



Mixtec Moments December 2020

Merry Christmas to our family and friends!

Wow! Thanks to the Lord we have made it through another year to celebrate the birth of our Savior! Even though this year it will be a little different than normal, it will be nice to stay home and cozy with our families.

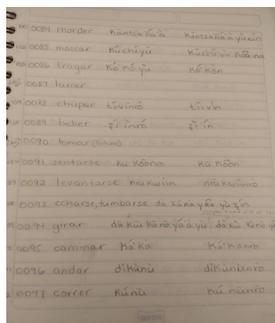
I am pretty used to not seeing snow or being with my church family for Christmas among other things, but what we will miss – along with many other missionaries here during the holidays – are the gatherings at the linguistics center. We would usually have the missionary kids sing and put together a manger scene or have a Christmas concert from the MK school, but not this year. We can look forward to that next year and are looking forward to celebrating the birth of Christ right here in our home. Our kids are older and can appreciate it more now.

Ta xa'a vani. Muchas Gracias. THANK YOU!

Thank you for another year of partnering with us to keep this ministry going. Our ministry in San Pedro started off with a BANG this year! We spent some time in the village early in the year and had Tomas come to the city to record over 200 words for the first tone workshop with our colleagues. He stayed with us in our home and said he would record any time we needed now that he really understood how important it is what we are doing. Many of you prayed for that to happen and IT DID! Then the pandemic happened. And guess what? We have not lost our fervor nor hope that this is all for a reason and sooner than later we will be face to face with our language helpers again once the village is open to outsiders again. We have made progress in our Mixtec speaking and have organized hundreds of entries in our data program : Dekereke. We are continuing with tone workshops on Zoom and presentations.

Now we need your prayers and continued financial partnership again to help us remain here.

Probably due to the pandemic and many churches not meeting, we are pretty low on the special gifts that have kept us going in the past. Due to medical bills piling up and schooling for the girls our \$1200 salary from Ripe For Harvest runs out very quickly, even in Mexico. We don't have health insurance yet so all medical bills are paid upfront or we just don't go. Without the schooling for the girls, we would not have as much time to put into the linguistic work we need to do. **THANK YOU to those who have given this year! Now, we are in need of more monthly partners or special gifts.** Our main goal is \$2500 a month, however, since we are not able to return because of the pandemic and Victor not having a visa to help raise more monthly support in the US – we have to survive this way. We remain confident in the work we do and in the Lord!



This is a page from our tone notebook that shows how we write Mixtec.



Here I am at the tone workshop in March.



Victor going over the wordlist with Tomas.

Will Victor ever get his visa?

We sure hope so! We have not talked about it much because it was a very shocking experience when he was denied his US visa the first time. The lawyers had us do everything perfectly and follow all the rules and submit all evidence, health forms, criminal background check, doctor visits, immunizations, paid all the money, etc. We waited, and waited, and waited and – well – you know the story. He was denied for potentially being a 'public charge' – or, someone who would probably need government assistance. That was based on the fact that I didn't make enough money. He said they didn't ask him about anything else but why I didn't earn enough money to support him. We even had a perfect co-sponsor who did earn enough which is usually what immigrants have to have to get their visa. The lawyers said they never have seen such a denial; now we have learned that anything is possible with immigration. Emotionally, we are ready to take them on again. Financially we are not even close. But during the next year we will let the Lord guide us with how we will get Victor to the US to meet you all.



“The greatest missionary is the Bible in the mother tongue. It needs no furlough and is never considered a foreigner.” *William Cameron Townsend*



To help us continue this ministry by getting us closer to our goal of \$2,500 USD a month, there are various options : send a check written out to Ripe For Harvest with our account #324 on the memo line (or our names) and send it to **Ripe For Harvest , P.O. Box 487, Monument, CO, 80132.** If you would like to send gifts with a credit or debit card please go to **www.ripeforharvest.org** and click on the donate button at the top right corner of the page. There is a new format for doing so to make the process easier.

With love in Christ...Victor, Rebecca, Jashlyn, Evi and Masha