



New Year, New Ministry Initiatives

Happy New Year!

We hope you all enjoyed a wonderful holiday season and a fruitful time of ministry via various gatherings and family times that you participated in! The Christmas season was a very special time for our family focusing on Christ and many of the sweet benefits of abiding in Him!



Pictured above is a gathering last month of all of the missionaries on our team who were present in Cusco. Not included in the picture are the Dillon family who are itinerating in the US right now, and Pekarek family, and Julia King who are doing language study in Arequipa. It's always a sweet time when our team gathers and enjoys each others company. Shortly after this photo

was taken we had to say goodbye to the Wilson family as their time of full-time ministry in Cusco came to a close and they transitioned back to the US. This was sad for all of us, as it always is when teammates are called elsewhere either permanently or only for a season. Adults and children alike are forced to say goodbye to close friends and hope for continued closeness via long-distance communication. Some take it harder than others, but we rejoice in the hope of serving together one day again in the continual presence of our good, good Father.



A couple months ago we told you about a new ladies Bible study offered by our church that Laura has been participating in. In December this study joined with another ladies study for an evening of fellowship, crafts, food, and a devotional time. It was a sweet time for everyone. Please continue to pray for these ladies to grow in their understanding of the gospel, and for Laura to have wisdom when she has opportunities to speak truth to them.

God's Plan for Relationships Course

Another prayer request is for a course that we will be leading as a couple beginning on February 15th. As Laura described in [her blog post](#) a while back, there is a huge need and desire for help with romantic relationships in this culture. Morality is so broken here that it has almost completely destroyed the concept of family and led to a pervasive sense of shame and mistrust. It affects people's view of God and greatly hinders their ability to submit their lives to His Lordship. We've had many couples request relationship counseling, and we're always torn

about how to enter into these broken situations when we know that there is no quick fix for an incorrect worldview that leads to largely physical relationships based chiefly on personal gratification. So, we've spent a few months putting together a course that will begin with the covenant love that God calls us into and which is meant to be the model on which human romantic relationships are based. We pray that this course will not only help people's personal relationships, but also cause them to fall deeper into love with their heavenly pursuer.

Church Membership Course

We would also like to ask you to pray for a church membership course which Derek will be leading on the 26th of this month. As is often the case in the US, church membership tends not to be understood or highly valued, and so it's always a challenge to motivate people in that direction. Please pray that people will desire the closer leadership and accountability that church membership provides, and grow in their understanding of the nature and doctrines of the church.



Skye's First Birthday!

On January 3rd we celebrated Skye's first birthday with some Peruvian friends at our home. It wasn't the large and expensive 1st birthday bash that is typical in Peruvian culture, but it was a sweet time of celebrating Skye and watching her smear chocolate icing all over her face! Skye is such a sweet and joyful baby. She loves people, smiles constantly, sleeps like a champ, and LOVES to follow her big brother around. We are so thankful for her.

Thank you so much for your continued prayer and support! Please let us know how we can pray for you in this coming year as we partner together in bringing the kingdom of God to this fallen world!

Sincerely,

Derek, Laura, Finn, and Skye