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Dear friends in Christ,

August, 2020

This month was jam packed with blessings, opportunities, and challenges. Some were sought, some were caught, and some I wanted to catch and release. But it all worked out just the way the Lord wanted.

A church assigned me the task of helping a pastor with some spiritual needs in his life. It consisted of five counseling sessions that went between 1 ½ to 2 hours in each meeting. These were done in person. There were many other such opportunities with other pastors with different challenges, but those were handled by zoom, phone, email, or other means.

The government here has made stronger restrictions due to the spread of the covid virus. It is my understanding that Peru has about the highest morality rate of those who contact covid. At this time, no foreigners can fly into the country. No one is permitted to leave their home on Sundays even for a family reunion. The illness and the restrictions are a double blow to churches.

Pastors are working with daunting handicaps and crippling limitations. Just think of the problem they face in how to comfort hurting people who have lost a loved one and they cannot even attend the funeral or burial. Added to this, their pastor cannot even visit them. Yes, you can read the Scripture and pray together over the phone. But this is hardly the same. Pastors need their people, people need their pastor, and we all need each other.

Added to all this is the compounding financial pressure pastors are under. Many members have lost their job and savings. The stress level is high for many leaders. In our last letter, we mentioned the pressure pastors face and how we are trying to help some with personal financial needs. In response to that information, two couples have sent us generous offerings to help pastors. Their sacrifice will give much needed help to godly men and their families who are on the front lines of the battle.

I am teaching a course to students in their third year in our Seminary in the city of Trujillo. The class is for 50 minutes 3 days a week. I hired a secretary who lives there. She sits in on the class, takes the roll, creates quizzes and exams, receives homework, and does grading. What a blessing she is.

During these last months, our radio ministry has had a powerful impact on many lives. You may recall we had just finished getting two new stations up and running when covid hit. Those are now reaching two entire cities for Christ all during this time of restriction! We have a need for 7 small transmitters for future stations and as backups for those we have. Each cost \$4,400. I present this project for those who would like to give toward expanding our outreach.

For those of you who speak spanish or know of someone who does, I have written a book on forgiveness. We have printed it here in Peru, but it is also in the kindle format on Amazon. The title is: [\*\*Perdonando Como Dios Perdona\*\*](#) (Forgiving as God Forgives). I share this information with you because I believe it can help many people who struggle in this area. The needs are great regarding asking forgiveness, forgiving, and accepting God's forgiveness for past sins.

Thank you for your prayers and support. When you have real problems and real pain, you need real solutions. It is wonderful to receive real grace for all we need.

For Christ's glory,  
Stanley and Ruth Templeton