



Message Ministries & Missions Inc.

Mission Update – May 5, 2011

"Sharing God's message of hope in action"

Peru Youth Camp - What a Difference it Makes! by J.J. Weller

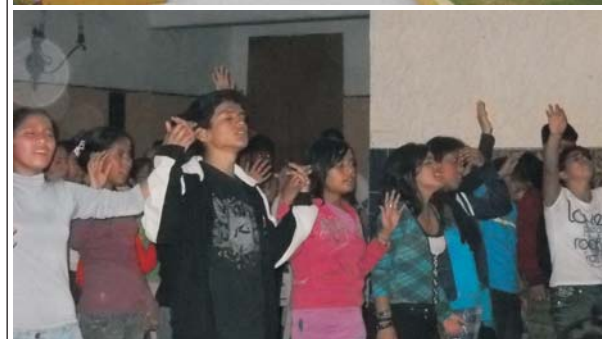
(J.J. is the 16 year old son of Brian and Anne Weller and has been going on mission trips since he was 2 years old.)



As we seek to fulfill the Great Commission, Message Ministries will sponsor a Youth Camp this summer for teens living in low and middle income areas of Peru. While Youth Camps are no longer any "big deal" for American kids, in places like Peru a Youth Camp can still be a highlight and turning point in a young person's life. Many of these Peruvian kids come from homes with no indoor plumbing or electricity. Some don't even have their own bed to sleep in and have to share a bed with siblings.



For such children, the facilities and living quarters at the camps are luxurious (even though we Americans would describe the lodgings as "dingy"). **Anticipation lights up the faces of these Peruvian youths as they arrive at and enter the campgrounds and dormitories. In a country where hunger and malnutrition are the status quo, these kids will stampede into the cafeteria when word spreads that a meal is being served.** Mealtimes mean that every bone is scraped clean of meat and every bowl is licked clean of soup, and it doesn't matter if the meal isn't "perfect" by American standards. These kids are always deeply grateful that God has provided so much food and nourishment, even if camp only lasts for a few days. Here in the U.S., we would probably turn down food and lodging like this; it would fail to meet our high material standards and would receive a polite "No, thanks" from most of us.



Worship time at these camps simply explodes with fervor, gratitude, and celebration. At last year's camp, the young people danced for more than an hour almost every night in celebration before the Lord. The loud moments were joy-filled, and the quiet moments instilled awe and solemnity. **During one of the quieter, serene moments last year, as I was praying for a Peruvian friend, I looked up and saw an amazing scene. One hundred and fifty people – everyone in the room, both natives and missionaries, were crying, praying, and worshipping on their knees in total devotion to the Lord.** Some prayed

over others and many were in tears as the campers expressed the purest Godly love for one another. **It was one of the most beautiful, memorable moments of my life.**

I've experienced many such moments at our Peruvian Youth Camps. We have sponsored the camps annually for six years now, working to show these great young people the light and heart of Christ and encouraging them to walk closer to Him. **What's amazing is that these kids are as great a blessing to us, and shine as much light on us as we shine on them. We look forward to more awesome times at this year's upcoming Youth Camp.**

J.J. Weller

OPPORTUNITIES & PRAYER REQUESTS

- * **If you're interested in helping sponsor a youth to the Peru Youth Camp June 29 - July 2, we welcome your help!** We have sponsors for 10 youth so far, but hope to take 150 youth to the camp. The cost is \$30 per youth & covers travel, plus the cost of food and lodging.
- * **Please pray for Brian as he returns to Peru to lead the Glenn's Valley Church Mission Team to Peru May 28 - June 4.** The Glenn's Valley team comes from Indianapolis, Indiana and will be working with two churches in two different areas of Lima ministering to all ages and building a prefab. home. Glenn's Valley Church has been a part of our mission work in Peru for many years and we're excited about their second visit to Peru.

For ministry updates please visit: www.messageministries.net or find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/messageministries
Brian & Anne Weller - PO Box 7158 - St. Petersburg, Florida 33734 - (727)527-0595 - messageministry@aol.com
Message Ministries & Missions Inc. is a 501c3 non profit organization, your gift is tax deductible as allowable by law.