

We are back home and feel like we have our feet under us once again.

It was a smooth trip home. A trip put together by the Lord and CheapOair and not only was it less expensive, every connection provided us with sufficient time to make our next flight without having to wait for hours.

Another interesting thing was that on the way to Peru Lisa was texting with daughter Emma in the Toronto airport and we found out that her inlaws were on their way to Peru the same day and we ended up being on the same flight from Atlanta to Lima. We were able to visit with them in line as we boarded our flight and then see them briefly in Lima as we headed off to different parts of Peru.

Besides easy travel we are also thankful for the Lord's hand of protection on our time in Peru. Everyone kept telling us that crime has gotten worse and we saw signs that this was true, but in our time there we were not affected by it. People were still talking about a gang killing in the food court of the mall before we arrived, one of the other teachers in the program I was teaching in had his car stolen and held for ransom the week we were teaching, a small hotel that we stayed at one night had an explosive device detonated on their front door a couple days later with threats of extortion. In the midst of this sort of a corrupt climate we were able to do what we went to do without incident.

The second full week we were there we were able to do a little more visiting with people, catching up with where things are at with them, encouraging them and being encouraged as well. This same pattern took place in a number of different ways depending on the relationship.

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**Juan Alayo** - Juan and his wife sold homemade ice cream with handmade cones from a booth in the beach town of Huanchaco and over the years we were regular customers and had opportunities to talk with him about the Lord. The mayor of the town ended up ripping down his booth when it was in the way as he condemned another business and so now they sell from their home. Our missionary colleagues took us to his home and they immediately recognized us and he started to tell the story he has repeated over the years about how Nate as a little boy knocked his ice cream off his cone onto the filthy street and only Juan saw him pick it up and put it back on his cone again. We ended up having the opportunity to tell him again the story of the gospel. Pray that it takes root.



**Isabel and Heydi** - We were able to spend a lot of time with our Peruvian girls while we were there. Isabel who is working full time now took holidays during our visit and Heydi who has a year left of university had a summer job that was close to where we were staying so she stopped in regularly. It is wonderful to see growth spiritual and otherwise in their lives as they face the struggles that they do. Heydi is moving toward marriage with David in the above picture and Isabel is still caring for her half brother Marvin and some other peers who have come through the same system and share an apartment with her. She always gravitates toward leadership but please pray that she will be humble enough to look to the church community for support and strength.

There are a few other stories but no time to tell them now. One other thing I will mention is the orphanage that is facing a great deal of attack right now. Please pray as one of the neighbouring business owners is in the process of trying to steal land and has hired some thugs to beat up the director and workers there. We are thankful for the opportunity to be involved in what the Lord is doing in this part of His world. He protected us and preserved us through a bit of stomach illness and then brought us home to carry on here.

Please thank the Lord with us and pray for the few people and situations we have mentioned.

Steve and Lisa