



Peru

Missionary Newsletter
of Scott and Meghan Dillon

April, 2011



Prayer Requests

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

- » Praise: Two children from the orphanage went home to their adoptive parents.
- » Praise: Our financial support situation has improved.
- » Praise: We bought a car! Thank you for your help. We have a 1981 VW van!
- » Praise: We have a healthy baby girl!
- » Pray for Luis Fernando who is a new baby at the orphanage. At just 10 months old, he was found at the hospital with stab wounds.
- » Pray for our financial support to increase. Our situation has improved, but mainly because of one-time gifts only.
- » Pray for our theological education program that the students would continue to grow in their knowledge and experience of grace and truth.

Visit our website for some more updates.

www.soarchrist.com

Update: We're Still Alive

Please consider our sincere apologies for having gone so long without updating our supporters. Our lack of updates is an act of unfaithfulness to you, our supporters, and we do truly ask for your forgiveness. There is no good excuse or even good explanation that we can offer to try to smooth things over. We have just been negligent. The good news is that we have so many new and exciting things to update all of you about.

Two methods that we use quite often to keep people updated is both our website and Facebook. We know Facebook poses a time abyss for many, but for us it actually is a very useful tool in keeping in regular touch with so many people. Therefore, if you're ever looking for ways to get in touch with us to hear quick little updates, we encourage you to visit our website and/or our Facebook pages. Here's that information:

Website: <http://www.soarchrist.com>

Scott's Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/scottdillon>

Meghan's Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/meghan.dillon>

It's a Girl!... And She's Three Months Old

Our last newsletter announced that we were pregnant (well, actually Meghan was the only pregnant one). This newsletter, we announce that she was born... and is already three months old.

Penelope (Penny) Jane Dillon was born on December 8, 2010. Everyone was extremely healthy and thankfully our experience at the clinic here in Cusco was notably better than when we had Mark in Arequipa. Penny continues to be healthy as she is already wearing some of her six-month old clothes at three months. Thankfully, she has started sleeping through the night as well which, as all of you who are parents know, is a tremendous blessing. We couldn't ask for more when it comes to our family: we are truly blessed.



Our Investments

When I use the word, “Our”, I am referring to yours and mine. I am referencing the very direct connection that exists between what you do and what we do. Not all missionaries have the same connection with their supporters as we do and I honestly prefer it this way— knowing that your investments are directly our investments too. Your gifts, your prayers, your reading this newsletter, are all investments. I have the pleasure to tell you about what the Lord is doing with it all.

Youth Ministry

When we came to Cusco, we quickly became involved in the youth ministry at our church, Jesús el Buen Pastor. When we started helping out, there was some lack of dynamics and real discipleship between the leaders and the young people. I say “young people” because here in Latino culture, a “young person” is pretty much anyone between ages 12 and 30 (if they aren’t married). Therefore, trying to find a dynamic and format that works well for all ages can be difficult. Our involvement has been of an advisory role for the leadership team and I frequently help lead worship and/or give the message. It has allowed me to establish some great relationships with some of the young people in our area.



In May, 2010, we had a nice committed group of about 15 youth that attended every Saturday. I’ve been so thrilled how the Lord has worked as now we have between 35-45 youth each Saturday. I’ve been increasingly encouraged by the leadership as they have grown spiritually too. On their own decision, they have setup small groups that will meet throughout the week among other events that they will plan to use as opportunities for discipleship.

Theological Education

One of the major projects that our team leader wanted me to help organize was a theological education program for the church. At first, we wanted to use a developed program (MINTS or FLET). We decided, however, that a program would be a little difficult to execute with a mestizo culture (a thorough mix of Quechua and Peruvian Spanish cultures) because of the teaching style and academic level. We decided to create our own program so that we could control the flexibility while maintaining an appropriate academic level that would be attainable but challenging.

We started our first program in the beginning of February: Certificate of Bible. The first half of the class is bible study methods

and hermeneutics. The second half is teaching styles and homiletics. I honestly had doubts that we would have more than 5 or 6 students, but 14 students registered and 11 have continued faithfully.



You can imagine the excitement. We’re talking about nine men and two women who, some of which have never finished high school, are interested in and committed to learning about the finer methods of bible study. One week we studied the ten commandments and in response to the second commandment the students, on their own initiative, removed a large portrait of Jesus carrying a little black lamb—something that is prevalent in a Catholic-saturated society. To see their theology growing and making a real difference in their lives is awesome.

We plan to do one certificate per semester. The remaining certificates are Leadership, Church History & Missions, and Counseling. Currently, I am the only “professor” (as they call me), but we’re looking to utilize teams that visit and others to help teach.

The Josephine House

In October, we temporarily took the reins of the orphanage from our team leader and his wife who went back to the States for furlough. Words cannot describe the blessing it is to be a part of these little ones’ lives.

Since October, we’ve seen two kids go home to their adoptive parents and the addition of one new baby who came to us after being at the hospital at 10-months old with stab wounds.

There are so many stories like this. Please pray for these children in crisis. You can find out more about the Josephine House at: www.josephinehouse.org.



Supporting Us

The basics: Send a check written out to Mission to the World with our account number in the MEMO line: #011823. For more detailed info, see our website.

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