

# Joshua and Missy Saune Ministry Update

Dearest friends,

It feels as though we have been through a whirlwind of activity. Missy and I departed for Ayacucho on June 4<sup>th</sup>. We (Missy, Ruben & I) were all healthy and ready for a busy time of ministry. After completing some work in the Lima area, we happily departed Lima for Ayacucho on June 6<sup>th</sup>. The joy we always have when we return to our beloved Ayacucho, is an excitement and blessing all rolled together.

Two days later, our little Ruben became sick with what we thought was a simple cold. Four days later, Missy was worried and started talking to her doctor back in the States, who after getting all the details, recommended the right medication for him. Ruben has never been so sick before, and it was quite alarming for us. Once Ruben was better, Missy fell ill and was down for a week. Missy had just recovered when I became very sick with hyponatremia (low sodium), something I have been dealing with for years. Unfortunately, in Ayacucho, they do not know how to screen or treat this problem. We found a doctor who worked with Missy to help treat me. Once finding out my sodium was dangerously low, I had an IV put in with extra sodium to help my level rise. However, the amount of sodium was so high, my blood pressure became gravely high. It took four days of care and prayer, before my blood pressure was considered a 'safe' high. A week later, my blood pressure was at safer levels.

This was the first time Missy, and I have ever experienced such severe illnesses in Ayacucho. We are thankful for family and friends who helped us find a doctor who knew a little about my illness to help. We lost a lot of time that we had set aside to set up on some of our training sessions we had hoped to have. We also had to deal with a lot of strikes in the city which became dangerous. We were in a 'stay in place' situation a lot of the time.

The highlight of the trip for us was the ability to build a burial place for my brothers, Romulo & Ruben, whose lots were up in the city cemetery (burials are above ground). My brothers were killed by terrorists back on September 5, 1992; when the Maoist communist party (Shining Path) tried to overthrow the Peruvian government. The trip that my brothers were on when they were killed, was a trip I was supposed to be on. However, my brother Romulo called and told me to stay behind and asking me to promise to return his body to our home village, should anything happen to him. My younger brother, Ruben, happened to call and request the same thing. It took me 34 years to complete my promise. It was a beautiful memorial, with a time of sharing and honoring the work Romulo did throughout Peru; like translating the Bible into our Quechua language.

I was thankful for the opportunity to speak with several Christian leaders and community leaders. I am prayerfully planning to participate in more training sessions, via Zoom (in locations where possible). It was exciting to hear that it is more possible now. I have shared video recordings of

several teachings, but I know that it would be more beneficial to have the capability to speak directly to everyone, even via Zoom.

I do not know how to express our gratitude to all of you for first helping us to build a burial place in our home village for my brothers. More importantly, for your continuous prayers for Ruben, Missy and I while we were all so very sick. To us, at a time when we felt alone, we had comfort in knowing we had our church family praying alongside us.

### **PRAISES:**

- For safe travels to and from Peru.
- For our family health, despite everyone being terribly sick, we were all cleared by our doctors once we returned home.
- For the good health of our Mama Maria.
- For the completion of a brotherly promise; and a marvelous memorial celebration.
- For the commitment of more Zoom training sessions. (This has been a prayer of ours for a long time!)
- For the blessing of having all my children home for this trip.
- For the honor of performing the wedding of our daughter, Zoyla to Oliver Hardman.
- For Joshua Inka (our grandson) who is starting his 8<sup>th</sup> grade year and for our little Ruben, who is so happy to be in kindergarten!

### **PRAYER REQUESTS:**

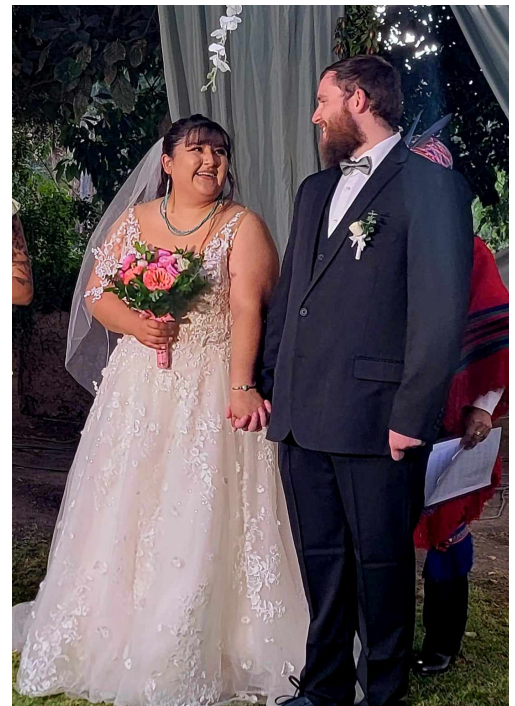
- For our family health. With school in back in session, our little Nobi has caught a cold.
- For the commitment to Zoom training courses. That this will work flawlessly in the Andean mountains.
- For both Ruben & Joshua Inka who have just started school. Joshua has again been invited to take an advanced math course that will be used as credits in high school.
- For Oliver & Zoyla as they settle into married life and search for their new home together.
- For the continued work on teaching translations, we use in our training sessions.
- For the continued good health of our Mama Maria, and for Willy & Reyna, our godchildren who care for her everyday needs.



At the memorial of Romulo & Ruben,  
everyone kneeling in prayer.



Sharing about the life  
of my brothers Romulo  
& Ruben.



Our daughter Zoyla & her  
husband, Oliver.