



# Los Chasquis de Cristo a Los Quechua

The messengers of Christ to the Quechua

January 2005

Rockwell's News, Praise & Prayer

Huaraz, Peru



Dear Faithful Warriors,

Happy New Year to you all!!! We hope this new year finds you growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. That is the best resolution we can make.

We would like to thank all of you **so very much** for your prayers on behalf of Larry's dad, Lester. We are happy to report, he was released from the hospital on Christmas Day and is recovering slowly but surely.

While hooking a boat to a trailer, Lester fell and broke some ribs. When the two broken ends rubbed together, they caused internal bleeding that nearly took his life. We praise God for Lester's wonderful doctor, who was very attentive that all the bleeding had stopped and would not recur before releasing him from the hospital. Lester is alive today because of a miracle from God, and Lester knows it. He has stated that this was the best Christmas they have ever celebrated.

This past month was full of challenges and interesting experiences. Through people that Larry has come to know, he and Heber were able to show the Jesus film (in Quechua) in several different villages. In order to reach one of the villages they had to walk up a mountain carrying the TV/VCR along with a generator, the guitar and other necessary equipment. It was worth it when about 70 people showed up to view the movie.

Another time they showed the film to about 30 people along side the main road running an extension cord inside a building for electricity. These people stood in the rain and cold to view the two hour movie. In this same community, they met a woman who appeared to have either, mental problems or under the influence of a demon. In either case, Larry and Heber prayed for her. The next week they returned to hold a small meeting, they asked about her. She had been restored to normal. The people wanted Larry and Heber to heal them also. Sounds very much like Peter and John's experience in Acts 3. Just as Peter did in verse 16, they were quick to point out, this was God's power, not any power that they possessed. God had answered their prayers.

The following week when they returned, the meeting was set up in a "cantina" or bar. They sang, had a time of teaching, and then sang some more, at which time Heber asked if there was anyone there who needed to repent and trust Christ to save their souls and 7 of the 20 people

## **Mackenzie's Corner**

This month Mackenzie shares things she has found interesting since coming to Peru.

First she wanted to tell you about how during our Sunday afternoon meetings we usually have at least one dog, if not two wandering in and out of our meeting place. Well, on one particular occasion, two dogs actually had a dog fight right in the middle of our lesson with one dog owner, a 92 year old woman, beating them with a hoe to get them to stop and finally a boy's poured water on them to break up the fight.

Another sight Mackenzie shares: One day when we were driving behind a small bus we noticed three sheep in net bags riding tied to the top just as calm as could be.

One of the things Mackenzie likes best about being here is having a large yard to play in with swings that hang between two of the trees. The things she misses most about the States are her friends and Walmart.



**The Community of Chontayoc, a new pueblo with no Evangelical presence; we are hoping to start a work here. It is 25 minutes from Monterrey up a mountain. We are praying to start a bible study as the people have expressed interest.**

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responded, including the wife of the cantina owner. This community is eager for more teaching which Larry and Heber will be providing every Thursday evening.

However, in other villages they have met with the completely opposite result. In one village they were bluntly told that they did not want any Bible studies, they already had a church. In another, the people have just stopped coming. We are not discouraged though because we realize this is not our work but God's so we continue to press on in His strength.

We want to thank so many of you who remembered us this Christmas with e-mails, cards and gifts. It almost was as good as being at home with you all. Christmas eve we had a visit from Heber, Marcelina and Caleb and were entertained by a Christmas pageant put on by our girls, Lynae and Mackenzie. They planned and staged the whole production and it was wonderful. I can't wait to see what they come up with for next year since this was the "first annual". Christmas Day we had our own little worship service, opened presents, played, ate (turkey, of course), and watched a movie which was a gift from one of our supporting churches. Larry had to leave in the afternoon to attend one of the Bible study groups where we were offering a Christmas treat of hot chocolate and a special Christmas bread they make here called Paneton which contains dried fruits. It was a quiet stress-free Christmas.

As we begin a new year we can't help but look back and be amazed at how far God has brought us in just one year. We began the year in Costa Rica at language school, graduated and returned to the States for a month and then on to Cusco, Peru for 5 months before finally arriving in Huaraz. All along the way you all have supported us in a myriad of ways too numerous to count. Words are so totally inadequate to tell you how much each and every one of you means to us. We can only pray God's richest blessings to be yours for your sacrificial giving of yourselves to us. Your faithful prayers mean so much and Chuck Swindoll said it all: "There is no more significant involvement in another's life than prevailing, consistent prayer. It is more helpful than a gift of money, more encouraging than a strong sermon, more effective than a compliment, more reassuring than a physical embrace."



Mountain glacier

All we can do is say thank you and we love you.

**Larry, Sandy, Lynae and Mackenzie**

### **CULTURAL LESSON: *MESSENGERS & ACCOUNTANTS***

The Quechua are descendants of the Inca people, "from approximately 1450 to 1530, the western coast of South America flourished under a vast Incan Empire. At their height, the Inca were worthy of comparison to the ancient Roman society. Among their many achievements, their roadways, government, and counting systems particularly helped the Incas dominate a vast area of South America. They set up roads running the length of the kingdom from Ecuador to the southern borders of Argentina and Chile making an extensive communication system. Each road had **CHASQUIS**" (*notice our mast head*) "or messengers at certain posts along the way who carried messages from one end to the other with remarkable efficiency." (*Prayer for our efficiency as we deliver Christ's message to the Quechua*). "The network of roads led to the great success of the Incas, simplifying the government's efforts to keep watch over the empire."

"Their government was very organized and kept records of everything. Although the Inca had no writing system, they had a complex method of counting called the quipu. The quipu was a system for recording data using knotted cords. Knots indicated units; tens, hundreds, thousands, and tens of thousands. Single cords would be fastened to hang from a thicker cord like a fringe to keep track of such things as crop yields and storage capacity. These quipus were quite complicated and managed by quipucamayocs, or accountants. To tell the difference between knots and their meanings, quipucamayocs used different sizes and colors. For example, a yellow string signified gold, a white one: silver, and red: soldiers."

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\* \* \* \* P R A I S E \* \* \* \*

- For wonderful friends like each of you who made our Christmas so special.
- For the continuing recovery of Larry's dad.
- For the new group that has started with 7 new believers.
- For added interest in the group in Monterrey.
- For safety as Larry has traveled to so many different villages.
- For good health.
- That Lynae has been sleeping better.
- For two very creative girls.
- For the presentation of the Christmas program by the Sunday School class Sandy teaches.



Lynae & Mackenzie dressed up for Dia de la accion de gracia, Thanksgiving day

**PRAYER REQUESTS: (there is one for each day of the month)**



**"... Tend my Sheep." JN 21:16 -- Quechua women carrying wood and caring for their sheep.**

- 1- A new year begins! Here the people burn dummies to signify the passing of the old and hopefully the coming of the new with good luck in the coming year. The people here are so superstitious and bound by so many old traditions. Pray that God would begin breaking the chains that bind them.
- 2- Working on a trans-cultural team has many challenges. Pray Ephesians 4:2-3 that we would forebear with one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.
- 3- We are thankful to see God moving in the hearts of more and more people in to learn more about God and His word. Pray for God's wisdom as we seek another meeting place and with regards to the timing of such a change.
- 4- We have moved Lynae and Mackenzie into the same room which has helped Lynae to sleep better. Please continue to pray that she would grow in her love and trust for our Lord instead of worrying over things.
- 5- Pray that people would see the fruit of the Spirit in our lives more than our flesh.
- 6- Relationships...relationships...relationships, with each other, with our teammates, with the girls' Peruvian friends, with the people we have contact with in our community, with the people who attend the Bible studies...
- 7- We are still striving to improve in our Spanish. Pray that we wouldn't settle for "just getting by".
- 8- The Peru Annual Retreat is the 10<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>. Pray that it would be a time of renewal for those that attend both spiritually and physically.
- 9- Heber and Marcelina will be gone for two weeks. Pray for safety as they travel and that their time away would be encouraging and refreshing.
- 10- While Heber is gone Larry will be doing all the teaching and leading in the groups. Pray for stamina and fluency of speech.
- 11- Heber is gifted in leading music and playing the guitar. Pray for us as we attempt to carry on while he is gone. The people love to sing especially in Quechua.
- 12- Pray that God would give the girls a hunger and thirst for learning so that our school times would be a joy and not a drudge.

- 13- Pray for the people who accepted Christ at the cantina that they would grow in their faith and knowledge of God's word.
- 14- Pray that we would consciously focus on the need for intimacy in our marriage that so often gets lost in the busyness of life.
- 15- We hope to have our first training session for pastors and leaders either this month or next. Pray that God would protect, provide the necessary place and means for them to come. That these men would take what they learn back to their villages and be more effective in communicating the whole truth of God's word. Colossians 2:2
- 16- One of our hardest challenges is the fact that we can't trust anyone. Because we are gringos most people try to take advantage of us or only see us as a way to "get" something. We need much discernment in these things.
- 17- Lynae and Mackenzie are each others' best friends and also worst enemies. Pray Philippians 2:2 with regard to their relationship to each other that they would not be selfish but humble putting the other one first.
- 18- Pray that God would strengthen us to stay the course.
- 19- Pray that God would stir the hearts of the men to desire Him. We have many women and children attending the Bible studies but basically no men. Pride and macho attitudes are a big reasons.
- 20- As Larry and Heber minister to the more remote villages their need to know Quechua becomes more important as the villagers speak no Spanish. Pray that God would provide 2 Christian men to teach them Quechua in the two different dialects around this area.
- 21- We have been having our own family church service on Sunday mornings. It is an encouragement to us to sing, pray and hear the Word in English. Pray that these would be times of true worship and growth.
- 22- Pray that God would raise up committed people from the groups we are ministering in to be disciplined and trained to lead in these groups and others that are forming.
- 23- Lynae is feeling the need for an English speaking Christian friend. Please pray God would provide.
- 24- Pray for the safe return of Heber and Marcelina.
- 25- Continue to pray for Cilio the man we mentioned in our last prayer calendar that bought a Bible from Larry.
- 26- As we are getting to know more and more people they have begun coming by the house and as most don't have telephones it is usually when we least expect it. Pray that we would not resent these visits but embrace them as an opportunity to share Christ's love.
- 27- Pray that even now God would be preparing Godly mates for the girls.



**Young girl caring for her baby sister, very typical**



- 28- As more and more opportunities present themselves in different villages it means that Larry is gone a lot more. Pray that we would take advantage of the times when he is home for quality time together as a family.
- 29- That we could keep our focus on Jesus and not all the circumstances and things that go wrong.
- 30- That the Lord would develop gentle and quiet spirits within the girls.
- 31- Pray that God would continue to provide safety in travel and continue to protect our health.