HEARTCRY MISSIONARY SOCIETY

The HeartCry Missionary Society is dedicated to the task of fulfilling the Great Commission through sponsoring national pastors and missionaries in the foreign field. The traditional mission methods of only training and financing North American missionaries is a slow and costly process that has not and will not enable us to reach the world. A national pastor or missionary can be prepared for ministry without years of language training or cultural adjustment and at a minimum cost. Therefore HeartCry seeks to work with national pastors and missionaries to help them evangelize and plant churches among their own peoples.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The chief end of all mission work is the Glory of God. Our greatest concern is that His Name be great among the nations, from the rising to the setting of the sun (Malachi 1:11). We find our constant motivation, not in man or his needs, but in God, His commitment to His own glory and our God-given desire to see Him glorified in every nation, tribe, people and language.

PRINCIPLES OF MINISTRY

- Every need of this ministry will be obtained through prayer. We may share our missionary vision with others and even make known to them the specific tasks which the Lord has laid on our heart to do, but we may not raise support through prodding or manipulating our brothers and sisters in Christ. If this ministry is of the Lord then He will be our patron. If He is with us, He will direct His people to give and we will prosper. If He is not with us, we will not and should not succeed.
- We intend to never enlarge our field of labor by contracting debts. This is contrary to both the letter and the spirit of the New Testament. In secret prayer, God helping us, we will carry the needs of this ministry to the Lord and act according to the direction that He gives.
- We will not compete with other biblical mission agencies, but use the resources that God has given to us to work in partnership with them. If the Lord directs, we will carry the needs of this ministry to the Lord and act according to the direction that He gives.
- We will not measure the success of this ministry by the amount of money given, Bibles distributed or national missionaries supported, but by the Lord’s blessing on the work.

BOARD OF REFERENCE

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4  From the Director: Helping the Faithful. HeartCry is helping others to fulfill their purpose and calling.

5  Gregorio Chavez. Ministering among the poor in Sullana, Peru.

6  Mario Salinas. A pastor with a missionary’s heart shares God’s great blessing.

7  Martin and Mary Zacarias. A couple at work together in the great harvest.

10 Paco and Karen Laos. They are serving God in the interior despite medical problems.

10 Angel Colmenares and his Missionary Family. The Colmenares family continues to travel tirelessly through the northern mountains of Peru, preaching and teaching the Word of God and establishing churches.

11 Ernesto and Concepcion Zacarias. They have begun a new work in the district of “El Agustino” in the city of Lima. Concepcion is recovering from surgery for a ruptured appendix.

12 Rogelio and Rut Acea. They have taken a new work in one of the poorest, most dangerous neighborhoods in Lima. They are taking the Gospel to those in bondage to drugs.

13 Jose and Laura Carrasco. Having counted the cost, they are serving God together in the Church of the Savior of Barranco, Lima Peru

14 Jonas Barbieri. A man unrelenting in his preaching and desire for the salvation of souls to the glory of God.
I T IS DIFFICULT TO BELIEVE, but we are already heading towards the end of the year and the millennium. These are wonderful times to be a Christian and to witness the glory of God as He continues to advance His Kingdom into every tribe and nation around the globe. Could anyone have ever imagined that there would be so many mission advances before the dawn of the new millennium? If there ever was a time to embrace the cross and carry it into the world, it is now. God is raising up men and women from every tribe and nation to carry the Gospel to the unreached and make Christ known among those who have never heard. We consider it to be a great privilege to be called alongside the Great Shepherd in His untiring search for the lost. We rejoice to know that you are working with us in this magnificent obsession to see the fulfillment of God’s great promise to Himself:

“For from the rising of the sun, even to its setting, My name will be great among the nations, and in every place incense is going to be offered to My name and a grain offering that is pure; for My Name will be great among the nations,” says the Lord of hosts.”

Malachi 1:11 (NAS)

In this month’s edition of HeartCry, we are bringing you reports from your missionaries working in the country of Peru. They are a faithful group of men, and we are honored to help them fulfill their calling. We here at HeartCry consider it our calling to help national pastors and missionaries around the world to be all that they are called to be and do in the Kingdom of God. Whether it is through training conferences, providing tools for the ministry, building buildings or helping with financial support, we rejoice that God allows us to be a part of the lives and ministries of so many of His servants.

On the front cover of this edition is the beaming face of brother Gregorio. He is a wonderful example of the faithful men with whom we are working. For years, he has labored alongside of brother Angel Colmenares in the northern coastal area of Peru. Despite his poverty and the need to care for his large family alone, he has been an untiring church planter and pastor. For many years, brother Gregorio was limited in his possibilities to travel and visit the churches he had begun, because of a lack of financial support. HeartCry now provides the necessary funds so that brother Gregorio can dedicate more time to the ministry and travel more extensively to visit the struggling churches. He is also able to spend more time working with brother Colmenares, caring of the nearly 400 Churches in the Northern Andes Mountains. Please continue to pray for brother Gregorio and the other men and women who are laboring in the fields. As the apostle John declared to Gaius in III John 1:7:

“You do well to send them on their way in a manner worthy of God. For they went out for the sake of the Name, accepting nothing from the Gentiles. Therefore we ought to support such men, that we may be fellow workers with the truth.” (NAS)

Your brother,

Paul David Washer

HEARTCRY MISSIONARY SOCIETY, AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 1999
In the town of Nuevo Horizonte, where I also minister, the first part of the construction of the Church “Christ is King” has been finished. Again, we are praying for all documentation of this piece of land to be finished in order to avoid any problems with the authorities. This work has an attendance of 14 people, 11 of which are members. The people here are very poor and needy. Many of them do not have running water and/or electricity. We sometimes meet to worship by candlelight, but we rejoice because we are able to worship and fellowship without any other problems or dangers.

The mission work in Juan Bosco is also doing well. I thank God for the help and support of Pastor Angel Colmenares and the mission team of the “Divine Redeemer Baptist Church” for their help in reaching this sector by means of witnessing door to door, showing films and preaching out on the open streets. The town is growing and the majority of the homes here are formed by young couples that simply live together without being married. We are praying and working hard in the area of counseling so that the ones that have professed Christ will be properly married. The name of the church is “Jesus is my Shepherd”. The church has an attendance of 14 people, 11 of which are members. Please pray that the eyes of the members will be opened by God’s Word, that they may be able to know and live by that which pleases Him. We are now trusting God to buy materials to build our permanent temple. Our temporary temple was built with straw mats that are now disintegrating under the heat of the sun.

We continue to evangelize from door to door and to disciple the new believers in small groups. We are training new leaders and holding evangelistic meetings in several slum areas where our small groups of believers are meeting regularly. The following are our small group Bible Studies that are meeting regularly. Lord willing, they too will one day become established churches: “18 de Mayo” (5 members), “Las Palmeras” (7 members), “Maria Arguedas” (7 members), “Peru Canada” (5 members).

It is our goal for this year and the coming year to plant 10 more churches in different areas on the outskirts of the city of Piura. All the slum areas have suffered greatly during the rains and floods of last year and there is still much to be rebuilt. There are still many who are open to the Gospel, we simply need workers willing to join in the task. We will accomplish all this with the help of our God and for His Glory.

I pray that He will pour out His blessing upon all of you who make this work possible. I thank God from the bottom of my heart for you brothers and for the support that I receive every month. Please remember me in your prayers, that I may be wise and that I may find grace as I raise my children to be good Christians without the help of a wife and mother.
We give God all thanks and glory in our prayers for the abundance of your love in this work of reaching lost souls for His glory. We thank God for your constant prayers that moves the work in this ministry toward the goal of pleasing our Lord Christ Jesus.

Recently, in our church “Christ is the Way” we had a great reunion and fellowship day together with many of the works started by our church in other areas. It was a wonderful service of praise and we baptized 15 more people to the glory of God.

Every Saturday we have youth group meetings and many are coming to know the Lord. Many of them have alcohol and drugs problems, but God is breaking the chains of sin. We praise God because the youth of our church are reaching out to them, visiting them in their homes and preaching in open air evangelistic meetings in the market places and the parks.

A wonderful thing has happened to advance the cause of Christ. Months ago, during the first week of December, I solicited the help of a Christian printing house that was having a “sale” on some of their tracts. I was planning to use them to evangelize in our area schools. The printing house was asking for only a penny a tract and I used money that I had saved to buy 1,000 of them. When I went to pick up the tracts I was surprised to find 20,000 tracts in boxes with my name on them. At first, I was confused and told the brothers there that they had made a big mistake because I only had enough money for 1,000. The brothers laughed and said that everything was fine and that I needed to thank God for the blessing because I had been given all those tracts for free. I was so happy that I praised God all the way to my house!!!

The following days I visited different schools in our area to speak with every principal and asked permission to come and share the Gospel and give a tract to every student in their school. All of them gave me permission to come. This was yet another confirmation of God’s hand upon this ministry!. I organized a group of believers from our church and we went to each one of the schools to tell children and young people about Christ. We were able to have one hour in every school where we preached the Gospel and gave out tracts and an invitation to come to Christ and to our church. After we were done witnessing in the schools, I had so many tracts left that I sent some to Piura to brother Angel Colmenares and his team so that this same work would be carried out in Sullana. I still have 15,000 tracts left that I want to take to San Martin to brother Arturo Marin, or anywhere else where they can be used.

I am glad to report that my son Arturo feels that God has called him to the ministry, this makes me very proud. He would like to study in the seminary of Chacarilla which is close to us. He is working with the youth as one of the leaders in our church. He has finished his high school studies and desires to serve God as a pastor.

I have been praying for a while now and feel that God wants me to serve Him full time as a missionary. Since God healed me from my brain tumor I feel stronger than ever and ready to serve my Lord. I give thanks to God for the opportunity that He gives me to continue to live and serve Him. I also thank Heartcry for covering my medical bills during my time of need. A brother from our church named Juan Pablo Osorio, has recently graduated from seminary. He will be the co-pastor of the church and I will be the pastor and missionary until God relieves me completely to do only missionary work. I will continue to remain in contact with the church and will not neglect it in any way. My son Arturo will also be working here until he graduates from seminary. I will also continue to oversee the works that have been started by our church in Villa. I will continue to dedicate myself to the mission field with the help of the churches, with all my strength and with the help of Heartcry. There is a great burden and pain in my heart for the ones that have not yet heard the Gospel, especially in the far removed places of Peru, because no one goes there to minister to them.

Recently, I traveled to Moyobamba, in San Martin with pastor Colmenares, his son Daniel and Florencio Churata. We went to visit one of the works that is about 4 hours from the town of Moyobamba itself. The brothers that live there are mostly from Piura and there are five established churches with about 300 believers in all. We were in Moyabamba for two days and rejoiced to see how hungry the people were for the Word of God.

After this, we visited another church yet, about 3 hours away from Moyobamba, in a place called Quello Quepa. We had a similar experience in this place with all the believers there, they were hungry for God. A couple of days later, we moved in three hours further into the jungle where we reached Aguaruna territory, a region called Quello Allpa. This region has seven Aguaruna Communities. When we first arrived only one family came out to receive us, the rest were afraid and did not trust us. When I spoke to them in Aguaruna and sang an Aguaruna hymn they smiled and ran to call their chief with whom we spoke. This community asked us to establish a church among them. We were also told that none of the communities had accepted to have a church established before, but that now they wanted one. To our dismay, we saw a lot of children with many sickness and skin disorders on their bodies and on their heads. We felt so very helpless because we did not have medicines and could not do anything about it. Our hearts broke because we did not have anything to give them. This community is even poorer than the one in Bajo Canampa. Please keep us and all these precious souls in your prayers. God bless you.
Martin Zacarias
Lima, Peru

At present we are doing evangelism conferences, evangelistic plays, song festivals and dramas, and teaching churches how to do evangelistic outreaches. We teach churches how to evangelize their community by going out with them into their neighborhoods, encouraging and teaching them how to approach someone with the Gospel. We also teach churches how to do “Illustrated Evangelism.” This helps them to share Christ by means of using paint and drawings in a public place such as a park or a marketplace or on the beach. In the past year we were able to help carry out 22 of these evangelistic outreaches in Lima and in the interior of Peru. Thanks to our God, a total of 400 people made professions of faith in Christ. We place great emphasis on discipleship and personal evangelism because we believe that every believer is called to share his faith and the saving message of Christ whenever the door is open. We praise God for prospering this ministry and for all the people we have trained that are now faithfully carrying out the work of the Great Commission.

Along with our evangelism, we also help to establish churches, working side by side with pastors and missionaries wherever we are needed. God has provided our ministry with sound systems, projectors and evangelistic films. In spite of not having a car, this past year we were able to travel to the north of Peru, to Chepen, in Santa Rosa de Guadalupe where 50 people made professions of faith. Soon, with the help of God, we will be renting a place to have church services for these brothers and sisters.

As part of our ministry, we have been able to show films in various youth groups with the purpose of teaching the young Christians how to live the Christian life, how to witness to others, how to know what their spiritual gifts are, how they can be used in the local church to minister to the body. God has blessed this effort by moving many hearts to be involved in the work of the ministry. Many young believers are now teaching in Sunday school classes, music ministries, preaching in the churches and on the streets. One of the strongest influences that the world sometimes has over the young believers and that causes them to stumble is worldly music. Many have told me they have a hard time trying to leave it. But our God is powerful to save and to expose the lies of Satan that make immorality, sex, drugs, idolatry, rebellion, and hate something to write a song about.

The month of January was the season of summer camps for youth and family groups in the churches of Lima. This year, we attended three camps for youth and one for children. We ministered to 400 people in all and once more God moved His mighty hand on our favor by blessing the labor and ministry of those involved. There were 70 professions of faith in all and about 200 young people rededicated their lives to God. Out of these, 5 young people were called to prepare for the ministry and to serve God.

During one of our summer camps we met a boy named Jair, a young man involved in drugs and open rebellion. In spite of his terrible conduct, he heard the Gospel and understood what Christ had done for him and was saved. The change in his life was so immediate that those who knew him offered to pay whatever was necessary for him to be able to attend the following week of summer camp. Jair stayed the following week and he was able to learn more about God and His Word. He has decided to tell his friends...
and family about Christ.

I ask your prayers for a boy named Christian. He made a profession of faith recently. Prior to his salvation, he was involved in drugs and lived on the streets for six months because he ran away from his home. He lives in Barranco and Tito (a member of the Church of the Savior) won him to the Lord and he went back to his parent’s home. All this made his parents become interested in Christ and his mother and father, who is a policeman, have now made a profession of faith in Christ. Christian still has many problems and conflicts to resolve with his parents, please pray for him that he will grow in the image of Christ as Tito and I disciple him. Also pray that he may submit to God and to his parents.

In February, I traveled to Huancayo to minister at another youth camp where the name of Christ was glorified by the salvation of souls. Johnny, a young man that attended one of the summer camps, had a terrible accident in which he almost lost his life. After this accident he received Christ as his Savior. Johnny had rejected the message of the Gospel before, but God pursued Him and saved him.

During the month of February I also taught a Conference in the Philadelphia Baptist Church on Biblical Prophecies. The purpose of this was to encourage the members to live their lives in the light of our soon coming King. Also to encourage them to be more than faithful church goers and tithers, and to get involved in evangelism and in the ministry of their churches. In I Thessalonians 5:18 God orders us to “encourage one another” and many of the brothers and sisters understood that principle and decided to go out every Tuesday night to evangelize and visit those who are weak in the faith.

This month, my father (Ernesto Zacarias) and I will be traveling up north to Santa Rosa to visit the place where we recently evangelized. We hope to begin a new work. Please pray that God will provide a person to continue to lead the work there.

In the church of Barranco, I continue to help in the area of evangelism. On Thursdays, we go out with a group of 15 to 20 people to witness and invite people to church. Many are being added to the Kingdom through the work. I am also training some brothers there to do evangelism with paint and art. One couple from the church of Barranco, Tito and Charo, are being discipled and are reaching out to many in their neighborhood. Tito has a great love for souls, loves the Word of God and is constantly reaching out to his friends with the Gospel. He is now praying about studying at a seminary to serve God full time. Right now things are tight for him and his family because he does not have a stable job, but we are confident that if the Lord has called Him to serve that He will open the doors for this to happen. Let us continue to pray that God will keep stirring hearts to His service, because the fields are still white unto harvest.

About five years ago when my wife and I returned from Argentina to Peru, we found out that my youngest brother, Israel, had been living his life away from God. We tried to help him and speak with him but he was very involved with things of this world and it was almost impossible for us to reach him. All we could do was pray. One day we invited him to go to one of the camps where we ministered and to our surprise he accepted our invitation. During this camp, God broke his heart and granted him repentance and he surrendered to God. He told me that he had been wrestling with the conviction that God had put in his heart and that he could not stand it any longer. My father cried tears of joy when he heard this and all my family rejoiced also. God has now called Israel to serve Him in the ministry and if God allows, he will soon be traveling to the “Word of Life Institute” in Monte, Argentina.

We are grateful beyond words to Him who sustains us and provides for our every need. We thank you for your support and prayers for us as national missionaries in Peru. Recently our God has even touched the hearts of people here in Peru, that in spite of their own need, they desire to participate in the work of our ministry by giving. These offerings may be small, but they are rich in love and they encourage and inspire us to go keep going. It is sometimes hard to receive these demonstrations of love because we know that there is great need and poverty, but we know that the fruit of these loving actions will be shown in eternity to the glory of God. What responsibility we have before our God... Especially when the day comes in which we will have to give an account of ourselves!

Martin’s Testimony

I remember when I was about five years old, my parents were about to divorce. My home was always full of screaming, fighting and drinking. I also remember my father crying and trying to find a solution for all these problems. It was then that God’s grace reached my family through some brothers that came to preach an evangelistic campaign just beside my house. The challenges continued for a while, but then my father surrendered to God. He told me that he had been wrestling with the conviction that God had put in his heart and that he could not stand it any longer. My father cried tears of joy when he heard this and all my family rejoiced also. God has now called Israel to serve Him in the ministry and if God allows, he will soon be traveling to the “Word of Life Institute” in Monte, Argentina.

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sometimes carnal and would look at other Christians and not to Christ for inspiration to live a better life in Him. One day some missionaries from the Word of Life ministries visited my church and they started teaching us how to love and serve God with our lives and this touched my life deeply. Up to that point, I had been one of the leaders of the youth group, but I knew I was ministering in my flesh and not allowing the Spirit to lead me. From then on, I and others started to serve with love in our hearts and to preach the message of salvation anywhere we could. We preached on the buses, hospitals, parks, markets and we started to disciple young believers, something we had not done before. My entire life and testimony were changed. My relationship with my father (who was the pastor of the church) and with my girlfriend (now my wife) was changed as I began to be led by Christ.

When I was married and my wife and I had our first daughter, God started to ask me to lay down everything in my life before Him and for His glory. At first I thought God was asking me for too much - my job, my family, my possession and future. But then I understood that they belonged to Him anyway and that He was the only one I could trust with it all. God was calling me to serve Him in the ministry and my desire became to follow Him.

In His time, God opened the necessary doors, and in 1990, I traveled with my family to Argentina to the “Word of Life Institute.” There, my wife and I prepared ourselves to serve God full time. We returned to Peru in 1993 after having experienced God’s blessing, provision and love during the time we were away from our country and families. Not much later, I was called to pastor my home church for three and a half years during which God continued to pour out His grace. At present, my family and I minister in evangelism, music and drama, and support the work of the new pastor of my home church.

I thank God for saving my soul and giving me three children and a wonderful wife. My greatest desire is to be a good steward of all these blessings and to be able to one day stand before the throne of God and give a good account of myself and be found faithful.

Mary’s Testimony

When I was six years old, my life was devastated by the divorce of my parents. From that day, my life was spent traveling from one of my parent’s to the other, taking turns, visiting one and then the other, and seeing up close how sin can destroy the lives of people.

The Lord reached out to me and saved me when I was 15 years old thanks to the visit of some young Christians that came to my house to invite me to a youth group meeting in church. I started attending the Philadelphia Baptist Church right after this. The church was very close to my home. It was there that I started to grow in the Lord and was baptized and became a member.

After a year of being converted, I attended a missions conference and it was there that God touched my heart to become a missionary. Soon the pressure, and the negative attitude of my family made me give up my calling and I did not go to prepare myself for His service. I received help from family members to go on to the university and get a secular education.

When I was 23 years of age I married Martin and soon after that, I had our first baby girl. By then, in spite of being an active Christian, my heart had become cold, materialistic and complacent, and the love I had for my career had taken over that which God had once called me to do.

Our lives were good, but just when I thought I knew what the future had in store for us, my husband felt the call of God to serve Him. A little time after that we were on our way to Argentina to study in the “Word of Life Institute” in Monte. Everything happened very fast, but I could not bring myself to say anything because I knew this was all of God. It was at this institute that God broke my cold heart with His Word and made me see that the fields were white unto harvest and it was then that I laid my selfish desires behind and asked God to give me another opportunity to obey and serve Him.

I am now 33 years old and God has given me three beautiful children and all of us enjoy serving our great God and living by His grace and by faith. My main ministry is to support my husband and to teach my children to love and serve God and to keep my home. I know that this world and even some Christians may think this is too small a goal, but I know this is my God given call. In my church, I minister teaching the children between the ages of 6 and 8 years of age. I also work with our pastor’s wife, leading the Women’s Bible Study in our church. We have approximately 25 women that come and thanks to our God, they are godly testimonies in their homes as well as in the church. Most of these women are very involved in visitation and evangelism of other women. Once a week my husband and I lead the Couple’s Bible Study in our home, we have about 15 couples that come to study God’s Word. We have a great time of fellowship and teaching. God has manifested His power in these meetings by saving and changing lives and building up the Christian marriages in our church.

I am also involved in the discipleship and training of 4 young women that are leaders in their women’s groups. I also disciple two married women that were recently saved. I thank God for the changes that I can see in their lives already. One of them, Maria Rodriguez, was rescued by God from a terrible life of sin and vices. Because of her radical conversion, her immediate family has now come to know the Lord too and she is still trying to reach out to the rest of them with the Gospel.

This year, we had four weeks of youth camps that we organized. Again, God demonstrated his faithfulness and love by saving souls and changing lives. During the four weeks I was assigned to the kitchen work. It was a hard job at times because of the intense heat of summer, but every time I saw a new soul come to Christ it made it all worth it because I was being an active part of this great work of God.

I pray to our Lord that everything that I do in His name will be pleasing to Him. My desire is to be a godly example that my children can follow and others can imitate to the glory of God.
Paco and Karen Laos,  
Amazonas - Peru

It is a joy to greet you and to thank God for you every time we remember you, as our partners in this work of God. You may not be here physically but your hands reach out and touch lives through ours here in the town of Aserradero, because of your loving support and prayers.

The first days of the month, my family and I had to travel back to Lima because of health reasons. Our daughter is overcoming an acute bronchial infection. We were very concerned, but thanks to our God, she is recuperating well. My wife Karen has had a very bad sinus infection and her tonsils were also very inflamed. We also returned to Lima and the doctors to find out through more analysis what is causing her frequent headaches. Karen has had many tests done, but we cannot know about what could be causing her headaches until all the medical tests are done. In spite of this, we are not worried, but rest in a peace that only God can give because our lives are in His hand.

Between the 18th and 23rd of this month my family and I and brother Felizardo from Aserradero were able to visit the town of Pomacochas where we were able to show the film “Jesus” and teach on marriage. The churches in the interior do not have “couple” reunions or events of this sort so this was an experiment. We were greatly surprised by the results. We had a great time of Christian fellowship, games, teaching and there were many open doors to witness to some of the couples that were not Christians. We look forward to doing this again in the near future.

While we were in Lima, I was invited to preach in the Baptist Church of “La Victoria” where we had a blessed time in the Lord, visiting Rogelio Acea (Cuba) and his family. It seems as if it were only yesterday that Rogelio Acea and I met at the Nacer Drug Rehab Center where God saved and called us to His service. He has brought us both so far! We can only praise Him and keep working and laying our lives at His feet as living sacrifices.

Paco & Karen

Pastor Colmenares  
Piura, Peru

Greetings in the Name of our Lord and Savior! We have been staying busy and time has flown by us so fast. In spite of this, we are glad to report to you what the Lord has been doing here in the region of Piura.

Recently, we traveled to Hualambre - Sicchez to meet the believers there and carry out an Evangelistic campaign. We preached the Gospel for two days and showed films. While we were there we were able to counsel and help six godly men that were interested in serving as teachers and leaders in their churches. We showed these men how to conduct a Bible study and how to preach the Word. That same day, we went knocking on doors around the neighborhood with these men to invite people and to witness. There are only two families of believers in this area, but God moved greatly and 16 more people made professions of faith while we preached there. We have also been informed since our return that these people continue to remain faithful.

After ministering in Hualambre - Sicchez, we traveled to the town of Caingara - Frias that is located about eight hours away to carry out another evangelistic campaign. This is a new work. We met with eight men, all members of the small church that has been planted and we had a Bible study with them in which we answered many of their questions regarding the Christian life and doctrine. That afternoon we went witnessing with them, knocking on doors, and inviting the people to attend the services. That night, we preached the Gospel, showed evangelistic films, and three people made professions of faith. The believers were greatly encouraged to receive our visit. To understand you would almost have to see the joy in their faces when we arrived and the tears in their eyes when we departed from them!

After Caingara - Frias, we went back home to Piura to be with
our families and to rest a while.

After a few days rest, God opened the doors for us to visit the district of Suyo which is located close to the frontier with Equator. In Suyo, we met with the mayor of the small town. He is a Christian that needed some counsel in making some decisions for the community. Together we also made plans to come back and have an evangelistic campaign in the town and to establish a church. We were overjoyed to have this door wide open to share the Gospel of our Lord!

After Suyo, the time came for us to visit the different works in the area of San Martin. Our main goal for this trip was to train leaders for men, women and children ministries in each church. We visited brothers in Ochame - Moyobamba and met with two other churches from Libano and Valle Hermoso. We showed the films “Jesus” and the “Pilgrim’s Progress” to evangelize the people in the area. As a result of this, 10 brothers rededicated their lives, one man was called to serve God and four people made professions of faith. We still need to go back and visit these brothers and teach them to stand against the teachings of the Unitarians that abound in the area.

Following our stay in Ochame, we traveled two days to visit the believers in the sector of Paimas. We enjoyed the fellowship time and had an evangelistic meeting as part of the celebration of the anniversary of their church. We showed films and gave out literature to help the leaders in the preaching of the Gospel.

On leaving Paimas, we visited the Christian brothers of Quillulapa in Moyobamba and a community of Aguarunas. The first church we visited had 30 members. It was four hours away from Moyobamba by mule. Then we traveled three hours further into the jungle to an Aguaruna community where we preached the Gospel. As a result of this, three people professed Christ and six rededicated their lives to God. There is great need for Bibles, hymn books, and literature against sects in this area. The greatest need is a man that will stay and minister among them. Please remember these things in prayer, that our God may provide according to His riches in glory.

After coming out of the jungle, we visited brothers in Chatoja - Tarapoto in the Baptist Church of Seminario. There are 10 churches in the area that need much help to teach their leadership how to organize the church. We had meetings to clarify doctrine that had been taught at an earlier date. Brother Mario Salinas from Lima, was with us and his ministry was a great blessing to us. My son Daniel taught on Biblical leadership and I taught on the organization of a Sunday School in the church. Three people consecrated their lives to Christ and three made professions of faith while we were there.

In all these things we give God the glory and the honor. We are privileged to be able to participate in His work. We are honored to be counted among His servants.

Angel Colmenares

Florencio’s Announcement

We are happy to announce that our brother Florencio Churata will be married on August 8th in our church, “Divino Redentor” in Sullana, Piura. Please join us as we pray for God’s richest blessings upon his life and that of his future wife on that special day. We praise God for His goodness and mercy toward his servant knowing that a wife is a gift from God.

Ernesto Zacarias, Lima - Peru

I greet you in the name of our Lord hoping that He is blessing you with joy and advancing the ministry that He has entrusted to you for His glory. My prayer for you is that you remain faithful and fruitful in your labor for God, wherever He has placed you to be His witness. I rejoice thinking about that one day in which we will all be gathered home by the Father and there we will all praise Him together for what He has done for us in His Son Christ Jesus.

It is a joy for me to announce that we have begun a new work in the district of El Agustino in Lima. For the time being, the believers are meeting in the house of a brother and we are praying for God to provide a piece of land and the funds to start our church building.

Soon, my son Martin and I will be traveling to the city of Guadalupe in the north of Peru to rent a place for the brothers and sisters who are already meeting there. These brothers are greatly encouraged by our visits and need much help to get organized as a church. I praise God for the zeal and the hunger I see in the face of each new believer.

A few months ago, my wife Concepcion went to the hospital for emergency surgery. Her appendix ruptured and she needed immediate medical attention; Concepcion happens to also be a diabetic and has very high blood pressure. This complicated things even more. Thanks to our Lord, a sister in Christ who works at the hospital as one of the administrators, made sure that my wife’s needs were cared for. This was such a demonstration of our Lord’s care! My family and I praise God for His mercy and provision during our great time of need. We also give thanks to God for the loving support and generosity of the brothers and sisters from our sister church of “Villa el Salvador”, who helped us pay all the hospital bills.

Our children arrived to visit their mother from different places and together, we praised and prayed to God, thanking Him for his goodness and care. In spite of the circumstances, this was a time of great encouragement and blessing for us, even a wonderful time to share the Gospel with people at the hospital. Please continue to pray for my wife Concepcion Zacarias as she recuperates. She is a very active lady and she ministers tirelessly beside me in the work that God has entrusted us.
Report of Rogelio Acea, Lima - Peru

After being faithful members and active ministers in the Church of the Savior of Barranco, Rogelio Acea and his wife Ruth were led by the Lord to pastor a church in one of the most needy areas in Lima, “La Victoria.” Rogelio was ordained by the Church of the Savior and is currently being supported by Heartcry as a missionary in this new work.

I greet you in the name of our Lord, hoping that He is pouring out His grace and peace upon your lives. My family and I are doing well.

At the end of 1998, I was asked by the ATOCRI Missionary Association, to pray about becoming the pastor of the First Baptist Church of La Victoria in Lima, one of the poorest and most dangerous neighborhoods in all of Peru. The ATOCRI mission also asked me to consider beginning a Refuge Mission project in this same church to reach out to the drug addicts in the community with the Gospel.

My wife and I were surprised and overjoyed by their request because we had been praying for God’s direction regarding a new ministry opportunity. We decided to pray and diligently seek God’s will. Then on September 20th my wife and I were asked to start attending the church on a trial basis to see if I was the man that God wanted to pastor the church. Two months later, after much prayer and wise counsel, I felt God’s leading to pastor the church. On December 20th, I was called to be the pastor of the church and director of the new refuge project.

The refuge project has as its goal to reach out to the people with drug and alcohol problems in the district of La Victoria. We also minister to the family members of the addicts with the Gospel of Christ and the teachings of God’s Word. Every Tuesday and Thursday we open our doors to some of the most wicked and dangerous people in the community and with the help of our church members we minister to them in the power of God. With the approval and participation of the church we have also organized the following ministries:

* Ladies Bible Study * Marriage Counseling
* Youth Group * New Believers Discipleship
* Sunday School * Evangelism and visitation
* Pastoral Counseling

When we arrived a few months ago, the church had only 12 members and was facing many problems. Now, there are 25 of us who go out into the neighborhood to visit the lost. We go out with the purpose of sharing Christ. We preach out in the open streets and witness door to door and one on one. We also visit those who have professed Christ in the past, but now must be rebuked and encouraged to be reconciled with God. We have 17 young people in the youth group and about 30 to 35 children in Children’s Sunday School. Every morning during the week, we have many children of different ages that come to our church for breakfast. We are able to feed them with the help of the government’s social services. For many of these children, it is the only meal they will have during the day. God is gracious to have opened this great door to share the Gospel with them.

Through God’s help, we are also going into the places where addicts smoke and produce drugs to be able to reach out and rescue these souls so ruined by sin. Three drug addicts have made professions of faith so far and we have taken them to the “Nacer Rehab Center” to recuperate from their drug habits. One time, we were witnessing out in the streets and I found a man that I had know before when I was a drug addict myself. His name is Adrian and he is a Cuban like me. He was in terrible physical condition, sick and destroyed by the use of drugs like I once was. I shared the Gospel of Jesus Christ with him and even though he did not make a profession of faith he accepted my offer to take him to the rehab center. Less than a week ago, he surrendered to Christ as Lord and is now grateful to God for rescuing him.

God is manifesting his power to save and to change lives before our very own eyes and we cannot praise Him enough for it! The church ministries are growing, Christians that used to attend the church are coming back, prostitutes and drug addicts are being saved and visit our church consistently. One sister has been baptized and three are getting ready to be baptized soon. In spite of being one of the most dangerous and corrupt districts in Lima, La Victoria is also well know for its strong catholic traditions. This is such a contradiction! You can find people that will go to the Catholic church and pray to their saint of choice, yet they will also sell you drugs. Please pray that all these people will not see religion in us, only Jesus.

At the moment, we have many material needs to keep this ministry going, but we trust our God who started this good work and will carry it out to completion. Please pray that we will remain faithful and that we will live holy lives before God that others may see us and glorify Him.
Jose Carrasco

My name is Jose Alberto Carrasco, I am 40 years old and I was born in the city of Piura, Peru. I was brought up in an upper class Peruvian family. My father was in the oil business and we never lacked for anything. My parents always took great care of my education and that of my two younger brothers; we always went to the best schools and were very privileged in many ways. When time came for me to go to college, I had to follow the family’s tradition of being educated in the USA, so I went on to study to the University of Texas at Austin where my father had also completed his studies.

The story is actually quite long, how can I begin to tell the ways in which God brought me to himself? In 1976 the Lord touched my life and saved me. I could not believe that He would be so willing to save me and that there was nothing I needed to do except repent and believe in what He did for me on the Cross. I had been until then a very conceited young man that had everything he wanted, thought that he did not need anything, and satisfied no one but himself. I lived a sinful life and I give God the glory for rescuing me from it.

In 1982, I started to attend the Great Commission church and it was during this time that God called me to serve Him in the ministry. I met many wonderful Christians my age that were thirsty and hungry for God and His will in their lives. This helped me to grow very much in the Lord. Eventually there was a group of us that had a great desire to reach souls for Him and become missionaries. In time, we felt that God was leading us to plant a church in Lima and to minister there. We continued to pray about this and made many plans to serve God in Lima, Peru. I graduated with two degrees (business and civil engineering) and I had plans to use these in my ministry as tools to build churches. I returned to Peru in 1987 with joy and a desire in my heart to begin a work for God in Lima and with the promise from my friends that I would be part of a team of people that would come to work with me in Lima.

My family has always been close but eventually, my faith created in them some mixed feelings. I was able to share Christ with some of them but they were not too receptive at times. I joined a local church and was an active member, committed to the cause of Christ. Time went by and things did not go quite the way I thought they would. I was alone and my friends back in the States did not seem to have any plans of coming to Peru and working as we had previously planned. I was devastated and for a while wandered off and lived like I pleased. I began to work in the construction business and the stock market and I was able to make a lot of money. But God once again intervened in my life with His loving discipline, and brought me back to Himself and to do the work He had called me to do. I knew that even if I was alone I had to do what He had commanded.

During these difficult times, I met Paul Washer in Lima through some common friends. I believe that God brought us together as a team to establish the church of Barranco. I praise God for the way in which He has allowed us to be a part of the wonderful work of seeing this church come to life, face problems, victories and see His mighty hand at work doing things that He alone can do. Looking back I see the wisdom of God in leading me to Peru to work without the help of other Christians that I might be humbled, grow in grace, and ultimately learn that I can only lean and trust Him as my source of everything.

I am now the pastor of the Church of the Savior in Barranco. I minister in the church and work part time as a contractor. Sometimes I am saddened because my family looks down on me because I do not have the money or the position that I used to have because I am a pastor and do not desire the same things they pursue. In times like these I draw strength from God, knowing that I have not given up anything, but that He gave it all for me on the Cross that I may truly live. I have been blessed in many ways. I have a wonderful and fun wife (Laura) who encourages me and loves the Lord, and I have two children Jose Alonso (5) and Natalia (3). Together we desire to live for God and serve Him with our lives.

Jose’s Field Report

The Church of the Savior has started its new discipleship program and I am excited at the response we have had from the membership. We have a chart in which we have organized the discipleship workers and the care and visitation workers. This simple chart hanging on the wall has helped and encouraged many to get involved in the effort to reach and teach the ones that have recently made a professions of faith in Christ.

Our church is located in one of the chief areas of drug consumption and sales in Lima. We are surrounded by people that need the Lord and His Word desperately. We have willing workers in our church to reach out and touch these lives and we thank God for that. Please continue to pray that we will be a lighthouse in Barranco, especially to our neighbors. We desire with all our hearts to have a good testimony before them always.
At the moment, I preach three to four times a week in the church. Lately I have been visiting many of the members of our church and prospective members that have visited us. It is really a blessing to see how God works. Almost every Sunday we have people visiting us that we have not even invited. They simply come into our church and listen to the preaching and this has led to many professions of faith.

Our church is undergoing some financial trials due to the sin of some of its members that do not tithe. The economic situation in Peru is not good, but God will always provide for His own if we remain obedient and faithful. Because of this, we had a church meeting and the leadership and I explained the situation to the members urging the ones that are not tithing to repent and to obey God’s command. Hopefully the Spirit will work in their hearts and they will see that God is faithful to provide for our needs if we remain obedient to His command to tithe. Please continue to pray for us.

Laura Carrasco’s Testimony

My name is Laura Passaro de Carrasco, I was born in the city of Lima. I became a Christian at the age of 18. Before Christ saved me, my life was very sad and full of problems. My younger sister and I were the fruit of my mother’s third marriage that was at that time falling apart. There were eight children in all, and my sister and I were the youngest ones. We lived in a house with my aunt, uncle and my grandmother.

I spent great part of my childhood in lawyer’s offices and court rooms because of the constant battle between my mother and father over our custody. Most of the time, I did not see my father, but when I did, I only rejected him because of all the bad things I had heard about him.

When I was 15 years old, my father came to know the Lord and I was allowed to visit with him. He would always tell me about Christ and how to be saved. I told him that all that did not interest me, but I could not deny that I could observe a radical change in his life. He was not angry, and he did not fight with my mother when he saw her. He actually acted much better than she did in every way. I was confused about all this.

One day when I was 18, I was invited by two girl friends with whom I had gone to school to go to a youth group in their church. These girls had become Christians and were very active in their church. At first I hesitated, but I was curious and did not have anything to do, so I went along.

The thing I remember the most about the Bible study was how friendly and kind everyone was and how much fun I had that day. I continued to go to the Bible study more than anything because I like the people there, but one day, listening to the pastor Washer’s preaching I understood the message of salvation and surrendered to Christ. I told my father what had happened in my life and he was very happy to know his daughter had also been saved.

Being a Christian in my family was not easy and I was made fun of most of the time. Later I understood that as a Christian I could face persecution even from my own family. I drew all my strength and comfort from God and continued to grow. I was disciplined by good Christian woman and in time I became more involved in the things of God.

I met my husband a year after my conversion in the Church of the Savior and we were married a year later. We now have two children, Jose Alonso and Natalia, and we serve God together in the Church of the Savior of Barranco.

Jonas Barbieri, Lima - Peru

I greet you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ hoping that each one of you is being blessed by God. We thank our God for your financial support and prayers that enable us to labor in this field in Peru.

I have recently returned from a trip to the town of Chilate which is an annex to the larger town of Yayan in the province of Cajamarca. This town is 12 hours away by bus and has approximately one thousand people. I was able to preach there and four people made professions of faith. A young married couple and two other men. One of these men was rescued by Christ from a life of drunkenness and mental problems, his name is Carlos, please pray for his growth.

Another place which the Lord has opened up for us to preach is the district of Santa Maria in Huacho. This town is three hours away from Lima. In this town there is a small congregation of 10 adults and 6 children that come together to worship God in one of the believer’s home. There, I was able to baptize four new sisters.

In Lima, our church completed a Family Bible Seminar in the district of Chorrillos where we are located. We taught on the biblical model that God has created for the family. Each night, we had 40 adults in attendance and 20 young people. God blessed these meetings greatly, creating hunger and desire for His will in the hearts of the believers. After this seminar we decided to begin cell groups for Bible study in different homes so that we may be able to win family members and other people to Christ.

Last month, I was also able to minister as a counselor in a camp organized by our association of Baptist churches. This year the camp was held in Pisco, Paracas, four hours from the city of Lima. I was glad to attend because God gave me the privilege of leading another soul to Christ!
Dear Fellow Workers & Supporters

You are the one that God is using to make all this possible. Men women and children are saved, Bibles are distributed, Churches are edified, buildings are built, and it is all because of God’s gracious work through YOU. We are often troubled by our inability to thank you properly. How could we ever return what you have given to us. Our only prayer is to be present on that Day when the God of mercy and grace, bestows on you your reward for being so gracious to us and the people among whom we work. We long to see that Day when multitudes from different nations pass by you one by one and share their gratitude with you who have shared so much with them.

Until that day, may God bless and keep you in His power and grace.

Your brother and sister,
Paul & Charo Washer
In our Upcoming Issue:

Revival in Romania

We will be reporting on the great work of God among the Gypsies in Romania. In the past few months there have been a great number of conversions. Over 250 people have been baptized and 100 are still awaiting baptism. Among one of the most despised people groups in the world the grace of God is abounding to the praise and honor of His matchless Name!