



INDIGENOUS TRAINING MINISTRIES, INC.
REVC'S NEWS & VIEWS
 by
RevC
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TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!
Protest in Ecuador & Help Needed



On our way back from Ecuador to the US, we stayed in a hotel rated three to four stars but was more like a two star hotel. I had booked the hotel because it was very near the airport, and we needed to be at the airport by 10 PM Thursday night for an early Friday morning flight.



There had been many protests in Guayaquil and Quito, Ecuador's two major cities, because of Ecuador's "do nothing" President. In the capital of Quito, the protests had destroyed police cars, injured people, and unleashed looting. The worst of the protests had been shutting down all traffic entering or exiting the two cities.

We had gotten up at 4 AM Wednesday morning to get to Guayaquil before the protest started. When we arrived there at 8 AM, the protest had already shut down traffic in all four lanes. Protestors had dumped truckloads of dirt on part of the road and lit tires on fire on the rest. The police did very little except to watch and redirect traffic back in the other direction. Before we got to the round-a-bout, there was already a backed-up line of cars, big trucks, and buses. Fortunately, we maneuvered into a lane that was moving around the circle and were able to pull over to speak to an officer. We told him we were US citizens trying to get to the airport. He replied that the road was blocked but was kind enough to let us through even though he knew we could not get beyond the barricaded road. We could see in the distance billows of black smoke from the burning tires. We drove up close enough that I could see the flames from the burning tires and some fireworks they had set off to celebrate their tempo-



rary victory in shutting down traffic. We debated what to do as there were no other side roads that led into the city.

I had peace that God would see us through one way or another. However, there were no practical options. I



saw lots of men and families going back and forth on 2-wheel motorcycles and 3-wheel covered carts designed to carry a couple of adults on a back bench seat. They seemed to be ferrying people back and forth from where the protest was taking place. We decided to go back through the last toll booth which was on the protest side of the round-about and find a gas station or restaurant where we could get something for breakfast and consider more thoroughly our options.

While we were there, Vicky got a call from Pastor Willington, one of our CTC directors. He said that he and a friend would come and meet us at the barricade and walk us to the other side with our luggage. We could then load our luggage into his "small" car and get to the hotel. We headed back to the protest site and noticed a growing number of police in cars and on motorcycles along with some in black special forces uniforms. Before long, there was a rush of motorcycles and 3-wheel carts coming from the protest site toward us on all four lanes. This had happened a time or two before but on a much smaller scale. Something was escalating the activity at the site and putting fear in the hearts of those standing closest to the protestors and riot police.



Then we noticed Pastor Williangton and his friend making their way to us and realized that evidently the police had taken over the protest site and freed one lane. He and his friend climbed into the already crowded back seat and we quickly got in line and squeezed through on the one free lane. The street was still on fire



except for just enough room for a car to pass while police in black protective gear and riot shields kept protestors at bay on a side road. When we got to the other side, we saw a long line of trucks and cars. Many drivers were even more upset now that our side was moving and theirs was not. We dropped off Pastor and his friend at their car, gave him some money for gas, and



headed on into town and to our hotel.

Vicky's brother and his wife had driven us from Portoviejo as they needed to go to the US embassy to secure a visa for

their daughter. We gave them some money so they could have something to eat and get back to Portoviejo while we settled into our room. Pastor Williangton called a few minutes after we began debating what to do about lunch. There was no restaurant close by, we did not know the area, and Vicky was not too keen on going out onto unfamiliar streets. Pastor needed help getting some medicine for his wife who was sick with the bronchial virus that the three of us had gotten and was sweeping over Ecuador. Fortunately, I had brought enough money to help with emergencies, so we invited him to meet us at the hotel so God could meet his wife's need. He came and offered to take us to a restaurant where we could get a taxi back to the hotel. That was fine with us, but Daniel said that "first we must get pizza!" Pastor took us to a Dominos pizza where I ordered enough pizza to get us through lunch and supper. In the hotel, we watched the news which indicated that the protest was promising to get much larger the next day. Pastor did not want us chancing a taxi to the airport and delivered us safely Thursday evening.

HELP NEEDED

We returned home but I struggled to get free of the bronchial issues and ended up with my second bout with Covid. I took Paxlovid this time and it helped but I am still dealing with congestion in my lungs. I have planned a trip to Botswana the first week of October so please keep me in your prayers. **Very little support has come for the projects I mentioned in the July and August newsletters. Those included: [land for a church building in Nakuru, Kenya](#); [a new CTC program for pastors in Balaka who have no training](#); [help to increase our Admin account](#); we received **\$2000 of the \$8000 needed to build a church for Pastor Francisco in Ecuador**. Please reconsider what you can do to stand with us! [Mark your check memo line](#) with the project you wish to help. Praying for you! **TOGETHER WE'RE MAKING A DIFFERENCE!****

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