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Date: Fri, 20 Apr 2007 13:48:27 -0500
Subject: Becki Pinto's trip report -(Dedication of New Testament)

We had a wonderful trip. There were 19 of us who traveled on the Cielito Lindo up the Marañón River and then up the Chambira River. All four of the Manus children - Becky, George, Jerry, and Tacy were on the boat, as were Jerry's two children. The water was high enough for the boat to get up the rivers without major problems. We got to the village of Nueva Esperanza on Tuesday morning, a bit ahead of schedule. This was a blessing because Ron, Phyllis and their family members had plenty of time to interact with villagers and community leaders before the actual dedication on Wednesday. Because of Phyllis' physical condition it had been ten years since she and Ron had been able to visit the village where they had once lived. The Manus family was happy to see everyone, and the Urarinas and other friends along the river were thrilled to see them. As we went by various Urarina settlements along the river, large groups of people were standing there watching the boat go by.

The Dedication took place about 10:30 in the morning on Wednesday, April 11. The school building was full of people, and others were looking in through the two doors. The Urarinas have been a very difficult group to reach with the Gospel. For many years there were very few believers. Recently more and more people have been taking an interest in knowing more about Jesus. There were some who came from other villages on the river or by travelling by land for several hours.

That evening, the first official church service in Nueva Esperanza was held in the village. It was led by Custodio, one of the main Urarina translators. He read a long passage of Scripture from the newly dedicated New Testament. (There has been a functioning church in a different part of the Urarina territory, but there has not been a lot of contact between Urarinas who live on different rivers. Julian, the pastor of this

congregation came on the boat with us so that he could take part in the Dedication.)

Please pray that the Urarinas would want to worship the Lord instead of being involved with various types of witchcraft. Pray that the strong Urarina believers will be able to reach many more of their countrymen for Christ. Pray that more women would be interested in believing in Jesus Christ. Especially pray for Pascuala, the matriarch of the village. She is Custodio's grandmother and the official head of the village. She has never evinced any interest in the Gospel, but now seems to be a lot more open. Pascuala cried with Phyllis when it was time for the visitors to leave. Phyllis told her that if she would believe in Jesus then they would see each other again in "God's House".