



**Kuni dito, kuni didi!**

**Good afternoon everyone!**

How is everyone doing back in the US? We are certainly keeping you in our prayers, as well as thanking God for each of you as you join us on this journey with the Mixtecs of Oaxaca.

In the picture above, you can see the multi-colored corn. This, along with beans, wheat and chiles are a staple of their diet in Ayava (San Pedro Jaltepetongo). Corn is so important to many indigenous people of Mexico, that many of the languages of Mexico have a handful of ways to refer to each stage of the life of corn. In Ayava, (the Mixtec name of our village) they use the words '*itu*' – the whole body and stalk of the corn as it grows, '*nuni*'- corn on the cob, and '*niñi*'- the corn that they let dry out on the stalk before harvesting it. They let it dry so that they can keep it all year until the next harvest. Our friends Tomas and Ana in the village say that it has rained enough and they have a full crop this year! Praise the LORD! Last year they didn't get a crop due to a drought here. They had to buy their corn from other villages that did get enough rain resulting in a very difficult year for them. Corn is vital to their survival!

### **This past month**

During the past month we have been working hard on our Mixtec as well as analyzing texts we have as usual. Thankfully we were able to take part in a zoom meeting of people here in Oaxaca who are interested in the Indigenous cultures of Mexico. We were invited by a colleague who is involved with Public Relations with SIL Mexico because there were a few men associated with the village we work in (they have family in the village but didn't grow up there). They spoke some Mixtec and talked about the culture of Ayava. Our presence was important since the people of the village know and respect us.

**Pray for us to have wisdom with how and when to approach either returning to the village or having one of them come to the city when it is deemed safe. Oaxaca has just moved to yellow light again which means certain places will be opening up again. Still no parks, churches or schools or tourist areas, but more stores and cafes, gyms, etc. We are not members of SIL but since we work closely with them we follow their advice about not going to the village until the government switches us to the green light (coming up after yellow!). We have to be careful about our presence in the villages since they are still closed to outsiders. I imagine this is hard to believe or understand there in the US! The Mexican government has taken this pandemic quite seriously and many missionaries have even left Mexico to ride out the pandemic in their home country for different reasons.**

In October we will be attending the tone workshop that we were supposed to be attending in person. However every workshop and meeting has been now moved to online until we are at green light. We are so excited about this and SO thankful it is still being offered! We are looking forward to learning valuable techniques for collecting, analyzing and organizing tone data. Yay!



We are absolutely in awe at how God continues to provide for us during this very difficult time! Thank you for your financial contributions to this ministry. We are still receiving around \$1,400 a month. As you can imagine, trying to raise more financial partners is almost impossible during a pandemic. It is a little confusing, but when we receive more than our salary of \$1,200 a month the remaining amount stays in our account safe until the next month. Our salary will be raised as soon as we have more consistent monthly donations. We can ask for extra salary twice a year which comes from our overflow. This is how we make ends meet here! God is great to provide and we appreciate your sacrifice of prayers and financial gifts. Thank you as well for the extra donations towards my monthly procedures that have two more months to go.

We also love to keep you in our prayers! We love any sort of update from your church or personal prayer requests. We know life is crazy back there in the US as well.

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](http://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!*