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November-December 2022

Dear Friends,

"Count your many blessings, name them one by one" is the song that comes to mind this Thanksgiving and Christmas season. I have so much to be thankful for and God has blessed me far more than I deserve.

God is so good, and I am so blessed in so many ways. I am blessed to have my family living close by and I am thankful that they can help me when I call on them. I'm blessed to have a great church and great pastor who preaches the Word of God at Pleasantview Baptist Church. I am blessed to have relatively good health, but of course at my age I have a few issues. I am blessed to still be able to work at the World Baptist Fellowship Mission Agency where I can help the missionaries with their needs, and still feel like I'm connected to the mission family.

One of the many blessings I'm thankful for is the opportunity we had to serve the Lord in Ecuador for 25 years. It was a blessing to be a part of seeing souls saved, churches started, and leaders and pastors trained. One of the many blessings of our ministry in Ecuador is seeing the churches and pastors continuing without the missionary being there to lead them. They have remained faithful in preaching the Gospel that they have been taught. It is even more of a blessing to see them start other missions and churches out of their church, thus spreading the Gospel in their "Judea". One such church is "Jesus the Good Shepherd Baptist Church" of Amaguana, the first church we helped organize in Ecuador. Santiago, a young man who grew up in that church, now feels called of God to preach and has started a mission in the remote south side of Quito, in an area of low-income families. They have a group of about 40 that meet regularly. They have the opportunity to buy a 2,100 square ft house that they have remodeled for services and Sunday School classes on approximately 5,382 square feet of property for \$80,000. Just the land in that area is selling for about \$50,000, so they feel it is a good deal with a house on it. Would you pray with us that if it is the Lord's will for them to buy this property, that He will provide the necessary funds? Would you prayerfully consider helping them with that need?

Thank you for your faithful financial and prayer support all these years. You are a blessing to me personally. May the Lord richly bless you richly in this holiday season and the New Year of 2023.

With a thankful heart,

**Betty Schembera**