



To Our Faithful Supporters,

FEBRUARY 2019

“Knowing God’s Presence”

Exodus 33:13-14 “Now therefore, I pray thee, if I have found grace in thy sight, shew me now thy way, that I may know thee, that I may find grace in thy sight: and consider that this nation *is* thy people. And he said, My presence shall go *with thee*, and I will give thee rest.

We arrived safely back to Peru on December 28th after a furlough that lasted one day short of six months and were reminded by the Peruvian immigration officer of losing our residency if we were to have been gone beyond 183 days (we were gone 182!). We praise the Lord for no delays and for allowing us to bring our luggage into the country without any problems from customs. We would like to thank John Glass for bringing two other bags of ministry materials to Peru for us, as well. Furlough was a blessing, to see God working in hearts, along with traveling mercies of 25,000 miles. We thank Baptist Missionary Transportation Ministry for the use of their minivan for our furlough.



Our first month back in Peru was spent at EFATA Baptist Church on the coast, where we were able to fellowship with believers while finishing paperwork, selling our minivan, and purchasing a 2011 4x4 Toyota Land Cruiser. We rejoice with all those who gave financially and prayed with us to buy this vehicle.

Plans were made for me (Jon) to drive eleven hours from the coast into the high jungle area to find housing, while Nisha and the twins flew to Cusco to be with fellow missionaries who have been taking care of our dog while we were away on furlough.

It is rainy season in Peru, which causes many mudslides and dangerous conditions. We received word that the only road into the high jungle was blocked by mudslides, causing me to have to wait in Huancayo for a few days. I was able to fellowship and counsel with the believers of our last church, while checking on our stored items from our house. Once I received word that they had opened the passage for a couple of hours around the mudslide, I was able to drive through and made it safely to Oxapampa.

I find it interesting the similarity of our current situation in Peru coinciding with my Bible reading on the life of Moses, who went into the mountain for forty days to be with God. Once I made it into the jungle, news came of a tunnel collapsing, which would be blocked for forty days. I am now in Oxapampa, looking for housing, meeting with believers in the area, and building relationships in this new area, where we believe that God is wanting to use us to establish a church. I’ve been able to participate in a meeting of all Christian churches from eight different districts, gathering together to receive Christian curriculum from the States and learning how to use the materials. This allowed me to meet other Pastors and hear of their burdens and vision for the high jungle region. I was also able to participate in a funeral of a believer whose testimony spoke to many people. While at the cemetery, the tombstones revealed many who had died at such a young age. I’m reminded that “Sin brings forth death,” not just physically, but also spiritually, when one is separated from God. It’s not difficult to see how sin has its grip on many lives here in the jungle, with immorality, drunkenness, and materialism running freely. Please pray with us that God would open their eyes to the effects of sin and to the truth of the Gospel.

As Moses prayed that God would not lead him unless His presence would go with him, we are asking that God would be with us as we transition into this new area. Please pray with us to find proper housing and church location, protection of Nisha and the girls in Cusco, and traveling mercies in transporting items after the forty days.

Serving a Great God,
The Jon Harris Family



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