

The Beans' Talk

Update from Mark and Patti Bean:
Translating God's Word for Quechua speakers in central Peru

Jewels from Jonah

Jonah is one of the books being introduced this workshop. As Mark taught it, the men discovered together a number of devotional jewels.

*from Jonah's prayer - (2:6)

When Jonah was drowning and the fish came and swallowed him, it probably didn't seem like a rescue. He probably thought he was going to die by digestion. Yet, in retrospect he could see that God had indeed rescued him and saved him.



How typical of circumstances in our own lives! Sometimes, it seems like events go from bad to worse. Yet, in retrospect, God often allows us to realize that his hand was in those events guiding and guarding us all the way.

* Jonah's promise - (2:9)

Jonah promises to fulfill all his vows. Maybe that included promising to go anywhere and do anything God asked of him. Ever promised to do that? But then, God once again asked Jonah to go to a scary place (the Ninivites were powerful enemies) and carry out an unpleasant task (who wants to see *them* saved?). Are we really prepared to follow Jesus wherever and however he leads us? Or do we balk? Run away? Happily God is a God of second chances (and more!)

* Jonah's reaction - (chapter 4)

The Quechua men laughed when they read how Jonah argued with God and said in

verse 9 that he was angry enough to die! We don't realize how silly we look and sound when we talk back to God!



Saturnino

Later, Saturnino gave a devotional and told that he was angry at how God didn't answer his prayers for his sister (next article). The book of Jonah helped him understand that even though we don't always understand God, we can still trust him.

Life goes on

Not everybody showed up on time to begin this current workshop. Tragically, Saturnino's sister died the day before the workshop, leaving six young children. Wilmer was also missing. His sister was gravely ill in the capital city.

Then within the first three days of the workshop, two more computers quit. Once again, Mark has spent many hours on repairs: replacing the inexpensive no-name motherboards, reinstalling programs, and getting machines back in working order.

Pray for grace to accept what does and does not get done.



Baby Bean Sprouts

It's been a long time since we've talked about Bean Sprouts. No, I'm not pregnant. Rachel is!

Andy (our firstborn) and his wife Rachel will make us grandparents before the month of July is over.

There's more good news! Last month when we were in Wisconsin, we received a gift for round trip tickets to go meet our new grandbaby! All the way to Okinawa, Japan! That trip will be squeezed between boys starting college and our return to Peru. We are SO excited!

Big Bean Kid News

Emily is safely back from her trip to central Asia. Thank you for praying for her.

Eric will be headed to a different undisclosed country this summer (east Asia). Teams of high school students will be offering basketball, soccer and English camps as platforms for outreach. Eric, a freshman in college, was asked to join as a small group leader.



If you are interested in learning more, praying for Eric or supporting him financially, write him at beanem@muohio.edu or give him a call at 513-255-1626. He'll be glad to send you a letter and have you on his team!

Praises:

- The three items above: a grandbaby on the way and the opportunity to visit, a daughter safely back in the country, and a son trusting God for a summer outreach adventure.
- For God's word being alive and applicable to our lives as the Quechua translators discovered again in Jonah.

Prayers:

- A strong end to this workshop that ends April 25th. Mark returns home April 28th.
- Pray for our visit to Wauconda, Illinois the first weekend of May at the church we attended when Mark was in seminary.
- Continue to pray for Ernie. He must finish up his Internet high school in time for the school to process his work and issue a final transcript before a June deadline.

Thank you for your faithful prayer support,

Mark + Patti

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