

## PASTOR'S LETTER FEBRUARY, 2021

### JATUN SONQO—BIG HEART

FROM THE



PASTOR

There is an ancient Inca ritual called “Jatun Sonqo” or “Big Heart”. It is a ritual to protect the Inca rulers. One Inca Shaman described it this way, “In ancient times it was one of the rituals dedicated to Inca and pre-Inca rulers. Today we dedicate this ancient ritual from Incas in Ecuador, Peru, northern Chile, Bolivia, upland Argentina, and southern Colombia to President Joe Biden because his heart is big for the whole world.”

God has called us to have a big heart for the whole world. John Wesley, one of the founders of Methodism once said, “The world is our parish.” In other words, as followers of Jesus Christ, we should have a big heart for everyone. And when John Wesley used the word, “world”, he meant EVERYONE. It is not only for the members and friends of our church but for the whole world. In the Gospel of John, we read, “*For God so loved the WORLD...*” (3.16).

For those of us who are Christians, having a “big heart” means allowing those who are socially, ethnically, and religiously distant from us to become close to us. It is not only welcoming the stranger but also, bringing the stranger into God’s house where there is ample room. There is ample room because our hearts are big.

Actually, to have a “Big Heart” means to be blind to those things that make others different from us and to love them as our own. Paul puts it this way, “*There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus*” (Galatians 3.28). In the New Testament Greek language, the words of Paul are much stronger, “THERE CAN’T BE...” There can’t be Jew or Greek, slave or free, male or female. In God’s house, different classes of people don’t exist. Religious and social stratifications have been eradicated...shattered by the Christ. We are all one in Christ. We are one big family.

As God continues to bless us, I would ask each one of you to have a “Big Heart”. Reach out with a “Big Heart” even if their skin is a different color, even if they speak a different language, or yes, even if they look different from us. Be inclusive, not exclusive. “Jatun sonqoyuj kananchej tyan.” We must have a Big Heart.”