

November 2009

# Andean Adventures

a journey with the Hettinga family in Cusco, Peru

## Aslan is on the move



### The Hettingas are on the move

After a lot of prayer, contemplation, and seeking advice from wise people, we have decided to commit two years to working at the Wycliffe Canada head office in Calgary, Alberta. I, Justin, will be involved in leading Wycliffe's efforts in mobilizing and recruiting Canadians to join the Bible translation movement. We may stay longer, but we feel that the two year commitment will give us enough time to make a significant contribution while allowing us to return overseas if God so leads. We plan to return to Canada mid to late June and will move to Calgary during the summer.

Although we are excited about the upcoming move, this will be a major change for all of us. We have raised our family in

Cusco and this is the only "home" our boys know. After living here for 10 years, Tammy & I will probably experience some re-entry culture shock and many things will be foreign to our boys. Caleb and Jesse have never gone to a regular school, since they've been homeschooled, and they will be jumping into a middle school. We have never lived in Alberta and Calgary has a much higher cost of living than what we are used to. There are many unknowns and challenges ahead that seem too big for us. However, we are comforted knowing that they are not too big for our God. Please pray that we will finish well here in Peru and that God will help us through the huge transition ahead of us.

When we move to Calgary, we will continue to receive our support/salary from people like you. As far as the way we receive our income, things really will not change for us, other than the cost of living! We are convinced that our role in Calgary is just as significant, or maybe even more so, than our role and contributions here in Peru. Without a strong support organization in Canada, hundreds of missionaries around the world would not be able to do what they are doing. It will be my responsibility to find and recruit hundreds more. We will keep you posted as this develops.

If there is one phrase that I remember from the Chronicles of Narnia, it is "Aslan is on the move." It is a phrase that often comes to mind when I am talking about what God is doing here in Peru. "God is on the move!" It is an exciting time to be a part of the army of the living God. Lives are being changed. People are coming to know their Creator. "Aslan is on the move!"

The town of Cotabambas and its surrounding districts have always been known to be tough places. They have been some of the most unreached areas in Peru. I remember a few years ago spending a night in the front yard of the local Catholic parish (in a tent, during a bicycle trip) with a friend of mine. During the middle of the night there was a lot of drinking going on and eventually gun shots starting ringing out around us. I didn't know what to do. A nylon tent is not much protection! Do I put my arms around my head? Should I put my bike helmet on? Cotabambas seemed to be a place where God was NOT on the move. But a few weeks ago I heard the following testimony.

*Before, my small town was a hell, but now it is happy. My name is Mario Huáscar Peña. I am very grateful to the Lord for the training that AIDIA\* gave in my town. These teachings greatly helped us to change the way of living in our church. Before we were too many alcoholics, fighting with one another, envying, hating, and not getting along with each other. In my home, I left my wife and children helpless – they had to trust luck to get along the best they could. Thanks to our all-powerful God for the teachings of "The Christian Family," it showed us our lives as in a mirror and made us realize that we were living just like the worldly people live. Now I am teaching this topic in the church and many believers have come back to God to serve Him, leaving behind their old lives. I see that more than half of the people in my town are now praising God. I am from the Mennonite Church in the community of Cotabambas.*



## ATEK construction update

In August we had a large celebration of the new ATEK\* training center. It was a time to thank God and celebrate the blessing of this new building. ATEK staff are now working in the facility and are using every square inch. With 26 staff and hundreds of volunteers in rural areas, the ATEK center is always bursting with activities.

As you can see in the picture to the right, the second floor is under construction. The first floor is primarily offices and the second floor will be primarily classrooms and a professional recording studio for ATEK's growing audio and video ministry. We thank God for the provision of this facility, for the finances to build it, and for the hundreds of volunteers who have come from the US and Canada to help with the construction. We can still use help on the second floor so let us know if you would like to come and help out.

AIDIA update: AIDIA has officially purchased a large house in which they will be setting up their translation and training center. They will be moving in in January. A lot of renovations are needed, as well as construction of additional dorm rooms. So we can also use your help in this project. What are you doing in 2010?

## Top 3 ways to join the adventure

Thank you to those of you who are already an active part of this adventure team.

### Pray

- Thank God for the ATEK building inauguration. We praise God for providing for this great facility. Pray that it can be used for many years for effective ministry and training.
- Thank God that Tammy & I were able to travel to Panama together for a SIL Leadership Development program called "L3 Portal" (Lifelong Learning for Leaders). We both benefited from the course and now have a better understanding of our strengths and how we can better use them for the glory of God. It was also a refreshing get-away as a couple, without our children.
- Thank God that He has given us direction and peace about our future.
- Thank God for changed lives among the Quechua people because of the teachings and ministries of ATEK and AIDIA.
- At the end of October our team organized a retreat for ATEK that focused on personal health and balance in ministry. Pray that God will help them apply what they learned for their personal lives and ministries so that they can avoid burn out and maintain spiritual vitality.
- Pray for wisdom for me as I lead our SIL/Wycliffe team, mentor several Quechua leaders, and advise various Quechua organizations, as well as several organizations outside of Peru.
- Tammy is finding this year of homeschooling more challenging and time consuming. Please pray for stamina, patience, grace and wisdom as she teaches Caleb (gr. 6) and Jesse (gr. 5).
- Pray that we will focus on what yet needs to be accomplished during our last 7 months here and that we'll finish well.
- Pray that God will raise up several financial partners and that we will receive what we need to work and live. We are currently only receiving 89% of our ministry budget. Also, once we move to Canada, because of the higher cost of living, our ministry budget will increase.

\*ATEK and AIDIA are the main interdenominational Quechua organizations we are mentoring in Cusco and Abancay.



### Go

There are many ways in which you can come and help in Peru. Right now there are a couple of building projects going on for the indigenous organizations with whom we work. Please contact us if you are interested in serving on a short-term team.

There are also other needs that you can fill depending on your level of Spanish and your availability. Once again, let us know if you want to get involved and we can begin a dialogue of how you might fit in.

### Give

We as Wycliffe missionaries rely on God to provide for our financial needs through the gifts of individuals and churches like yourself. We do not receive a regular salary. Please consider joining this part of the adventure.

To make a tax deductible donation please make cheques payable to Wycliffe Bible Translators and include a note designating it for *the support of the work of Justin and Tammy Hettinga*.

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Contributions can be made with a credit card by calling:

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