

Arthur & Mary Alice Ivey

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"Simon Peter answered him, "Lord where will we go? You have the words of eternal life." John 6:68 NIV

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings in the name of our precious Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We praise the Lord Jesus for having so wonderfully blessed us and for having sent his Holy Spirit to guide and teach us, especially during difficult times. We hope and pray that He has been blessing you wonderfully during this new year and that your life has been filled with His grace and mercy. Thank you for your continued prayers for us and support of the ministry here in Peru. We definitely see the results of you praying for us. You are special people called by our Lord Jesus Christ to minister to His children. Thank you for your faithfulness to His calling. Thank you for your love for Him, for us, and for His children.

Do you ever feel sometimes, like nothing is working out and that everything you do is wasting precious and valuable time and energy? Do you ever wonder if the path you are following is correct? The above scripture has helped to lift my heart in many times of doubt and frustration. When I think about it, there is no other option except Christ. Jesus Christ has the words of eternal life and He lives within me. The situation here in Peru continues to deteriorate. The government corruption is at an all time high. The percentage of persons living in poverty has increased to almost 75%. Just last week another young girl was abducted by three men near our home at 4:30 in the afternoon, carried off and raped. In the same week the people of Puno in the south rose up violently against the mayor and beat him for 4 hours until he died because they were tired of the lies and corruption. The people of Peru are living in desperate times. Everyone claims to have answers and everywhere they turn things only get worse. Thanks to God's mercy and grace we know the answer; Only Jesus Christ has words of eternal life!

The first of the month Arthur had the opportunity to share about cross cultural missions with a group of about 70 pastors. The event was the start of an effort to develop an interest in these leaders in missions, not only in mission outside their country, but missions within many of the different cultural groups that exist within Peru. Two other Peruvian missionaries that are working within distinct cultural groups in Peru also made presentations. Please pray that this event will have an impact in the lives of these pastors and church leaders.

Arthur has been working to try and arrange for the importation of medicines for the two medical mission groups that will come in June. The government corruption has been causing headaches with this process, but it appears that it is moving forward. It is ironic that one of the major complaints of the people that rose up against the government in Puno was a lack of adequate medicine and medical care. We have many people here praying and fasting for these two events in June. We would like for you to join with us.



Mary Alice teaching Children's Ministry workshop in Puerto Bermudez

Arthur, Mary Alice, Genaro and Josue traveled down to the low jungle to make preparations for one of the medical events in Puerto Bermudez. During this trip training workshops were held in the local church to teach them how to do a children's ministry and to help them start a Kid's Club. Two Kid's Clubs were held in the town's central park with around 120 children attending each day. After the two Kid's Clubs were held the pastor told us that he had not planned to do another one until they had a chance to better prepare themselves, but due to the overwhelming response of the children and their constant requests for a date for the next one, he promised that it would be each Sunday at 4:00 pm.



First Kid's Club in Puerto Bermudez town square.

After leaving Puerto Bermudez, we traveled to Sharingamazu. This is a small jungle village with no running water or electricity. The work is relatively new. We are working with a Christian brother from Huancayo who is starting a school in the village. The tribal group is called Yanasha. We were able to hold two Kid's Clubs for the children. The adults, also participated with great joy. We had approximately 60 in attendance each day. One of the joys of the trip was bathing in the river in the evening just before sunset and having a few of the children join us.



Enrique, the community president, teaching the 6 to 8 year old group in the Kid's Club.

Arthur finished designing and drawing plans for a church building that will be constructed in Puente Paucartambo in the low jungle this year. The construction on this project is now well under way and is expected to be completed by the end of June. Arthur is also preparing plans for a project in Pilcomayo for a team that will be coming the first of July.

Please be in prayer with us for the continued advancement of the Kid's Club ministry and our efforts to find and train additional workers for this ministry. Pray also for the discipleship and leadership training and the youth cell ministry, and that God would continue to impart His vision in these young people. Please ask God to expand our time and provide additional financial resources for the ministries. Please continue to pray for our relationship with Mision-AMEN and our relationship with the Methodist Church. Most importantly we would like to ask you to covenant with us and the youth leadership team to be in regular prayer and fasting for the ministry to the lost and dying youth of Huancayo and the desperate situation here in Peru. Pray that we would be protected from attacks and that the enemy's power over these people would be broken. Pray, also, for the preparations for the medical mission teams that will be coming this year.

Again we want to thank you for all your support and prayers. Please continue to pray for the churches here in Peru. Please pray for the tension in the churches, and for the church leaders. Please pray for the leaders in the Methodist Church: Bishop Marco Ochoa, and District Superintendents Jose Bustamante and David Figueroa. Also be in prayer for Obed Alvarez, the head of Mision-AMEN, as well as their other leaders and missionaries. Please pray for our safety as we travel, and that we will boldly speak God's Word wherever we go.

We pray that God is drawing you closer and closer to Him every day. God bless you. We love you.

Yours in Christ,

*Arthur, Mary Alice,
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