



Los Chasquis de Cristo a Los Quechua

The messengers of Christ to the Quechua

July 2006

Rockwell's News, Praise & Prayer

Huaraz, Peru



Open hearts.

Dear Praying Friends,

FROST ON THE PUMPKIN!

In the Andes, the month of July is the coldest month we have. It is also the time when the wheat harvest begins. Out temperatures here in the valley range from 30F to low 60s F during the day. In the higher elevations the temperatures are much lower and as a result many of the crops are damaged. Here in the mountains and most of Peru, there is no central heating in the houses or any type of heating. We now understand why the Quechua women are known to wear many layers of wools skirts! Without the embarrassment of asking them I have been told they have up to 8 layers of skirts at times.

We are very thankful to have a wood stove in our house. The girls especially tell me it is a real treat!

THANK YOU ALL!

We want to use this month's letter just to say "thank you all". We are thankful to God for His providence through you all. There are many who have supported us from the day we started raising support. Your sacrifice to the Lord's work is amazing enough but your faithfulness to the work we are doing is a huge encouragement. We know that many of you have continued to give even in the midst of hard times in your own lives. Some of you have given from the first day we started. This is the Lord's providence and we thank Him for bringing you in as partners with us. Your notes or encouragement and your prayers are like

mountain spring water to our souls. We are so grateful to you all. Our only wish is that each of you could some how experience the joy in seeing the work and visiting us.

I remember the day... I made over 100 telephone calls to try to get support. There were many days when I felt the challenge to be impossible! One day in particular, I was sitting at home making calls to churches and Pastors to see if we could get an invitation to their churches to speak. Our mission asks us to keep track of our efforts, the number of calls we make and the number of times we speak with churches. This day I had called 105 churches from the PCA directory. I did not get one positive answer or invitation to come. I can remember some of the responses- "Who are you?" "I have a ton of requests from others sitting on my desk already." "We only support those in the 10/40 window." "Brother, I am sorry but we have a building project going on right now." There were many more and I can perhaps understand some of them.

What I want you to know is that God is faithful and He has obviously called you all to participate in proclaiming the Gospel by your financial support, prayers and encouraging communications with us. Some have sent teams and an intern. Some have helped us get Jesus film equipment and a wood stove! Some have spent time with us to bring encouragement. We see all this as part of the process in bringing in Gospel to this particular people- the Quechua. Thank you!

Your Christian family has grown! You have many new brothers and sisters in Christ among the Quechua people. If you could be here I would introduce you to many of them.

Nila is a Quechua lady who I have wrote about many times. She is growing leaps and bounds like a young lamb that has discovered the richness of the clover fields and the clear water of God's word.

Mario is a young single man who is persecuted by his neighbors and father. He has been faithful to the hearing and doing of God's word from the beginning of our work in His village in Aco. His faith is still being tested and as well as the temptation to leave his pueblo for better job opportunities.

Mari, a woman who has attended the Christian

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life course we are given in her Quechua village. I remember Mari came with her three little children the first time. She had a hard time listening and managing her little toddlers at the same time but stayed as I held one of her little children. She explained that she wanted to follow Christ but she had a problem. She then told me that she was not married but the father of her children still lived with them and supplied their financial needs. She was very repentant and asked Christ to be her Lord.

Justa, a single Quechua mother who takes care of her three little girls and her aged mother. Justa has struggled with excessive alcohol drinking. This is something that is very common in the Quechua villages. The effects are devastating, leading to more poverty and abuse among the families and many marital separations. The Lord has been transforming Justa even as she still struggles with the temptations of the fiestas. She continues to read her Bible daily as the Spirit of God gives her hope and encouragement. She is a woman of faith now as Jesus is her hope. You can find Justa most days gathering wood for her little adobe stove she cooks on. Meanwhile her little ones are usually waiting at the foot of a mountain taking care of each other. The Lord has given Justa great courage as a woman.

Ermogenes, suffers with acute Rheumatoid arthritis and is bound to a wheel chair. When a medical team from Twin Oaks PCA came to minister in His village, the Lord, Ermogenes began his walk with Christ. He is now seeking to know Christ deeper and deeper each day as he listens to the Scriptures on cassette in the Quechua language. The joy in His heart is sometimes shadowed by the physical pain he suffers but all the more wants to know the King of Kings. He is beginning by teaching the Good news to his own children as they all attend our weekly Bible study in his home. Ermogenes is the only Evangelical believer in His village. He is doing very well! The people in the community have even made comments in the change in his life.

Many children also who come are not represented by their parents but continue to learn from the Sunday Schools and Bible Studies here in Monterrey. The children also come on Sunday afternoons to learn English and have a time of fellowship.

These are some of the people you would meet. There are many who come and go for various reasons. These little beginnings are rather huge in a place where the spiritual ground is very hard!

I want to share with you one big cultural difference that I really struggle with here. It has to do with what I perceive as truth telling. In this culture we live in we have encountered people many times who will tell us one thing and in the backs of their minds have no intention at all of following through. For instance, last evening as we were going into a Quechua community I gave a ride to a couple of gentlemen who were on foot walking into the same community. We talked about the Bible study we do on Tuesdays and invited them to come. They both said they were planning on coming. I asked them three times and even asked them if they were just saying they would come or for sure were coming. They both said they were planning on coming that night. You guessed it! Neither of them came.

As I have been doing some study of culture and missions I have read that this is very common in some cultures. The book called "On being a Missionary" by Thomas Hale says "When you cross cultures the rules change: rules of behavior, rules of aesthetics, and above all rules of speech. And Obviously we play by the rules of the culture we are working in; we deal with people on their terms, not ours."

Hale goes on to give an example that fits this culture as well. He says "Let's say you ask a question. The Asian, much more than the Westerner, will wonder why you asked it. What are you looking for? And he will instinctively give you the answer he thinks you want to hear. "Is that dishonest? Yes, to you but not to him. Oh yes, truth is truth. But to the Asian manners are more important than truth. So you call a man to fix your pump. 'Can you fix my pump?' 'Yes' 'Can you fix it today?' 'Yes' He knows you want this answer; he doesn't want to offend you. An of course he ends up coming next week. These are your new rules; learn to enjoy them."

I can now identify with this through many experiences with folks here among the Quechua population. I cannot guarantee that they are replying out of politeness and that they do not want to offend me, but I do know it is very common here. What would you do if you were in my shoes?

Please continue to pray with us.

In His grace,

Larry and Sandra



Carrying Little Brother

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

- ◆ That we serve a living God and not some god made of wood or stone.
- ◆ For the good school year that we had.
- ◆ For the protection God provides every single day.
- ◆ For a challenging but memorable hike in the mountains for our anniversary.
- ◆ That Sandy's mom has been settled into a nursing home and that her health seems to have stabilized.
- ◆ For Larry's mom and dad's 50th wedding anniversary and the testimony they are to God's faithfulness.
- ◆ That we were able to help relocate Mario's family and they seem to be settling in.
- ◆ That we have such a faithful group of brothers and sisters in Christ praying for us and encouraging us in so many tangible ways.



Jonathan

*** P R A Y E R R E Q U E S T S (One for each day of the month) ***

1 - Sandy will be giving another women's seminar today. Pray that her Spanish would not hinder God's truth from impacting the lives of those that come.

2 - Raul and Santa, a Quechua pastor and his wife serve the Lord in a community called Uquia. Pray God would protect their marriage and encourage them by His Spirit.

3 - Our first real day of summer break, Pray that it would be a time of refreshment for the girls as well as a time of enjoyment.

4 - Happy 4th of July!!! It is always a little strange living in another country when US holidays come around. Pray especially for the girls that they would enjoy the day in spite of the lack of the traditional things we would have done in the States.

5 - We may be leaving for Lima today. Pray for a safe trip and that we would accomplish those things we need to.

6 - Ermogenes is a man with acute rheumatoid arthritis who prayed to receive the Lord in May when the medical team was here. Pray for God to open the eyes of Edita, his wife and his children to the Gospel truth. Also pray for Ermogenes' growth in the Lord as he studies with Larry and Heber each week.

7 - Nila's husband, Lucero, has continued to show interest in spiritual things, however, they continue to face opposition from the local priest. Pray God would strengthen them and the children who attend to stand firm. Pray Lucero would come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.



8 - Please continue to pray for the community of Aco and the small group of believers there. They too have come under attack and many of the families are not sending their children to our group out of fear. Pray that they would sense God's Spirit and not be fearful of man.

9 - There is a small Quechua church that meets on the mountain up above our community. Their pastor has come to Larry and desires that our two groups fellowship together. Pray for wisdom and guidance as we move forward in helping this struggling part of Christ's body.

10 - We should be back from Lima today. Pray that we would constantly stay focused on Christ, our example, as we face daily discouragements and tend to evaluate our progress in the work by a worldly standard.

11 - Larry will be meeting with Ermogenes tonight. Pray that God would place a desire within his wife to hear the word also.

12 - Pray for Don Gahagen, fellow missionary and dear friend, as he will be having a pacemaker implanted today.

13 - Ricardo is a carpenter from a community called Paria who asked Larry to come and study the Bible at his house on Sundays. Larry has been going for the last couple of months and Ricardo has been upset when Larry couldn't come. Then last Sunday Ricardo's wife, Eugenia, said there would be trouble if Larry came back. The next day she came to our house and said that Larry's coming had caused prob-

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



Children from Collahuasi

lems in their family and that she would go to the police if he came again. Pray God would intervene in Eugenia's heart just as he did in Paul's when he was persecuting the church.

14 – Pray for the people in Collahuasi that Larry has opportunity to talk to as he walks around town while Heber and Marcelina are teaching the group.

15 – Today Larry & Heber will be

doing a pastor's seminar. Pray that God would use this teaching to better equip and even change the thinking of these men in a way that would begin to impact the evangelical community as a whole.

16 – Pray for unity among the evangelicals here and Christ's body everywhere.

17 – Pray Romans 12:17-21 for us today and often as we are tempted to look for revenge when people treat us badly, steal from us or lie to us.

18 – Pray 1 Corinthians 16:13-14 for Mario, Er-mogenes, and Ricardo as they seek the Lord in spite of opposition from their wives and other family members.

19 – Please ask God to give the girls a vision for what part He wants them to play in His work here.

20 – Anna Echols, who is currently raising support to come work with us for two years, is in New York City doing her cross cultural training this month. Pray that God would use this time to stretch her and reveal His all sufficiency to her.

21 – Pray John 2:40 for the girls and Jonathan, that like Jesus, they would continue to grow and become strong, increasing in wisdom with the grace of God upon them.

22 – Just going to the post office to get the mail can raise your stress level to a danger point. Pray God would keep reminding us of His presence and

that we would be a good testimony even when we don't feel like it.

23 – The group that meets in Monterrey continues to be small. Please join us in praying that more of the Quechua in the surrounding area will desire to come and also for a bi-lingual Spanish/Quechua believer to help us.

24 – We have come in contact with a Quechua family that has a son and daughter with severe mental and physical handicaps. The parents attend one of the evangelical churches in the area, however, basically ignore these two children. We feel a desire to help but are at a loss. Pray that we'd have wisdom and that God would provide a way for us to help these children.

25 – Larry has been able to locate a very rustic house in a Quechua community where he can stay for periods of time in order to progress in the language. Pray for all the necessary details to be worked out for this to take place.

26 – Pray we would have grateful hearts and give thanks in all things and for all things.

27 – Pray Philippians 4:8-9 for us today.

28 – Pray for the son of Mario (the man whose family was attacked and robbed and that we've helped relocate) that the Holy Spirit would convict him of his need for a Savior.

29 – Larry, Heber and our friend, Zosimo, will be leading a week long youth retreat beginning tomorrow. Pray that God would prepare each one with just the message these young people need to hear.

30 – That God would draw many of the young people from the area evangelical churches to this retreat to hear God's word.

31 – That the Holy Spirit would be at work each day this week convicting of sin and changing the lives of those that attend the retreat.

August:

1 – That from those attending the retreat God would call some to serve Him among the mountain Quechua.

2 – For physical stamina for Larry, Heber and Zosimo as they minister this week.

3 – As the end of the retreat nears, Pray for openness among the teens so that their needs can be ministered to.

4 – We will be hosting a team from Crossroads Pres. in Delaware for the next week. Pray for all the preparations to come together today and tomorrow for their arrival.