



Peru Report 2006



On September 22 Wayne Brewer along with Jim and Judy O'Connor from Oak Grove, Missouri traveled to Peru in South America to participate in preaching and teaching the gospel of Christ, teach students of the local preaching school and door-to-door evangelism and Bible studies. Peru is located in western South America on the Pacific coast bordered by Ecuador, Bolivia, Columbia, Brazil and Chile, and is known as the home or the cradle of the Inca Empire.



The majority of our work was with the Los Olivos congregation in Lima, a city of about nine million residents, and with the congregation at Catacaos, which is located up near the Ecuador border. However, we also preached at the San Juan de Miraflores and Santa Anita congregations in Lima, and in Piura, which is a town near Catacaos. They were just entering spring in South America so the weather in Lima was still in the 60's, however in the Catacaos area, closer to the equator temperatures were closer to 90 degrees.

Rodolfo Espinoza and his wife Eleana are seen in the photo to the right. Rodolfo preaches for the San Juan de Miraflores congregation and the Los Olivos congregation. He also helps the work at Santa Anita. In addition to preaching he is the assistant director for the Bible School of the Americas, Lima Campus, which is a school of preaching overseen by the elders of the Forest Park church of Christ in Valdosta, Georgia. Brother Rodolfo is a man who is always thinking to the future for the Lord's church in Peru. His immediate goal is to establish a radio station at the San Juan de Miraflores church building that can be solely used by the church to preach the gospel to Peru. If you know of any old station equipment that could be shipped to Peru, please contact Wayne Brewer. You could have a part in putting into place the first radio station owned by the church in Peru.

The other two photos at the right are of the men and boys at Miraflores and of the women and girls at Miraflores. The San Juan de Miraflores congregation has about 85 in attendance on Sunday.



Although Peru is a Latin American country the people are quite a bit different than those of Costa Rica or Mexico. They have some of the Latin American culture, but at the same time other influences, such as Inca, European and evidently other places too. Brother Jim O'Connor said that Peru reminded him more of India than any other place that he had been. (I think it kind of made him a little home sick for India). The Peruvians are more quiet and reserved than their Latin American neighbors to the north. They also might be just a little bit tardier to events than their neighbors. Can you imagine a worship service being publicly announced to start at 7:30 p.m., and members arrive at 8:40 p.m. and still get to hear the whole sermon? It happened! We left the church building that night at 10:00 p.m.



The Santa Anita congregation



This young lady was very very happy after being baptized at Los Olivos.



L to R: Wayne Brewer, Rodolfo Espinoza, and Jim O'Connor



Brethren out door-knocking and holding Bible studies.



Students and their families from the school of preaching



Judy O'Connor teaching at a Ladies Day at Los Olivos with about 80 ladies from 11 congregations present

The second part of our time in Peru was in the city of Catacaos where we knocked doors, held in-home Bible studies, and preached every evening. The brethren in this town were very friendly and it was a joy to work with them. The photo at the right is of Israel Yarlequé and his wife Benita. He preaches for the congregation at Catacaos and Piura. The photo below is of the congregation at Catacaos.



Israel became a Christian twelve years ago and has established the congregation in Catacaos. His four adult children are all faithful members of the church.



The photo to the left was taken in the home of the lady in the black shirt to the right. Her house has the earth for a floor. She came to the worship service later that evening. The children seen in the photo are neighborhood children who began following us from house to house and just stayed for the Bible study.



Angie and her mother, members at Catacaos.



It happens everywhere!!!



The congregation at Piura



Typical scenes in Peru of carts pulled by donkeys and Inca women dressed in their customary clothing.

The work of evangelism with the brothers and sisters in Peru was a wonderful experience. I appreciate so much being able to go with Jim and Judy O'Connor, having worked with them in Latvia and Costa Rica. A special thank you to Mabelvale for allowing me to go, and to the 39th Street congregation in Independence, Missouri for providing the funds. There is still much work to be done in Peru. Pray for the brethren there. Wayne Brewer – Mabelvale Church of Christ – P.O. Box 345 – Mabelvale, AR 72103. waynebrewer74@aol.com 501-455-3397