



## **Tignor's Tracks** **Following the Savior's Footsteps in Ecuador**



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Dear Pastor and Church Family,

April 2018

Praise God for His faithfulness and mercy! We are sometimes overwhelmed with all the problems and difficulties which life presents, but we know that we can depend upon our Lord. It is with sorrow in our hearts that we report that one of the leading families in the church has left. Several other families have been negatively influenced and have also left. This is not the first time that we have seen Satan at work, but it does not get easier, even though we have seen it happen before. You pour out your heart into working with these people in the ministry, and when there are differences and departure, it seems part of your heart is ripped out. Please pray for the Luis Moreno family. I have tried to talk with him three times, but he is not open to hear. It is like a person has died when you lose a close friend, and we feel the effects of the separation. Pray for Marcelo, Paúl, Stefany, Derly, Tayron, Adrian, Dana, Ricky, Jean Carlos, Lisette...and the list goes on—people who haven't been in church for months.

On the other hand, we are seeing the young people rise up to serve. Our middle daughter, Grace, who is thirteen years old, blessed her dad's heart by playing an offertory on the guitar this past month. She had practiced for many hours hand picking a medley of three songs. And she did a very good job playing them. James and Grace have both expressed interest in helping in Sunday School. Pray for them as they learn how to teach effectively, and train up a child.

Not only in my own family are we seeing God at work. Please pray for Mirka, who has also expressed interest in working in Sunday School. Nelson Tena, her dad, is helping with announcements Wednesday nights. Nexar Cobaña is helping Sunday with announcements. Both of these men are going to be preparing lessons in the coming months. Pray for them, that God would put His Spirit upon them and strengthen them and use them for His work. The field is truly great, and we need more workers! Pray for us and for these workers.

Thank you so much for praying for youth camp. Seven young people went, and lives were changed for the glory of God. Michelle Sanchez, a nineteen-year-old chemical engineer college student, had come to church several times at the invitation of one of the members, and heard about youth camp and wanted to go. God touched her life Tuesday morning at camp, and she accepted Christ as her Lord and Savior. Last Sunday, those who went to camp this year stood up and shared with the church how God had touched them. World Evangelism was the theme for this year's youth camp. Several of the young people have expressed interest in working with my wife on creative ways for sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We want to thank Pastor Jack Tackett of Bible Baptist Church in Morehead, Kentucky, who shared with us a unique way that God has given him of presenting the Gospel by using a gift box. We have adapted it for use in Spanish! A church cannot grow without outreach, and lately it has been a one-family work (ours) due to a lack of unity and general apathy. Pray for unity, vision, enthusiasm, and just plain love for Jesus in this crucial area.

One of the reasons we are so concerned by the loss of Luis and his family is that we are beginning to prepare for our furlough in 2019. We are planning on arriving back in the States the third quarter of 2019 to report on what God is doing here in Ecuador. Furlough is a time of great anxiety for many missionaries, as so many disturbing things can happen during their absence from the field. One fellow missionary just returned to Ecuador to hear the devastating news that the church leaders had not been doing things ethically, and there was bitterness and strife among the church members. Many times, problems are just not communicated to the missionary while he is away. We mention this now, because we need you to pray for wisdom and strength as we prepare. Pray that God would raise up the right men and women to continue the work in our absence.

Last month we mentioned a man in his sixties who had accepted Christ. Pray for Brother Ponce, as he has been suffering with several medical issues this past month including having to have IV for an infection in the kidneys. He is still under treatment, and has not been able to get out to church for several weeks. Pray for his healing, so that he can return to the services and continue to grow in the Lord. We miss him.

Sometimes you would like to see things just explode and great things happen. But most of the time, it is just a step-by-step process. Pray for endurance for your missionaries. During the past year, we have experienced greater difficulties than ever in the postal system. It used to take a month for a package to arrive; it now takes three to four months. We have sent several tracers on a package from October. Please continue to pray for Chris's health as he continues to have problems with his knees. Discouragement is always ready to rear its ugly head, but we praise the Lord for His promises and the gentle ministry of the Holy Spirit in our hearts. Thank you so much for your prayers and financial support. We appreciate you so very much. May the Lord bless you for your faithfulness to Him and His work.

Serving the Lord in Portoviejo, Ecuador,

Chris & Lois Tignor

Children: Elisabeth, James, Grace, Christina, and Daniel

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