## **Amazing Time of Ministry From My Home Church**



Pastor Jack preaching at a pastors and leaders conference



A Shawi woman sharing how the Lord touched her during the Shawi conference with Antonio translating from Shawi to Spanish and Karen translating from Spanish to English

Just last month I had the privilege of having a team from my home church, New Covenant Christian Community, come to Yurimaguas to minister by doing two, back-to-back conferences. The first was for the Shawi communities that I work with and the second was for the pastors and leaders of a fraternity of churches that the local church I attend is a part of.

It was an amazing time of teaching, sharing, and personal ministry by the team to the Shawis of the Shishinahua River and to the pastors and leaders in our area. Besides the incredible time of ministry from the Americans to the Shawis, pastors and leaders, the Shawis had the opportunity to minister to the Americans with prayer for healing.

This may seem like a minor thing but this is not a natural response for most Shawis to physical needs. The default for Christians and non-Christians is to go to the local witch doctor for healing. The small core of believers that we have been working with for the past fifteen years have abandoned this practice of going to the witch doctor in favor of going to the Lord for healing but this has been slow in coming. To see how they immediately responded and actually laid hands on those that needed prayer is truly a remarkable sight and is evidence of the work of the Holy Spirit in their lives.



Ignacio laying hands on Trisha for healing while other Shawis prayed as well

## **Water Baptisms**

There were several from our Shawi communities that wanted to be water baptized during the conference and Pastor Jack and Eric, elder and team leader of the group, gladly accommodated them.



Pastor Jack and Eric baptizing Monica in the river

## Village trip to San Marcos

San Marcos is a small Shawi community on the Paranapura River where we are working to plant a church. We have a good relationship with the people and are visiting them regularly to help get them grounded in the Word of God.

Just two weeks ago on one of our visits the Lord demonstrated His healing and restoration to one of the older women of the community, named Paulina. This is her story: two years ago while she was in her field she got hungry and thirsty and so went to her neighbor's field and took one of the melons that she was growing and ate it. Not long after that she claims she developed terrible pain in both of her hands. To remedy the situation she went to a witch doctor for healing but only to find that her pain grew worse. To complicate matters the neighbor she took the melon from was a witch and Paulina believes that she probably put a spell on her for stealing her melon.

Whatever of that is true is of little consequence. What is of concern is that she has had stiffness and pain for the last two years and could not close her fingers over her hand making it very difficult to grip things. We prayed for her healing but not without leading her in a prayer for forgiveness for taking the neighbor's melon, forgiving the woman for "cursing" her, and then breaking the agreement she made with the witch doctor by going to him and submitting herself to his care. When these things were done we then prayed

for healing and she was completely healed! She was able to open and close her fingers without pain or stiffness for the first time in two years. The most important thing was that her family and friends, especially her husband, saw the healing and the power that God had over the enemy. That is exactly what we are trying to get our Shawis to do instead of going to the witch doctor. This glorious healing showed God's power, love, and divine intervention in her life so that she, and everyone else who saw it, will know there is no God like our God!

I pray these testimonies of how God moved on the people has blessed and encouraged your heart as you realize what a vital part of this work you are. I pray the Lord will continue to supply all of your needs in everyway as you serve Him with all your heart.

Keeping The Hand to The Plow, Sharon Malcolm Missionary with Go To Nations since 1998

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