



Dear Friend,

"Then [Jesus] said to them all: 'If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me'" (Luke 9:23). This is the scripture that was used by Jesse Saint as he shared with the participants of Latina 2006 in January in Quito, Ecuador. Fifty years ago, five men were killed in the jungles of Ecuador as they attempted to take the gospel to the Waodani people. Nate Saint was the pilot of this group and the grandfather of Jesse Saint.



Nell translating for Nate Saint's grandson.



Jesse Saint and Miñiwa at LATINA 2006.

Jesse preached about what it means to deny ourselves and pick up our cross to follow Christ. He said that his grandfather and four friends had no idea denying themselves would lead them to their death that day in Ecuador 50 years ago. Yet, because of their decision to deny themselves and obey Christ's call, the biggest missions initiative of the 20th century began. Not only that, but the Waodani people did hear the gospel and responded.

At the end of his talk, Jesse invited a Waodani Indian, Miñiwa to share with the group. Miñiwa, gave his testimony, sharing that his grandfather killed Jesse's grandfather. He admitted that he did not want to share with the group that night because he had never spoken in front of such a large group and was scared. But then he was reminded of what Paul says in Romans about not being ashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ.



Dave Engel, one of our good friends, spoke at LATINA 2006.

Today, Miñiwa and Jesse consider each other brothers. Recently, they were baptized together in the river that ran red with the blood of the five martyrs, including Jesse's grandfather.

I had the privilege of translating for Jesse on the last night of the Latina conference. What he and Miñiwa shared was a powerful testimony of the results of God's presence in people's lives. Our



18 different countries were represented at LATINA 2006.

prayer for the participants of Latina 2006, about 400 young people from 18 countries, is that their testimony would ignite this new generation of Latin youth to take up their cross, deny themselves, and follow Jesus.

We want to invite you to join us as we praise God for what He did at Latina 2006. The number of participants was lower than expected, but God's presence was evident! Over 200 youth signed commitment cards to dedicate their vocations to Christ! As Kyle ran around helping with the logistics

of the conference, I had the opportunity to sit and counsel girls. Counseling was available to any young person who wanted to talk with someone. From girls who have big decisions to be made to some who were dealing with abusive situations, our team of counselors sat and listened and prayed together. What a special time.

Thank you so much for your prayer support for this ministry! Also, thanks to those of you who gave to subsidize the costs for the participants! Latina 2009 is already in the planning stages! Please pray as the leaders of Latina consider a location for the next conference.

Hopeful for the next generation of believers,

Nell



OC missionaries who served at LATINA 2006.