



## Holding Hands & Reaching Hearts God's Work in Lima, Peru

Prayer Letter Update of Becca Bennett

December 2006

**.....For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.....  
Isaiah 9:6**

I hope this update finds you well in this season celebrating the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ. This year He has shown Himself to me in all the ways listed above: as my Wonderful Counselor, my Mighty God, my Everlasting Father, and my Prince of Peace. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve such a Lord here in Peru, and making it so that more can know Him in a personal way. ¡Que el Señor te bendiga! (May the Lord bless you!)

### Maria Mendoza

I first met her at a youth lock-in in September, a middle-aged woman, who had recently started attending the church in Huaycan looking for answers and hope. Then at my health talk in October, she sat on the front row, and interacted in the presentation. As always in my health talks I also present a spiritual analogy or spiritual application to what physical issue we've discussed. After the health talk was over Maria and I started talking, and she began to tell me about many of her struggles, problems in her family, with her job, but more so how she kept being "nudged" by God in many ways. About an hour and a half later, after her sharing of her life, I shared of Christ's life, and she excitedly accepted Him as her Savior!!



Girls team at lock-in. Maria is on the far right.

***Please pray for Maria as she grows in the faith. Pray against the forces of Satan in her life and his attacks on her. Also pray for her familial and financial struggles.***

### How is the development of the health ministry going?

Last month I met with Pastor Fernandez (the national pastor we work with) and Mark Berry, presenting to them my ideas and hopes for the area of health ministry involving the training of nationals to be health promoters within the churches where we are working. In February I will start training people in each location to serve their churches as health promoters. I am currently putting together training materials for them, and resources for them to be able to teach families within the church about their health and about Christ. The Lord has raised up a few women who are very eager to serve in this way. Both are from the Santa Anita church: Lea and Irene.

***Please pray with me for the development of the training materials; for God to continue to raise people up to serve as health promoters in each location; and for Lea and Irene who have already taken an active role in assisting with my health talks.***

## Salamanca

Salamanca is the neighborhood where I live. For some time now, it has been the desire of the team to start a church plant here. This summer we started a Sunday school on Sunday afternoons with the kids in the area, most from a poorer part. There is also a cell group of believers meeting every other Saturday evening. We also have a bible study on Thursdays. As of now the plan is to start a Sunday worship service after the New Year. The harvest is so ripe here! Just last week 8 people came to Christ!

*Please pray with us, that the Lord will provide the right location; that the service will be a good outreach to the parents of the many children coming on Sundays, as well as those who live nearby; and that He will go before us preparing the way for the church plant, and that we will follow His will.*

## Other Bits of Blessings

- I was blessed with the opportunity to attend MTW's Latin Area Retreat in October in Panama. The area retreat takes place once every four years. It was a great time with my team, a time of renewal and refreshment, we soaked in a lot of the Word given to us and fellowship with other missionaries in Latin America. It was such a blessing!

- I also have been given the opportunity to spend Christmas in the states this year. It will be a short time home with family, and I am quite eager to meet my new little niece! *Please pray with me for a blessed time with family and friends, and that the Lord gives me a great excitement to return to His work in Peru and a content heart when I return.*

## Other areas of ministry for prayer:

- ◇ *Please pray with me for the people I come in contact with to be receptive to the gospel, whether at my health talks or wherever God has me.*
- ◇ *Please pray with me for our team and the leadership and direction of our team. The Ross family will also be joining us after finishing language school in the new year.*
- ◇ *Please continue to pray with us for the salvation of Hernan Matamoras. (The brother of our dear friend Enrique)*
- ◇ I am discipling two girls: Romina and Gianella Matamoras. They are very excited to learn more of the bible. *Please continue pray with me for wisdom and guidance with these precious girls, and for their spiritual growth.* I also have started meeting with a neighbor and friend Raquel Mauro for discipleship. *Please pray with me for wisdom in our meetings, and that she would grow greatly in our Lord.*
- ◇ *Please also pray for our safety here in Lima. Different places we travel and sometimes even in our neighborhood can be dangerous.*
- ◇ *Please pray for the Lord to bring us more Peruvian friends and that these friendships established and the ones to come will grow greatly in the Lord.*

**Thank you for your continued support, prayers and encouragement! Have a blessed Christmas season!**

¡Feliz Navidad!

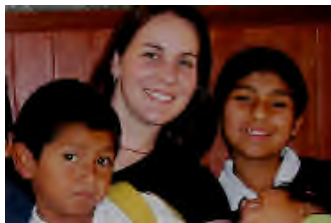
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