



Holding Hands & Reaching Hearts

God's Work in Lima

Prayer Letter Update of Becca Bennett

June 2006

To the ones who are the backbone of my ministry:

“I thank my God every time I remember you” (Phil 1:3). I could not be here without you and your partnership with me, and I am so grateful. Thank you for your continued prayers, support, and encouragement. What a privilege and blessing it is to be serving the Lord here in Peru. It has been a busy time for me, and here are some glimpses into some of what God is doing here in Peru.



Santo Tomas- Peru

This month I had the privilege to join my church (Oak Mountain Pres.) on their mission trip to Santo Tomas, Peru. It was a blessing in so many ways! This was also my first mission trip to ever serve as a translator!

Our team did a bit of painting of the church in Santo Tomas, but the majority of our ministry there was with the children. Several schools welcomed us with their doors wide open for us to come in, while they set aside their teaching plans, and essentially allowed us to run our own VBS on these various mornings. It was such a joy to work with these children, and many of the teachers had questions about Christ. One afternoon a doctor on the team and I made a house call to one of the church members who was suffering from a herniated disk.

In the afternoons we would go to a local park and play with the kids there. We also had bible story times there too. One afternoon I was able to pray with some of the 14 children who accepted Christ as their Savior. It was a beautiful story how just a few of them had questions, we shared the gospel and prayed with them, then more came, and the cycle repeated itself, and then more came, until 14 children accepted Christ. What an exciting time!

Please pray with me for these individual children, their families; pray for the church in Santo Tomas, for its health and growth and for Pastor Bernardino and his ministry with the people there.



The children praying with me in Santo Tomas

Health Ministry



Since my last prayer letter, my health talks (aka charlas) have started. I am currently teaching a series on nutrition. The classes have been fun, and the ladies have become more involved in the teaching. We've had a few short-term teams who have come here and have done VBS for many children here. I have gone there on different days as well to teach the children about some health issues. I also continue on occasions teaching the children at the diaconal project in Huaycan some health lessons.

Please pray for me in the wisdom and direction of these lessons to teach in a way that is practical and easy to understand.

One desire of the health ministry is to eventually have a health promoter with me who will be like an apprentice. We would like to start a health ministry, not only with the teaching of the charlas (health talks), but in visiting homes, and being a resource. Our hope and prayer is that one person from each location of our church plants will step up to fill this role.

Please pray with me that God will raise at least one person by December to work in such a way.

Lima New City Team Update

A new work has been started in a slums area of Lima called Amauta. Right now there is a children's program on Sunday afternoons. The hope and plan is that through this and getting to know the families, we will be able to start up a church there. God willing in the next month or so I will be teaching my health classes out there as well.

Please pray for those involved directly with this church plant, for the wisdom in the planning and directing.

The course for Evangelism Explosion has started in our church plant of Santa Anita (where I attend church). I am taking the course along with teammates Laura Hoyt and Lori Berry.

Please pray for us as we study and memorize the material in Spanish.

My time in Huaycan in the diaconal ministry there with the children is still such a blessing. I have heard some beautiful stories of their lives and how these children have changed since becoming a part of the program. One child added in February, Juan, has not only begun to behave better in the program, but his mom has mentioned what a change he has made in his behavior at home. This child who used to try to avoid the devotionals during the program is now on occasion leading the children in prayer. He is only 6 years old.

Other areas for prayer and ministry:

- ◇ *Please pray with us for the salvation of Hernan Matamoras.* He is the brother of our good friend Enrique. On many different occasions we have shared our faith with him, and he has a better understanding and frequently asks us about Christ, but has not yet accepted the free gift of salvation through Christ.
- ◇ I am discipling two girls: Romina and Gianella Matamoras. They are very excited to learn more of the bible. *Please pray with me for wisdom and guidance with these precious girls, and for their spiritual growth.*
- ◇ We will be meeting with a few Jehovah's Witnesses who live in the neighborhood. *Please pray with us for these meetings, that the Way, the Truth, and the Light will truly be made known; that God will speak through us in our 2nd language of Spanish to be understood better.*
- ◇ *Please also pray for our safety in Salamanca,* where us single girls are living. There has been an increase of crime in the area, and we have heard gunshots more than once.
- ◇ *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.*
- ◇ *Please pray for me as I am a bit homesick*

Once again, thank you for your prayers, support, and encouragement!! May the Lord bless you greatly!!

By His Grace Alone,

Becca Bennett

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