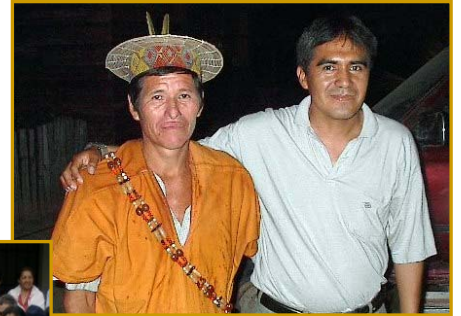


The Mission Society



Team Peru

Short Term Mission
Team Member Packet



The Mission Society

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Fraternidad Misionera



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January 14, 2010

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We are praying for your preparation and service in Peru, and we thank you for giving generously of your time, prayers, and finances to bless the people of Peru. Your presence in Peru will be a great spiritual blessing to many, a blessing that will spread beyond what our physical eyes can see over the time you will be here.

We know that many of you have traveled internationally and/or have served on previous mission trips; therefore, some of this information will not be new to you. However, we do encourage you to read the following information thoroughly, as there are some issues specific to Peru. We hope it will help you to plan, prepare, pray, and praise God for your upcoming trip and all that He has in store for you and those you will serve.

We invite you to e-mail us at any time if you have further questions about the trip (acivey@mindspring.com) or (billy@drumsforchrist.org). Please be aware that if you should need anything during the trip or if you become sick, please let us know right away. We are praying for you by name, and we're excited about serving the Lord together. You are a great blessing.

In Christ,

Arthur and Mary Alice Ivey
Billy and Laurie Drum

Welcome

We are excited that you have decided to work with us in Peru. Our team awaits your coming with prayer and expectation. The work that you will be doing here will extend far beyond your stay here in Peru.

Short Term Team Purpose:

We readily welcome short term teams to Peru. We feel that the gifts and talents that God has given to each and every one of us is to be shared with others and it is our opinion that everyone has something to offer. We welcome your assistance and help in increasing the Kingdom of God. We do, however, ask that you respect the purpose of the short term team.

*We believe that the purpose of a short term team is to **Glorify God** through your works by:*

- (1) Advancing and spreading of the gospel,*
- (2) Opening doors of discipleship to new believers through Peruvians, the local church and other missionaries working in the area,*
- (3) Providing spiritual and physical needs of those you will be serving, and*
- (4) To be learners to receive from the Lord Jesus Christ something to help grow your church at home through the Peruvians.*

Outreach Ministries:

Our Peru Team will plan the on-field outreach activities for each team, attempting to match field needs with team giftings and skills. Regardless of the location, your outreach activities will generally be in the following areas of ministry:

- **Evangelism** — Sharing the gospel and personal testimonies in local church settings, house-to-house visits, street ministry, and other settings as the Holy Spirit leads.
- **Mercy / Service / Creative Ministries** — Kids Club, drama, puppetry, music; sports ministry; medical, dental, and optical campaigns; and praying for physical and emotional healing and needs.

Men and women of any age can do all types of work and ministry needed on the field. Come willing, and God will use you!

Training

Probably the most important yet most overlooked aspect of short term missions is team training before going to the mission field. We have found that a well prepared team is more effective in their work, as well as being a better witness for Christ to the people that they are serving. Training should include spiritual preparation, prayer, cultural education and sensitivity, preparing and sharing

your personal testimony, team building, and devotionals.

The Mission Society Peru Team has developed a 5 week mandatory training that covers cultural education and sensitivity, spiritual preparation, prayer, preparing and sharing your testimony and devotionals. This course does not address team building and therefore should be handled by each team individually. The training module is located online at www.perutraining.weebly.com. The module contains online reading, video and audio clips, devotionals, and weekly study guides. It also includes links and downloadable lessons for Kid's Clubs. **This training is mandatory for all teams serving in Peru.**

The Mission Society can provide additional training through our Equipping Short-Term Mission Leaders Workshop. Please visit <http://www.themissionsociety.org/go/equipping> for more information. There are also a number of books available that we can suggest for your team to read and study before coming to Peru.

Immunizations

Each team member must consult his or her family doctor to discuss immunizations that they may recommend. We would highly recommend that you have an up-to-date tetanus vaccination, an immunization for Hepatitis B and Yellow Fever. When you receive your Yellow Fever Vaccination, you should request the international certificate. If time permits you should consider getting your Hepatitis A shots as well. Also, refer to the CDC (Center for Disease Control) recommendations for

Peru, as they can change.

(<http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/>).

Forms

Included in this packet are forms that must be completed and returned to your team leader.

These forms include:

- Travel Authorization
- Health Release Information -These must kept on file with your team leader.
- Short-Term Mission Team Member Registration & Liability Release
- Individual Health Information
- Consent for Medical Treatment
- Parental Consent Form (for Minor Team Members)
- Team Member Expectation Sheet

*** For forms provided in English and Spanish, the English and Spanish forms must both be completed.**

Passports and/or Visas

You will need a valid U.S. Passport. Make a copy of your passport information page and keep it in a separate place. You will obtain a tourist visa when you enter the country. If you do not have a passport, or if your passport will soon expire you need to apply for a new passport (allow up to six weeks). Note: *You should have at least 30 days remaining on your passport from the date of your departure.* For detailed requirements for travel documents visit:

http://www.travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/cis/cis_998.html

Peru

As a developing 3rd-world country, you may have to do without some of the comforts and efficiency that we all enjoy in the United States. Even when we go as servants prepared to make sacrifices, the vast differences in North and South American culture can still be a surprise. With that in mind we would like to mention a few differences so that your travel and service might flow smoothly, and so that you would have slightly clearer expectations. It would be impossible to list all of the differences that might be challenging; however we do want to mention a few.

- First, there may be a lot of waiting in line. Peruvians are accustomed to waiting in lines from 30 minutes to over an hour with no visible aggravation.
- Service in restaurants is often slow and your food may arrive at different times from others in your party.
- You may also have to wait a while for a waiter or salesperson to find change from someone else and bring it to you after you have paid your bill.
- Peruvians are a relatively quite culture. They are often very soft spoken and not loud, rowdy and rambunctious as we North Americans often are.
- When in Peru, carry your own toilet paper and, if you like, wipes or a little bar of soap to clean your hands. It is very rare to find toilet paper, paper towels, or soap in bathrooms, except in nicer hotels or

restaurants—but don't count on it being there, either. *Please remember to always place your toilet paper in the trash can and not in the toilet.*

- Water availability, water pressure, and hot water can be unreliable in Peru, particularly during the dry season, the time you will be visiting. You may step into a shower and find the water temperature fluctuates a great deal. *Be careful not to get burned.* Frequently, the water shuts off in the late afternoon and evening in the dry season.
- It is possible that you will not have a private shower in your room, so a shower schedule may be helpful.
- Bottled drinking water is widely sold, and we will try to provide filtered drinking water on the work sites as well. We mention this because we've found that previous groups appreciated a little heads-up.
- Finally, the currency in Peru is the Nueva Sol. The exchange rate is roughly 2.80 Soles to the US dollar. There will be an opportunity to change money once you arrive in Peru.

Altitude

Huancayo is a mile higher than Denver at 11,500 feet. If the group travels by bus to Huancayo or any other place in the Sierra or Selva Districts, it will cross over Mt. Ticlio, at 16,000 feet. Even if you are in good health, we encourage you to discuss with your doctor that you plan to travel to these altitudes and follow his counsel. Good news: the majority of short-term missionaries who come to Huancayo have very few, if any, high altitude symptoms

(these symptoms include headaches, shortness of breath, difficulty sleeping, nausea, irritability, and weakness). During your stay please rest frequently and stay hydrated, respecting your environment and the limitations it places on those not accustomed to altitude. Being at high altitude also means you will be more susceptible to sunburn. Sun block, sunglasses, and a hat are highly recommended. Some visitors have noticed that the dry air in Huancayo causes sinus trouble. If you are prone to sinus problems, please bring your medicine. You may also find relief from saline nose sprays during your stay, which can be picked up in a pharmacy. If someone does have difficulty with the altitude and needs to go down, please let us know and we will make arrangements as soon as possible.

Working at Altitude:

We want to warn you about working at altitude. We've seen groups come and work very hard the first day only to have to take the next two days off. Working at 11,500 feet is a lot harder than at sea level and you don't necessarily feel it right away. We encourage everyone to pace yourselves and not try to overdo it.

Climate

Sierra District (Mountains)

If you will be visiting in the Andes Mountains, the temperature will range from 70° during the day to 30° at night. Bring warm socks and sleeping wear as well as a hat, gloves, long underwear, warm shoes, and a coat. Bring clothes that you can layer. Keep in mind that at this altitude the sun is very

intense during the day so you may need to shed and add layers as the day progresses. Nights will be cold. There will probably be little or no rain, but it would still be prudent to pack a rain jacket or umbrella. Please note that the buildings are not heated nor are they well insulated, so warm clothing is a must. Blankets and sheets will be provided in the hotels and dorms, but we encourage you to bring whatever else you may need to keep warm. The temperature in Lima (where you will enter Peru) will be warmer than in the mountains, but still cool and damp.

Selva District (Jungle)

In the jungle areas the weather can range from a hot and muggy 95° during the day to a hot and muggy 85° at night. Rain is more common in the jungle areas, but is usually a welcome relief from the heat. You should plan on wearing lightweight clothing, shirts with short sleeves, and water resistant boots or shoes during your time in the jungle. The buildings will more than likely not be air conditioned. Some accommodations in the jungle areas may be a bit primitive. In very remote areas you may be sharing the floor in a home of a villager.

Packing

Most airlines have changed their luggage allowance and it varies from airline to airline. Most of them allow one carry-on, one personal item (laptop, purse, etc) and one or two checked bags (depending upon airline policies) at 50# each. Please check with your chosen airline for verification of their luggage policy. If everyone is

going to bring the full allowance, please let us know so we can plan for transportation of the bags. In addition, it is possible that the bus company will charge you for excess baggage. Travel as light as possible. Here is a list of recommended supplies that you should pack for your mission trip:

- **A Bible.** We find it best for the group to have daily morning devotions with each member taking a day to share.
- **Snacks.** Small, lightweight, high-energy snacks may be needed for our days of travel. Some suggestions are jerky, granola, trail mix, energy bars, and saltine crackers.
- **Medicines.** You may want to have Dramamine for travel (for any long bus rides), Imodium, Fibercon, and Tylenol or Advil or aspirin. Also, if you take any prescription medications it would be wise to bring extra supplies.
- **Water.** It's always good to have one or two small water bottles for the bus trips. Bottled water is readily available and may be bought here but you may want to bring a few to start out. You can dehydrate easily, especially when you have to travel through the high mountains in the bus. The half-liter bottles are good to carry. *Note that on flights you cannot carry water in your carry-on luggage so you will have to pack it in your checked luggage.*
- **Clothing.** Peru has a more conservative approach to clothing than we are used to in North America. As guests, we ask that you respect our hosts by wearing modest, culturally-appropriate clothing. All clothing

must be modest and God-pleasing as defined by our local host receiving culture. Team Leaders should explain appropriate clothing before each ministry activity. If you choose to bring short pants we recommend that they be knee length or longer.

- **Sierra District – (Mountains)** Bring clothes that you can layer. Keep in mind that at this altitude the sun is very intense during the day so you may need to shed and add layers as the day progresses. You should bring:
 - Warm socks
 - Sleeping wear
 - Hat
 - Gloves
 - Long underwear
 - Warm shoes
 - Coat
 - Rain gear
 - Towel
 - Sunscreen
 - *A small blanket (should you require additional warmth during the night.)
- **Selva District – (Jungle)** Bring clothing that will be comfortable and cool. The jungle is hot and humid (*Think Atlanta or Houston in the summer*). You should bring:
 - Water resistant boots/shoes
 - Flip-flops or sandals for showers
 - Rain gear
 - Shorts that are knee length or longer
 - Hat
 - Sheets for bedding
 - Insect repellent
 - Sunscreen
 - Towel

- **All Areas:** Women do not need to wear dresses or skirts, even to church. Church dress is more informal than in the States. Pants, sweaters, casual coats will be fine.

Other suggestions:

- **Small flashlight.** Electricity is usually reliable, but you may need a light to find your way around or read at night.
- **Flip-flops** or sandals for the shower.
- **A watch** inexpensive and non-descript.
- **A camera,** film, and necessary batteries.
- **Hide-away travel wallet** and/or money belt.
- **A towel** and a washcloth
- **Personal hygiene** items such as
 - soap
 - toothpaste
 - deodorant

Ministry Materials:

Ministry materials vary by location and depend on what type of ministry you will be doing. Examples of materials needed may include the following:

- **Ministry supplies:** Bibles, tracts, craft materials for VBS, church services, or Kid's Club
- **Gifts:** school supplies and sports equipment (deflate soccer or basketballs; bring a pump and leave it for others to use). Please refrain from giving candy.

Things not to bring:

- ⊗ **Jewelry.** Lima is a fairly dangerous city as far as petty crimes are concerned. Even what we would consider modest jewelry back home stands out so much here. We may be spending some time in public places in Lima, so except for a plain wedding band and nondescript watch it's best to leave jewelry at home.
- ⊗ **A wallet** carried in your back pocket—too easily picked.
- ⊗ **Purses,** or at the very least a purse of value that contains valuables. They are a target in Lima and Huancayo and are frequently jerked away from their owners.
- ⊗ **Excessive amounts of food or water.** They are too heavy and not necessary. We'll have water and filters with us as well as cooks to cook for us. The restaurants where you will eat have not caused any illness in previous groups. If you are serving in Huancayo your meals will be prepared by cooks who have been serving groups for several years, and they know how to clean and cook everything to protect your health.

Dismissal from the Team:

The Mission Society is a disciplined Christian organization with regulated standards in the areas of conduct, dress, and lifestyle. Team members, leaders, and staff adhere strictly to the mission's policies and are subject to dismissal for violations, without refund or reimbursement. In rare cases, a team member(s) can be dismissed from the team and sent home — at his/her expense. The following are grounds for dismissal from a team:

- Drinking alcohol or using tobacco products - While the Mission Society does not hold a philosophy of not consuming alcohol or using tobacco products; we do presume that use of alcohol and smoking is a delicate social and cultural matter, which becomes especially confusing in a cross-cultural setting. There are many Peruvians that struggle with the addiction to alcohol and tobacco the problems associated with their effects. The addiction in fact may start at a very young age.

It is better not to eat meat or drink wine or to do anything that will cause your brother to fall (Rom. 14:21).

Therefore, we ask that all members of The Mission Society short-term teams agree to abstain from using alcohol or tobacco products for the duration of the trip, including during transit and on planes, regardless of who may or may not be watching.

- The use, sale, purchase, or possession of any illegal substances
- Immoral relationships
- Creating serious problems within the team

The Mission Society Missionary, Team Leaders, and sending organization will work together on team discipline, if necessary. The Mission Society Team Leaders make the final decision whether or not to dismiss and send home a team member.

We are looking forward to seeing you when you arrive. It will be a pleasure serving with you. Should you need anything or have any questions, please let us know.

**Your Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
The Mission Society Peru Team**