



Peru

Missionary Newsletter
of Scott and Meghan Dillon

June, 2009



Prayer Requests

“The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective.”
James 5:16

- » Praise: Mark was born healthy and Meghan has been recovering very well.
- » Praise: We had a great visit with Meghan's parents for a week and enjoyed a break from language school with family.
- » Please pray for leaders of the church we attend here. They face some heavy decisions concerning moving the location due to the landlord taking advantage of them.
- » Pray that we would continue to learn Spanish. We have learned the grammar and we have 2-3 months of just practice.
- » Pray for our financial support to increase. We are still receiving under 80% of our committed support.
- » Pray for our short-term work here in Arequipa with the Iglesia Refugio. Even opportunities like praying in Spanish are challenging, so pray that we would be encouraging and a blessing to the church.
- » Pray for the Rockwell family who will be returning to Peru in July from a 10 month furlough. We will be working with the Rockwells when we go to Huaraz in September.

Mark Geoffrey Dillon

When we originally contacted Mission to the World about foreign missions, we communicated to them that we were interested in waiting until after our term to have children. What were we thinking? We had Rachel while we were support raising who is almost two years old—we can't hardly believe it. And at 11:01 in the evening on May 21, we welcomed our second child, Mark. He was just shy of 6 lbs, but a good 19.5 inches long! Flaquito!

There is no doubt that three years ago when we started considering foreign mission work that we would have had trouble with the thought of having a child in a third world country. Prudence met faith and while it wasn't nearly the same experience we had when we had Rachel back in Delaware, we are thankful that we have a healthy boy and that Meghan's recovery has gone so well. The care was provided by a private clinic and not the state hospital— and that made all the difference.



So many of you have spent time praying for us, congratulating us, and even making clothing for little Mark! Thank you for your gifts, your expressions of love. While we're miles away from family and friends, we feel at home because of your ministry to us.



If you're itching for more photos of Mark and the family, visit our website:
<http://www.soarchrist.com>

Photo: Visiting with Meghan's family, we took a trip to Colca Canyon, the deepest canyon in the world.

Barista Scott

Serving coffee and cake wasn't one of the activities in our ten-point list of projected ministries here in Peru (we really didn't have a list by the way). Yet every Tuesday night I find myself in the Café Berea making coffee drinks and serving food to its customers. However, this time there serves two important purposes.

First, my time at the café helps me get to know its customers of which a handful are attendees of the church that meets there on Sunday mornings. I also get to spend a lot of time with the other workers and the café manager Efrain, who is also the pastor of the church. This time with other Peruvians is a huge help to my study of Spanish. It's the perfect opportunity for practice and helps me get to know the people, the culture, and to participate.



Second, my time there on Tuesday nights allows Efrain to attend and assist in a Bible Study that is held by one of the church leaders. Without my being there, Efrain would not be able to attend and participate.

Like the majority of churches in Peru, the pastors must work a second job to make ends meet. Efrain is a dedicated pastor who manages the café and also does tailor work on the side. With a busy schedule, giving him extra time on Tuesday nights is invaluable.

Meghan and I have begun to have great friendships with Efrain and his wife, Dorcas. Our relationship with them and the church will be a difficult thing to leave in September.

Foundation on the Rock

"Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock."
Matthew 7:24

Lula and her daughter don't really have a home, yet. They live with friends right now but are hoping to one day have a place of their own. They have some land, but are lacking a much needed foundation.

One Saturday morning, bright and early, a group of six of us went to work on Lula's land plot located in a somewhat remote district of Arequipa. Her plot is situated on the side of a hill that has a slope of somewhere around 55°. She has one room that is currently a bedroom with approximately 60 ft². The land plot itself isn't more than 300 ft². Lula's hope is that by removing part of the hill she'll have more flat space for building a second bedroom and a kitchen. She hasn't the need for any other living space she says.



The reality is that we accomplished a lot. Our work was more in the heart of Lula, who is not a Christian, than in expanding her property. And this ministry to Lula will hopefully not stop here with one visit. A generator and small jack hammer would go a really long way in this remote place, but I have been unsuccessful in finding a place here that rents equipment. We would like to go back and help Lula even further by providing her assistance in planning the property layout and building an actual foundation on the rock. We also hope that by working with her she will come to know the grace and love of Christ.

Please pray for our contact with Lula and a continuation of helping her. Pray that our next visit would include Peruvians and that we could have the opportunity to work along side Peruvians in helping Lula and not just American "goodies" providing the time and money. It is important for the evangelical church in Peru to improve on reaching out to those in need and especially to those outside the church. Pray also that Lula sees Christ through our hands, time, and sweat and that a new foundation for her is built on the Rock, that is, Christ.

The six of us spent five hours chipping rock off this massive hill and advanced a scanty eight inches of Lula's property. We were exhausted and blistered after those five hours and left feeling like we had accomplished nothing.