



August 2018

Sharpening the axe...or...perhaps the machete

Missionaries wear many hats. Missionaries have many roles. Nearly all of them are focused on developing the people around them. It is, then, imperative that we improve our ability to invest in those that God puts in our way.

The World Reach missionaries who serve Latinos in the Americas met in Lima, Peru during 10 days in May. We were joined by our Bible Institute coordinators and other promising leaders from the 8 countries where we serve.

A generous investment from the Briarwood Presbyterian Church of Birmingham, Alabama made this event possible.

Felix Ortiz and Sara Bonet stretched mind, character and comfort as they provided us with an introductory training in Coaching. They led us through carefully crafted exercises that helped us learn and practice skillful questioning and careful listening. The 3-day seminar encouraged us to incorporate this strategy in our disciple making relationships and pastoral training curriculum.

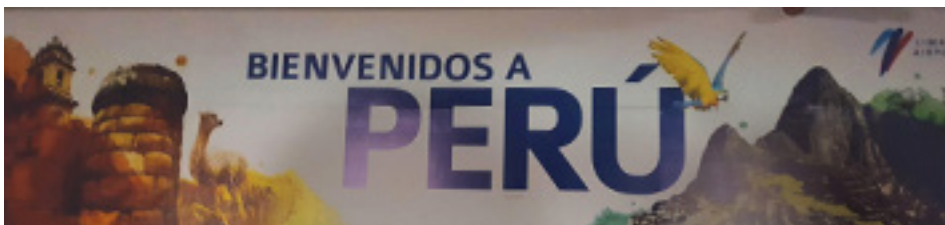
The next 4 days World Reach missionary, Bobby Wilson, equipped us to facilitate church revitalization and to impact the Bible institutes. He challenged us to rekindle our love for Christ and to evaluate many of the assumptions and ministry habits that impede genuine flourishing.

The last day and a half was focused specifically on World Reach's Bible institutes. We sought God's direction and wisdom to create new strategies relevant to generational and technological changes. We also dedicated time to pray for these plans and for the development of new sites for our Bible Institutes.

World Reach ministers in 6 different countries throughout the Americas. But this endeavor is bigger than the missionaries and their families. It is carried out by the people who take time out of their daily routines to pray that God will work in and through us.



Sara and Felix



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Prayer matters:

1. Please continue to pray for Marissa's intellectual development. She continues to make progress as she meets twice a week with her speech therapist. In July she met with a psychologist who applied 3 different tests. One of the more significant results was that Marissa's developmental age is around 7.5 years, that's 3 years behind her chronological age. We are currently considering many of Marissa's challenges in order to decide what the best option for her is as she starts school again at the end of August. Please pray for wisdom.
2. Please pray for our Bible Institutes. During a four week period in July and August, two of my teammates will be teaching 2 classes in our 2 Bible institute sites in Honduras. Please pray for physical and spiritual stamina for both teachers and students.
3. Please pray for my work alongside my teammates as we create new Bible training programs and reformat our existing programs to respond to the generational and technological changes. Please pray for God's leading, for creativity and for wisdom.



Photos from Peru meetings

Please do not underestimate your participation in the ministry in Honduras. Your prayers are an indispensable part of what God is doing in and through us here. Thank you for taking the time to understand what we are doing and to intercede on our behalf. We are grateful for your partnership with us.

Fellow servants,

Peter & Gary