

Thoughts concerning Pete's exercise for the Aucas

March 2, 1952

"I want to get to needy people and train disciples, and see Indians come into the kingdom. The closer I get to the Oriente the more intense my interest in Indians and I have felt in the last couple days great prayer longings for them, in particular the Aucas. It is the first really deep desire I have felt for them, and I do want to be burdened, committed to the work there, "laying down my life for their faith." Only this type of prayer burden and life committal does God honor, I believe, with real blessing."

March 30, 1952

"I am longing now to reach the Aucas if God gives us the honor of proclaiming the Name among them."

April 1952

"The Aucas have been on my mind, though the thought scares me at times. But I am ready and my face is turned toward them. We have believed God for miracles and this may include the Aucas; it has got to be by miracles in response to faith, and no lesser expedient is a short-cut. Oh, God guide!"

June 1952

"I am alive now to live to God's glory, to center my life and thinking around Christ, to walk in the Spirit now. Amen. My spirit, rise up and bless God.!"

July 1952

"Yesterday we were on a survey flight of the Arajuno, the headwaters of the Mushine, and Curaray rivers looking for Auca houses but without success. It was my first view of our inheritance and it was big, big, big, and thrilling."

March 1953

"God give me help for I labor ultimately as in a foreign land and the very pilgrim character of my earthly inheritance urges me to learn from it of the city which hath foundations whose builder and maker is God. And I will not be mindful of the land from which I came but that to which I go. May God give me strength in faith."

December 1953

"Last night Nate and I talked a long time about the Auca problems. It is a grave and solemn one; an unreachable people who murder and kill with a hatred. It came to me strongly then that God is leading me to do something about it and a strong idea and impression came into my mind that I ought to devote myself to the preparing of myself should God see fit to call me to reach them. I know that this may be the most important decision of my life but I have a quiet peace about it."

Pete's diary

October 4, 1955

"Last Thursday Jim, Ed, and I took an evangelistic survey trip to Huite and Villane which was most profitable in every way. On the way over we went Auca house hunting and I had the thrill of seeing my first Auca houses. We saw several large houses and a number of smaller ones along the banks of the river. This gave us a real spurt toward making some plans for the Aucas - we concluded that we ought to begin immediately making frequent visits to them dropping presents, and Nate is busy perfecting his bucket drop. Jim and Betty are going to see if we can get some linguistic material. We all feel that we must begin bit by bit to lay a basis for future contact with them."