 16th, 1976, 40 years ago. Psalm 25:8 – “Good and upright is the Lord: therefore will he teach sinners in the way”. Out of His mercy, He saved me. Psalm 116:12 – “What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits toward me?” I know that I can´t repay my dear Lord; I ask Him to make me grateful and live to glorify Him all the days of my life.**

**We cherish your prayers for us and the different ministries around here. We could not go on without God´s wisdom, care, provision, guidance, etc. Please keep praying and giving for the work of the Lord in Ecuador and all around the world.**

**Serving our precious Lord Jesus,**

**Raymond, Anita and Paul**