

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding;

In all your ways acknowledge Him,  
And He shall direct your paths.  
Proverbs 3:5-6

# On Belay

Your Ministry with  
the  
Shaw  
Family  
in Peru

**SIM**  
By Prayer

Winter 2005

## To the "rope holders" of the "climbing" team

### Now, why did he do that?

What is obvious for people of the same culture never is what is expected for those of another. When a follower of Christ responds to the call to minister across cultures, that person has a life of learning ahead. One of the greatest character assets any missionary can have is a

teachable attitude, always looking to understand others and why they do what they do. How do people here think, hurt, and deal with the difficulties of their lives? What do they value, prioritize, cherish and worship? Since the majority of folks are uneducated, they learn much slower and are much more superstitious.

If we are serious about communicating on the heart level, we need to understand other's hearts.

In these precious but fallen people here, we see the same sin

nature and the same basic needs that we have, but with different beliefs and perspectives about how to live in this sin sick world. Please pray that we use biblical insight, discernment, and wisdom while sharing the gospel with the Quechua people here.

We continue to appreciate the openness of many here. The little churches which are newly planted in the remote pueblos are growing through the testimonies of the local believers. It is so rewarding for us to see some of the leaders maturing and responding with a burden of love for the lost.

We are now a group of 12 workers besides Gina and I. Janelle and Cassandra would love to be more involved but they **do** have to study! Vic Hanson, an independent American missionary, works with us here but all the others are Peruvian Quechuans who are from this area.

We are looking for others to help in this work and if you or someone you know could serve with us here—short or long term, we would like to talk to them.

To reach out to 17,000 people spread out over such a large area is quite a challenge.

Relationship is a key to this kind of ministry and so we have chosen a ministry style of Christian community. Our house is the ministry center so we always have a lot of activity, people coming for Bible studies, getting Bibles and ministry materials, seeking counsel,

coordinating with others to go to villages, etc. Alberto's family lives with us as well as Fredy, and we almost always have guests staying with us. We usually have a group of 7 to 10 for meals (fortunately we have the help of Lydia who prepares the main meal for us (necessarily from scratch – no instant foods here!)



*Janelle and Cassandra would love to be more involved with the ministry, but they do have to study!! Please pray for their education in the home, that they will apply themselves and learn all they can. Here, Janelle climbs up a steep trail leading our mule through a tunnel as she goes to visit one of the remote villages.*



belay (bi-lā') vb. To make fast a rope, to secure a person at the end of a rope. n. a rock to which a mountaineer anchors himself, or another, by a rope.

### Growth

On the initiative of several of the Quechuan brothers, they are visiting additional villages and beginning to preach and teach the Bible to small groups of interested people. We continue to see more and more people trust in Jesus as their Lord and Savior, many obey Jesus in baptism, and also seriously apply themselves to Bible study. Please pray for the growth of a solid, mature, and holy Peruvian leadership of pastors and missionaries who form the foundation of these new churches.

### New Opportunities

Brad is glad that after several years of teaching David, Lorenzo, and Santiago, they are taking on more of the work. Brad is able to focus on development of radio as well as consider other pueblos needing ministry.

One such opportunity is children's and youth ministry in a remote village where we have been hoping to work.

The mayor has asked us to administer a new students' dorm, where youth will stay during the week while attending the public high school. They live miles away, travel by trail to get to school, and so need lodging during the week.

Besides having an obvious witness with them, we would like to tutor the children and youth with their

school work and most importantly, teach them Bible. The opportunity is wide open, we just need committed workers and some funds for improvements of an existing building. Please pray for the provision of qualified workers and funds.

### Radio ministry

At this time we are still waiting for the license but we have permission to start development and tests with frequency 100.1 FM, up to 500 watts.

With the help of HCJB ministry (of Quito Ecuador), in engineering and guidance, we are much happier with how things are progressing.

## Praises and Prayers

**Praise Him** - for a new church forming in Cahuana (Ka-wa-na), which is totally the work of Lorenzo and Faustino who feel the Lord's call to plant this church. It is exciting to see Quechua believers obeying the great commission. Please pray for them as they step out in faith for these needy people.

**Praise Him** - for the calling of several young men—teachers who are working here short term, with children.

**Praise Him** - bringing help for planning the

**Pray** - for the continuing work of new Quechua workers Rosa—working with women, and Itolo who is working with children and youth; for their personal spiritual growth and success in these very important ministries.

**Pray** - for the final licensing process, purchase and installation of the FM radio station.

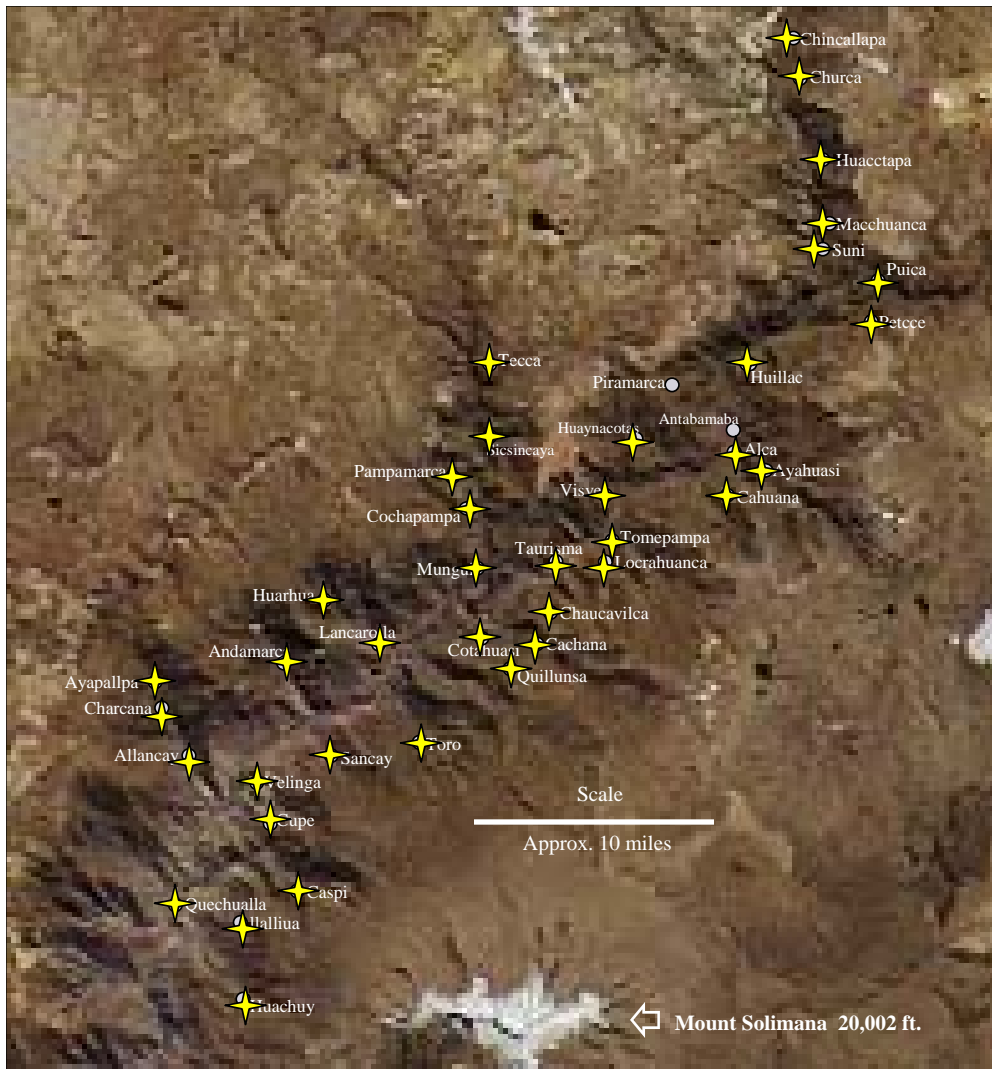
**Pray** - for the other workers: Vic, Santiago, Fredy, Alberto, David, Lorenzo, Faustino, Hugo, Edi, Lydia, and Diego.

**Pray** - for our family's physical health and energy as we seek to continue in obedience. For Brad's back to continue to improve.

**Pray** - for our family's spiritual growth as we continue to be changed and matured in Christ.

**Thank you so much for your prayers and other support!**

**Brad, Gina, Janelle, and Cassandra**



*This is a satellite photo of the Cotahuasi Canyon. Over the photo we have noted where the villages are located. We live in the town of Cotahuasi which is just below and left of center. All of the villages in which we have shared the gospel are marked with a yellow star. Now there are eleven villages with regular meetings of believers and four others where we are working regularly to start new ones. As you can see, the need for more workers is great. When people trust Jesus as Lord and Savior, they need discipleship, and this requires spending time in the villages. Many new believers are now going without any Bible teaching. Please pray for more laborers to help in the harvest here. Thank you!*

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