

REPORTS FROM THE FRONTLINE

Ramon Castillo is a new community formed by six families. I traveled there to share the message. When I was initially invited to visit and teach in this village, I received an official letter from the chief of the community calling me to come and teach them. It said, “Mr. Eli Davila Lopez, missionary of the Adventist church, we would like to invite you to come to Ramon Castillo because we would like to be Christians and we want you to teach us the word of God.” It was signed by the chief of the community. When I arrived, it seemed as if they had been waiting for me.

I said, “I am Eli Davila, I have come.” They said, “Very good teacher, welcome.” Because I was a school teacher for many years, it felt normal for me to be called teacher. In reality, they were receiving me as the school teacher they thought was coming. They did not know that I was a missionary. So when I told them, “I have received your invitation and I am happy to teach the word of God,” they all looked at me in surprise. “You’re not the teacher who is coming to teach our children?” “No, I am the missionary that you have invited to come here.” Confused they asked, “Who invited you if you’re not the teacher?” I showed them my letter of invitation. “Oh,” one man said, looking at the letter, “this person isn’t the chief of our community, he is a drunk.”

The Lord called me to the community in a mysterious way. They were waiting for a school teacher that the government had sent and not a missionary to teach them the word of God. However they received the teacher that the Lord had sent instead.

I spoke with them, and was able to be with them for

almost 2 weeks. We studied the lessons from the Bible study series, Fe de Jesus, both in the mornings and in the afternoons as they requested. When we concluded I was able to give most of this small village certificates for having studied all 20 Bible lessons. They accepted all the things that the Word of God was teaching them and they asked that I always stop by their village when I make my rounds of the district. They believe they have only just begun as followers of Christ and they want to know more.



Another interesting event occurred during this visit. There was a 5 or 6 year old boy in the village who had not spoken since birth; he was completely mute. One day we were studying about prayer and I ended as usual, by praying with all who had been studying. At the end of my prayer this little boy strongly said, “Amen!” Everyone said in their local language, “What happened?”

I did not understand what they had said, so I looked at my wife (who speaks their native language of Shipibo) and asked what they were talking about. Everyone around me was upset. She told me that they were saying the boy was mute but now he says amen!

Later, I was interested to know the truth. That’s when they told me that the boy had never spoken. After that at the end of every prayer he was the first to say amen and he always said it strongly. Later he began to speak with his parents as well. At first it seemed as if it was all a dream, but after, thinking about the great things that the Lord has done I reaffirmed in my mind that indeed He is working miracles in this world even now.

WELCOME ESPINOSA FAMILY

On January 1st of this year, what had been a dream for our family for many years began to transform into a reality.

We are a family coming from Mexico. Throughout our lives, God has grown in our hearts the desire to serve as missionaries. My wife and I met at Montemorelos University in Mexico while she was studying to be a teacher and I was studying theology. After marrying we served as a Pastoral family in the cities of La Paz, Tijuana and Ensenada, Mexico. God continued to grow the desire to one day serve Him as missionaries and, to be more specific, we dreamed to be a mission aviation pastoral family.

In 2001, during the last year or so of theological studies at Montemorelos, I began flying lessons. After graduating it was put on hold, but God still had a plan for us and in January 2008, being assured by God, we move from Mexico to Andrews University in Michigan to continue that preparation. At Andrews, by God's grace and MANY miracles, we finished a Masters of Divinity at the Seminary and a Bachelors in Technology majoring in Avi-

ation. But more important than degrees, at the University we learn to fully depend on God, and to see His continued care and providence in our lives.

We were ready and trusting in God; we were at peace to go wherever He led... and He led us to Peru during one of my pilot check rides with Harry Lloyd, a former professor of aviation at Andrews and FAA designated examiner who years ago had served here on the base. He showed me an email from Peru Projects where they were in need for an aircraft mechanic, and the pilot and pastoral experience would also be very useful. So by this God was not only providing a place to serve, but He was confirming in our hearts the plan He had for us and that our dream was in His hands.

It was on January 1st that we arrived at the Peru Projects base here in San Jose de Yarina Peru. We are a family of four, my wife Elvia and our two children, Ebencito who is 9, and Amy Naomi who is 4. We pray for God's purpose to be fulfilled in this place as in our lives!



EVANGELISM TRAINING SCHOOL



As some of you may know, we've been busily working for some time coordinating with LIGHT, Vida Sana Redencion in Colombia, the East Peruvian Mission of the Adventist Church, and others to answer God's call to train missionaries armed with the Gospel and health training to go forth to finish the work of preparing a people from the Amazon jungle of Peru for Jesus' soon return. Monday March 2nd was the big day we'd been waiting for: the first day of school for our new nine month health evangelism training program.

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We have a great group, though perhaps small in number, of seven very dedicated young people who love Jesus and want to know Him more and serve Him to the best they can. We're working with what we have, enjoying the adventure and learning from the challenges. Please pray for these missionaries in training as they prepare to serve where ever God may call them!

Needs related to this special school

We need to purchase the following:

8 - long folding tables for the cafeteria and class room: ~\$140 each

2 - folding massage tables: \$150 each

4 - oscillating electric fans: \$30 each

Boys' and girls' dormitories: \$16,000 (Praise the Lord, the girls' dorm is supported, special thanks to our brothers and sisters in Christ from Lincoln Nebraska!) Still needed for the Boys' dorm \$8000

Bakery Equipment to aid in self-supporting endeavor; including gas bread oven (we train with a wood fire adobe oven for the missionaries in training), floor mixer, dough divider, and rolling machine. \$6000 for used.

2 - Large white boards (4'x8'): \$90 each

Materials to build bridges for the ecological walking trail featuring the eight natural laws of health: \$600

3 - One foot diameter drainage tubes for driveway over natural canals for boys' dorm and lifestyle center: \$180 each

Heavy equipment rental for driveway: \$360



Praises and Providence:

As mentioned above, God has blessed to provide for the construction of the girls' dormitory

Lifestyle center project!!! We're extremely excited to have been chosen by ASI (Adventist Laymen's Service and Industry) to benefit from the 2015 national conference offering to construct a lifestyle center for

outreach and student training, and to help with income for the project. You'll be hearing more details of this project in an upcoming newsletter.



We've also been extremely blessed to receive grants from Southern Union ASI in favor of fifteen students to go through our training with the commitment to then go as a self-supporting missionary to one of

the fifteen remaining district capitals in our region that do not yet have an active Adventist presence. They will be committed to a minimum of three years dedicated to raising up a congregation of believers in their assigned village.



PROGRAM UPDATES

From the 15th of January through the middle of February we were blessed to hold Peru's first one month LIGHT, (Lay Institute for Global Health Training) program locally here in Pucallpa. Back in 2010 we'd worked with LIGHT to hold a shorter training for our Bible workers and village church leaders here on the Base. Now as a full LIGHT affiliate, we enjoyed having this one month program in the central church in Pucallpa with over forty people who took part. God willing we'll hold another beginning of 2016.



As you've already read, we have experienced some growth in our team recently. You've been introduced to the Espinosa family; we also have a few more new faces around the base. Jeimmy and her son Daniel have joined us from Colombia to run the kitchen for the health evangelism school and Brian



has joined us to teach and run the school bakery. We also have a couple of Peruvian ladies that



are here to help us short term by teaching certain classes in the school.

Tania studied health evangelism in Chile but is glad to be back in her home country of Peru. Amanda is a nutritionist that had actually taken part in our one month LIGHT school in January and we've invited her to teach nutrition to our nine month term students. We also have another young lady, Mall, from Estonia with us who studied in Norway and is now helping in the kitchen and where ever else she finds a need. We've been truly blessed thus far by this group, both staff and students, that the Lord has brought together. He really is the God of wonders!



In February we had a team come down from Lincoln Nebraska and Phoenix Arizona to build the foundation for the girl's dormitory and make a lot of progress on the school. They were amazing and, despite some setbacks, really did a top notch job and got a lot done!

This year's main evangelistic emphasis is in the district of Masisea. In addition to the ongoing work that continues with the Bible workers in their various districts, we are focusing specifically on Masisea and its surrounding villages much like we did last year in the district of Iparia. Please pray for our Thousand Missionary Movement team that is working with us to raise up the family of God in this district capital. To help them get started and to kick off this year's emphasis we brought the majority of our Bible workers together for a one month campaign in Masisea. To

close, our health

evangelism students and the majority of Peru Projects' base staff spent the last 4 days of the campaign, finishing out holy week, visiting the various Bible study interests and holding nightly meetings and truly building friendships that could last for eternity. By God's grace we will be making continual inroads throughout the Masisea district this year. Eben was in Masisea two weekends ago while our first student weekend mission took place under the tutelage of Pastor Rosendo in the village of Libertad. Please pray for the people of Masisea district as they come to know Jesus and His power to heal and save!



UPCOMING EVENTS

May 23 **Inauguration of our new congregation**

July 2-11 Look for our booth at the 2015 General Conference Session in San Antonio, TX

PRAYER PARTNERS

Current Prayer Needs & Praises

- For the character of Christ to dwell in each one of us
- For God's provision and guidance as we train more laborers for the harvest (Luke 10:2)
- For our Bible workers, that they may be instruments in God's hands and truly make disciples
- For our students: continued encouragement and capacity to learn
- People in the Masisea district and our work there this year

If you sense God calling you to this prayer ministry, please visit our website for our [prayer list](#).

Romans 10:14-15 How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless they are sent?

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