

THE

McKendree FAMILY

MISSIONARIES TO THE
Peru, South America
D E A F 1ST



Jan/Feb 2019

Dear Pastor and Church Family,

We were able to take a small group to visit the Deaf ladies in the Community of Manacamiri, which is about 30 minutes across the Nanay River from Iquitos. We delivered Christmas baskets to both families. We were able to have a short service with choruses and preaching before we said goodbye.



So few of our church couples are married. It gives us hope when one couple is married, but when that hope is under attack, we mourn. One of the few married couples in the church ended the last year with the wife running away to another country with another Deaf guy. This would be a Hosea situation, but both parties have to accept their fault in this separation. This marriage is under attack - please pray.

I was able to take Gael, Magno, and Yvan to a local camp during the last week of January. We are praying about using that location for our future Deaf camp in 2020.



We celebrated Friendship Day on the Sunday after Valentine's Day. We combined this celebration with Yvan's Birthday. Yvan is still serving faithfully. We held our very first Daily Vacation Bible School February 22-24 (Friday-Sunday) "Siguiendo a Cristo" was our theme. "Following Christ" down the dusty, wagon trail of the old west in search of greater treasures than silver and gold from the California gold rush. We followed Christ on the shores of the sea of Galilee, where Christ called his first disciples, "Follow me!" Simon Peter saw the miracle of the net full of fish almost to breaking and Peter fell to his knees and confessed himself a sinner before the Lord. We continued to follow Christ as the Good Shepherd, and he led us with his "rod and staff." Christ led us through Himself as the Door of Heaven. He led us to Himself as our Saviour who defends us from the "lobo" (wolf), who is the Devil. There were 29 in attendance on Friday and 42 on Saturday. God gave us 52 children and adults on Sunday for our DVBS Graduation Service. The Lord greatly blessed in bringing all our little graduates and some of their family members. Many heard the Gospel and were challenged to follow Christ.



March 3 will be our Peruvian Sign Language Student Sunday. We have invited our students from the university course as well as the Director and his wife to attend. Some will receive their Certificates of Completion, while others will be honored for their assistance with the course.

We are looking forward to a busy month in March. We will be celebrating Martha's 10th birthday and then Phebe's 5th birthday. We are also looking forward to visits from fellow missionaries interested in seeing the Lord's work here in Iquitos. Near the end of the month, we will have Birthday Sunday. During this month (March 13-19), I will be traveling on the River with a fellow missionary. We will be traveling to the Brazil border. I will be looking at the potential for Deaf missions in these distant villages. Please pray for safety and God's guidance as we make this trip. Please pray for Sarah, the children, and the fellow missionary's wife as we are gone.

When the Lord brings trials into the lives of the Deaf around us, He brings us the opportunity to take His Word and pour it into their lives as medicine for the affliction. There may come death, depression, marriage, separation, graduation, job interviews, police investigation, sickness, hospitalization, celebration, or education. The Lord has allowed us to be there for so many when no one else could communicate His Word to a Deaf world. Thank you for your faithfulness and having a part in our ministry here! May God continue to richly bless each one of you!



Your Missionaries to the Deaf 1st,
Matt, Sarah, Martha, Ian, & Phebe



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