

Cornerstone - Global Ministries

One Nation at a Time - PERU


The Country

Ancient Peru was the seat of several prominent Andean civilizations, most notably that of the Incas whose empire was captured by the Spanish conquistadors in 1533. Peruvian independence was declared in 1821, and remaining Spanish forces defeated in 1824. After a dozen years of military rule, Peru returned to democratic leadership in 1980, but experienced economic problems and the growth of a violent insurgency. President Alberto FUJIMORI's election in 1990 ushered in a decade that saw a dramatic turnaround in the economy and significant progress in curtailing guerrilla activity. Nevertheless, the president's increasing reliance on authoritarian measures and an economic slump in the late 1990s generated mounting dissatisfaction with his regime. FUJIMORI won reelection to a third term in the spring of 2000, but international pressure and corruption scandals led to his ouster by Congress in November of that year. A caretaker government oversaw new elections in the spring of 2001, which ushered in Alejandro TOLEDO as the new head of government; his presidency has been hampered by allegations of corruption.

Facts and Figures

Capital City: Lima (7,350,000)

Population: 29,546,963 (July 2009)

Religion: Roman Catholic 81.3%, Evangelical 12.5%, other 3.3%, unspecified or none 2.9% (2007 Census)

Language: Spanish (official), Quechua (official), Aymara, and a large number of minor Amazonian languages

Most Pressing Needs because of war

1. With the end of 15 years of war, there are serious issues that need to be addressed by Evangelicals.
2. War has left hundreds of thousands of impoverished and traumatized people who need material, emotional, and spiritual help.

The Church

Despite the high cost of imprisoned and martyred church leaders, praise God that Evangelical churches have grown dramatically throughout the last century.

Our Prayer

- Pray for the increase of believers will continue now that Perú has obtained peace.
- Pray for a new and deeper work of the Holy Spirit to re-ignite the church in Perú.
- Pray that the church would be unified as a source of leadership, stability, social aid, and hope, as well as providing for spiritual needs of the nation.
- Pray that Christianity would continue to become indigenized in Scriptures, structures, worship, and that millions of Quechua and Aymara who are still bound by superstition and long standing hurt will reconcile to God.
- Pray for the Gospel to go forth.

Our Partnerships

- **Kevin and Jessica Oates** serve in Lima, Perú. Kevin is teaching at the Baptist Theological Seminary equipping pastors, missionaries and church leaders to reach their own people and the World.
- Jessica's primary ministry is to her family, but she is also using her medical skills to serve among poor areas in Perú.
- They are reaching out to the community there by caring for their physical needs while seeking opportunity to share the Gospel.
- Please pray for **Nicole Dickson**, who is also serving in Lima, Peru. She is leading a Bible study with girls from the youth group. Nicole works at the medical clinic on Saturdays and coordinates a Bible Club in Manchay, on top of teaching a third grade class. She has asked for prayer regarding wisdom in time management.



Grace and peace to you in our Lord! In order to facilitate a global perspective amongst the staff and communities, we have put together a template to encourage the body to pray for a specific country and partnership each week.

Pray for All People:

1 First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, **2** for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. **3** This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, **4** who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

--1 Timothy.2:1-4

"...The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective."

--James.5:16b

If you have any questions or suggestions, please contact us at 805.581.9532 or e-mail:

Jen Yun

Global Ministries Administrative Assistant
jyun@cornerstonesimi.com