

PERU PROJECTS

Taking the gospel to the jungle

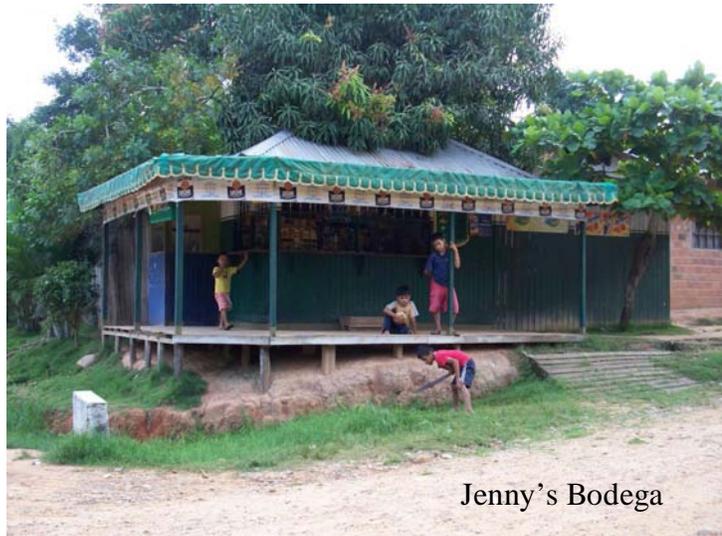
Llevando el evangelio a la selva

March 2009

THE PERÚ CORNER

Last week we went to Jenny's Bodega to get some supplies. Now Jenny's Bodega is the closest thing to a convenience store that we have near the airbase where we live. When we got there Jonathan was sitting outside just passing the time of day and was in a talkative mood so we sat down for a visit.

Jonathan wants to be my friend. He comes from a wealthy home in St Louis, MO where he was raised attending one of the big, grand churches in town - a church with a paid professional choir, and a big pipe organ. Growing up he assisted in the church services. Church was done right with a Preacher who had a Doctoral Degree. He went on to tell me, "I can't go to these ___ churches down here. The preaching is awful and the singing is out of tune. I read 300 pages a day but the Bible is so boring. You Christians, you are all nice people but you think the rest of the world is wrong. What kind of a God would only have one way of salvation?" Then he shared with me his views on how he believed that there are many ways to God; you can get to God through Buddha, Mohammad, or just by being a good person. He believes that Jesus was just one of many ways that God has used to reach out to people on earth.



Jenny's Bodega

Unfortunately, Jonathan isn't alone in his views of God. It seems that many people do not take God at His word. The Bible says one thing but they believe another. The testimony of their lives point to the contrast between what the Bible says and the traditions they live. Where are you? Are you forming your own view of God? Or are you willing to accept God at His word, even if you are in the minority?

- Orville

PROGRAM UPDATES

Bible Workers Arrive for ECLAA

January 11 – 17, 2009

20 Bible workers from the Ucayali and Amazon rivers converged on the air base for a week of training and fellowship. We were privileged to have our new Mission President, Pr. Urcia, and Departmental Pr. Jose Chavez on hand to give seminars on Small Groups and How to Get Decisions, as well as others giving seminars in Christ-centeredness, Leadership, and two hours daily with the Henry Camacho, our Launch nurse, on basic health principles, including the 8 natural laws of health, natural remedies and first aid. The Bible workers soon left for their work zones refreshed, energized and loaded down with materials for their villages, as well as more Spiritual tools for themselves.



A VISIT TO THE AMAZON

It was a whirlwind trip, one that we were thinking of making in April. However, the Lord had other ideas, and when it became obvious that it was His blessing to us to be able to go sooner than we expected, we scrambled and were out the door in less than 12 hours. What a blessing to be able to visit the established church groups and people



along the Amazon that I had heard so much about. There was the couple in San Antonio, Rafael Angulo and his wife, who had given their property that their house sat on for the church and built a new home - at their own expense - on the side of a hill because “the Lord’s house needs to be on the best land”. It was interesting to see Islandia, the village built on 20’ stilts, just across the river from Brazil. The river was already beginning to cover the land underneath. What a joy to meet the church leaders there and hear how the Lord answered

so directly the prayers of these two widowers for new partners, but not just any partners, they wanted “true Christians”, and how three months later they were committing themselves to each other for the rest of their lives! Check out the pictures of these villages and our Brethren there on our website. You can find them in the Media under “First Amazon Trip”. In a couple weeks we will return to visit the other seven villages closer to Iquitos. Again, the Lord has provided for the trip. Thank you Lord for always providing in Your perfect timing!

-Edie

REPORTS FROM THE FRONTLINE

GRANDMA MARIA

Grandma Maria, as she is called by many in New Paradise, is 75 years old. The first time that we visited her we presented Jesus to her, as her Savior, and she accepted Him right away with all her heart! The curious thing is that the first time we saw her right knee was swollen so she couldn't walk. The day before a banana tree trunk had fallen and pinned her knee against another truck, hurting it. She had spent more than a day prostrate in her bed because of the pain, and was still in a lot of pain when we visited her. What a surprise it was to see her, that very night, walking the 2500' to the evening evangelistic meetings!



Grandma Maria lives in a small hut with a dirt floor and palm roof with three great-grandchildren, all under 5 years old, which her older grandchildren left with her. At her 75 years, and her myriad of pains, she bravely goes to the chakra (small farm) every day to provide the food for herself and her great-grandchildren. And, oh how she loved to hear the stories from the Bible! She asked us to come by every afternoon to pray with her and read the Bible. She doesn't know how to read but she loves to hear the stories. And she walked with us every day to where the meetings were held to hear more about Jesus, in spite of her pain. How inspiring it was to see the Lord working so strongly in her heart, giving her the strength she needed every day. I then had the privilege of helping her into the water to Brother Alberto Marin to be baptized.

- Robinson Rimachi

A MISSION JOURNEY

During my last trip to the community of Anaquira, the Lord gave many blessings. When I arrived the brothers sincerely greeted me with happiness to see another brother in Christ and we planned to visit the leaders of a village called San Luis, deeper in the jungle. We called all the brethren together and motivated them for this ministry.



When we arrived at San Luis we couldn't locate anyone because they were all harvesting lumber outside the village, working to make their living. The Holy Spirit Himself guided us to other people that were interested in studying the Word of God.

We prayed a lot for food because there was no place to buy any there. We ended up going two days without food, after which the Lord answered our prayers and rained blessings on us. The work went wonderfully, thanks to God. I tell you this, He is strengthening us and I know that the Holy Spirit is using us mightily in His work.

- James Franco R.

COMING UP

Mission Trips

March 11 – 26: Day Star Mission Trip – church construction in Tiruntan, Lower Ucayali.
March 13 – 22: Piedmont Park Church Mission Trip – maintenance and renovations at air base, construct new exam room in the local medical post, and improvements in our local church.
June 1 – 15: Hannah Gustafson Mission Trip - maintenance and renovations at the air base.

PRAYER PARTNERS

What a privilege it is to be able to take all of our concerns and needs to the Lord in prayer and to know that He will indeed answer each and every one! Won't you commit to partner with us in prayer – to hold us up everyday before the Lord?

Prayer needs:

For the character of Christ to dwell in each one of us,

Safety for our Bible workers and launch crew as they travel the interior of the Amazon jungle basin: the water is high and the current fast, plus man and beast are sent by Satan,

Mechanic for the Launch,

Bible workers from the Ashaninka tribe, to enter Ashaninka villages,

Language learning for new pilot,

Village church leadership to accept Christ's' call to "Feed His sheep".

Romans 10:14, 15 How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless they are sent?

New Contact Info!

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