

But the goal of our instruction is love from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.

On Belay

Your Ministry with the Shaw Family in Peru

1 Tim 1:5

Fall 2009

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

Recent news from Cotahuasi

In places of persecution and also where Christian faith is new, churches must live in close community. Showing the love of Christ through common things like serving and supporting one another is very helpful in encouraging those who are suffering for their faith.

Recently a group of believers from our village of Cotahuasi went to the village of Huilliac and helped Faustino's family plow and spade their fields for preparing to plant. Since each farmer needs others to help with this huge manual job, the solution has always been to rely upon the "Aynee" where all of the village adults meet and help each land owner plow and prepare for planting. While this is helpful toward unity in the community, it is also an unavoidable stumbling block to Christian growth. Desiring to obey their Savior, new believers find themselves in conflict with several old but destructive customs and habits which are considered to be an integral part of the "Aynee". After receiving the help of others, each farmer is then left obligated to work for each of the others through the plowing and

Their hope is that as the Church grows, enough of the village's families will participate in helping each other as they form their new Christian culture and community for God's glory. Until that time, there is an opportunity to demonstrate the love of Christ that the believers have for each other through sacrificially serving each other,



Where the small plots are big enough, we use bulls to pull a hand made plow.

village to village. Please pray for the growth of love and devotion to God reflected through purity of life and separation from sin, as they struggle to see change in their families and communities for the glory of Christ.



We use special spades in the rocky ground for preparing the terraces for planting. The tool is called a "Chakitaklia" (Chak-ee-tak-leea).

planting season, to help those who helped them. As they pay off their debt each day, they encounter compromising situations. The unbelievers constantly struggle against the believers as they work together, insisting on bringing alcohol and making drunkenness the focus of their days work. This always discourages the believers and tempts those who are turning away from a life of alcoholism. Alcoholism is a stronghold on the families, culture, and community life throughout the villages here. However, receiving the help of believers from other villages, the Christian families avoid this debt.

Discouragement and Grace

Paul confided to the church in Corinth that his weakness and humility was God's perfect will. God told him that "My grace is sufficient for you". This gave Paul strength in faith to endure hardships and suffering for the glory of his Savior. For us, while living in such a pagan culture, sometimes the disappointments and disillusionments of ministry can discourage us to the point of despair. But also, as we reflect upon our own weaknesses and mankind's depravity, we see how great is the grace and longsuffering of our Lord. Please pray with us as we strive in throwing off the effects of a sinful culture and everything else that hinders us from lovingly demonstrating and proclaiming the gospel here. As we grow in faith, love and humility, may we be more enabled to encourage others to trust in Him, obey Him, and persevere.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart. Heb 12:1-3



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.

Radio ministry

Praise the Lord for His provision for the radio ministry through many of our faithful partners. The gospel programs continue to proclaim scripture's truth to most of the isolated villages in the Canyon area. Technical difficulties are slowly being resolved as we learn to adapt the equipment to serve more reliably, but we need a lot of patience and persistence. As the gospel programs are entering unreached areas, some are beginning to take notice and listen. Small solar powered radio receivers, pre-set to our local FM frequency have been donated for our use through HCJB and other donors, and we look forward to helping many poor and remote Quechua people listen to the daily broadcasts.

Church Planting

Most of the Cotahuasi canyon villages remain without anyone to visit and teach the gospel. Many confused and idolatrous religious beliefs are followed which deny the deity of Christ and place trust in other persons or things for the hope of some form of salvation. The radio is helping to shine the light of scripture's truth into many places, but nothing can replace the faithful example and teaching of a loving friend with the true Gospel. The laborers are few, and the harvest is ready.

Ministry Center Purchase and development

Good news: We recently began purchasing the ministry center and so, rather than waste funds for rent, we now pay for a personal loan... over the next ten years. Now, we are free to slowly move ahead with several improvements and repairs, such as other bathrooms. Groups which can come and serve for a week or two can help with the various projects around the ministry center and help improve some of the church planter's houses. Praise the Lord, now we have the stable use of a permanent facility for ministry outreach and training!

Ministry Opportunities

If God is calling you to give Him glory in a difficult but fruitful ministry, please pray about coming. Whether you are interested in coming for a few months, a year or two, or giving yourself completely to serving Him in Peru, we want to encourage you to contact us. **Some specific areas of help which are needed** include: Discipleship/Bible teaching/ Church Planting (team with national brothers in supporting them in their efforts in the rural villages. Interest in horses is good. We use mules to access some villages without roads. Also, a great need here is to further develop and serve in the ministry to youth and/or children. Many needy children and youth are open to hear the gospel. Tutoring school children and youth with school work and teaching English along with evangelism and discipleship are also great ways to reach the people here. We also need help with a high school student dorm/home scheduled to open in February of 2010. A Christian School is very much needed because the education is very low quality and new Christian children are marginalized. Help develop this project: Christ centered curriculum, discipleship of teaching staff, and assistance with daily operation. Once the school is off the ground, serve as an assistant to a Peruvian national licensed teacher, but have freedom to teach God's word with each subject. Good Spanish is needed for these ministries. On the other hand, minimal Spanish is adequate for an urgently needed brother who is skilled in maintenance and construction.

Shaw Family News

This is Cassandra bringing you exciting news. Lord willing I am going to marry Aaron Kieda on April 17th! My family and I should be heading back to the states in March. We met him in 2007 though the Bible school he was then attending in Wyoming. He worked with us in 2008 for 7 months and has returned this year to continue working with my family. To help you get to know him a little more... Aaron likes running, climbing mountains, camping and making things with his hands. He greatly enjoys reading his Bible, and wants to continue being a missionary. He is 22 and has worked in both Bolivia and Peru. He has done 2 years of Bible school. His family lives in Michigan.

We are searching and praying about where God would have us this next summer. We might work at a Christian camp but our main focus will be finding a good church near where we may live and work. Please pray that God will clearly show us His will in where He wants us to be.

As you can probably imagine, the months ahead will be crazy times, planning our wedding and traveling back to the states. Please pray for us during this time as Aaron and I strive to glorify God in being an example for those around us in purity and love for God. Also please pray that I would be wise with my time as I say goodbye to the place that has been my earthly home for 10 years now. I would love to hear from anyone who has wedding ideas, and *most of all godly counsel on loving, respecting, honoring and obeying my husband-to-be.*

Thank you all so very much!
Love God and stay in His word, ~Cassandra

Praises and Prayers

Praise Him - for Christ centered gospel radio programs now available to many communities in the canyon area.

Praise Him - for calling and sending the Walters; a new couple from South Africa preparing in Arequipa to come and work with us in Cotahuasi in February.

Pray - for perseverance and financial needs for our Peruvian coworkers who serve daily with us sharing the good news: Santiago, Fredy, Alberto, Lorenzo, Faustino, Rosa, Diego.

Pray - for our family's health, energy, and trust of Jesus as we obey Him.

Pray - for our family's spiritual growth as we seek to be changed into Christ's likeness. For Janelle and Cassandra as they study and participate in ministry.

Pray - for Cassandra and Aaron as they grow in their relationship with the Lord together.

Pray - for the Lord to bless our fellow coworkers Aaron and Brandon. Also for our new friends and coworkers from South Africa; Stephan and Corne' Walters as they learn culture and language.

Pray - for the FM radio station, program and recording work, and for more reliable electrical power sources.

Needs - Regular support down \$9,000

Thank you so much,
Gina, Janelle, Brad
Aaron and Cassandra



Now this encouraged believer can grow as she listens to the radio while studying and meditating on the word of God.



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If giving, please write on your check:
"for missionary # 52192, the Shaws".
We ask that one-time or occasional gifts
be designated to our "ministry" account.
Thank you.

Visit Shawfamilyministry.com

-For more about the ministry in Cotahuasi, Peru
-For more about how to come and serve the Lord with us as we disciple and support Quechua missionaries and church planters.
-Option: to give financial support on-line visit www.sim.org