



I Dig Peru News

'The King will reply, I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.' Matthew 25:40 NIV

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Victoria (Froggy) Atkins Story

I went to Peru for the second time this past summer. I went with a smaller team to the Kimo camp in the mountain jungle. The camp is not yet ready for boys to live there, so most of our time was spent in construction. I can't lie; when I first heard there would not be any girasoles boys there, I was disappointed. Their sweet, excited faces and presence are my whole reason for going back. But the most important thing in our mission work with Scripture Union is to go where we're needed, and goodness knows the boys need a new camp. So, I reminded myself to thank God for the chance, any chance, to serve them.

God loves us too much to let any chance for fellowship and learning to go to waste. He reminded me of that this summer. The construction workers we worked with were amazing. They were kind and patient, opening up a little more to us each day. For a good part of the time, I helped (tried to help) this man called Loco (yes, "crazy!") as he worked on a ceiling for one of the buildings. At first, he was quiet and shy like me, but as we pieced together my lousy Spanish and some impromptu sign language, we both loosened up and got to cracking jokes with one other. After that, whenever we saw

each other, he'd say, "Ello, Betoria!" I hear his kind, silly voice in my mind and can't help but grin! I later came to learn he has a daughter about my age, with a grandchild on the way. (I can only imagine the sweet grandfather he will make.)

Once, Loco took Brad and me in a Jeep to get some rocks and sand from



the river and on our way back up the mountain, the Jeep gave out. Now, this poor thing was old and cranky to begin with, and hauling three grown people and a ton of rocks up a steep little mountain certainly

wasn't helping. Loco cranked it and cranked it, but it wouldn't wake back up. He looked at us and said cheerfully, "Okay, okay, no problem." And that's what he kept on saying, with just as much cheer and ease as if he was...I don't know...leisurely whittling a scrap piece of wood and not working on the only car the camp had. He tirelessly worked on this Jeep, whistling and telling us it was "Okay." This man – like all the other good, gentle people at the camp – simply had a joyful spirit you couldn't easily ruffle.

When I came back from my first trip to Peru, I left with a determination to be the kind of person the girasoles boys



Useless Information to
Brighten your day:

A 5 gallon bucket is
0.81 cubic feet

Concrete weighs 145 lbs
per cubic foot

A completely full 5
gallon bucket of
concrete weighs 117 lbs

Most carry the bucket
1/2 full so 58.7 lbs

Calendar of Events

Item	Team	Date
Jordan and Turkey Conference/Visit	Dunlaps	November 3-21
Deadline to get donations in for Bids 2Help Kids	Peru	November 6
Bids 2Help Kids Ticket Sale Deadline	Peru	November 10
Bids 2Help Kids	Peru	November 13
Selling Christmas Honor Cards	Peru	Nov 15 and 22 December 6 and 13
Leaves and Mulch Yard Work	Peru	Ongoing
Peru 2010 Kickoff Meeting	Peru	November 17
Christmas Party (Pot Luck)	Both Teams	December 15
Team Meeting	Peru	January 12
Tanzania Mission Trip	Steve Hendrix	January 12-28
Team Meeting	Peru	February 9
Team Meeting	Peru	March 9
Month Long Marathon	Church Missions	February 21- March 21
MUMC Spring Fling (Praise)	Peru	March 21
Team Meeting	Peru	April 13
Team Meeting	Peru	May 11
Team Meeting	Peru	June 8
Team Meeting/Packing Party	Peru	July 13
Peru 2010	Peru	July 16-25, 2010

Victoria Atkins Story Cont.

thought I was. Now, after my second trip, I have a determination to be what I saw in the men like Loco, hard-working people who laugh easily and just radiate a sense of thankfulness for each day, no matter how much work or uncertainty it might hold.

Dearest Lord, may we be that thankful for the blessing of a new morning. Even when the day's work is long and hard, may we be thankful that You give us that work and the capability to do it. Our best effort is all You ask. We love You with all our heart. Amen.



This is the final week to get donated items and to sell tickets to this event. We are also still in need of volunteers especially to run the kids area in the gym. Please contact Steve about ticket sales and donated items and Kyle about volunteering.

Peru 2010 Update

This year we are attempting to get enough people to man two teams, one to Puerto Alegria and one to Kimo. So for all those who have been thinking about going back- this is the year the church needs you back. For those who have been considering this trip it is the year we need you to join.

Selection for camps will be on first come basis. If you have a specific camp you would like to go to then you will need to sign up early this year.

In addition we have made great strides in stretching out our fundraising season to help relieve some of the last minute stress and selling fundraisers. But we need your help to get make them work.

Check us out on Facebook. The group's name is I Dig Peru.
Discuss the trips, share photos, look at old videos and connect with
interns from past trips.

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