

Missions Moment May 22, 2022



**Dave and Aleece Cooper and three boys: Eric (2010), Titus (2013), Lucas (2015)
with Across Borders for World Evangelism Canada (ABWE)**

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First Month in Peru

As you can imagine, the first month here in Peru has flown by. Here are a few of our experiences including some of the challenges we have faced, as well as some of the ways the Lord has proven to be our faithful God.

This is certain: We could not have survived the month here without Him, without you His faithful praying servants, and without other missionaries and believers here who have helped us each step of the way.

An area of advancement in Peru that has come from the pandemic is that financial business has moved online. This makes purchases much easier as people are able to bank online and avoid long lines. The downside that we found is that if you do not have a Peruvian bank account you cannot pay for anything! We are able to use our credit card at grocery stores and other shops for the most part. But paying for our visa appointments and processing, school tuition, school books and so many other things is all done through online electronic transfers. We found ourselves needing a Peruvian bank account to pay for our visa application while at the same time needing our visa to open a bank account!

There have of course been many other hick-ups along the way (most of which I have chosen to forget), but God has been so faithful, especially through the help of our ABWE team members. We are staying in a missionary's house, using a vehicle and a bank account from other missionaries, etc., while we are in the process of getting set up. God has met each challenge with a generous friend in answer to our prayers. We are so thankful.

Life in Sol de La Molina, Lima

The kids are now attending classes at **La Molina Christian School** (look it up on google maps). Eric is in 5th grade, Titus in 3rd, and Lucas in 1st. This new school is similar to their school in Costa Rica in that it is bilingual. They have had a good experience so far and each enjoy their teachers and classmates. This has allowed Aleece and I to have a little more time to devote to studies.

Aleece is currently taking one class through the seminary here called "*Introduction to Investigation.*" It is what I would call a mix between a hermeneutics class and one preparing a student to write well-researched papers. I am much more excited about this class than she is! But to give her full credit, she is reading and researching with excellence (Carson's *Gagging of God* is a hard read in English, let alone in your second language!). She is also taking a training class from the prenatal centre called "*The Truth about Abortion.*" On top of this she is studying Spanish while keeping us all fed and happy.

I, **Dave**, have been running around in our loaner truck... I cannot count the hours spent driving and waiting in lines... and traffic jams... I was convicted recently about my negative attitude when the Lord reminded me, "*Hey, you are here! You have been waiting 6 years for this!*" What a humbling moment to be reminded that missionary life, like any life, should be about walking with Jesus in each moment for His glory and not about my comfort or convenience.

Aside from moments of deep conviction to trust and obey like this, I have been meeting with a Spanish tutor several times a week, studying at home, and trying to get out to practice Spanish. We have visited several different churches on Sundays and I was able to make quick friends with one hombre, **Giovanni**, who practices Brazilian Jiu Jitsu and trains cross-fit. We have hit it off through early morning workouts in his garage and by strangling each other at Jiu Jitsu. What fun! Please pray as he is open to doing a Bible study with me...

Please pray for:

- Safety and peace in Peru. There have been many protests...The President responded with curfews, resulting in more violence. We have been safe..., but many have been effected terribly by closures, inflation, as well as the violence.
- Progress in communicating in Spanish; for health and safety; and success in visa approvals and missionary status.
- Friends for our whole family, both national and with missionaries, so that we can make Peru our home.

"Desert Rain" Mission in a 10/40 Country.

For this week of May 22-28, Eula & Eunice Carreon request prayer to:

- Make time to refocus, be recharged spiritually & physically, and to trust the Sword of the Spirit.
- Be well armed with the *Armour of God* - to face the spiritual battles of discouragement, fatigue, reliance on feelings, and doubting the effectiveness of the Shield of Faith.

