

Be of good courage,  
And He shall  
strengthen your heart.

# On Belay

Your Ministry with  
the  
Shaw  
Family  
in Peru

**SIM**  
By Prayer

All you  
who hope in the LORD. Ps 31:24

Summer 2004

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

### Hope

A gust of wind blows the volcanic ash into my eyes as I listen to the old woman talk in mixed Spanish and Quechua. It is only four o'clock in the afternoon, yet the sun has dropped down over the mountains towering over the deep canyon where this village rests. Just an hour before, we were trying to avoid the bright high altitude tropic sun, but now we wish we had some of its warmth.

A cold chill creeps into our bones as she invites Fredy and I into her stone and adobe hut. She continues to tell us her story, how she has struggled to love and minister to her husband of many years, and how she faithfully prays and shares her faith with him. It seems that she will never lose hope that someday her husband will trust in Jesus too, and be freed from the alcohol that he allows to control him. She shares how it was before we came and brought the gospel to her community. Now, instead of being the sole lonely believer, she is part of a growing church with a testimony demonstrating the blessings of new life in Christ.

We now struggle to see each other in the darkness of the windowless room with its blackened walls from years of smoky cooking fires. The roof, also blackened, is made of "Pa-ha" which is a heavy long grass laid across wooden poles.

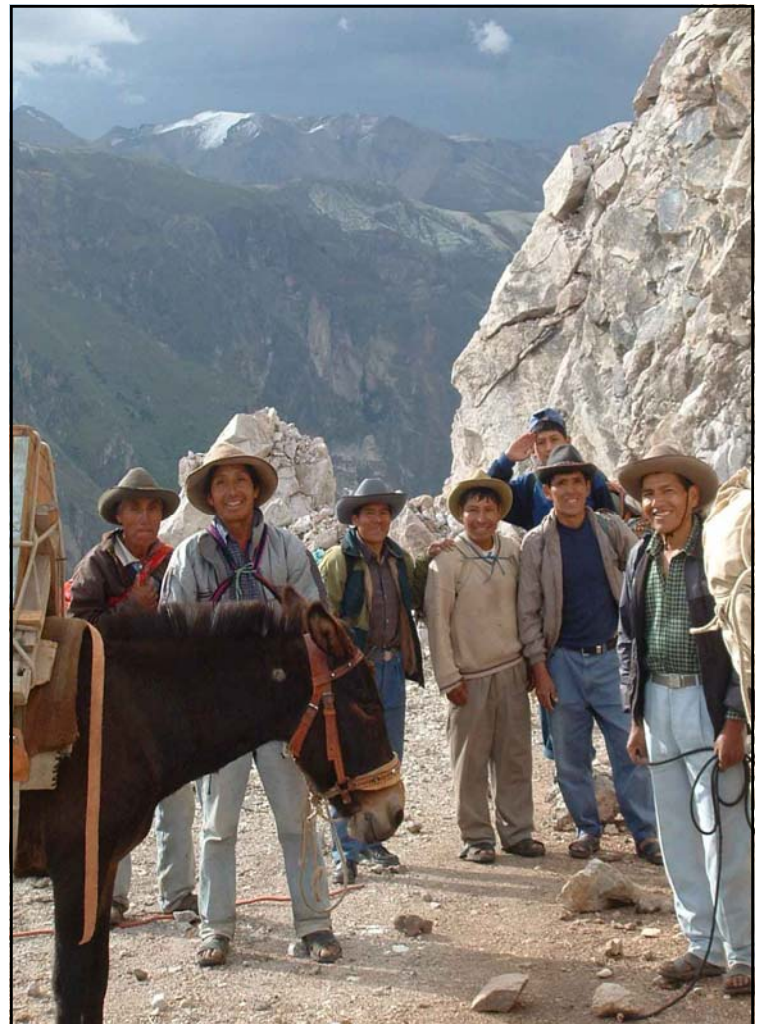
It occurs to me how different her community really is as a

result of the changed lives. Now the Gospel is giving hope and a different perspective for those who have trusted Jesus.

Many have asked us to pass on a message of thanks and gratitude to you — our sending family. Thank you for praying and giving to this work!



Pioneer evangelization continues as we visit villages where none have yet heard the gospel. When they see the crucifixion of Jesus in the JESUS film many are shocked and brought to tears. With further teaching, they get a good understanding of why He came. The seeds are being planted. Pray for us to continue watering and nurturing.



God has touched the hearts of these precious brothers who have caught the vision to see others hear and respond to the Good News. Here we are hiking to new areas to share God's plan of salvation for all who will listen.

belay (bi-lay') 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.



As Faustino looks down from the ridge above his village, he often prays and considers the future of his family and neighbors. He has new hope for them because the Lord has shined his light of truth into the lives of many here.

His village is about an hour and a half drive from where we live. To teach and encourage them, one from our ministry team, Alberto Cusi, visits there every week. Many in this remote village do not understand Spanish well, and it is better if the teaching is explained in Quechua. Learning is slow and often depends on seeing faith lived out in the dynamics of everyday life. For these folks here, learning is truly a combination of reading God's Word and practical application in the context of daily life through the guidance of other more mature believers.

One of the challenges of missions in distant rural places is how to teach the Bible to believers and especially pastors, who cannot leave their subsistence farms. Many are not educated very well, and have few opportunities to read because of the lack of literature available. For the last couple of years we have been utilizing TEE (Theological Education by Extension) a well developed and formal program designed for this kind of situation. It is ideal for rural people because it encourages them to stay and minister in their villages rather than moving to the cities for formal training. (In Peru, folks don't typically return to rural poverty and hardships after experiencing the urban life.)

TEE has proved it's effectiveness and appropriateness as a means of preparing future workers and pastors for participating in the harvest. The teaching can be as slow as needed and is sufficiently flexible so that we can supplement the material if needed. Another method we use is chronological Bible lessons. By teaching through the Bible chronologically, folks can more easily follow and understand the plan of God through history. Please pray for the folks who are participating and for others to take advantage of these programs in the future. We would like to see every little community with a church, and every church with resources for spiritual growth.

## Praise Him

**Praise Him** - for a new church forming in Suni, which is mostly a result of the faithful work of local Quechua believers obeying the great commission. Now there are eleven villages with regular meetings.

**Praise Him** -for how He has called each of our family to this life and work here. We are so thankful for the privilege to bring praise and glory to Him through this work.

**Praise Him** -for inspiring the faithfulness and consistency of prayer and financial supporters as well as those who visit and help minister here.

**Praise Him** - for health and strength.

## Please Pray

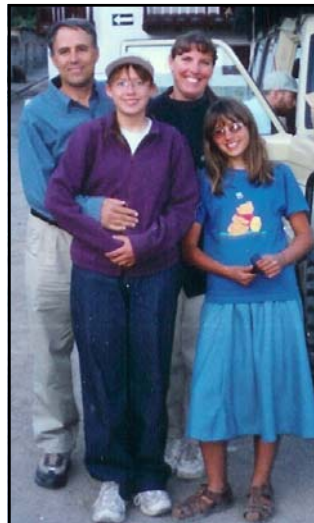
**Pray** - for the continuing work of Quechua friends who are growing closer to the Lord as they plant new churches with us.

**Pray** - for the licensing process of the FM radio station. We have encountered corruption in every step of the process, making it a logistical and emotional battle for us. Ultimately it is a spiritual battle needing much prayer.

**Pray** - for the learning process of recording and editing our radio programs which are aired on local low powered FM radio stations in several communities.

**Pray** - for our family's physical health and energy as we seek to continue in obedience.; Brad's back to heal w/o problems.

**Pray** - for our family's spiritual growth as we seek to mature.



**May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.**

Love,

**Brad, Gina  
Janelle and Cassandra**

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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.**