

COREY'S STORIES

VOL IV

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After spending three weeks in Machinatza Abajo, Rocky and I set out on a trip down the Nangaritzza River. Rocky had felt the need to go, not really knowing where we were going, but depending on God to guide us. As we came into the port city to board the boat, we saw our Christian friend and church leader, Filipe Ankuashu with his wife, Lorijina, and his family. They were going to the Shakai village, about 5 hours by boat and another hour walking, to share the gospel with his wife's family. Shakai is Lorijina's maiden name and all her family lived in this village. This was the first time for Filipe to meet Lorijina's family and the first time for her to visit her family in 24 years. We knew God had orchestrated this meeting and decided to go along with them to share with this remote village. We discovered that this was a village along the river that missionaries had not been to. Felipe shared the gospel and one family accepted Christ. Since that trip, Felipe has returned to share and 5 other families have accepted Christ. It is simply amazing to see God at work.

After being on the mission field for a year, I was privileged to come back home for a couple of weeks at the beginning of August. It was great to visit with family and friends. I was able to share in my home church and also at Mt. View Baptist in Hickory, NC. It was a great time of refreshing and very nice to see some of you who so faithfully pray for me.

The last week of August, Rocky and Dorothy Black and I got to go to the historical mission base in Macuma. We were privileged to meet missionaries Jim and Norma Headland (serving since 1968) and Frank and Marie Drown, who were missionaries there when the five men from Shell (including Jim Elliott and Nate Saint) were killed by the natives with spears. Frank was the one who identified these men and buried them on the beach. They welcomed us with open arms and shared many stories about their work in this area over the years. They are in their 80's and continue to serve as missionaries in Canada. They had been invited to attend the annual Shuar Convention to commemorate the publishing of the Bible in the Shuar language by Wycliffe. Since the 1980's, Wycliffe has been working on this translation. We got to witness the end of a mission era with the commissioning of the entire Bible in the native language of Shuar. It was a great gathering of the Shuar and the Achuar from all parts of Ecuador and Peru. It was like being sent back in time, watching them talk and remember old friends was such a sight. I carried away a deeper respect for what these missionaries had done out in the far reaches of the world.

Now, as I look forward, God has opened up a new work in the village of Shakai. This week, Edwin, Javier and myself are preparing to go live in Shakai for 4 to 5 weeks. This community has accepted us and has even given us a house to live in. The work here has just begun. Please pray for us as we seek to reach new believers and to teach the truths of the Word to every believer.



Shakai home for Corey, Edwin, and Javier



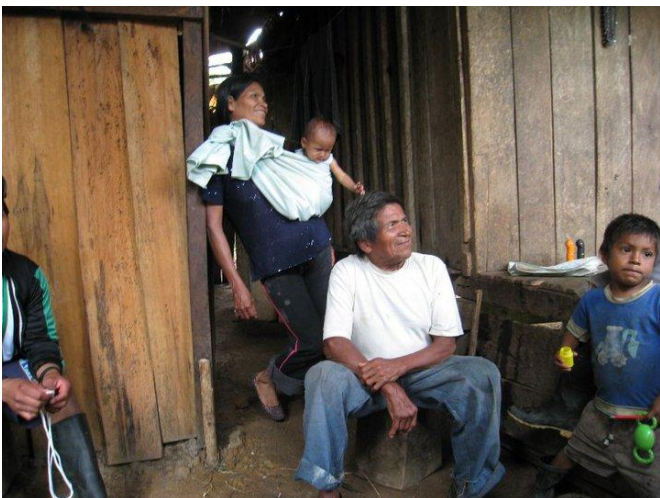
Handing out reading glasses and Bibles to villagers



Corey sharing Bible lesson with young men



Estevan's house; the first convert of the village



Pedro, 71, the third villager to accept Christ



Fish soup, plantain, and popa china for breakfast



Harvesting popa china from their garden



Edwin and Javier reading scripture with Estevan