

Ministry within the ministry

When we first began this process of raising funds and prayer partners for the ministry in Peru, one of our mentors told us, 'Raising support will be a ministry in itself.' We secretly thought to ourselves *Poor Frank... he's gone crazy... he actually thinks that asking people for support is 'ministry'.* Well, I must admit my ignorance! He was so very right and we have been so pleasantly surprised! The past few months have really been a wonderfully enlightening experience for us and we have had a terrific time ministering to those whom God has put in our path.

At first, the thought of speaking to potentially thousands of people about our calling to Peru was extremely daunting. Billy almost passed out just thinking about it! But as we have spoken to Sunday school classes, youth groups, women's groups, men's bible studies, etc., we have met so many incredible people! We never knew that there were so many people out there who had a heart for missions and a heart for God's people. We have been astounded at the relationships that God has allowed us to make along the way. And we found out that the Holy Spirit always seems to intercede and give us just the right words for the group we are reaching out to. We are constantly amazed at how God uses us to touch others.

Jesus ministered to those he met "along the way". As he walked from town to town, he used his time to teach the disciples. As he met people on the road, he used the opportunity to heal and to touch and to listen. Jesus was always on a journey to somewhere, but he ministered as he went. People and events were not a "distraction" from his goal, but rather an *opportunity*. Jesus took time for people and built relationships along the way.

When we first began this journey to service, our goal was to get to the people of Peru. But it has been a true joy and adventure to walk the path along the way!

If it were not for this time, we would not have ever known about Amber, a college student whom we have watched grow up since elementary school. She came to us early in the Fall to ask for guidance... she feels she is being called to serve as a missionary. She's not the only one... several people have come to us during these months to express the same calling.

If it were not for this time, we would never have talked with so many pastors who have expressed a renewal of spirit after hearing our story and our passion for service. They have reported a new fire in their



congregations. We have experienced a tearing down of denominational differences and a coming together for the Kingdom... people are passionate about spreading the love of Christ to the people of Peru.

Many people have been so happy to actually have a personal relationship with missionaries - to actually KNOW who they are supporting. Being able to actually speak to the missionary they fund and ask questions about the field has been a priceless benefit to many of our new supporters. And we have loved our question and answer sessions with people! It is our pleasure to share the ministry with others.

We had such a precious time this weekend as we traveled to Missouri to visit Halltown Baptist Church. We met up with some of our former mission interns, Billy's aunt and uncle, and several people who had served with us in Mexico. We spoke to the congregation and shared our heart for Peru with them. Back at the house, there were almost 20 people in the living room and ALL of the side-conversations were centered on God and missions and serving Him. It was an amazing time!

Someone asked us the other day, "Don't you wish you could win a big pile of money so all the fundraising would be over?" Not really... because then we would miss out on all of the opportunities we have had to build relationships and meet new people. Relationship is the key! I'm positive that God has placed certain people in our path for certain reasons. He has a reason for using us to speak to each and every person. We are so honored that God is using us. We are so honored to share this ministry and to have all of you as a part of it. You are precious to us and we truly thank God for this time with you.

Abundant Blessings... stories of faithful giving

- * We were so moved by a recent speaking engagement at a Lutheran women's banquet. The catered affair had an abundance of guests in attendance – so many that extra chairs were brought in! What was intended to be a 20 minute talk about the ministry in Peru turned into an hour and a half discussion / question and answer session with very interested women. They were so moved by the ministry that they requested our presence for a Sunday session for their congregation during the Sunday School hour.
- * A Methodist women's group (UMW) invited us to speak at their meeting recently. The six women in attendance had already heard us speak once before! What on earth were we going to talk to them about on this night??? They wanted to hear it again, they replied! We had so much fun with these ladies! What began as a "speaking engagement" turned into an intimate dinner with family... laughing, crying, looking at photos of Peru. We were so blessed by these beautiful women and feel that they truly have a deep love for other people and for the ministry we serve.
- * Driving an hour out of town into the country, we were wondering what God had set us up for in this tiny church of 28 attending members. A precious church building that looks like it jumped off the pages of a Norman Rockwell painting was sitting in the middle of a beautiful green field, empty when we arrived. Billy just kept remembering a story from our friend, Aaron Berman (Mexico), when he was sent to speak in another country and only one woman showed up to hear his speech... but that one woman was exactly the RIGHT woman and their meeting began a mission ministry between Texas and Mexico. Could we have been sent to this tiny church to speak to "one woman"? Evidently so!!! These 28 members in this tiny white country church pledged more support per capita than any other church group! And they pledged to stay with us for the entire 5 years! Twenty-eight people with AMAZING faith and trust!
- * On one particularly busy Sunday (3 speaking engagements in 3 different churches in 3 different towns), we were blown away by the strong presence of the Holy Spirit and His faithfulness to strengthening our hearts and our courage! In each of these churches, we were asked to come forward at the end of the service so the congregation could lay hands on us and pray and send us forth into service. Never before, in all of our speaking and sharing in churches, has the entire congregation laid hands on us and prayed over our mission. And every time, there was not a dry eye in the group! People who we don't even know were crying and reaching out in love to us, praying over our family and over the people of Peru. God is amazing. The relationships that he has allowed us to be a part of and build with the people we have met along the way – those relationships are such a precious gift to us. Without these prayers, this ministry would sink. We are so blessed by the many people who are lifting this ministry up to God in prayer.

Special thanks to the following groups...

Navasota Jr. High (fundraiser)	Navasota Intermediate School (fundraiser)	Trinity Lutheran Church (LWML group)
Trinity Lutheran Church congregation	Navasota radio 1550 AM (interview)	The Bryan/College Station Eagle newspaper
The Navasota Examiner newspaper	First Presbyterian Church congregation	Taylor Publishing
A&M United Methodist – Golden Rule Class	FUMC-Navasota UMW ladies	Flynn FUMC congregation
Normangee FUMC congregation	First Baptist – Navasota congregation	Millican FUMC congregation
Christ UMC congregation	Homebuilders Class – Christ UMC	New Covenant class – Christ UMC
Christian Collage Class – Christ UMC	Week by Week class -Christ UMC	Millican Baptist - K-3 Sunday school class
Band of Brothers –Halltown Men's group	Halltown Baptist congregation (Missouri)	The Flippin Group

All of the above groups have supported us through their faithful prayers and their gifts during May. Although we cannot list all of the individuals who also support us (they are MANY in number = 90% of our monetary support comes from individuals) they are certainly NOT forgotten! We appreciate all of you and all that you are doing to build the Kingdom. God is not finished with this world yet... he still wants us to reach his people around the globe. Thank you for giving so that missionaries can go forth and spread the Good News and the love of Christ!



“Why do you have to be 100% funded before you can serve?”

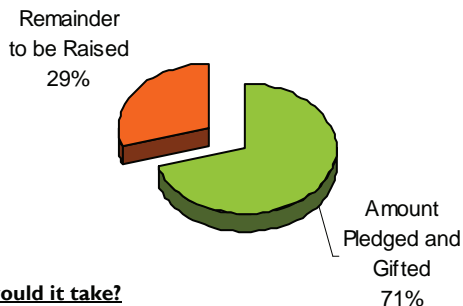
#1 Our ministry is built on relationships. Discipleship, children's ministry, agri-missions, community health... all of our work revolves around the relationships we build with the people of Peru. The worst thing we could do is break the trust of the people we serve by leaving them. If our funding is not in place and our financial needs cannot be met, we will be forced to leave the country and return to the USA to raise more support. We cannot afford to lose those fragile relationships.

#2 We have NO earning potential in Peru. Our visas state that we CANNOT earn any income while serving as missionaries. All of our personal and ministry needs must be paid for by supporters in the USA. Laurie cannot earn a teaching salary, Billy cannot take money for working with the agrimissions center, we cannot be paid for anything that we do for the next 5 years. All of our finances must come from supporters.

We're so close!!! We only need a few more people to pledge their support. See page 3...

Funding Update

We must have 100% of our funding pledged in order for us to go into the field full-time. We are only days from our goal departure date of June 18. Together with God, you can make that happen.



What would it take?

- * If 48 people would pledge \$50 per month (\$600/year), we would be fully funded.
- * If 24 people would pledge \$100 per month (\$1200/year), we could pack our bags.
- * If 145 people would just pledge to give \$1000 over a 5 year period (\$200/year), we could begin to teach the bible to the children of Peru.
- * Could you give \$1 per day so someone could learn about Jesus? We need 80 people who are willing to spend \$1 each day (\$365/year) to spread the word of God.



Prayers & Praises

Praises:

- ◆ We have had a huge interest in the mission and ministry to Peru! God has opened doors through radio interviews, newspaper articles, and speaking engagements. It has been such a joy and a blessing to share His word with others and allow them the opportunity to be a part of it.

Prayers:

- ◆ **Urgent prayer for funding!!!** We are literally DAYS from leaving for our training in Brazil and our applications for language school (Fall) must be postmarked next week... we cannot go to language school and into the mission field without 100% of our funding secured. We are down to the wire and feeling great stress with this deadline.

Pray for peace for us and our trust in God's timing. Pray for financial partners to rise up and meet the ministry needs.

- ◆ Pray for all of the people who are partnering with us in ministry through their pledges and prayers. Pray for continued blessings as people faithfully give to Him. We are blessed by the dedication of others in their monthly giving.
- ◆ Pray for the quick sale of our home. In early July, we will sell the rest of our belongings and prepare to leave the country.
- ◆ Pray for us to use this time of fundraising as a faith lesson & ministry to those around us. Pray for our strength to lead others to Him.

DEAR BILLY AND LAURIE,

I will pray for you. Please send me your prayer letter.

Update me by email: _____

As God provides, I plan to partner with you by giving \$ _____ per month / quarter / year for _____ years. (circle one)

I would like to donate a one-time gift of \$ _____.


Name (PLEASE PRINT) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Home Church _____

TAX DEDUCTIBLE GIFTS MAY BE SENT TO:
 The Mission Society
 PO Box 922637
 Norcross, GA 30010-2637 USA
DESIGNATE GIFTS: "DRUM SUPPORT 5/321"



Join in The Mission...

How can you help the people of Peru?

"If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer."

~ Jesus

Matthew 21:22



The Drum Family... Sarah (3), Billy, Ryan (19), Laurie, and Miles (16).



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Serving Christ in Peru

The Drum Family



The Drum Family will
serve the people of
Peru for an initial 5 year
commitment.

Ministry Needs

- Spanish / English bibles – bilingual versions (one for each of us) (\$30 each)
- Another set of luggage (\$150 - 300)
- * Projector for computer (\$800 - 1000)
- * computer speakers (\$30 - 50)
- Dazzle (video converter for documentation) (\$80 –100)
- Computer video camera (webcam) for communications (\$25 - 40)
- (* need projector and speakers ASAP! We lost access to our borrowed ones on June 1st!)
- (***Make sure all electronics are 220v compatible / convertible!!!)

Can you help cover any of these costs?.....

- \$2400 per year (\$12,000 total) = vehicle expenses, registrations & permits, fuel
- \$6000 language training school for the family
- \$750 per year (\$3750 total) = visa fees, country permits, immunizations
- \$1650 per year (\$8250 total) = communications: newsletter costs, telephone contact, internet costs
- \$1560 per year (\$7800 total) = school costs for Drum children while in the field
- \$6000 cost of 1 set of round-trip airline tickets for our family (Houston – Lima)

“Jesus never said, ‘For all of you who find it convenient, or exciting and adventuresome, go into the world and preach the Gospel.’ He told us all to do that. The job for some of us is to stay home and pray. The job for some of us is to provide the means for others to go. And the job for some of us is to give it all up and go.” ~Joyce Chellis, missionary