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***"No weapon that is formed against you shall prosper; and every tongue that accuses you in judgment you will condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their vindication is from Me," declares the Lord.  
Isaiah 54:17 NASB.***

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. We praise the Lord God for all He is doing in our lives and in the ministry here in Peru, for filling us with His Holy Spirit to guide and direct each of our steps, and for pouring out His grace upon us through His precious Son, Jesus Christ. We hope and pray that He has been blessing you wonderfully during this past month and that your life has been filled with His glorious riches and mercy. We want to give you a special thanks for your continued prayers for us and support of the ministry in Peru. We definitely see the results of your prayers for us and for the ministry here. 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.

May has been a busy and exciting month. We started the month by celebrating Peruvian Labor Day on May 1st with a gathering of many of the folks that are involved in the discipleship ministry. Over 110 brothers and sisters gathered to worship the Lord Jesus Christ and to fellowship together. This was the first time that many of them had ever met each other. We had a special competition based on questions from the materials that we have been using. We were blessed to see many of the people from the various groups respond with good answers. We now have additional groups with more than 170 involved in the discipleship program.



Labor Day celebration with discipleship groups.

The first weekend of the month was special, also. Our friends Samuel and Patricia were married. This was a special blessing for us as they are in one of our first discipleship groups and are discipling others, also. The wedding was a joyful time that presented the Gospel message to all who attended.



Samuel and Patricia

Two teams came to work in the ministry with us this month, one from the University of Georgia Wesley Foundation and one from Lewis Memorial United Methodist Church. The team from The University of Georgia participated in several of the Kid's Clubs, actively participated in the prayer ministry, and helped with several evangelistic activities in the universities, schools and parks. As a result of these activities we now have opportunities to start a ministry in the youth detention center and possibly begin some work on two of the university campuses. We only lack workers to take on these opportunities. Please pray that the Lord would call persons to help with these opportunities.



Lauren sharing testimony during the praise concert with university students from Huancayo.

The team from Lewis Memorial helped to construct divisions to form classrooms on the second floor of the Iglesia Evangelica Peruana church in Tres Esquinas, help edto get a new Kid's Club started at Mariatigue, and provided several discipleship programs for the IEP church. The Kid's Club grew significantly during the week, with an attendance the last day of around 280 children and 70 adults. Many of the adults prayed to receive Christ as their Lord and Savior during the week. We hope that the folks from the IEP church will respond to the outpouring of love that they received from the Lewis Memorial team and will begin to reach out into the community to share this love with others who don't know Christ personally. Please be in prayer for the future fruit of this ministry.



Lewis Memorial team helping with new Kid's Club at Mariatigue.

We are currently in a period of political change in Peru. As I write this letter a new president and new government leaders are being elected. Some interesting things happened this month for us. Several Christian leaders including our friend and close associate, Obed Alvarez, formed a new organization to represent the Christian community. Working with a sister in Christ, who is high up in the APRA party of Alan Garcia, they were able to evangelize Alan Garcia. As a result he has begun to receive the Christian leaders with great openness and has begun to reflect this change in his speech and presentations in public. Several of his party leaders have shown a change in the way they speak, reflecting more faith in God. Alan Garcia has asked Obed and two other Christian leaders to plan and prepare the Inauguration service, which has traditionally been a type of Catholic Mass. This will be a bold statement in a country where the national religion is still Catholic. It appears that Alan Garcia will be the new president. Please continue in prayer for the political situation of Peru. There is great hope here currently. Please pray that God would continue to lead Peru out of the deep spiritual bondage that it has been in and into spiritual revival.

Please continue to be in prayer for the continued growth in the ministries here in Peru, especially in the Canta Valley, Huancayo, Palcazu, Pelmaz, Bermudez, Shiringamazu, Sambillo Alto, Rio Azul Ugarteche, San Augustine, KM 40 and Tinahuani. Please continue to pray that the Holy Spirit would continue to awaken and change hearts among the young adults of Huancayo. Please give praise to the Lord for bringing us additional persons called to be part of the missionary team in Peru. Covenant with us to continue in prayer for the young adult leadership team and their continued ministry to the spiritually lost and dying youth of Huancayo. Please pray

for the leaders of the churches in Peru, and for their spiritual protection and growth in the Lord Jesus. Also be in prayer for Obed and Cynthia 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,  
Joshua, Benjamin, Mary Beth

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