



MISSION
to the
WORLD

“The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!” Mark 1:15

May-June 2003

Dear Friends and family,

There we were in our regular Friday night meeting when all of a sudden one of the youngest of the children in the orphanage began speaking with tears in his eyes. He was giving account of how he had led his great uncle Sixto, of 70+ years, to the Lord. He was so happy and it was amazing to feel the joy in his heart as he spoke. The young people went around the room sharing how the Lord had called each one to new life, and they praised Him. The group was teeming with passion for the Lord, and their joy was expressing itself through their words which, in essence burst forth, “Praise the Lord, O my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.” That evening, each person in the group confessed that they no longer feared death, and that in fact, they were even willing to die for Christ.

It is with this group of dedicated disciples, that I have the privilege of walking and serving the Lord. Since arriving in Huanta with a team from Covenant College, I have been continually thankful for being here. My passion for the Lord has grown by leaps and bounds since I have been able to actively live out my faith in this field of harvest. Walking with these men and women from the mentoring group and with the team from Covenant has helped to clean the windshield of my vision. I can see clearly now, the rain is gone, and the Lord’s will for this town of Huanta (and surrounding villages) has taken captive all of my hopes and desires.



There are three main areas of service in which I am involved. One of these jobs is with my family, being on call to help them in any way needed. This consists of dealing with the short-term mission’s teams that come in and out of Huanta –coordinating and accounting their expenses, lodging and activities – all the way down to typing emails out to Mission to the World and fixing computer problems.

Another area of service is with my family again -- not a task-oriented service but more of a mentor and mentee relationship. My father wants to instruct (mentor) me in the way I should go and to teach me to be responsible for the work that I will one day (if it be the Lord’s will) be accountable for.



There is also another side to this area. It has been my desire and my father’s as well, for me to spend more time with my youngest brother Caleb and to mentor him. It has humbled me to hear from my best friend and my parents that Caleb looks up to me and even

admires me. This could be a scary thing, but in the Lord’s strength and wisdom, it becomes an opportunity to pour out my love and passion for the Lord on one of my

closest friends. It makes me look inside and see my own sin even more clearly, and thus I can do nothing but point him to Christ instead of to myself. What an incredible opportunity! Please pray for me and for Caleb. Pray that I may be nothing more than a lamp-post that lifts the light of Jesus before Caleb. The Lord has made Caleb into a very gifted young man and this, at only age fifteen!

Last summer I started investing more time in Caleb. One night we talked and counted the shooting stars and I told him that I would love to work with him in Huanta one day. He said something like, “Yeah that would be cool! But we would have to have a cool name.” As we thought for a while, we came up with the solution. What do two brothers who are missionaries make? “Bro-anaries!” Since that night, we have each been wearing a bracelet to remind us to pray for each other. All this is to say that we are walking together, building up our relationship in Christ with the hopes of being Broanaries and close friends serving the Lord together here in Huanta.



Caleb and I enjoying some laughs and some prickly pears

The third aspect of my service here could be defined in different ways. Most simply, I look at it as an opportunity to serve God by serving the people of Huanta. I have been invited to speak the word to many different house churches that have grown out of our mentoring group. This is a wonderful privilege and experience for me as it gives me an opportunity to share my passion and to begin to learn what it is like to serve as a pastor.

It is a marvelous thing to be used by the Lord to encourage a new home church through a Bible study. I praise him for the many opportunities that He has already given me to serve him in this way, and at the same time I continue to beg him for complete humility that would cause His will to take over mine.

This evening I will be assisting the beginning of yet another new house church with my brother Caleb in the home of Pepe Carreras. Pepe is attempting to win his family over to Christ, and I am excited to be a part of this endeavor. My prayer is that the Lord will transform this family and use it as a seed family for the church here in Huanta.



Pepe Carrera

In conclusion, my intention in this letter is to inform you of a small portion of what the Lord is doing here in Huanta, so that you can praise the Lord with me and pray for me as I continue to seek to serve him with my remaining time here. I am eternally grateful for the way you have invested in my life as I seek to grow and learn more about how to serve Jesus. Thank you for your prayers and your support. I praise the Lord for your kindness and generosity.

Serving Christ in the Andes,

Nathaniel Gutierrez