Praise and Prayer Report

Dear Friends and Family,

January has been an exciting month for us. We want to briefly tell you about some of the highlights so that you can rejoice with us in the good and pray with us through the challenges. Let's start with some of the praises...

Praises

1. Clear Vision for Our Present Ministry
   
   We are practicing focused, small-group discipling with Max, Francisco, and their wives. We have been having meetings with them as often as they make time for, which is usually at least once a week.

   Now that being parents isn't quite so brand-new, we want to resume visiting people in the town who never come to church. We know that earning their trust is a big part of communicating the Gospel.

2. Tiled Floors and Other Projects
   
   Money was recently released from a different MTW mission project specifically so that we could make some repairs and upgrades in Usphabamba. With the money budgeted, we tiled the floors in the sanctuary and the washroom. We also built a short wall around the back porch area for Elizabeth's safety when she begins to crawl and walk. It feels like a different building!

3. Affordable, Good Car

   Steve's brother-in-law, Danilo, will be selling us his 1972 Toyota for a very good price. Those who have "met" this car in person (for we have not) think this tank-like relic will handle the rough dirt roads up to Usphabamba just fine.

   This is a huge blessing since lack of transportation has kept us from attending evening church services in Cusco.

   In Usphabamba it will be possible to give rides to people who find it difficult to hike to church in the dark (and sometimes in the rain). We are also considering visiting two nearby communities where there are Christians but no local pastors.
4. Happy, Healthy, Bouncy Baby
   We love Elizabeth very much and delight in her growth. She likes to stare at anything striped. In Spanish her name is pronounced "Eleetsabet."

5. Upcoming Visits with Family
   We'll be visiting Steve's sister, Esther, this month. The visit has a dual purpose: one is to pick up the car and the other is to see them. Then, in the Spring months, we'll be traveling to the States to visit Hannah's family. It's been well over a year since we've seen family in Indiana and we believe this is the right time to come home for a month. We are very excited about that prospect.

6. God's Faithful Provision
   We want to thank God and you for your ongoing support of us here in Peru. God has placed a dry roof over our heads and food on the table, and with these we are content! (See 1 Timothy 6:6-8)
   But we also thank God for His provision in many other areas as well. He is providing us with the emotional strength to keep going at times when it gets hard. He provides us the grace to love when it doesn't come naturally. We are thankful for His provision!

Prayers

   We will be traveling to Lima this Monday and staying there until we get Elizabeth's U.S. Citizenship and passport. We pray for the process to go smoothly!

2. Wisdom in How to Continue to Reach the Hearts of Usphabamba
   Though our vision for discipleship is to spend the most time with Max and Francisco, we still feel a burden to reach more people in the town. Steve's dad has told him many times, "People won't care how much you know until they know how much you care." We believe this to be true! Our question to God is, "How do we show them how deeply we love them?" Please pray that God guide us each day.

3. Steve's Ordination Process
   Steve has been under care (in training for pastoral ordination) with the Presbytery for a year now. This church government requires that he be ordained before serving the Lord's Supper, something he yearns to do here in Usphabamba. Please
pray that he become properly ordained in the near future so that communion can become a regular part of our worship services.

In Closing

We apologize for the scarcity of photos in this update. We had some other photos we planned to share, but our phone was permanently borrowed from us by a stranger on the bus. Add to our list of praises that we were able to quickly block the old phone and replace it for relatively little money.

Lastly, if you would like to financially support our ministry here in Peru, you can send us support in three ways. They are...

1. Go to [http://pefministry.org/JohnsonS.html](http://pefministry.org/JohnsonS.html) and follow the "donate" link.

2. If you have Paypal, our link is... [paypal.me/stevenhannahjohnson](https://paypal.me/stevenhannahjohnson)

3. Send a check to the Presbyterian Evangelical Fellowship at...
   Presbyterian Evangelistic Fellowship
   PO Box 847
   Bristol, TN 37621

   Please write "Steve and Hannah Johnson" in the note section of the check so that PEF will know who to send it to.

Thank you all and God bless, Steve 'n' Hannah Johnson