

THE ENGAGER

Praying

Serving

Giving



"for, 'Everyone who calls on the Lord will be saved.' How, then, can they call on the One in who they do not believe in? And how can they believe in the One of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach without being sent? As it is written, 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news.'"

Romans 10:13-15

Vol. 2

Exhort His Name!

May the Lord's blessings be given unto you! I am so excited to be able to share with you in this 2nd edition of OCN's missions newsletter of the ways the Lord is moving!

In these uncertain times growing into what seems to be more and more weariness of the fallen state of humanity, we have only but one hope- Jesus Christ our Savior. Despite our fallen state and the current times we are in, we are constantly hearing of new revivals breaking out and thousands being baptized not just abroad but even here in the U.S.! Hallelujah, amen!

So let's go! I exhort you to show and tell everyone of God's love wherever you go, and challenge you to live boldly for Christ. The time is now!

In Christ's love,
Brittany Bingham
NMI President



Missionary Highlight- Lynnette & Jeremy Page

The Page family has felt the call to cross-cultural ministry since 2015. Jeremy and Lynnette have been serving together in ministry for 10 years as youth pastors, lead pastors, and as volunteer coordinators in domestic missions ministering to Native American students. The combination of these experiences, have been an integral part in shaping, equipping, and preparing the family for this new area in ministry. The Page's have three wonderful sons; the oldest is in the Navy, the middle lives in Arizona, and the youngest is at home and will be going overseas for his very first time!

Lynnette and Jeremy are currently on home assignment and preparing for their future time of service where they will be serving in the Philippines in the Asia-Pacific Region. They have a deep desire to find opportunities to share the Gospel and pray that God will use them to build His Kingdom. As God continues to help their family take this huge leap of faith, the Page family is very excited and grateful for the opportunity to serve the Lord in this capacity!

So let us pray for the Page family's new journey that will begin very soon, and that God would abundantly bless their ministry!



Country Highlight- Ecuador

Population= ~17.08 million

President= Lenin Moreno

State Religion= Roman Catholic (79%)

While Ecuador's main religion is Roman Catholicism, their constitution protects religious freedom. Evangelicals stand at about 11%, Atheism/Agnosticism 7%, Jehovah Witnesses 1% and, other beliefs/practices at 2% of the population. Currently there are about 250 Nazarene churches with about 22,100 members.

Even though the Nazarene Church has been in Ecuador since 1972, and other evangelical churches before, there are still many villages unreached in the heart of the Amazon jungle. Just last year a group of 4 leaders from the Iberra Church of the Nazarene traveled into the Shuar communities located in the Ecuadorian jungle to show the Jesus Film and do activities for the children. These leaders traveled to many different villages where they were warmly accepted because many were hungry for God, heard Christ for the first time, and accepted Him! If you are ever up for a great movie about how God has and is working in Ecuador, watch **The End of the Spear** based on a true story of missionaries who sacrificed their lives to share the Gospel.



OCN Missions Highlights!

We collected **545** prayer animals to donate to children in need!!!!

Part 1- cleaning, sanitizing, and tagging:



Reflecting With Our Brothers & Sisters In Christ

Holiness Today once shared an article titled **Persecution: Our Family In Pain**. When we think of many of our brothers and sisters in Christ being persecuted, what comes to mind? Even though we “know” many are killed or imprisoned, do we truly in our hearts believe it could be so bad or even try to empathize and ask the Lord to break us for what they are going through? Or do we say “Yeah, we know,” and just brush it off?

The reason for the questions is because this article is about how many people within the church today meet their pastors or special speakers with skepticism when they hear about the persecuted church. The writer of the article gives two reasons as to why the church seems to be in almost a state of unbelief about Christian persecution. The first being that before all the advances in communication, our persecuted brothers and sisters were not talked about, and it was assumed that all churches around the world experienced most of the same religious freedoms as we do. Yet secondly, even though we have the advancements now in knowledge of the ways Christians are being persecuted, some choose to not believe it whole heartedly because it is just too painful and daunting to hear about in order to seriously intercede on behalf of those being persecuted. For to truly intercede, one has allow the Lord to break them for what breaks His heart.

“But persecution is real - not just to some nameless Christians out there, but to our Nazarene family.” Let us humble ourselves in that we may ask the Lord to break our hearts for our brothers and sisters in Christ who are suffering for His name sake. Here is just one of many examples of persecution just within the Nazarene church given in the article {**Names and country not mentioned for protection**}:

From Prison to Preaching

“Nothing dampens plans for an exciting district assembly like news that 25 of the delegates-including a pastor and his son-have been kidnapped by radical religious terrorists. They were beaten, stripped, and all but one of their mobile phones seized. That phone was taken after a distress call was made.

The pastor, his son, and two other leaders landed in jail, accused of forcing people to convert to Christ from other religions. For days, nothing more was known about these people or the other 21 villagers accompanying them.

Incessant prayers flew to God's throne, pleading for delivery of these people, for preservation of their lives, and for their fortified faith.

The district assembly proceeded, but the time was changed as a safety precaution. Records were set for the shortest sermon preached and the quickest reports received. The assembly concluded in less than two hours, and people evacuated the premises before the time the meeting had originally been scheduled to begin.

Heart-wrenching hours stretched into days. Nazarene leaders monitored the situation and planned possible interventions.

Finally, the four prisoners were released. We learned that the other 21 delegates - without money, food, or shelter - had somehow gotten back to their homes, hundreds of kilometers away.

When asked how his teenager had endured the persecution, the pastor responded quietly, “While we were being abused in prison, my son realized that God called him to preach. He wants to lay down his life for Christ and the Cross. He wants to share the love of Jesus with people in darkness and disbelief, such as those who captured and mistreated us. His faith has advanced more than I could have imagined.”

You can read the full article at <https://www.holinesstoday.org/persecution-our-family-in-pain>

Upcoming Events & Projects

- Alabaster Sunday September 27th. Please continue to pray about what the Lord would have you give!
- October 11th missions service will be a bonfire at the Bingham's house @ 6pm. Sign up sheet for snacks is on coffee bar.
- August of 2021 we will be kicking off OCN's very first missions Faith Promise pledge drive in years! Details and information will come as we plan for this awesome event. :)

Let us PRAY!

- ❖ For all missionaries' safeties, health, continued boldness, and their ministries in that God would open doors and continue to bring the lost back to Himself.
- ❖ For our persecuted and oppressed brothers and sisters in Christ who need daily an extra new found strength, boldness, and reminders of the hope we have in the Lord.
- ❖ For the revivals all around us that are happening during this time of uncertainty, calamity, and pandemics that they would continue to grow until Christ's return!
- ❖ For our nation that the Lord will give us wisdom as we head into what is more uncertainty and that His will be done.
- ❖ For our own church family as many of our ministries are growing! Praise the Lord we have so much to be thankful for!

