

Montags' Junglegram

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*****PLEASE NOTE ADDRESS CHANGE**

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NUEVA LUZ

Mission to the World

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Dear praying and loving friends,

I will start a letter to you in Nueva Luz and hope to be able to send it out within two weeks, when we again, Lord willing, are in Esperanza awaiting a plane to Pucallpa.

Life has probably gotten back to normal for most of you after a busy holiday season. I do hope you had a good time of worship and contemplation on "Jesus, the reason for the season". We really did here. The village got together for early Christmas morning breakfast of hot chocolate and Peruvian Christmas bread called "panetón", which is a lot like our hot cross buns. Then we had a very nice worship service to commemorate the birth of Christ, followed by a community lunch, and then it rained! So soccer was played in the rain.

New Year's Day was a real surprise for me. In that it also was on a Sunday, we had our worship service. Our co-translator Roberto spoke at length on the need to re-examine our lives and purify ourselves before the Lord, which was very well received. We also always have a lot of "specials", ranging from testimonies, recitation of new memory verses, and many songs. This time almost everyone in the congregation who is either a truly committed Christian or "on the way", had some type of presentation. Can you imagine that in your church? What if just about everyone wanted to take part and share what Christ meant to them? Some of the folks here sing really well, and others are more of the "make a joyful noise" variety, but that made it even more of a joy for us to see whole families up together singing and reciting verses they had learned together. How many times we have been able to see that the Word of God does not return void!!

Our translation of the "Selected Old Testament Portions" is continuing well, and I think we are right on schedule. When we leave Nueva Luz this time heading for our LAST translation consulting session, we will have just about completed the 40% of the Old Testament as planned, and we are due to begin our checking in Lima on February 6. And as soon as that is completed, we will return to Nueva Luz and begin working on an adaptation for the "Kaxinawás" who live in Brazil. Our co-translator Tufi will have gone about four days downriver from Esperanza, to where there are a number of Kaxinawá villages, to pick up two Brazilian Kaxinawás (and their families) who speak a slightly different dialect. We will come upriver with them and expect to begin working here in Nueva Luz again on March 13, on a second edition of the "Selected Old Testament Portions" in the alphabet used in Brazil, which is VERY different.

When the adaptation is completed, we will leave Nueva Luz for the last time, move out of our house in Pucallpa, and head for Lima for manuscript preparation. How wonderful it is to think that all of that can be done right in Lima, without traveling anywhere else! The World Bible League will publish the two editions of the "Selected Old Testament Portions". We are very grateful for all of you who have helped us obtain our part of the funding needed. The World Bible League may also contact you, and if you can help them, please do so. They have a wonderful ministry.

As we anticipate the end of our time in Nueva Luz, we look forward to Roberto and Waldemar, who have been such very faithful co-translators, again being free to travel and

evangelize. Roberto was the strongest leader among the Kashinawas since sometime in the late 1980's and his involvement with us has curtailed a lot of growth in the church. We feel that as we go on our way, we will again free up Roberto and also deeply committed Waldemar to "go where the Lord wants them to go, and do what He wants them to do". They have been with us almost all the time since we began working together five years ago, and they are so busy with us that they can't even keep a garden growing. But how grateful we are that we could provide food for their families to keep them all fed and happy and keep the men working with us five full days a week, every week, and able to go to Lima or wherever was necessary for our translation consultant sessions. I was reading last night by kerosene lamp, a portion in Joel, which seems so appropriate for what we have experienced:

"Rejoice and be glad, for the Lord has done great things", Joel 2:21.

Many of you who get our e-mails also get our letters that are sent out by the Calvary Missionary Press, and I am e-mailing a different letter to them the same time this goes out, so many of you will also receive that one soon. I will only repeat our prayer requests, for we do not have mailing addresses for all of you, and we want you to be able to pray for our needs

PLEASE PRAY FOR US A LOT!

- ❖ For the joy of the Lord to be our strength! We have had very little time for rest.
- ❖ For carefulness and thoroughness on the part of all who work on the translation checking in Lima and then as we return to Nueva Luz to complete the Old Testament adaptation for the Brazilian "Kaxinawá".
- ❖ For good health for our translation team and their families. There have been many medical problems lately and Roberto's wife will be going to Pucallpa with us for medical care. I feel that these medical problems are attacks from Satan and we need to continually ask the Lord for His protection from Satan's fiery darts.
- ❖ For the Lord's heavenly hosts to fence us in from temptations, dangers and to keep us safe and we travel along the often dangerous roads, rivers with many underwater trees from flooding, and as we fly on the cargo planes between Esperanza and Pucallpa.

We sincerely thank you for your faithfulness to us in prayer and in your financial giving. May the Lord's grace and peace be with you and may you be always ready to give a testimony of your faith wherever you are.

Yours in Christ,
Sue for Dick and Sue Montag

P. S. I am hoping to send this letter out from the "Internet Cabin" in Esperanza, which is a long way from most everywhere! Do let us hear from you and be sure to change our mailing address. We will be soon moving out of our Yarinacocha-Pucallpa "way station" house, and can get mail more efficiently with the LIMA address. Thanks.

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