



La Luz de Cristo para Perú

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The Breakfast Club—Part Dos (2)

"Hermana Laura!" she called, rapping on the wood of my front gate. I went out to find Mama Adela (82) smiling from ear to ear, all wrapped up in her wool shawls and skirts and leggings.

"Hermana... I brought you a little something." She pulled a glass wrapped in a plastic bag from her skirt pocket. The glass was full of fresh honey, pieces of honeycomb floating in the golden goo. "I don't have much to give. And maybe you won't like it, but it's what I have. It will help with your throat and your cough." She gave me the glass and a giant hug and kiss. I thanked her many times over as she slowly shuffled away.

Mama Adela is one of the 32 abandoned elderly that we serve in the Breakfast Club every morning. Only a month old, this ministry is quickly becoming an incredible outreach for Christ. But I have to be honest, I wonder who is being blessed more - the elderly or us?! Each week, several of these sweet grandmas and grandpas come to our door to give us something of the little that they have, their way of saying thank you. Honey, fresh-picked green beans, a bag of fresh dug potatoes, or a liter of fresh cow's milk... all gifts from their own hands, all meant to be their way of 'giving back'. Some have even asked if they could bring some sticks or gathered wood to help feed the morning cooking fire that makes their breakfast! They don't have much, but they have HUGE hearts and want to give something back.

So much good is coming from the Breakfast Club! There is now a 'reason' to get up in the morning and do something. One of the men in the group thanks us almost daily and says, "This is so much better than sitting in my house by myself every morning. Now I have a reason to get out. Coming here to talk with others is such a blessing to me." Even in the rain and the mud, the elderly come to the kitchen with smiling faces and hearty hugs.

A couple of weeks ago, Alfonso invited everyone to attend Sunday services in our living room. On the first Sunday, we had 30+ in our living room and spilling out onto the porch! Jeremias (one of the elderly) read from Genesis to start the meeting. We have a Proclaimer (recorded Bible) in Quechua, and they listened to a portion of the Book of Matthew. Rocio told the Parable of the Lost Sheep in her usual animated fashion. We served coffee and banana bread for a snack. At the end of the meeting, they decided that they liked this plan! So they made plans to meet again the next week, only they needed to meet in the dining room at Elva



Patarcocha "Breakfast Club" having their church service in our living room.

and Alfonso's so we would have more room. Several asked to borrow Bibles to they could study. Some can't read, but said that someone could read to them.

The next week, we had another full house! Rocio told the story of Creation, then the story of Adam and Eve, then she moved to Noah, then on to Jesus and how all of these stories tied together. I was amazed... I NEVER would have chosen to tell all of those stories at once, but she pulled it off with great style and held the attention of everyone in the room! We then sang a song and danced and clapped in the Quechua-music style, after which Ernestina threw her arms around Rocio and thanked her profusely for the fun worship music. Lastly, we showed a movie about Jesus's life (a cartoon, actually). Billy and I thought that the elderly would not appreciate the cartoon-style that Rocio had chosen, but again we were amazed that their attention was not only held, but they were CAPTIVATED by the show! They even talked back to the screen!

Thank you so much for your prayers for the Breakfast Club ministry! Pray for us to continue to build great relationships and share the love of Christ with the elderly of Patarcocha, and with the entire community. (PS - My thank you gift this morning was one boiled potato from Papi Jesus. ☺)

REAL Southern Living... Our life in rural Peru

February on The Farm...

Well, let me start with a loud AAAAHHHHHHH!!!!!! Do you have any idea how much there is to do on a small farm?! Oh my goodness! What are we going to do when all of these goats have their babies?! Pray for us!

A couple of weeks ago, I heard crying in the night and thought it was Sarah. I quickly went to her bed to find her sleeping very soundly, but I still heard the crying. I then realized it was coming from the goat pen and I stuck my head out the window to see what was going on. One of our does, Manchita, was laying on her side and crying loudly. I woke up Billy and we ran out to find a HUGE Manchita in extreme pain. She was bloated from something she ate. Billy scooped her up in his arms and we carried her to the house to give her a dose of vegetable oil (helps to break up the air and allow them to burp). Unfortunately, we were too late. She died in our arms within 10 minutes. Goats are ruminants - they have four chambers to their stomachs. Getting bloated and not being able to rid themselves of the gases can be quickly fatal. And once goats "go down", it's too late - they don't usually get back up. So we have mourned the loss of Manchita this month and we have learned to watch more carefully as the goats eat to make sure no one is "making a pig of themselves" and risking their own lives.

The Breakfast Club ministry (see article page 1 and last month page 1) has outgrown the current egg production! We only get 10-12 eggs a day from our hens. There are 30+ elderly in the breakfast program. So we have to wait 3 days to have enough eggs for one breakfast! Therefore, we will need to increase our flock in the next week. Billy has spent time this week redesigning the interior of the chicken house so as to expand the roosting area and the nesting boxes, as well as create a storage area for feed. Hopefully, we will be able to double our flock this week and increase our egg production.

This month saw the beginnings of the harvest from the greenhouse and the gardens! We have harvested a few zucchini (a vegetable which no one in Patarcocha has ever seen), LOTS of lettuce and spinach, turnips, radishes, and broccoli. The tomatoes are growing rapidly, with fruit on the bushes that are now ping pong-ball sized. Onions are growing. Some fruit trees are in the ground, but progressing slowly. Grape vines are growing. Okra (another first in Patarcocha) is sprouting. Beets are about 6-8 inches tall. So exciting!!!! The first of these vegetables are finding their way into the breakfast program (Peruvians eat soups for breakfast a lot.) We have even been able to sell some lettuce to other missionaries and friends in Huancayo as a way to supplement the ministries here in Patarcocha! Woo Hoo!!!

As to the house, Billy worked HARD this month to alleviate the water issues. We have very little control over when or if we have water, but he was able to install a raised water tank as a reserve. So now, when there is no water flowing from the community pipes, the tank holds a reserve of a few days for us. When water IS flowing, it refills the tank. The water issue has caused us lots of stress over the past few months, so this was a great accomplishment this month and really helped us to feel a little less pressure and worry. Now the animals are always watered and we have water for cooking and drinking and cleaning.



Kuyay Talpuy Education Ministry



The education portion of the Kuyay Talpuy ministry has been in full swing over the past couple of months, even though it has technically been summer vacation here. The teachers held a Vacation Summer School Enrichment program for the children in the three areas that we serve. Children of all ages came to enrichment classes in English, Vacation Bible School, and a class that focused on "Community, Family, and Me". We had about 120 students in the attendance each week! The teachers are TIRED but happy to have worked with so many children during summer vacation.

Next week (March 12) will be opening day for the new school year. We are currently FULL on our enrollment in Iscos, with a waiting list of children who want to attend classes. In Patarcocha, we have a dozen children ready to attend. And we will again be working with the public school in Tinyari, teaching Bible classes and holding Kid's Club each week for 60+ students. In the afternoons, we have a youth program on Mondays and Wednesdays (Bible study, English class, and tutoring).

Please pray for our teachers as the new school year begins, for our students as they gear up for a new year, and for their families as we reach out to them and to the community.

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SUPPORT US: USE THE FORM BELOW, OR GO TO [HTTP://THEMISSIONSOCIETY.ORG/CONNECT/CONNECTMISSIONARIES/PEOPLE/DRUM](http://THEMISSIONSOCIETY.ORG/CONNECT/CONNECTMISSIONARIES/PEOPLE/DRUM)

DEAR BILLY AND LAURIE,

I will pray for you. Please send me your newsletter by e-mail: _____

As God provides, I plan to partner with you by giving \$ _____ Per month / quarter / year for _____ years.

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

I would like to sponsor a child's education for \$30/mo. (\$360/year). (Please write Special Project on your check)

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Last month, we asked you to pray for our friends, Elva and Alfonso and their family. Alfonso had an accident in the mine (where he worked) and his left eye was removed as a result. It now appears that the mine company and Alfonso's insurance are going to pick up all the costs and pay him his full pension for life! Thank you for your prayers! Also, **PRAISES** because Alfonso has now decided to become a full part of the ministry here in Patarcocha and is working with us in the Breakfast Club every day, as well as in the greenhouses and gardens, making home visits to the elderly, and helping with Sunday worship - all as a volunteer!

Continue to pray for our communications issues... we have significant difficulties in internet communications, telephone contact, etc. This is a major stressor for us.

Pray for our Kuyay Talpuy team (Johana, Rosio, Tania, Milagros, and Susy) and for the communities of Iscos, Patarcocha and Tinyari. Our team has made great strides over the past month in coming together as a more cohesive team and setting goals together to move forward. **Praises** for the Coaching Teams certification that is really helping us to help the team grow!

Pray for our Mission Society Peru team (the Ivey family, the McEuen family, the Drum family, the Reeves family and Louise Reimer) as we work to minister to the people of Peru.

SCENES FROM PERU...



Children playing tug-of-war in summer school



Patarcocha from the fields at sunset...



Lettuce is ready to harvest!



Students in Tinayri show off their ducks and perform a poem / song they learned in summer school
(*Patito Juan*).

SHARE THE LOVE OF **CHRIST** WITH THE PEOPLE OF PERU.

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Photo header on page 1: The Huaytapallana Glacier range in Peru...
the view from our front door!

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