

The Beans' Talk: Update from Mark and Patti Bean

Translating God's Word for Quechua speakers in central Peru

The Bear Bible

Earlier this month Mark was up in Margos teaching pastors the first part of the course "Introduction to the Bible." The course begins with very basic facts, which turned out to be new information for many of those taking the course.

The course includes history of the Spanish Bible. The first complete Bible translated from the original languages into Spanish was known as *La Biblia del Oso* or "The Bear Bible." The title page had this drawing of a bear seeking after honey. What does that have to do with God's Word, you may ask? Well, we should desire God's word like a bear desires honey. Both are sweet! The Quechua pastors liked that.

Adventures on the road

We are one week into another Old Testament workshop over in Huaraz. Thanks to those of you who prayed for our trip. We made it in spite of a number of obstacles.

The original plan involved a shared taxi for several hours in order to catch a bus to our destination.

Just about an hour into the trip, we learned that the road was closed further ahead. Our driver tried an ingenious detour on the other side of the river.

We ran into all sorts of thick mud, steep inclines, and scary log bridges. *Where was our camera??* The guys got out often to push. We eventually made it back to the main road only to find another road block close to the bus stop. Another detour.



The title page from the 1569 Spanish Bible by Casiodoro de Reina.

We ended up missing the bus. So we caught a van to another town where the bus also stops, but were too late to catch it there. Our option for spending the night was not impressive. We took another taxi and headed for a main highway up ahead. After speeding past snow & snowcaps, we caught up with the bus we originally planned to take. We flagged it to a stop, boarded and even found a couple empty seats left! Whew!

Checking in on some checkers

Just before the workshop, we did the first "comprehension check" on some chapters of Jeremiah. It was Bernardo's first time to help.

After the three days of checking he said,
*“Thanks for inviting me! I really learned a lot.
 And, you know what? Many sections fit right
 with things happening in my own life.”*
 Bernardo will be back in January to help.

Rogato checks for another Quechua language we translate for. Earlier this year he asked for a New Testament. Mark replied that he would give him a copy if he learned to read in Quechua. Rogato has been busy practicing! He proudly left with his own New Testament in hand.

The Word gets out

Imagine some 70 catechists intently listening to the book of Haggai! Afterwards they were delighted to receive their own copies to teach others. That was Pedro’s exciting news when we got to the workshop. The group liked his teaching so much that they rescheduled their next meeting. They didn’t want Pedro to miss it while at the next Old Testament workshop. They want to hear from him again and receive more of the Old Testament. Isn’t that good news!

Praises & Prayer Requests

- Pray for the rest of the Introduction to the Bible course that Mark will teach December 17 & 18.
- Praise!! Two of our children are coming down for Christmas bringing seven friends. Emily and most of her friends will be here for just one week. Eric and his friends have nearly three weeks to be in Peru. Everyone arrives the weekend of December 18th & 19th. We are not going to bother with getting the December edition of the Beans’ talk out the next day. We’ll catch up with you at the end of the month. OK?
- Meanwhile, Ernie, our youngest, will stay at school in Hawaii over Christmas. We’re praying that he won’t be alone on Christmas day.

Have a very special holiday season! There is much to be thankful for.

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Translation progress! Three **new** purple boxes. After this workshop the three yellow boxes should be **green**.

This chart shows OT translation progress for all five participating Quechua languages. The goal: have everything colored green!
Stage One: prepared for the workshop. **Stage Two:** adapted, checked and edited. **Stage Three:** community tested.

GEN	EXO	LEV	NUM	DEU	JOS	JDG	RUT	1SA	2SA	1KI	2KI	1CH
2CH	EZR	NEH	EST	JOB	PSA	PRO	ECC	SNG	ISA	JER	LAM	EZK
DAN	HOS	JOL	AMO	OBA	JON	MIC	NAM	HAB	ZEP	HAG	ZEC	MAL