



Message Ministries & Missions Inc.

December 2008

"Bringing God's message of hope in action, to all the people we can, wherever we can."



The Weller Family: JJ, Katie, Chris and Megan Mooney, Anne and Brian

On a personal note, let me say, Christmas time has always been a special time of year for me. I love celebrating His birth and His life with family and friends. **As we celebrate the birth of Jesus the Christ, we also celebrate His amazing love and the incredible impact His life and His love have had on our lives and the countless billions of lives throughout time. While on Earth, Jesus demonstrated what it means to look past the worst of sin and still embrace people without regard for their past.** It's amazing how He gave people who had no hope a second chance! I was one of those people, totally lost, without hope and with little sense of purpose for my life. Then, Jesus swooped in at just the right time, looked past all my sin and gave me the kind of heavenly hug that made me into a true believer. I've never been the same since that day in 1975. **I'm so thankful for God's gift of Eternal life!** For now, I live in this body but my spirit already has Eternal life in it because of Jesus.

One day, in a supernatural display of God's power and glory, we'll rise and receive our eternal destiny, a place in Heaven where God dwells. Wow, what a promise! The gift has already been promised and part of it has been received. **That's why I want to live for the Eternal things now and not be distracted by this world and it's ways. This is our temporary home. It is not home! So let's not get too comfortable here!** There have been times in my Christian life when I've compromised the Eternal for the temporal and it always left me feeling empty and distant from God. The greatest gift we can give back to God for His great love, is our lives. Living each day surrendered to Him and His purposes. **As we look to 2009, let's commit to making it a year of total surrender to God and His plan for our lives and I pray we can continue to work together to share the gospel with the people of Peru, India and wherever else God calls us to.**

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Please pray for:



*Hector Del Carpio
Peruvian Missionary*

Hector Del Carpio oversees our mission work in Peru. A missionary from and to his own country. He knows the language and the culture so he's able to accomplish so much more than we can and for a lot less. Hector has a degree in engineering but instead has chosen to work building the Kingdom of God. Hector has worked with us for five years & has a heart for the Lord and for people.

Hector presently oversees:

- * Feeding Centers
 - * Construction Projects
 - * Hearts on Fire Bible School
 - * US and Indigenous Mission Teams
 - * Peru Youth Camp
 - * Disaster Relief - Earthquake
 - * Christian Leadership Seminars
 - * Christmas Blessing Project
- * Please pray for wisdom, strength, vision and provision.**

Thoughts From the Field - On Life and Christmas by Hector Del Carpio

Another year has gone by and we have received many blessings. I am thankful to God for everything that He has allowed us to experience. **First of all, we have seen many people receive Jesus Christ and there is no bigger blessing than that!** So many times we take for granted that He died for us, like His death is something that we deserve and we got it, so we don't need to think about it anymore. So right now we are more concerned with the things that He still needs to give us. But let's be aware that He is the main Gift, no other gift should be wished for more than Him, because the moment we desire something more than Him we are becoming idolatrous.



Hector with Pastor Carlos and Brian at the church at La Gorila

I've been reading a book about humility. For those who know me they are probably saying "Praise the Lord! He got it! He needs it so bad!" LOL. It is true, after reading that book, I realize how much pride was inside my heart. **Pride is very subtle and can abide in places of our heart that we are not aware of.** A few months ago a pastor friend was joking with me and told me to look for a book called "Humility and How I Achieved It". Of course, it was a joke and a harmless comment but surely it was a blessing, it made me wake up and open my eyes to examine myself.

So many times I've not trusted the Lord for things I need, so I try to solve it in my own power. This book made me think that I was saying "God, I know how to do it better than you". Other times, I got upset over things I didn't get, thinking "I do all these good things for you! I deserve all these blessings". **This book made me realize, that I don't deserve anything because I've been saved by grace and that means I've been bought by an expensive price when I was worth nothing.** So if I wanted to claim anything, I should stand beside the cross of Calvary and tell Jesus about everything I think I deserve as he is crucified. He is the only one who deserves everything!

So many times I didn't look for him in prayer, showing my pride. It was as if I was saying to Him "I don't need you! I could do my life on my own! I don't need your direction!" **So let's examine our hearts and think what kind of relationship we want to have with Him.**

Are you upset with God? Do you think he is unfair with you? Do you think you have a better idea than God of how your life should be? **Day by day we should submit to God and trust in Him because there is no better architect than Him for our lives and that is what trust means.** But sometimes we seem to not agree with God's idea of life. Then we complain and ask why things don't go right! But there is hope and always will be as long as we humble ourselves and submit to God, and seek His face. He will always open his arms for us, but we need to get close to him.



Hector with a child from Puente Piedra

Going back to Christmas ... What is Christmas? It's a day we believers have set apart to celebrate Jesus birthday! A day to celebrate the coming of our Savior and Lord to this earth, He is, Emmanuel "God with us". **How much of Jesus is inside of you and how much of Him have you allowed to live in you?** So are you ready to celebrate his birthday? Do you have your best (spiritual) clothes for his party? What is the best gift you are offering to him on this birthday? These are regular questions we should ask ourselves, if we would like to please our Father in heaven. Imagine, you go to a birthday party and you come in into the house and you gather around your friends and ignore the person the party is for! How do you think the father of that child is feeling when he sees his child alone in one corner as the other kids are enjoying the food, the games, and the toys. **So this Christmas, let's focus ourselves in Him, to give him the best time ever. Let's see what the Bible mentions about how to deliver a gift to God.** Is there a way to deliver a gift to Jesus? Is there DHL or UPS service to heaven?

Matthew 25:35-40 says "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invite me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me. Then the righteous will answer Him, Lord when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you? The king will reply, I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, and you did for me!"

There are many reasons to be thankful to the Lord this year!

- You have been a part of feeding kids in some of the poorer areas of Lima.
- You have blessed pastors by the different conferences we organize to equip them for ministry,
- You have been part of the development of the Bible Training Center that is about to start.
- You have been part of the relief work and construction of houses and churches in Pisco, Chincha and Ica,
- You have been part of the youth camp for the youth that have not experienced an opportunity like this before.
- You have been part of clothing distribution,
- You have been part of the work of evangelism with the different teams that come to Peru.
- You have prayed and God has blessed the work of the ministry here.
- You are a part of the Christmas Program to give the children in the feeding centers the opportunity to receive the Love of Christ through a nice meal and gift.

In so many other different ways that sometimes we don't see but God is operating to save more souls and increase His kingdom. **May all the Glory be for him, because if we do something for His kingdom it is only because he has first, rescued us.** So may the Lord bless your life, in ways that you need to be blessed. **But let's remember that the main desire of God with you and all the people of the earth is that we get close to Him**

Merry Christmas! *Hector Del Carpio*