
Fwd: Continued ministry during Covid 19 quarantine.

1 message

Ken Largent <klargentwhbc@yahoo.com>
To: Ann Hayner Cell Hayner <ann.hayner@gmail.com>

Mon, Jun 22, 2020 at 5:54 PM

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From: "**Tim and Barbara Whatley**" <timwhatley@whatleyperu.com>
Date: Mon, Jun 22, 2020 at 5:05 PM -0500
Subject: Continued ministry during Covid 19 quarantine.
To: <klargentwhbc@yahoo.com>

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Tim & Barbara Whatley
Missionaries in the Cusco Region of Peru
With Baptist Mid-Missions

Prayer Update - June, 2020



TIM AND BARBARA WHATLEY

Kiteni, Peru

AREN'T YOU THANKFUL GOD IS STILL ON HIS THRONE?:

As we contemplate the catastrophic situation in the USA, it is easy to become indignant or fatalistic, but praise God that He is still in control. We echo the sentiment expressed by King Jehoshaphat when he openly admitted that he didn't know what to do, but that his eyes were on the Lord (2 Chronicles 20:12b).

Here in Peru strict quarantines and curfews have been enforced since mid-March. No schools will open their doors this year... church services and any other group meetings are on hold until at least the end of August. But, as one Godly pastor's wife exclaimed a couple of weeks ago, "The enemy closed the doors of our church buildings, but God opened the doors to the world!" Believers here are eager to meet again as a congregation to worship together, but in the meantime, God is helping us to be salt in our decaying world and light in our sin-darkened community. Thank you so much for your prayers as the

Spirit continues to work in hearts all over the globe, due largely to technology.

ROOFTOP SERVICES AND RADIO MINISTRY:

Our rooftop services each Sunday morning and Wednesday evening are sometimes viewed by over 1000 people, many of which would not normally have time to listen to a Bible-based message. These services are also impacting our neighbors here in Kiteni. God has provided a good quality sound system for us to be able to broadcast the songs and preaching to our entire neighborhood. Because of this, the Gospel of grace is impacting many of our neighbors. Friendships have deepened, other relationships have developed, Bible studies have started, and salvation decisions have been made. This week both of us have open doors to start Bible studies with folks you can see on our Facebook live services from our rooftop. Another family told us last week that when they hear us start singing, they turn off the TV and listen to the singing and message. This family rents an apartment in a nearby five-story building, so we suspect many others can hear the truths from God's Word each Sunday morning at 9:00 am and Wednesday evening at 6:00 pm. Look for us on our Facebook page **TimandBarbara Whatley** if you would like to see more videos or photos. You can click on the following link in order to get an idea of what our rooftop services are all about.

<https://www.facebook.com/timoibiva11/videos/10223606476649518>

We are also able rent time with two different local radio stations for a total of three radio programs a week with our co-worker Pastor Rolando Árias. He is a gifted radio personality and both of us are able to contribute with Bible lessons for the ladies, children and Men. We are receiving a number of phone calls and visits, especially since we offered a free gospel of John and face masks for those who call into the programs. Since it is unlawful to leave your home without a face mask, that offer has been a great attraction. Out in the villages nobody wears a face mask, but when they come to town, the people have to wear one. The fine is quite steep for not having one on in town.





According to the latest information we have, Peru is not allowing any public meetings until the end of August, at the soonest. Also, on Sundays we are under complete lock-down, at least until the end of June. In the meantime, our rooftop serves as a good place to reach our neighborhood from. We have learned that we need shade for the Sunday morning services and lighting for the Wednesday evening services, so we make due with what we have at hand. We praise the Lord for providing a great sound system. There is no such thing as noise pollution here in Peru. We have had no complaints about the volume. We have been told that we can be heard all the way down to the Police station, which is quite a ways away. Some of our church folk who live further away are able to follow the services on Facebook.



ÁRIAS FAMILY: We are thankful that so far, the Árias family has been allowed to join us for our rooftop services, even when Sundays are under complete lock-down. We are so thrilled to have them as our co-workers here in Kiteni!



RADIO MINISTRY: God has allowed us to have time on two different local radio stations. One is a Christian station which allows us an hour and a half of free time a week. The other is a secular station which has a much longer range and we rent two hours a week from them. Pastor Rolando and Tim do the hour and a half on the Christian station on Tuesdays and use that time to encourage and strengthen the outlying village churches. Barb does one hour on Monday evenings on the secular station directed to reach the ladies and children, while Tim and Rolando do the other hour on Thursday evenings, also with a mostly evangelistic thrust.

THE GENEROSITY OF GOD'S PEOPLE:

It is amazing how generous God's people have been, in spite of the tremendous economic pressure many are experiencing. Donations are permitting the distribution of thousands of bags of groceries accompanied by helpful tracts and Scripture portions. We have not

seen people this interested in God's message for decades and it is happening all over Peru, perhaps even all over the world. Tim is visiting outlying villages each Friday and yesterday God used the Bass family in Lima to channel \$1000.00 to our area. This will help us continue to reach out. This morning we received a phone call from a tribal community about 2 1/2 hours from Kiteni. Quechua speaking Pastor Santos Sunquillpa lives close to that area and is trying to learn Matsiguenga in order to impact that tribal community. Tim will be visiting that village of Alto Shimaá this coming Friday and will have opportunities to minister to both the Quechua speaking congregation where Santos is the Pastor as well as the small Matsiguenga group Santos is starting. Such a blessing! Nothing we would rather do! Wish you all could be here and join us on one of those visits.



Food Distribution: This is Paulina and her son. We were able to share some much needed food items with them, as well as some tracts and a New Testament, before they started the 8-hour walk

back to their little coffee farm. Can you see the thankful smiles, even behind the face masks?

MUCH MUCH MORE!

There are many more blessings to share, but we had better end for now. Thank you for praying and supporting God's plan to reach the world. We ask that you please pray for the following people: Ander, Betsabé, Jhon and Pavel who have made decisions for Christ. Pray as well for the salvation of Henri, Charles, Deysi, Flora, Naydú, Corina, Ramón, Segundina, Alcides, Jesús, Reina, Sheyla, Silvia, Dennis, Mario and Roger. These are people we know are listening to our rooftop services and some have asked us to start Bible studies with them. Pray for the many more that we don't know about who are listening from inside their homes. So far we have had no negative complaints about the singing and preaching over a loud speaker. Everyone who has spoken to us has been very thankful that we would take the time to set up our little make-shift place on the roof in order to help them understand the Word of God. God has also given us the opportunity to do some on-line counselling. Please pray for a family in Urubamba who we have been meeting with once a week on line for marital and child rearing counselling. May they understand that God's Word really does work for both marriage and child rearing!

PRAISE AND PRAYER:

- We praise the Lord that He is still on the throne and He is still in control, as He has always been. We can rest in Him, even when everything **seems** to be out of control (Psalm 46:1-3).
- We praise the Lord for the many opportunities to reach people with the Gospel and strengthen His children by opening doors we never even knew were there. Just this week, a pastor in Chile contacted Tim. He has a lot of contact with ministries in Chile and in different parts of Peru. Many of his friends are discouraged because they feel like the Gospel is losing ground in their areas because they are not allowed to meet. This pastor in Chile invited Tim and Pastor Rolando to participate in a Zoom meeting to share what God is doing here in Kiteni and give these pastors ideas for evangelism and edifying their congregations, even in times of lock down and insecurity.
- We praise the Lord for the many contacts that have been established during this quarantine through our rooftop services

and programs on two local radio stations. Once the quarantine lifts, we will be able to follow up on many of those contacts who aren't in our immediate area.

- We praise the Lord for the generosity of His people. God has used many folks to provide funds for us to be able to help many folks who are in extreme need at this time. When quarantine started over three months ago, many people found themselves out of work and they are now in dire need. God has used the generosity of many of His children to provide much needed food items to those who are experiencing the most need. Thank you!
- Please pray specifically for the salvation of the following people: Henri, Charles, Deysi, Flora, Naydú, Corina, Ramón, Segundina, Alcides, Jesús, Reina, Sheyla, Silvia, Dennis, Mario and Roger. You might not know who they are, but God certainly does.
- Please praise the Lord for opportunities to have home Bible studies and pray that the Lord would open the hearts and minds of those who have invited us to teach them.
- Please pray for the many opportunities God has given us to use technology for counselling, teaching, encouraging, etc.
- Pray that the Lord would be glorified through this very difficult time. So far we have over 20 confirmed Covid 19 cases in our small town of Kiteni. The nearby Army base has so many cases that they have all the soldiers in quarantine at this time and they are no longer patrolling our streets. People are scared and searching for answers.

Contact Information Update:

Because of strict lock-down orders, the Peruvian mail system is not allowing mail to come into the country at this time. If you'd like to communicate with us you may do so through our Facebook / Messenger account, our email addresses provided below, our cell phones, also provided below, or WhatsApp. Thank you!

Please feel free to share or forward this update to folks who would join you in praying for what God is doing here in Peru!

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