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Monday, October 23, 2006

Dear Friends,

Three days ago we completed our first month in Peru and we thank God for that great privilege. He is working in us, around us, and through us and that is all we really want. We came into Peru in September on tourist visas. Within a week, we began the process of securing our permanent visas. For missionaries who come into Peru as tourists the process for securing the permanent visa normally requires that you leave the country. Originally, we didn't see a problem with this since we have planned a trip for December to Chile to spend some time with my parents. However, I'm learning that a "tourist" in Peru isn't really allowed to do a whole lot except maybe buy a few souvenirs. For example, I can't buy a van until I have my permanent visa because tourists aren't allowed to own vehicle titles. The big problem, though, is that I can't get our container out of Customs until I have my permanent visa. The container has been in Lima for over two weeks now. The good news in all of this is that immigration is going to allow us to receive our visas without leaving the county because Cheryl is pregnant (little did I know the value of having a third child). Lord willing, they will be ready by the end of the week and we can get our Carnets (Peruvian Identification Card) next Monday or Tuesday.

Last night, I finished preaching a three-night evangelistic campaign for a church here in Lima. For those that prayed for that, thank you. The Lord gave us a great weekend with the church. There were four salvation decisions made during the weekend. One of those was a 19-year old boy named Poldark. He raised his hand Saturday night in the invitation and I went down from the platform and met with him. My friend, Segundo Rodriguez, was in attendance that night and he counseled with Poldark and led him to be saved. He was broken. He has been coming to the youth meetings each week for several months and had been struggling to come to the point of genuine repentance and faith. Afterwards, I talked with him and he wept as he explained to me that though he hadn't lived that long he had done many terrible things in his life to this point. The Lord touched my heart as I listened to Poldark talk and I was reminded that God is working in deep ways in people's lives all the time. Pray for Poldark and for the Bible Baptist Church in Lucyana, Lima.

Tonight, we will take a bus through the night to Trujillo which is 8 hours north of Lima. I will be preaching for the Bible College there throughout the week. Please pray that God would have his way in the lives of the students and that, across the board, there would be a genuine, heart response to the preaching.

In Christ,



Tim Chapman

