# THE STOVER FAMILY

ROBERT, SARA, JOSIAH, CALEB, JOSHUA, LYDIA, ZACHARY, ELIJAH, & MELODY

JULY/AUGUST 2021

MISSIONARIES TO PERU

In the book of Ezra, Ezra and the Jewish leaders faced the daunting task of rebuilding the temple. Ezra 1:5 states, "Then rose up the chief of the fathers of Judah and Benjamin, and the priests, and the Levites, with all them whose spirit God had raised, to go up to build the house of the Lord which is in Jerusalem." May God raise our spirits as we go forward to see His name exalted and His Word proclaimed! Please pray that the Lord would raise up a host of men and women whose spirit God has raised to accomplish the task both here in Peru and around the world.

## **Prayer Requests:**

-Please pray for missionary Bertha Mamani (attends a church of like-faith here in Tacna) and Pastor Henry's dad, Fausto, as they recover from severe cases of Covid. Thank you to those who have given to the COVID fund, which has already been able to be a direct help to pastors, their families, and others serving the Lord.

-We have had some slowdowns with the renewal of our residence visas. Please pray that God would intervene so that we could get these things back up-to-date.

# **Church Update**

We thank the Lord that in the past few months we have been able to have more flexibility for in-person church services. Starting August 25, we are allowed up to 50% of the building capacity. We are now holding Sunday AM, PM, and Wednesday PM services, and are looking to restart Sunday School soon. We have begun inperson children's class on Sundays and monthly youth meetings as well. Everything is still live-streamed also for those unable to attend in person. We also continue to hold the three Friday night Bible studies.

#### **Political Situation**

July 28th, the new president Pedro Castillo was inaugurated, with only some mild protests in the capital. The economy continues to struggle with the effects of the pandemic causing the Peruvian currency, the nuevo sol, to weaken and the prices of gasoline and many other basic items to rise sharply. Having said this, church offerings have actually increased during these difficult months. Please pray for God to continue to supply work for our church people, so that they can continue to support their families.

## **Spiritual Decisions**

What a blessing to see that even though challenging times, many have taken steps forward spiritually. Several of our people are taking online Bible Institute classes two nights a week. How exciting to see them then take what they have learned to witness and Biblically counsel friends and family! Others continue to share daily Bible audios. This is definitely one major benefit of the pandemic—online methods of Biblical teaching have become much more available and utilized here. Every day we share Bible podcasts, with favorable responses, even from those who haven't accepted Christ vet. One lady in our church recently messaged that a high school friend of hers is close to accepting Christ, just from listening to these podcasts. We have had a new family visit the church. The mother and son accepted Christ after being witnessed to over the phone during the pandemic, having never met the faithful church member who reached out to them (a friend of the mother's sister). Since then, they have come faithfully, and the teenage daughter accepted Christ last week! All three are receiving discipleship classes and want to be baptized. Please pray for the husband to also be saved.

Thank you for your sacrificial prayer and giving to the ministry here in Peru. We could not do what we do without you!

Serving until the trumpet sounds, *Robert & Sara Stover and Family* 

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