

## Link Letter No.1 August 2010

### Dear praying friends,

#### Thank you

*Thank you seems to be a good place to start!* It has been wonderful to see so many of you over the last few months. We have been so encouraged and well looked after as we have travelled the country, being welcomed into people's homes and being very well fed! It has also been inspiring to see so many of you doing so many wonderful things here in the UK. Thank you for all that you are!

#### Sharing with you

We have spent much of our time in the UK visiting supporting churches. It has been great to renew friendships, make new ones and to share about life and work in Peru. It is a real encouragement to us to know that there are so many of you supporting and praying for us, our work and the many projects in Peru. We hope that we have been able to share our excitement and vision for the next few years we expect to be in Peru and for all that we believe God is doing there.



Getting away from it all...

**Did you know** that you can now receive link letters by email, sent as a PDF? If you would like to receive them this way, and help CMS save money, please contact [jonathan.self@cms-uk.org](mailto:jonathan.self@cms-uk.org) or 01865 787527



**Paul and Sarah Tester**  
CMS mission partners  
**(Peru)**

#### Prayers answered

Your prayers for Sarah and her operation have been greatly appreciated. The operation went to plan and Sarah is recovering well. The next hoped for step is for *"the troop of mini-Testers"* to appear! Do pray and watch this space. Not wanting to be left out, Paul recently had a small operation on his ankle (which went well) to deal with pain that he has had for a number of months. The recovery time means we have had to delay our flights back to Peru by 10 days. We have also seen your prayers for rest answered. We have had time to get away on our own, with family and with friends giving us time to be refreshed **for our return to Peru on 30 August** (strikes permitting!).

#### With a little nervousness...

As our thoughts turn to our return to Peru, we go with a little nervousness as to what we will find. We left with great hopes that many of the projects that we have been working with will have flourished whilst we have been away. We left many projects with Peruvian leaders and have been in touch with some of them and know that many things continue well. However, we are also aware that some work and projects will have struggled. We do ask that you pray for us to have wisdom to know where to step back in, where to pull back, and discernment as to the places that God is asking us to commit to.

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### **What would you do? – Going deeper No. 16**

Getting to grips with cross-cultural mission and some of the issues we encounter. Take some time to chew over the issues! Here's this month's:

You arrive back home after several months away. You left a number of projects with other leaders. Some of them have flourished as the leaders have grown in their roles and God has drawn people in. Others projects have struggled as leaders have not been committed and God's blessing doesn't seem to have been there.

Is it right to get back into working in areas where God seems to be working and there are opportunities for more growth, but where you might take leadership away from people who have grown into it? Should you go back to areas where leaders have struggled, where people don't seem committed and where God doesn't seem to be doing much either? Should you go somewhere different entirely? How does God guide you in these situations?

#### **Praise points:**

- For such positive and blessed visits to supporting churches.
- For rest and refreshment and time with friends and family.
- That both Sarah and Paul's operations have gone well and that both are recovering well.

#### **Prayer points:**

- For goodbyes in the UK and for a safe journey back to Peru.
- For family and friends that we leave here in the UK.
- For ease in resettling in Lima.
- For those leaders who have been continuing to serve in Peru whilst we've been away, particularly that they will continue on our return.
- For wisdom in considering where to place our energies on our return.

We'll write again soon from Peru!

Love from us both,

*Paul and Sarah xx*



**Top: Thank you for opening up your homes and sharing with us**

**Middle: With Paul's grandad (90) after sharing at his church. He collects and recycles aluminium cans to raise money to support our ministry in Peru**

**Bottom: Cakes for sale at a coffee morning raising money for the Ark project!**



**SHARING  
JESUS  
CHANGING  
LIVES**

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