



Deaf Ministries



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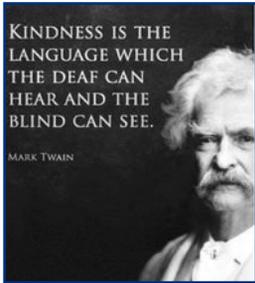


Your partner with national missionaries around the world

Dear Friend,

May 2017

“Many, O LORD my God, are thy wonderful works which thou hast done, and thy thoughts which are to us-ward: they cannot be reckoned up in order unto thee: if I would declare and speak of them, they are more than can be numbered.” Ps. 40:5



Last year, I received a file of missionary letters as I began the transition from being a full-time pastor working with the Deaf in California to a director/evangelist partnering with internationals through IPM's Deaf Ministries department. One of these letters (in Spanish) talked about continuing discipleship with four Deaf named Carlos, Alicia, Kety, and Miguel. In March 2017, Bro. Corrales (Colombia) sent an update in which he named 19 Deaf among his disciples. Praise the Lord, the four named in June 2016 are still among the saints at this local church! As I wrote to our missionary, I reflected upon the ministry that the Lord has entrusted to us - that of baptisms, weddings, discipleship, and, yes, even funerals.

Bro. Corrales reported Carmen Montoya's recent baptism and the upcoming wedding of Albeiro and Liliana. We have often found the impact of these kinds of testimonies to be amplified because unsaved family members come to church to observe a baptism or a wedding. Events such as these also have the effect of spurring on those in the process of discipleship. As one person is willing to publicly identify in the waters of baptism with the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, others ask, "Do I need to do this?" As a couple is willing to follow God's holy matrimony, other couples are convicted as they may have been living together without even considering being married. The Psalmist understands the necessity of God's many wonderful works, which are too many to be counted, in the light of the "innumerable" sins and temptations that surround us on a daily basis (Ps. 40:12). Please be in prayer for this young group in Colombia as God knits them together into the body of Christ, and especially be in prayer for the young missionary as he oversees his sheep.



Over a thousand miles south, in Peru, two other IPM missionaries have deaf connections. Pastor Murayari was able to bring his own deaf son and another deaf man from his church to a deaf camp hosted near the Amazon River. Pastor Rubio was able to bring a young deaf girl with her mother and another deaf man from his church to the same camp. Although, humanly speaking, we would count the attendance of 4 deaf people to be benefiting (plus some hearing family members with them), there were additional Deaf from other mission boards in attendance at this camp as well. Deafness often isolates people from their own family; therefore, Christian deaf camps serve to strengthen not only the nuclear family, but friendships within the body of Christ as well. God's thoughts toward us extend back into eternity past, and we often see how the Lord providentially goes ahead of us in His work. My understanding is that this particular fundamental camp in Peru (Efata) began many years ago through the work of American-based missionaries who had heard about isolated pockets of deaf people in the Amazonia, even before IPM was reaching the Deaf and, in some cases, even before these specific deaf souls were born! Please be



in prayer for both IPM missionary families in the Peruvian Amazon (as they have since returned home) and for the Deaf with whom they are connected - that they might be encouraged to stay faithful to the Lord despite seemingly small numbers with whom they have regular fellowship in the riverside jungles.

Last September, we published a list of Deaf who were being disciplined in Africa after having been baptized. The most recent report from one of these groups in W. Africa (Coite d'Ivoire) came with a sober reminder about life's brevity. Kouassi Fidele, a young deaf convert, passed away and Dr. Nao requested prayer for hearing family members. This death comes at a time when the number of deaf disciples has doubled from 15 in 2016 to some 30 in 2017. A few days before we learned of the passing of this believer, I met with Dr. Bill Bowen who informed me of the love and concern this local church demonstrates towards their deaf ministry. He shared with me that each Sunday they prepare a lunch for the Deaf who attend. The result is that the Deaf not only come to the interpreted services, but that they stay long after the teaching has finished and engage in small group discussions. Please pray for more workers and for French discipleship materials to follow up with the rapid growth of this ministry.



Finally, nearly 2,000 miles to the east in Chad, we received a report that 20 Deaf are in attendance at Brother Tokinon's school. Finances are the key challenge that he faces, as his efforts have relied largely on the shoulders of one key supporter.

We have declared some of the MANY things that the Lord is doing around the world. We look forward to more reports to follow shortly from Uruguay and India/Nepal! Please worship the Lord for His wonderful works and consider following the outlined prayer calendar for June as we remember those involved in worldwide Deaf ministry!

Working with the Deaf for Christ,
Kevin Maki

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
JUNE 2017 Prayer Calendar				1 Colombia: discipleship of Karen	2 Evangelist James Campbell DBFA preparation	3 Colombia: discipleship of Michel
4 Deaf Ministries Asst. Marta Galdamez adjusts back to US after 2 months in Uruguay	5 Colombia: discipleship of Janio	6 Dr. Young as he works on Bibliology unit for Deaf Bible Institute	7 Colombia: discipleship of Leticia	8 Pastor Maki to complete interim pastoral work for DBC in CA	9 Colombia: discipleship of Sergio	10 Jerry Olson as he oversees finances including special needs among the Deaf
11 Colombia: discipleship of Naudin	12 Pastor Blak Vaiphei as he partners with Daniel Schwalbe in India	13 Colombia: discipleship of Carlos	14 Pastor Gideon Kipgen as he oversees a national deaf worker in Nepal	15 Colombia: discipleships of Gina	16 Pastor Stephen Guite as he plans for an orphanage which will include Deaf in India	17 Colombia: discipleship of Lester
18 Pastor Philip Warutere as he visits remote deaf worker in Kenya	19 Colombia: discipleship of Reinaldo	20 Pastor Marcelo Magaldi & wife as they incorporate new workers for CODA in Uruguay deaf church	21 Colombia: discipleships of Robinson	22 Dr. Nao's group to incorporate 15 new Deaf being disciplined by his deaf worker.	23 Colombia: discipleship of Arien	24 Pastor Nadjri Tokinon to raise additional support for his school.
25 Colombia: discipleship of Consuelo	26 Pastor Matthew Troy's (Liberia) group of 10 Deaf in school.	27 Colombia: discipleship of Tony	28 Pastor Barlo Corrales as he adjusts to new life in his house and church!	29 Colombia: discipleship of Karen(#2)	30 For laborers to expand the global gospel outreach to Deaf in isolated regions	

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