## **Serving Christ and the People of Peru**

April-June 2024

I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me. Galatians 2:20



The senior class I taught in first grade my first year in Peru

## Hello everyone!

These last few months have been filled with lots of exciting activities. I hope you enjoy reading about them in this prayer letter.

In April, a team came from the United States to work with girl's amputee soccer. I was able to help by translating and sharing the gospel with the ladies. I even got to play soccer with them. It wasn't easy to play using the crutches and holding one foot up in the air. However, the difficulty I experienced was very minor compared to what they have to contend with on a daily basis, and it gave me a greater appreciation and respect for them. After our soccer game, they all heard a clear presentation of the gospel message. I pray that God will continue to work in the hearts of those people who were there.

In May, the school had its annual week of camp. Once again, it was wonderful to get out of the city with the junior high and high school students. The weather was beautiful so the girls and I were in the pool almost every day. The students spent the week with less phone time and instead were outdoors playing basketball, volleyball, and soccer. We took a hike over the hills to a nearby river where we swam and played.



Helping with ladies amputee soccer



Hiking the hills with the students



Lunch time with the junior high girls







Celebrating my 10th year anniversary in Peru

Students translating for the providers

Students evangelizing at medical campaign

It was great to get out of Lima and be physically active. It was even nice to be away from our phones and focused on the people around us. Best of all, we were spiritually edified by the Bible classes. The last morning, during our testimony time, one of the sixth grade boys came up to the platform and testified that he had accepted Christ as his Savior the night before! It was wonderful to see God's hand working in our lives during that week of camp.

We were able to host a medical mission team at the end of May. We all worked very hard for five days and saw 2,861 patients. All of them heard the gospel and many accepted Christ as their Savior. Some came not only with physical ailments, but were struggling emotionally and spiritually. They were able to receive both physical and spiritual care. They also met the pastor and members of a good church in their area. I was so happy to see the students have a part in all of this. Those students who understand and speak English well went to translate for the providers. Others went to evangelize. One of the seniors that I taught in first grade told me he did not want to translate because he got too nervous every time he tried. I told him, "Mathias, I know you can do this! You know English. Overcoming the nervousness just comes with practice." He wasn't convinced, but I brought him along to evangelize. Everyday I asked him if he was ready to translate and every day he told me no. On the way home the second to last day, he told me that he wanted to try translating. I was so excited! The next day I rotated him to translate for a provider. The provider said he did a great job. He loved it so much that he wanted to stay there when it was time for him to rotate back to evangelism. I was so proud of him for overcoming his fear of translating.

Another special event happened in May. I celebrated my 10th year anniversary of being a missionary teacher in Peru. The staff and students were so sweet to celebrate with a little program for me. I am so thankful God has allowed me to serve Him here for all these years. I pray that He uses my life to make a difference for many more years to come.

## Prayer request for July, August, and September:

- Pioneer Christian School's Independence Day program (July 8th).
  Pray for the parents who will come and hear the gospel presentation.
- 2. My trip to the United States during the school's winter break.
- The pastor's retreat (August 29-31).
  Pray that many pastors will come and be edified. Pray also for financial provision.
- 4. Pioneer Christian School's anniversary week. That this would be a way to evangelize to parents and students who do not know Christ as their Savior.



Mathias overcoming his fear of translating!