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***“Woe to you who are complacent in Zion and to you who feel secure on Mount Samaria, you notable men of the foremost nation, to whom the people of Israel come!”***

***Amos 6:1 NIV***

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 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.

We have recognized in this passage from Amos that Christ is warning us about falling into the trap of trusting in our own power and ability and failing to trust in Christ to do the work in and through us. It is easy to get comfortable in what we do and begin to leave Christ out of it. We are grateful to the Lord Jesus Christ that He has not let this happen to us here in the ministry in Peru to date. Every day we have reminders of our inability to do the work alone. The humility that this brings is of great value in our walk with Jesus Christ.

We were in Canta at the beginning of the month with Pastor Alberto for another leadership workshop. Edith Romero, one of our leaders, is responsible for the discipleship ministry in this region. She worked with us to arrange the event, which turned out to be one of the best that we have held yet. The group was one of the most mature in the faith that we have had, which was a result of the work of the Lord Jesus Christ through Edith and the discipleship ministry in this area. We left with a great hope for the continued growth of the Kingdom of Jesus Christ in the Canta Valley.



Leadership group in Canta

Edith, herself, was not involved in this group directly, but was working behind the scenes to make everything work. She was also working in her small microenterprise store which she had established after attending the workshop lead by John Pearson and a team from Roswell United Methodist Church last April. She is using this small business to provide support for the ministry in Canta. It was a blessing to see the fruit that Jesus was giving through this ministry.



Edith in her store.

Although we do not really like statistics, sometimes it seems like the best way to testify to the abundant blessing that Jesus is giving us here in Peru. So here are some statistics about the evangelism and discipleship ministry. We saw 833 people led to Christ and 64 people reconciled with Christ through the medical missions this year. We saw additional persons come to Christ through the Children's ministries and through our local evangelism ministries.

We currently have 2874 persons under the leadership of 107 mentors in 166 groups, in 60 communities located in 6 different departments of Peru. During 2009 we held five leadership workshops and trained 72 leaders bringing the number of leaders trained to 165 in the last three years. We have planned to expand our training to three different levels in 2010, and hope to have six workshops, two at each level. We will also be pilot testing some training to equip persons called to be national missionary workers. This will involve one Saturday each month. We really need for the Lord Jesus to call more Peruvian workers as it is becoming increasingly difficult for us to meet the demand for discipleship and leadership training. Please pray for the Lord of the Harvest to send forth workers.

This will be the first year that we will not be together as a family for Christmas. Benjamin and Joshua will be in the states this year, while Mary Beth, Mary Alice and Arthur will be in Peru. It will be difficult for all of us, but especially for Mary Alice and Arthur. Please continue to hold us up in prayer as we make these difficult adjustments in our lives and ministries.



Mary Beth, Mary Alice, and Arthur.

Please be in prayer for each one of our workers and for each one of the ministries and projects, the discipleship ministry, the evangelism and church planting ministry, the prayer ministry, and the work to self-sustain these ministries. Please continue to pray for financial support for the ministries both from Peruvian sources and U.S. sources. Also, pray for the Friday night Prayer and evangelism ministry, the Colegio El Camino and the Jesus El Maestro High School. 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 Billy and Laurie Drum, Ash and Audra McEuen, Martin and Tracy Reeves, Louise Reimer, and their families. All are missionaries TMS Global that currently or will soon be working in Peru. Pray also for Obed and Cynthia Alvarez, the head of NEWMA, as well as their other leaders and national missionaries. Please pray for our safety as we travel, and that we will boldly speak God's Word wherever we go.

We pray that Jesus will continue to give you hope to live each day for Him, and we also 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

Arthur, Mary Alice, Benjamin, Joshua, and Mary Beth Ivey  
Missionaries to Peru

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