

October 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: (Also, please take a look at an important message in the fundraising section as Partners, our sending agency, is changing the online giving platform and closing the old one.)

News/Ministry:

This month has been one of lots of learning for us, and we praise the Lord. He is teaching us through circumstances, opportunities, and experiences how to walk closer with Him in extending the kingdom. Dad and mom, Arthur and Mary Alice Ivey, were here in Peru with us for three months and went back to the U.S. for a little while. It was a blessing having them in Peru and being able to spend some time together.

This month, we shared Christ at family gatherings with Rocio's family on her mother's side. This includes Papa Lucho, Mama Rosa (Rocio's grandparents) and Mery (Rocio's mom), Tía Norma, Aide, Olinda (Rocio's aunts), Tío Rolando, Hilmer, Ediberto (Rocio's uncles) and Karen and Emily (Rocio's cousins). We will attempt to continue to share with them, plant seeds, and pray that the gospel and fruit will sprout in their lives as we trust in God for his faithfulness. Lots of Rocio's family works in the Market selling fruits in stands.



Rocio's family (Josh is the guy with the Tip Top shirt & Rocio is in the purple shirt in the back)



(Josh and Rocio's grandfather- Lucho)

An encouraging verse to place our hope in is Colossians 1:5- 6, "...the faith and love that spring from the hope stored up for you in heaven and about which you have already heard in the true message of the gospel that has come to you. In the same way, the gospel is bearing fruit and growing throughout the whole world—just as it has been doing among you since the day you heard it and truly understood God's grace." The gospel and Jesus Christ are the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes, and Christ has the power to save as we put our hope in Him for

surrendered souls. We also got the chance to encourage Toño (another cousin of Rocio's), who needed help to change his situation and desperately needed Christ. Through tough circumstances, the Lord has stirred a hunger and thirst in His heart to change and leave the old life behind. Please pray that the Lord will continue to draw Toño into His loving arms with everlasting love.



(Toño and Josh)

The women's Bible study group has greatly blessed Rocio and the ladies involved. They are now in Proverbs 22. The Lord continues to draw more and more ladies to this group for His glory. Also, we have been having fun teaching ESL(English as a second language) classes with a medical team that is going to Egypt for a campaign in January under the lead of a Peruvian missionary who is serving in Jordan. The objective is to share the gospel and Christ holistically—providing for physical and spiritual needs.



(The Women's Bible Study)

From left to right: Carmen, Rosmeri, Julia, Rocio, Yari, Cecilia, Fiorela, Chava, Margot, and Paola.

The Lord is teaching about patience in people's responses to Him, giving them time to respond to God's calling on their life and praying for them in the moments when they decide to wait, think about it, etc. One young man named Daniel, whom I was getting to know through sharing, joined an online Bible study Pastor Beto is leading on Romans. I also led this group once this month, which was a blessing. So many people were interested in the Romans group that Beto had to split it into two groups (one on Monday and one on Thursday). Please pray that the Lord will continue to bless the work He does through Beto, God touches many lives through it and him.

Another exciting thing is that we are helping Pastor Beto with two workshops this month (November). It is a great opportunity to share with the body of Christ in two different areas—La Merced (the jungle region) and Huancavelica (the mountain region). Please pray the Lord will equip, strengthen, and empower the participants in these workshops for His glory and the spread of the Kingdom.

In Circumstances/Spiritually:

We've been battling discouragement and worry this month; however, we place our faith and trust in the Lord Jesus, who will show us the way to go. I was overwhelmed many times this month trying to do so many things and would feel stressed, but the Lord is faithful to see us through each and every thing. We have every reason to praise Him and thank God for His work this month. Habakkuk 3:17 says, "Though the fig tree does not bud and there are no grapes in the vines, though the olive crop fails and the fields produce no food, though there are no sheep in the pen and no cattle in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord, I will be joyful in God my Savior." Though you see above the Lord has been working, sometimes it can be hard to see, so we can remind ourselves of this verse in Habakkuk, knowing that what really matters is we have our eyes focused on Him, and He is the one who will produce the fruit. Though sometimes we may not see, we put our hope in God and pray that the seeds plants will sprout through the Holy Spirit. I've been learning this month to lay everything at the feet of the Lord, all the pieces, and trust that He will work in His will and in His timing for His glory.

I was also encouraged/challenged to think about Jesus as a Shepherd this month. Hebrews 13:20-21 was very refreshing to remember, "Now may the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen."

But even more so, as I read about what a shepherd does, I feel as if this is what the missionary and the body are also to do. Luke 19:10 says, "For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost." Ezekiel 34 describes what the shepherd is expected to do: "You have not strengthened the weak or healed the sick or bound up the injured. You have not brought back strays or searched for the lost. You have ruled them harshly and brutally. So they were scattered because there was no shepherd, and when they were scattered they became food for all the wild animals. My sheep wandered over all the mountains and on every high hill. They were scattered over the whole earth, and no one searched or looked for them....For this is what the Sovereign Lord says: I myself will search for my sheep and look after them. As a shepherd looks after his scattered flock when he is with them, so I will look after my sheep. I will rescue them from all places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and darkness....I will pasture them on the mountains of Israel, in the ravines, and in all the settlements in the land. I will tend them in a good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel will be their grazing land. There they will lie down in good grazing land, and there they will feed in a rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will tend my sheep and have them lie down," declares the Sovereign Lord. I will search for the lost and bring back strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy. I will shepherd the flock with justice."

There is a lot in the passage. The context is the shepherds of Israel were not looking after their flock but only looking after themselves (Ezek. 34:1-4), so God says I will take away the flock from these shepherds, and I will be Israel's shepherd. However, this scripture describes what God wants the shepherd to be like and what God wants him to do. There is a big emphasis on looking after the lost sheep and searching for the stray and the lost. Not only so but binding the injured and strengthening the weak. It speaks of care for particular people- the injured, the weak, the lost, and the stray. Once again, the Lord reminds us to get out of our comfort zone, out of the boat, and walk on the water to advance His kingdom. With this, I believe God is calling out of town into the villages further out throughout the Mantaro Valley and to have the heart of a shepherd. Even in Matthew 9, it's the sinner, not the righteous; the sick, not the healthy that Jesus has come for. This gives us the image of Jesus in Isaiah 40:11, "He tends his flock like a shepherd; He gathers the lambs in His arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young." And to lead them to lie down in green pastures beside quiet waters and refresh their soul. He walks with them even in the darkest valley of death, and His rod and staff comfort them.."

As I was praying for a reorientation, I believe the Lord responded to what heart I can do things with now, and this has comforted my soul! The Lord is faithful and will always lead us as we seek and search for Him! His goodness and love will follow us all the days of our lives, and we will dwell in the house of the Lord forever!

In Fundraising:

This past month's giving of September has been excellent. Even more people are starting to give, and 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. 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.

- Instructions to change online giving platforms:

Our sending agency, TN Partners, has updated our online giving platform from Fellowship One to Church Center. We are asking that you please switch your giving over to the new platform at your earliest convenience.

If you have a recurring donation from the old platform (Fellowship One), you can log in at this link: <https://tmmgega.infellowship.com/UserLogin/Index?ReturnUrl=%2FOnlineGiving>. Click on "give" and delete your giving schedule.

To set up your one-time or recurring donations on our new giving site (Church Center), you will follow this link: <https://tnpartners.churchcenter.com/giving>

You can also find this link on our website: tnpartners.org

If you have trouble either deleting your old account or setting up a new one, please email Katie Edwards at partnerstni@gmail.com

Prayer Requests:

1. Please pray for protection from the enemy in our family—for Rocio, Noah, Stephen, Pastor Beto, and me. As the Lord advances His light, the enemy tries to disrupt or prevent it at times.
2. For the women's Bible study, the Lord will continue to speak, heal, and conform us more and more into the image of Jesus Christ.
3. Pray for the medical campaign in Egypt and the medical team's language skills to learn English.
4. Pray that the brothers and sisters are participating in the online Bible study groups with Beto and the Lord to continue growing in this ministry.
5. Pray For the two workshops in November that the Lord would move, support, equip, and strengthen the hearts of all the brothers and sisters in Christ who participate.
6. Please pray for fundraising to increase and for the Lord to continue to provide.
7. Pray that God will touch Rocio's family and that they make know Jesus more and receive Him as their Lord and Savior.
8. Pray that the Lord will heal Toño's heart and that he gets to know Jesus and receive of his salvation and lordship. Also, that the Lord will provide Toño with a job to serve the Lord in.
9. Protection for our family because there is a lot of national insecurity. There have been lots of strikes taking place because of an increase in crime throughout the country.
10. Pray for the Lord's guidance and direction while going to rural areas where He wants us to serve Him.

Blessings in Christ, and thanks to all!



Stephen and Noah looking at the Bible together



Arthur and Mary Alice (Dad and mom) with the family in Peru.