

November Newsletter 2024

Thank you so much for your prayers and faithful support this month. We truly appreciate you, and the Lord will use your giving for the kingdom as we place it in his hands with faith. Here's where we are:

News/Ministry

This month was full of opportunities and blessings to share Christ with others. We praise the Lord for that. With Pastor Beto, we were able to lead and help in 3 workshops- one in La Merced (the jungle region), one in Huancavelica (the southern mountain region), and one in Huancayo (in the house). Both Beto and I prepared hard for these workshops.

In La Merced, the one all-day workshop focused on worship and the purpose of the church. Twenty-two youths and adults participated. It was a blessing to meet so many brothers and sisters in Christ. The leaders are Sandra, a wife's pastor (Valentino) who lost her husband in the COVID period but continued the ministry, and her son Joel, who is the worship leader who helps with discipleship. Also, there is another pastor there now, Pastor José, and it was a joy to get to know each of them more. In the workshop, I felt the Lord equipped the worship team there for ministry and, more than that, all the brothers and sisters in Christ as we shared that worship is much more than just music but a lifestyle of glorifying God and shared on discipleship, team skills, and the purpose of the church.



In Huancavelica, the 2-day workshop was on fear, anxiety, and marriage. There were 23 young adults and adults. This was a very fun workshop; the leader in the group is Antonela, a high school teacher who loves to work with youth and small groups and share Christ with others. Also, a missionary couple, Edith and Efrain Romero, are helping in this church. Together with Antonela, the missionary couple they make a good team to reach many youths and Huancavelica for Christ. They are working alongside a church with a pastor named Elias, who, months ago, was in a motorcycle

accident and was healed miraculously by the Lord from brain damage at the hospital. The workshop was a blessing as the Lord spoke truth into the lives of these young adults and taught them how to live in that truth throughout their lives. Christ brought some healing from the lies of the enemy, including fear.



In the workshop in Huancayo, I helped Pastor Beto lead worship, and the workshop was on the inductive Bible study method and how to observe, interpret, and apply Scripture to our lives. Ten ladies participated in this two-day event.

Alongside the workshops, Rocio continued the ladies' small group studying Proverbs, and the Lord continues to bless many women through this. Slowly but surely, please continue to pray that a men's group will also develop, as by the Lord's grace, we have a few who are coming to the men's Bible study. Rocio's brother, Toño, whom we wrote about last month, who was going through a tough time, was able to go with Beto and me to the workshops of La Merced and Huancavelica. Praise the Lord; he accepted Christ as his Lord and Savior and is determined to do things right from the Lord.

I continue teaching ESL classes to prepare the medical team for Egypt, led by David, a Peruvian missionary. They have been slowly grabbing onto essential things to use in a patient-doctor relationship. Through this, I have gotten to know David and his family more and more, and we are becoming stronger brothers in Christ and friends. Something amazing is how God brings people together. Our son, Noah, fell and got a fissure (close to a fracture) on the big toe of his right foot. Not knowing what to do, we went to the clinic where we knew David worked. Ana, one of the doctors we teach English to, was the one who was in the pharmacy and helped us accelerate the whole process of getting an X-ray and a doctor to help Noah. We were very grateful to them, but it's like the Lord put them in our lives for us to help them and them to help us. It's beautiful how the Lord works, and in the body of Christ, we can help and need one another. Noah is okay and healing, even though he must be in a cast for 3 weeks.

Circumstances/Spiritually

I was reading through the Psalms in November, and the Lord many times gave me a refreshing breath of His presence by reminding me of his character, faithfulness, and His kingdom. By reflecting on the Lord's character, our trust in Him increases.

A very well-known passage of Scripture is Psalms 139. "You have searched me, Lord, and you know me. You know when I sit and when I rise; you perceive my thoughts from afar. You discern my going out and my lying down; you are familiar with all my ways. Before a word is on my tongue you, Lord, know it completely. You hem me in behind and before, and you lay your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain." As we try to get past our familiarity with this verse and truly ponder on it, there is encouragement. The Lord knows us better than we know ourselves; he knows our strengths and weaknesses because he is our Maker. He also knows the future; this includes both our successes and failures. Yet despite God knowing that we will fall short, his unconditional love for us knows no bounds. Even so, that further down in this verse in Psalms 139:15-18, Despite that... "My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed body; **all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be. How precious to me are your thoughts, God! How vast is the sum of them! Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand—when I awake, I am still with you.**

It's such a precious promise to know that though we may be down, the Lord already knew and knows he holds the future, not our failures. God is always faithful. That is why David says in the two last verses of Psalm 139, "Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting." It is because the way everlasting is always there for us to walk in, live in, and align our hearts and lives with. Psalms 145:8-14 says, "The Lord is trustworthy in all he promises and faithful in all he does. The Lord upholds all who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down." This should be encouraging to know that the Lord searches for a willing heart, not a self-righteous one. So, in the end, it will all be for His glory, as verse 14 in Psalm 145 says: "All your works praise you, Lord; your faithful people extol you. They tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your might, so that all people may know of your mighty acts and the glorious splendor of your kingdom. Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures through all generations."

Psalms 147:3-5, "He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. He determines the number of the stars and calls them each by name. Great is our Lord and mighty in power; his understanding has no limit." This verse shows his compassion and power and how he uses them together to lift the humble and needy. I have learned even more from pondering this, but it just goes to say that "Lord Almighty, blessed is the one who trusts in you (Ps. 40:4), ...Blessed are all who take refuge in him (Ps. 2:12) ... Blessed is the one whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the one whose sin the Lord does not count against them and in whose spirit is no deceit (Ps. 32:1-2)...and ultimately, Blessed is the people of whom this is true; blessed is the people whose God is the Lord (Ps. 144:15)."

Fundraising:

October's giving was excellent. We praise the Lord Jesus for His provision and grace. We are deeply grateful to each of you for your support!!! The Lord has provided for two years of ministry, and we must raise \$50,067.44 for our third year to continue this ministry and trust the Lord to continue providing and bringing this ministry to fruition. We are at 72% of the third year. Any contribution is of great value to the Lord and his Kingdom in Peru and the world. If you feel the Lord Jesus is leading you to be in ministry with us financially. You can use the link below to contribute: <https://tnpartners.churchcenter.com/giving>. You can also find this link on the Partners webpage: <https://tnpartners.org>. Make a free account and choose Josh and Rocio Ivey as missionaries to give to Peru.

Please, if you still need to change a recurring donation to the new Partners platform, this is the last month to do so. Instructions can be found on our missionary website: www.iveyperuparterns.com under the contact/support heading. (For some reason, it is cited as an insecure website. However, when you search for it on Google, it is good).

Prayer Requests:

1. For our son Noah's toe fissure to heal well these next 3 weeks and for both our sons to continue adapting to Spanish and the Peruvian culture.
2. For my dad, Arthur's health. He is battling many things at the same time.
3. For my friend Mark Kelly from Stonebridge Church. His mother passed away for the Lord to bring comfort and peace to him and his family.
4. For Rocio's brother Toño to continue to walk in the Lord's ways and not fall back into the world. He accepted Christ about 3 weeks ago.
5. For the body of Christ in La Merced and Huancavelica (where the workshops were done) to continue growing and serving the Lord with all their heart, mind, strength, and soul.
6. For the Lord's work to continue expanding and the kingdom of Christ to flow like a river and fill the souls of many through his Holy Spirit.
7. For all the prayer and giving supporters of this ministry as we all place our lives in the Lord's hand and ask that He continue to do His will to reach the nations
8. For the Lord to speak and pour forth His Spirit in the ladies' and guys' Bible studies in Huancayo.
9. For the medical campaign in Egypt, this coming January.

Blessings in Christ, and Merry Christmas!!!

Pictures in La Merced (jungle region)
With the family below:

