



Fwd: Reference Form - Manuel Merino

From Bill Hansen <b4jesus@gmail.com>

Date Wed 3/12/2025 3:53 PM

Dear Everyone,

Here is a good and recent picture of Manuel Merino and his family from Ecuador who have also been called by the Lord to Bergen, Norway.

They were recently approved by the International Board of Jewish Missions. They do not speak English, only Spanish, Quechua and Norwegian, so pray for them as they visit Spanish speaking churches in the United States to bring their support up to a wise level. They already have some support from churches in Ecuador and Mexico, plus myself. The Lord has brought us together for this mission, and we are coordinating our future activities already, like living near each other in Bergen, etc. Praise be to Him.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **John Lawrence** <jlawrence@ibjm.org>

Date: Mon, Jan 27, 2025 at 12:10 PM

Subject: Fwd: Reference Form - Manuel Merino

To: Bill Hansen <b4jesus@gmail.com>

Sharp picture of the family.

Blessings,

John C. Lawrence

Director of Ministries

International Board of Jewish Missions

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"O Lord, thou hast pleaded the causes of my soul; thou hast redeemed my life." Lamentations 3:58



Manuel's wife, Jenny, has a sister who married a Norwegian and they are living in Norway. They have been there for over 10 years after a few years in Ecuador. The only "Baptist" church they could find seems to have a charismatic side to it, but the pastor there, who is Norwegian, is willing to help us find a good place to start an other work in Bergen. Bergen is the second largest city in Norway, so there is plenty of room for another work. Manuel, like myself, is a fundamental and independant baptist, with no tolerance for an ecclesiastical hierchy. I will know more once I get there which hopefully will be in early May. Manuel thinks he will be able to get there in early 2026, tho' he would like to go right now. Jenny's sister, Alba, and her husband Stian, are both saved and looking forward to everyone's arrival. He is a businessman and believe runs his own business. They both have a number of contacts for us, as also does their pastor. When Jesus said "I will build my church" he really meant it, and in this case it seems he is not even waiting for the missionaries to get there.

Also, in order to save money for getting set up over there, I will not be visiting you before I go as I had previously hoped to do. Again, I will just get busy over there in Norway and send you reports of what the Lord is doing as we walk with Him to establish a new work in Bergen.

Thank you for your prayers. The Lord is definitely answering them.
Bill

"Call unto me and I will answer thee,
and show thee great and mighty things
which thou knowest not." Jer. 33:3

