



Los Chasquis de Cristo a Los Quechua

The messengers of Christ to the Quechua

September 2005

Rockwell's News, Praise & Prayer

Huaraz, Peru



Dear Faithful Friends,

Here in the Andes Mountains you can here another language these days of September.- The trickling and dripping off of the clay tile roofs of the old adobe houses, dissipating as it hits the cobblestone street, awaking us to the hidden language of the rain. A language hidden for at least four months as we enjoyed the dry season. After the wheat harvest the whole valley of the Huaylas region remains as if nothing could ever grow here- a dusty brown.

The rains change the rhythm, even as the rain itself comes in different paces, from rapid heavy drops to the light mist brings freshness to the new morning.

In the back streets of Huaraz, the voices of Quechua women are heard from a distance as they share perhaps their hope for a new growing season. Until late in the misty afternoon the voices that speak of community among themselves bounce off the sides of the old brick alley walls, even to the point of hearing the young hungry, dirty child crying who has been with it's Mama the whole day carried in a "manta" (blanket) over her shoulder or on her back.



Carrying child in a manta

As the whistle of the wind comes through the openings in the Adobe houses, we hear the echo also of voices of our three short-term teams who came to serve with us in here in Peru for several weeks during July and August. Teams with anticipation and anxious thoughts of what it would be like

here in the rural Andes Mountains.

It is quite a shock at first to anyone who steps out of the North American busy, scheduled, task oriented society to a culture that may take you back several hundred years from first sight. Everything seems different here and other than the fact that we have modern transportation and there is modern communication near the larger towns, it is really different. It is a culture that has its own roots and its own set of rules.

We went out with the teams to a total of 15 different Quechua villages to present to Gospel of Jesus Christ. We had previously made contacts with each school and community before the teams arrived. Through various methods, each team had an organized plan with the hopes of making an impact on the children, teachers and folks who came along to watch. Plans to present the most important thing they could possible do while here in Peru -- explain the true Gospel of Jesus Christ. There are a variety of tools and methods that can be used to communicate but the Gospel remains the same. Each one of the teams members who came shared that Gospel using various tools from Puppet skits, drawings, teaching new songs permeated with the grace and truth of the Gospel (in Quechua!). For many of these people this would be the first time to hear a message that was from the Bible rather than made up ideas past down through time. One young boy asked me during one of our talks, "Does Jesus really exist?" His question took me by srise but then I realized that for many he is just a part of folklore. In another village we were asking the people if they knew the Lord's Prayer. Not surprising that most all could say it by memory because it is one of the prayers recited in the schools. Then after they



Learning Bible Verses and coloring

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correctly recited it, they were asked where it is found. None of them could tell us where it was to the extent that they did not know it was from a Bible text. Each day seemed to bring us a new surprise!

The days began with excitement and anticipation as we gathered each morning to head out to a new Quechua village. The energy of different talents and gifts each team member uniquely demonstrated carried the team together throughout the day. Times of overcoming unforeseen challenges such as going into a village after a three hour ride only to find that there was a communication breakdown and only a handful of people showed up to meet us. The days ended with tired, sweaty, aching bodies but with a sense of planting spiritual seeds in the lives of young and old.

Even as the memories of each child and adult that our team made contact with lingers, we look forward to seeing them again. Our hopes are to follow-up in each village now to keep the connection and also to see where the seeds are beginning to sprout from the ones the teams carefully sowed.

It comes down to trusting God in such a society that seems so distrustful and suspicious anything new. It seems so impossible that this culture could ever be changed, that when you do see any spiritual change it is so awesome! We know it is not our convincing but God at work in their hearts. We must be reminded of His promise in Isaiah 55:10 "For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater."



Mother with child



Sharing the Gospel

We are looking for the harvest even though it may take years. We are planning for new teams and our local ministry continues teaching local Bible studies in Acco and Monterrey. We also continue showing the Jesus film in the Quechua language to expose people to the Gospel text of Luke. It has been a way to begin a work in a new village.

Our national co-workers Heber and Marcelina are also busy teaching and helping us with the children's ministry and Adults. We are grateful for their dedication to the work here in the Huaylas area.

We thank all of you for even thinking of praying for us. It is very humbling to have such faithful people standing with us in the "gap".

We also want to thank all the people from the churches who committed to sending short-term teams to Huaraz, Peru this year. Your commitment to support the work here was demonstrated in a multitude of ways. We truly were blessed!! Thank you!!

In His grace and mercy we serve with you,

LARRY, SANDRA, LYNÆ AND MACKENZIE ROCKWELL

P.S.: We would like to credit Michelle Huxel and Craig Lindstrom from Dover PCA for pictures in this month's newsletter.

"Do you not say, 'Four months more and then the harvest'? I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. Even now the reaper draws his wages, even now he harvests the crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. Thus the saying 'One sows and another reaps' is true."

John 5: 35-37

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

- ◆ *For a safe trip to and from Lima.*
- ◆ *For protection over our health.*
- ◆ *That we have made a beginning in understanding the basics of Quechua grammar.*
- ◆ *For the repairs made to our driveway by our last short-term team. Thanks you all!!!*
- ◆ *For some fun family times while we were in Lima.*
- ◆ *For a great dentist who saved a tooth of Sandy's and cleaned the girls' teeth.*
- ◆ *For our vehicle, "Rover", that gets us to all the places we need to go.*
- ◆ *For all the new friends we made with the*

*** PRAYER REQUESTS (One for each day of the month) ***

1. That we would find our hope and strength in the mercy of the Lord; in true repentance, believing in His mercy that is new every morning- great is His faithfulness.

2. We took one of the teams to a village called Pashpa and they requested we return and do a Bible study. The first night of the study there were 70 people. When Larry and Heber returned for the second study, no one came. As they walked through the village and tried to discover the reason it appeared from the reactions of the people they met and from talking to some of them that they had been warned against coming by the head of that community and so out of fear they stayed away. Pray for Larry and Heber as they continue to try to bring God's word to this community, that God would give them wisdom, and that He would break the bonds of fear that hold them captive.

3. Marcelina and Heber have begun meeting on Saturdays with the children in Acco (the community where we used to meet in the cantina). Pray that as they minister to these potential future leaders of the church that God's truth would have a profound effect in their lives and the lives of their families.

4. Larry is teaching in Monterrey on the book of Romans. Pray that he can communicate clearly and that God would cause His word to impact the lives of the adults that come. The terms that are even difficult for many of us to understand are even more difficult for the Quechua culture.

5. Today is the first day of school! Lynae is starting 7th grade and Mackenzie 3rd. Pray that the enthusiasm of beginning a new year would continue throughout the year.

6. The kids from the community of Monterrey are continuing to come over on Tuesdays. Pray for creative activities we can do as rainy season begins and we are limited as far as space.



Hearing the Word taught.

7. The longer we are here the more overwhelming things seem. Pray that God would reveal the most effective ways we can minister to the lost all around us and that He would unify our team in accomplishing His work here.

8. Recently we have heard about 3 families that are leaving the field that had arrived about the same time as us and there are several more in the process of deciding whether they will stay or leave. Pray that God's Spirit would guide and direct, give courage to stay the course and trust Him. At the same time, Pray those same things for us as it is very discouraging to see these things happening all around us.

9. Pray that Lynae would grow in contentment and the knowledge of what is truly important. 1 Timothy 6:18.

10. We spent 5 days with a Wycliffe/MTW missionary getting a very basic foundation in Quechua grammar. Now we need prayer that we will diligently put "feet" to what we learned.

11. Pray that God would give us a deeper understanding of the felt needs of the Quechua and the manner we can best meet those needs as we begin a more concentrated effort of visitation into their homes.

12. As we begin our second week of school, Pray for

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Lynae & Mackenzie having fun.

Sandy as this year both girls have curriculums that are much more rigorous.

13. We have seen how marriages are attacked on the field and can destroy a whole ministry. Pray for our marriage to be centered on Christ and not on each other in order that we can stand firm in the faith.

14. Pray 1 Peter 4:11 for Larry today. "Whoever speaks, let him speak as it were the utterances of God; whoever serves, let him do so as by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever."

15. We have found that whenever there is a festival of any kind the people who come to the Bible study in Acco will participate (which usually means a lot of drinking) and then out of embarrassment won't come to the study. Pray Romans 12:2 for them that they would not be conformed to this world, but would be transformed by the renewing of their minds, that they may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

16. There is a lot of disunity among the evangelical pastors in Huaraz for a variety of reasons. Pray for Larry as he and Heber attempt to train and encourage these men and their congregations. Pray that God's Spirit would convict of sin where needed, give servant hearts, bring forgiveness and unity.

17. Pray 1 Peter 4:10 for our family, our team, and our relationships in the communities. "As each one has

received a special gift, employ it in serving one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God."

18. Romans is full of many things that the people here have never heard before. Pray for Larry as he attempts to explain how these truths apply to their lives. For example, they had no idea what was meant in Romans 1:18 by the wrath of God.

19. Proverbs 26:20 says: "For lack of wood the fire goes out, and where there is no whisperer, contention quiets down." Pray that Lynae and Mackenzie would come to understand and apply this principle to their lives.

20. Sandy's mom's health continues to be in need of prayer. Please also pray for her sister as she cares for her mom.

21. Galatians 6:9 says: "And let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we shall reap if we do not grow weary." Pray this for all of us today.

22. Pray for the people who come to the Bible study in Acco that they would really begin to grasp what it means to live in God's grace.

23. That God would keep our vision clear in order that we would stay focused on His purposes.

24. Pray that our hearts would be engaged and changed by the power of His Spirit as we do our family devotions.

25. Pray for Marcelina as she teaches the children's Sunday school in Monterrey.

26. We usually have our team meetings on Mondays. Pray for open and honest communication and the guidance of the Spirit as plans are made for the future.

27. Persistent prayer is needed that God would raise up men with servant hearts who desire to be trained in basic Bible doctrine in order that they might go into their communities and begin Bible studies and one day churches.

28. Pray always for our safety in traveling; especially now that rainy season is beginning.

29. During the next few days we will be hosting a group of leaders from a church in the States who may be interested in partnering with us in establishing a training center here. Pray for wisdom.

30. We have been very blessed this past year with very few illnesses. Pray for continued good health for all of us.

We love and miss you all.

"O taste and see that the Lord is good; How blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him! O fear the Lord, you His saints, For to those who fear Him, there is no want." Psalm 34:8-9