

THE

McKendree FAMILY

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



May/June 2018

Dear Pastor and Church Family,



In April 2012, the Lord allowed us to move to Peru, South America. We are so thankful for the six years God has given us here in the beautiful country of Peru. On July 1, 2017, Iglesia Bautista Puerta Abierta (IBPA) will celebrate its 3rd anniversary here in the city of Iquitos Peru. Not only will we be celebrating the church anniversary, but we will also be having a baptism service! As you may remember, in our last letter I told you about how Gael and Nestor had been saved recently. They are both ready to follow the Lord in believers' baptism. Please pray for them as they take this step of obedience in their life as a Christian.

June has turned out to be a month of celebrations! We were blessed to attend the wedding of a Deaf couple on June 9th. We considered it an honor for them to ask us for counsel only days before the wedding. As they shared their story with us, we learned that this couple has done things right and they have waited on God's timing. The young man has been saved and recently came back into fellowship with the Lord; however the young woman, Claudia, was unclear about her salvation and felt anxiety that she was not saved. She still felt that she "needed to know more" before she got saved. Please pray with us that she will understand that she

simply needs to respond by faith, believing like a child that Christ's blood on the cross is sufficient, and the Lord will save her if she will only ask.

On Mother's Day we spoiled all the mothers, and took them to our favorite local Chinese restaurant to enjoy a meal of rotisserie chicken, Chinese fried rice, and cabbage salad. Then on Father's Day it was the fathers turn to be spoiled. It was an honor to reminisce with our church people about how my Dad was such a good father. We enjoyed a church-wide barbecue with Brazilian smoked sausage called "Calabresa del Brasil."



I was invited to be on a local television program where they interviewed me about the new Sign Language course we will be starting on July 7 at the Scientific University. I put pictures from the interview on our Facebook page. We pray the Lord will use that opportunity for His good will! This will be our second course offered through the University. We have the opportunity to teach basic signs, an intermediate application, and advanced technical instructions. We will be having class from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. for 15 Saturdays. Please pray with us that God will use us during this time not only to teach Sign Language and bring Deaf Awareness to the community, but also that this would be a means of reaching our community for our Saviour.

Please continue to pray for the Deaf children and their parents that we teach every Friday. They are a bright bunch and are learning quickly, yet communicating the Scriptures cannot come without first building language and common communication between us. We have learned that in order to "develop effective cross-cultural Communication" we must "MAKE HASTE SLOWLY".

Our little family is doing well. The children are growing like weeds. Martha has started reminding us that on her next birthday she will be 10 and almost grownup. Ian has been asking for a bigger bicycle for his birthday which, as he says, "will be in 10 weeks!" Phebe (now 4 yrs. old) has taken off with her school lessons and is recognizing letters and even words to read. Sarah and I are so grateful for these many years of friendship and support from all of you. We thank the Lord for His gifts given to us in these almost 11 years of marriage and ministry.

To the Deaf 1st and Whosoever Will,
Matt, Sarah, Martha, Ian, & Phebe



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