



Los Chasquis de Cristo a Los Quechua

The messengers of Christ to the Quechua

March 2006

Rockwell's News, Praise & Prayer

Huaraz, Peru



Dear Faithful Ones,

We see the waters running in the valleys here in the Huaylas Valley of the Cordilleras Blancas and the Cordilleras Negras. What was dry and thirsty is now rich with green grass and food for the hungry and thirsty...

These past several weeks we have been extending the work (using the Jesus film as a tool to enter into other pueblos, at the same time teaching, discipling those we have been utilizing them in the new areas we are going. With the blessing of rain, we encounter the challenge of difficult roads to pass. It is only difficult in terms of traveling in vehicles. Many times recently, the Lord has used these experiences to remind me of the difficulties of those we want to go to with the Gospel message. How easy is can be for us to go into a village and want to do something that has great eternal values and still miss the person in who the message is intended for. The Quechua people live very simple lives but with the simplicity come hard trials and suffering as they live in such isolated mountainous areas. I have not grasped this yet. I want to know them for more then our short or long meetings we have with them. I am still too isolated in my way of life from those the Lord loves.

Our goals are good but without the connection to the people, the goals are like "paja" (straw). I am feeling the tension of being a missionary. How far must I go to make the connection with them in a practical way.

Heber and Marcelina have been working hard in

Bless the Lord, O my soul!

O Lord my God, You are very great;

You are clothed with splendor and majesty,

Covering Yourself with light as with a cloak,

Stretching out heaven like a tent curtain.

He sends forth springs in the valleys;

They flow between the mountains;

They give drink to every beast of the field;

The wild donkeys quench their thirst...

Psalm 104 vs. 1-2,10,11

starting children's groups teaching the little ones through the Bible. It is amazing the attendance and interest these little ones have. Their memory of what they learn is incredible!

This past week Heber (national coworker), Mario (a fellow we have been discipling from Aco and Zosimo a young Pastor from

Andahuaylas region attended an Evangelism Explosion course that has been adapted more for the non reader (Illiteracy is near 80% in the mountain areas) and those who have not been privileged with an education. Heber reports that he is very excited about the tools he gained even after traveling to and from Cusco for 48 hours on a bus!

While Heber was away, in between group meetings I was able to attend a class called Teaching that Lasts. Rachael and Ade Yanac, Wycliff missionaries here in Huaraz taught the week long course that focuses on participation of the students. Although the course was a great help for me I really wanted the time to connect with some of our Quechua friends, Pushpi and Yepo and Timoteo who took the course. These men have formed a Quechua Association here in the Huaylas area. All are also co translators for

Wycliff Bible translators. Currently they are fully dedicated to the work that Wycliff is completing in the final version of the New Testament Bible for the Huaylas Quechua dialect, which is where we live.

We are ending the month of February with the sites and sounds of festivals all around us. The tradition here in the Cordillera region of Ancash, Peru



Pueblo - Ambe

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is Carnival and carrying the Cross. This means that each pueblo will be celebrating the carrying of the "Cross". It consists of a large Cross about six feet in height and four feet wide, covered with flowers and other special plants brought down from the higher Sierras. You may be imagining a very solemn festival that honors Christ. This is sadly not the case. It is rather a more superstitious celebration of carrying the cross around the pueblos with a marching band following. Along with the music and dancing, there are firecrackers set off about every hour. Sometimes there are even hours of fireworks without any color, rather just a loud banging that scares us all out of our beds at night. There is generally food, lots of drinking and dancing. It all starts with a mass at the local church and

the custom continues as the band and Cross are carried throughout the communities and surrounding pueblo. This celebration may continue for four or five days depending on the money available to continue. If you were to ask anyone here what the significance of it is, you would get many different answers. I have asked many folks and it really is just a tradition and does not have a deep meaning of any sort. It may be a way of showing devotion. How this tradition originated, we are unsure. Many of the locals only know it is something they have done since childhood. This reminds me of Paul's visit to Athens and pointing the sign the people had made to an "Unknown God".

We thank you faithful ones, for your prayers and gifts that keep us. We are coming up on our third year on the field and two years here in Peru. We can see the faithfulness of our Heavenly Father through you all. We give Him our praise and thank you all for participating the Great Commission!

Yours in Christ,

Larry for Sandra, Lynae , Mackenzie & Jonathan

* * * * P R A I S E F O R * * * *

- ◆ The love of God even when we're unloveable
- ◆ A safe trip for Sandy to the US to spend time with her mom who is not doing well.
- ◆ The special time Sandy had with her mom & sister and that Larry, the girls & Jonathan all managed wonderfully in Sandy's absence—thanks to your prayers.
- ◆ New opportunities to show the Jesus film—all interested in beginning Bible studies
- ◆ A safe trip into the mountains on foot while burros carried the Jesus Film Project equipment.
- ◆ Protection and little rain on days when Larry and Heber had to travel to villages at up to 12,000 `.
- ◆ One pastor & one of his elders that are taking a discipleship class with Heber.
- ◆ Larry took a course called "Learning that Lasts" to learn methods of teaching including teaching people who don't read or write in Indigenous cultures.
- ◆ We send Heber, Mario (a young man being disciplined to be a leader in Aco) and Zosimo (a Peruvian friend who helps us in the ministry at times) to Cusco (a 48-hour bus trip with layovers) to attend a week-long class of Evangelism Explosion adapted to a semi and non literate culture.
- ◆ New bookcases which have helped us organize and set up our little one-room school
- ◆ Your many diligent prayers on our behalf during these past months that have been very difficult.
- ◆ The Lord's constant protection over us. Larry & Heber were returning from a village recently after showing the Jesus film & a couple of young men threw a large rock at our car causing much damage to the car but not a scratch on us.
- ◆ Recent interest in villages to hear Bible readings through the Gospels. This has been a powerful tool listening to the Bible on tape in both Quechua and Spanish depending on the community. It has provoked many good questions & is causing many to think about what is true versus what is tradition.
- ◆ Recently Larry had a meeting with the directors of the Iglesia Evangelica Peruana to offer a solid year plan in supporting them through training modules for Pastors & leaders. As well as a 3-month intensive training for 30 young men, interested in being leaders in their churches & communities. Very Positive Response .

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

1. Sandy's mom is suffering with congestive heart failure and 13 bleeding ulcers in her stomach for which there is nothing that can be done in her current condition. Please continue to lift her in prayer for peace and tranquility in the days ahead.

2. Thursday nights we meet in Aco (the group that originally started in a Cantina) for Bible study. Pray that God would kindle a vision in the hearts of the people who attend to reach out to the surrounding communities where we are beginning new groups.

3. In a community called Colahuasi we meet on Fridays in the late afternoon for a time to listen to the Bible on tape in Quechua and then discuss it. Right now there is one older woman and a young woman who is a catechist (a traveling teacher for the Catholic church) attending. Pray God would be at work in the lives of others in this community to want to hear and learn more about God's word.

4. On Saturday afternoons Heber and Marcelina do a Sunday school format for between 20-30 children in Aco. Pray that the seeds planted in their hearts would be the beginnings of God's church in that area.

5. The group that meets in Monterrey just seems to keep dwindling as far as adults are concerned. Pray for wisdom as to how God would have us proceed. Larry has recently had conversations with a Pastor from another church in the area to see how we might be a help to them and rather than seen as competition. He received the idea well. Pray for wisdom as we begin a discipleship class with some of their members and leaders.

6. On Monday nights, Larry and Heber meet with a pastor and one of the leaders from his church are teaching how to disciple others. Pray that as they study God would give them servant hearts desiring to disciple others.

7. As a result of showing the Jesus Film a community called Tayapampa desires more teaching.

We have set Tuesday evenings as a time for this. However, it is a community very dangerous to get to if it rains. Pray that on Tuesdays God would hold back the rain (or that it would be minimal) so Larry can get there.



Carrying Jesus Film Equipment to Pueblo

8. There are actually 2 groups meeting on Wednesday evenings. Pray for all these groups that as God's word is heard (in Quechua) that the miracle of changed hearts and lives would take place. Pray specifically that God would take away the fear that has blinded their hearts and replace it with a trust in our Holy merciful, loving God.

9. School has been going remarkably well. Pray that we will all remain diligent and faithful doing all as unto the Lord.

10. Pray Psalm 51:10-13 for all of us today. Verse 13 says that when the joy of our salvation is restored we will be able to teach transgressors His ways and sinners will be converted.

11. Pray for Sandy's sister, Bonnie, as she cares for her mom, especially that God would protect her health.

12. Larry has been able to meet with the pastor of the only evangelical church in Monterrey to offer teaching to their members and the pastor seemed very open. Pray that this relationship would develop and for God to open doors for other ministry opportunities in our community.

13. That Lynae and Mackenzie would grow into women after God's own heart.

14. Since rainy season has started we've had to stop our game activities with the kids from the neighborhood. Instead, Sandy is teaching them English. Pray that through the relationships we have with these kids, God would cause them to know Him more.

15. Pray 2 Thessalonians 3:1-2 for us today. "Finally, brethren, pray for us that the word of

* * * * * P R A Y E R R E Q U E S T S (c o n t i n u e d) * * * * *

the Lord may spread rapidly and be glorified, just as it did with you, and that we may be delivered from perverse and evil men, for not all have faith."

16. Anna Echols is a young woman from our home church who is currently raising support to come work here for 2 years. Pray that God would encourage her heart through this process and teach her many things along the way.

17. To our eyes the word does not seem to be going anywhere many times. Pray God would renew/refresh our vision of Him and what He desires for the Quechua.

18. Saturdays are the only day when there is not some sort of group meeting. Pray we would use the day wisely to strengthen our family.

19. The church all over the world needs our prayers that it would stand fast on the truth of God's word without compromise.

20. Deuteronomy 1:30 says: "The Lord your God who goeth before you, He shall fight for you." As we begin a new week we know there will be many battles fought – seen and unseen. We are so thankful that we can know God is going before us and fighting these battles for us.

21. Jonathan is now 4 months old and had more shots yesterday. Pray that he has no adverse effects from them. He is a joy and the girls just love helping care for him.

22. Missionary marriages undergo many attacks and stresses compounded by living in a different culture. Pray for our marriage, Heber & Marcelina, and the marriages of other missionaries including your pastor.

23. As we see our children growing physically we pray that their faith and trust in God would grow as well.

24. Wisdom is something we desperately need in



Lynae & Mackenzie

so many areas. Pray James 1:5 for us today with regard to the ministry, the girls' education, Jonathan, how best to utilize the animals, team issues, relationships, etc.

25. Pray that Larry would be like the older men described in Titus 2:2 – temperate, dignified, sound in faith, in love and in perseverance.

26. Pray Sandy would be like the older women described in

Titus 2:3-5 – reverent in her behavior, not a gossip, teaching what is good and encouraging the younger women.

27. That we would live in the Spirit not in the passions of our flesh, rather in love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control. – Galatians 5:22-23. That Christ would be evident in our lives.

28. Pray for workers and teachers who can come and help us carry out our commitment to the Iglesia Evangelica Peruana. Realizing we cannot do this alone.

29. The New Testament in the Quechua of Huaylas region where we currently live is in its final stages. Pray specifically for Mike Miller as he finishes up this important work.

30. Pray Hebrews 12:1-3 that we would run with endurance the race set before us and remember the great cloud of witnesses that have gone before us.

31. That God's light would pierce the heavy darkness. During the past month we have seen many festivals to idols of wood and stone and know that only God can perform the miracle of changing a human heart and shedding His light of truth in order to expose the darkness.

We love you. *Philemon 7: "For I have come to have much joy and comfort in your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, brother."*