

Message Ministries & Missions Inc.

Mission Update – July 30, 2010

"Sharing God's message of hope in action"

CROSS STREET - PERU TEAM REPORT by Brian Weller

This year's Cross Street Mission Team was a group of youth and adults not only on a mission trip but on a mission from God!

Most of the team had never been on a mission trip before and their hearts were ready to be used by God to love and reach others with His message. **I've been on lots of mission trips and this one truly was amazing!**



Before we arrived in Peru, our preplanned schedule with the exception of the youth camp was pulled from our hands. First we missed our flight in Atlanta to Peru, which turned out to be a God thing. We were given a night in a hotel, with meal vouchers and time to get to know each other better. God knows best! **We arrived a day late to Peru according to our schedule but by God's schedule we were right on time.** The public schools we planned on ministering in were suddenly closed for the two days we planned on going to them. Instead, we ended up ministering on the streets and in the poor communities and churches in and around Pachacutec. God knows best! **One of the churches we**

visited had never had anyone come vhelp them in their seven years of ministry. God wanted us there and the team just stepped into this situation (and others) as if they had prepared for a lifetime to be there. **Each place we went, people came forward to give their hearts to Jesus!** There is nothing more fulfilling in life than to see people come to know Jesus Christ and receive the gift of Eternal Life.



The Peru Youth Camp was amazing as well! This was our fifth year and most everything you could hope for at a youth camp took place. **I'll include a few highlights.** The first night, after worship, drama, testimonies and Bible teaching many came forward to give their hearts to Jesus. After that, the whole group broke out in a time of celebration, worship, prayer and dancing before the Lord!

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PERU - EXTREME HOME MAKEOVER by Anne Weller



The Living Hope Community Church team wanted to do some building projects and Brian and Hector discussed several possibilities with their team leaders. One was to begin building the walls of the vocational training center in Lomas de Carabayllo (which they did). The other was to build a house for a family in La Gorilla,

in Pachacutec. **That was the beginning of our extreme home make over Peru style.** With limited power tools, some pre fab wood walls, cement, sand paper, varnish, nuts, bolts & wrenches we built a house for Carlos and Veronica – the pastors of the church and feeding center in La Gorilla.

Their original home was a 9 by 12 space with a cement floor and a black plastic roof that billowed down with water in between the bamboo poles that held it up. Cardboard lined the edges of the room where the wood did not go high enough. A clothesline hung across the room to dry clothes that were washed by hand out in the side yard. The home was stuffed with a bunk bed, old mattress, dresser, stove and other small items. It took us less than seven minutes to completely empty the home so that we could remove the old tarp roof and move the walls. In the home were four iron chairs, with no seat bottoms, just an iron support bar. As we moved things, Veronica got a sturdy piece of cardboard and put it on the chair. **She sat with the eight-day-old baby on her lap. Her flat expression showed the wear of someone who has struggled to survive.** I could see a hint of uncertainty as we moved her things. I know now why Extreme Home Makeover sends the family away during the rebuild.



We laid out the prefab pieces on the road and began the work of sanding and varnishing while part of the group worked on finishing the cement pad and putting in the plumbing for the bathroom. **For now, the toilet doesn't flush and it just empties into a hole in the ground outside the house.**



Perhaps one day it will hook up to a sewer system and have running water in the bathroom. That would be a luxury!



With two days to do the job, we worked tirelessly. Part of the group spent the afternoons putting on a Vacation Bible School at the church a few blocks away. By Friday Evening at 9:30 we had the house up and 80% of the electric in. We left the finishing touches with Pastor Carlos. He

preferred to finish it himself than to pay a worker to do it. **We gathered together in prayer and dedicated their new home to the Lord.**

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HOW WAS PERU? by Mary Keller



When people ask me "How was Peru?" I honestly don't know where to begin. There aren't enough words to describe how perfectly amazing that week of my life was. God changed me. He broke down walls I wasn't even aware I had built. He gave me truth and He put on my heart the purpose for my life: missions. The people I met in Peru taught me so much about love. **Many of the people we met had very little, but they were the happiest people I've ever met. They were truly living life.** These people didn't have cars or cable television and some of them didn't have enough food to eat, but what they did have was God's pure and perfect Love for them and they praised His name in everything they did. It was so beautiful and humbling.

God blessed this year's team in such a supernatural way. He poured His love out so strongly it made the Niagara Falls look like a mere leaky faucet. His fire fell down and burned within the heart of each and every person we encountered. When I first committed to this trip, I was expecting an epic trip. **What I didn't realize was that this trip would change my entire life. It would change**

the way I looked at everything, the way I thought, the way I spoke, and it would change my dreams and goals. Every day was a new blessing from God. Each church we went to was so welcoming and appreciative. The children were so loving and attentive. After our first outreach at the first church, we all loaded back onto the bus and headed to our next stop. The shock of how spoiled I am hit me like a ton of bricks. I sat there on that bus, as we pulled away from the waving children with smiles dancing across their faces, and tears began to trickle down my cheeks. I don't deserve any of the blessings God has given me. I have never had to worry about where my next meal was going to come from. I have running water and electricity and I was blessed enough to be born in a country where a good education was provided for me. **At that moment I vowed to stop wasting these gifts God had given me and start using them to fully live my life for God and share my blessings with those less fortunate. I laid down my life for God that very day and made a promise to go out into the world and joyously bring the Word of Life to the millions of people that have never heard of God's love for them.**

I'm 18 years young and recently graduated from high school. I've spent the last year being pressured to determine a college, a major, a career, a path for the rest of my life. I grew up thinking that I was to go to school, then college, have a successful career, start a family, raise my kids, and live in a house with a white picket fence. Our society gives us this fake idea of what success is and makes us feel like if we stray from the status quo our lives will amount to nothing more than failure. God spoke to me when I was in Peru and opened my eyes to the life He has planned for me. Plans to use me. **He opened up my heart to the fact that being a vessel of God's love and light is a far more successful life than playing it safe and doing what society has told me to do. I realized that God is calling me and I can't wait to serve Him.** I've never been so excited to be used by God! I've never felt so stress free. I have put all of my trust in the Lord and know that with Him all things are possible. *"The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few."* (Matt 9:37) **I am honored to be a laborer of the Lord.**

(Mary Keller was a member of the Cross Street Peru Team in June of this year)

CROSS STREET - PERU TEAM REPORT continued



The last morning of camp, there was a call to missions and most of the youth came forward to dedicate their lives to His service. The next week one of these groups came out on a one day mission trip to help the Living Hope mission team in Lomas de Carabayllo. They took a bus to help minister to the children there.



Thank you for helping make all this possible through your prayers and financial support!

PRAYER NEEDS

- Pray for the opening of the new feeding center in Pachacutec.
- Pray for God's provision and for all the workers and children at the 8 feeding centers in Peru.
- Pray for us as we minister in Virginia and NC.
- Pray for Hector Del Carpio, Peru missionary.

Please note you can view pictures read updates, watch videos, listen to music etc. at www.messageministries.net You can also find us on Facebook.

PERU - EXTREME HOME MAKEOVER continued

God rebuilt many things in our hearts that week. We all need rebuilding some time. **For me I received a fresh vision of the work in Peru, the needs and hearts of the people and the purpose God has for me. I pray that God will give you a clear vision of the purpose He has for you.**

Psalm 127:1 "Except the LORD build the house, they labor in vain that build it: except the LORD keep the city, the watchman wakes in vain."

If you would like to read more of Anne's mission stories just go to www.sharedbread.blogspot.com



Besides putting up the pre-fab home and doing a VBS in La Gorila the Living Hope team also put up some of the walls in the Vocational Training Center in Lomas de



Carabayllo and did an awesome VBS there. They also brought hundreds of pairs of shoes to give to children in need. A very successful week of mission work with a group of people who came to serve and share the love of God.