MISSION to the WORLD

Mission to Peru

Dear Friends,

Deep in the heart of Peru, high up in the Andes Mountains is a small city named Huanta. This city, like many other Peruvian cities is marked by poverty and people trying to survive off of very little. Quite often young high school or college-aged students will leave their home and move to Lima to find work so they can support themselves and their families or go to the university there. If that young person was involved in their home church, the busyness and temptations of Lima can cause them to forget their commitment to Christ, and often their faith is tested and rarely strengthened while they are in Lima. Often times, although life is not better for them in Lima, the young people decide to stay, to abandon their faith and their families for the chance to maybe be successful someday.

While the "Limeños" (city people from Lima) look down on these mountain people, calling them "Cholos," (mountain people) insulting their heritage, my wife Janet and I hurt for these young students. Both of us have deep roots in Peruvian culture particularly Janet, who grew up in the small town of Huanta. We understand the culture and languages and the mindset of mountain people, and long to bring them into Christ's fold while they are wandering in the city of Lima.

Our goal is to start a church in Lima, targeting the high school and college–aged people. We want to start discipleship groups, and take these lost farmers who are overwhelmed by the big city, and shepherd and guide them into churches and places where their faith will flourish. We want to be people who embrace these students with open arms and provide a safety net for them. We have met many missionaries in rural Peru who watch as the children in their church move to Lima, and they do not have anywhere to send these young souls. Missionaries from various Presbyterian organizations are very excited about the possibility of a church that would focus on these Hinterland people who have found no home in Lima churches.

We believe with our whole hearts that this is what we are called to do. We have wanted to start this ministry for many years now and are just waiting for our support to come in so we can leave the U.S. and begin the work in Lima. We want to see a revolution, a stirring in the hearts of these students, and a deep love and passion for Jesus shaking the souls of these young people.

The goal we have of having an established church down there in 6 years excites us greatly, but we also know that we are the Lord's hands and feet, and we are more excited to see where and how He will use us in Lima. We feel so privileged and blessed to be a part of this ministry, and we feel that we have a front seat to what the Lord is going to do down there. With both of us having much experience in Peru and being fluent in Spanish, and the culture, we are not going down there blind. Having grown up as a third-generation missionary to Peru, I also understand the challenges and heartaches, as well as the joys of serving God overseas. We will be a part of a team of missionaries with superiors who will help disciple and train us as we train others. We are not in this for the short–term, feel-good-experience; we are tried and true, committed to living in Peru as missionaries for the rest of our lives. We are called to Peru, and we are certain of this because it is not of our own, but by the Lord's persuasive leading.

Will you help my wife and me to get down to Peru as soon as we can? Our bags are packed, and we are waiting for the "go!" to tell us when we can move. Would you consider being a part of our team and supporting us monthly? We are honored to be the ones God chose for this work, and honored that you would consider supporting us. Will you trust God with us that He will bring about this work? Because I have spent most of my life overseas as a missionary, I know that I am not a familiar name in the PCA, but I am committed and passionate about this goal, and do not see my job in Lima as a career, but as a way of life.

In light of the fact that many missionaries have been returning from the field, we would now like to ask you to consider giving us the opportunity to serve. We are ready to reach a hurting people. But we cannot do it without you or your support. We need you to seriously consider partnering with us. Bring us into your fold by supporting us for four years. In return, we promise to faithfully represent you in the work of Christ abroad. If in four years we have not shown fruit of hard labor, you may discontinue our support. However, we are confident that you will not be disappointed. We have been called to serve, and serve we will. Help this part of the body implement its talents for God's kingdom today.

Urgently awaiting your partnership,

Osman, Janett, Dito, Esther, and baby.