

Day 4: June 12, 2016

The afternoon of June 11 was spent visiting the town of San Antonio de Ibarra where the Spanish first settled in 1525. They taught the indigenous people the craft of woodcarving. This artistic talent was used to fill the churches with beautiful trim and woodcarvings of religious themes. They continue this tradition today with beautiful carvings. We then visited the town of Cotacachi which is famous for beautiful leather crafts. We gathered for prayer and then shared an amazing meal. Blanca later shared a video about FEDICE and we ended the day with a reflection presented by Linda Brown from the Murray Hills Church.

As always, reflecting with prayer, God's goodness, at breakfast, we began our journey to worship with our friends in Tocagón. The journey began with bus service being AWOL, so we all piled in 4 taxis for the 85 mph drive. One of the taxis wheels became wedged into a runoff ditch, producing excitement for all.

Como siempre, durante el desayuno oramos por la gracia de Dios y comenzamos nuestra jornada a la iglesia de Tocagón. El viaje comenzó con nuestro servicio de autobús que no llegaba, entonces nos metimos todos a cuatro taxis para un viaje de 85mph. Uno de los taxis se quedó atorado al lado de la calle, lo cual nos ofreció un poco de emoción para comenzar el día.



Church had begun when we arrived, and we enjoyed the praise band and singing by the female singers. I, as well as others, were moved to tears. We didn't understand the language, but God's spirit moved among the peoples. Regional pastor, Doug Wirt and Blanca Puma gave greetings from the regional church. The mission group sang 3 songs, one in English and two others in Spanish and English. Neil Allen brought the message of single mindedness, having one single mind together in our faith. It was based on Philippians 2:5-11.

Cuando llegamos a la iglesia, el servicio ya había comenzado y disfrutamos del grupo de alabanza. Yo, igual que otros en el grupo, fuimos conmovidos. Aunque no entendíamos el idioma, el espíritu de Dios se movía entre la gente. El pastor regional, Doug Wirt, y Blanca Puma dieron la bienvenida de parte de la iglesia regional. El grupo misionero cantó 3 canciones en inglés y español. Neil Allen compartió un mensaje de unidad en mente y en espíritu. Fue basado en Filipenses 2:5-11

After church we had a small meal of refreshment at the church reception center hosted by Sebastian Ciada. The meal consisted of tea, boiled potatoes, corn on the cob and crackers. We returned briefly to our hotel for lunch (more food!) ventured to the Cultural Center in Ibarra and had delicious home made ice cream and sorbet at Rosalia Suarez's Dairy.

Después del servicio, Sebastian Ciada nos compartió un refrigerio de parte de la iglesia. Consistió de té, papas hervidas, maíz, y galletitas. Regresamos al hotel para un almuerzo (más comida!) y luego fuimos al centro cultural en Ibarra y disfrutamos de helados y sorbetos hechos en casa en la heladería de Rosalia Suarez.



Nora Allen