

## Paul, Sarah, Sophia & Emily Tester



February 2015  
Hot, hot, hot!

## CMS Mission Partners in Lima, Peru



“The water I give will be an artesian spring within,  
gushing fountains of endless life” - John 4 v 13-14

*Dear Praying Friends,*

Once again time has flown by! Last time we wrote we were in the cold UK winter spending Christmas time with family following the death of Brian, Sarah's Dad. We have now been back in Lima and the sweltering heat for over a month. Thankfully both Sophia and Emily have adapted well. Sophia enjoys the beach, the paddling pool, an ice bath on the patio (!) and ice creams. Smiley Emily gets very excited watching her sister run around and flails her arms and legs around in an attempt to follow her. All of us were so grateful for all the gifts sent following Emily's birth. Most of those had arrived whilst we were in the UK and were a lovely welcome home to Peru. Sarah and the girls have made some new friends since returning home which has also been encouraging



*The girls enjoying the beach!*

and so the calendar is full of people to see and places to go! At the beginning of March Sophia will begin nursery just around the corner from our flat. It will be a new stage for all of us and we hope and pray all will adapt well.



*Paul using “creative teaching methods” on camp – a look that has been described as a cross between a mad professor and a vicar. He is still neither!*

Sarah is back teaching a Sunday school class at church which Sophia enjoys taking part in. Emily stays with Paul in the service. All three girls also joined Paul on the “Identify Yourself” teenager's summer camp in Lima which Sophia described as going on holiday (there was a beach and swimming pool)! Paul was not so convinced but did enjoy the camp and was particularly encouraged to see young people looking for advice and prayer as they wrestle with a multitude of issues. Paul will soon be heading to Arequipa (20th-22nd Feb) for another camp and will be on the student age youth camp at the end of March.

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*Participants in the "Identify Yourself" Teenager's Camp*

Paul is slowly delegating leadership of the local church teenager's ministry to a team of young leaders and is considering the best way forward with the youth at San Pablo. The ideal would be someone else to work with there. There is currently enthusiasm for a student age youth group at

church and so he is looking at how that might best work. These issues illustrate one of the limiting factors that he has found in encouraging youth ministry across the diocese and at a local level. The lack of mature lay Christians who can help disciple others. With that in mind the diocese is forming a team to promote discipleship across the country and Paul is part of that team. In addition he is also part of the group charged with finding the right people to be missionary bishops to expand the church in new areas, part of the diocese's strategy for mission and growth.

**For your prayers:**

Please thank God for:

- Our safe arrival back in Peru and that the girls are settled and happy.
- The "Identify Yourself" camp and God's ministry to the young people there.

Please pray for:

- Sophia as she begins nursery school, particularly for her to cope being immersed in Spanish.
- Wisdom for Paul as part of the groups appointing new bishops and promoting discipleship across the diocese.
- God to help us discern the right people to help lead the youth ministries in San Pablo mission and at church (San Juan Evangelista).
- The follow up to the issues discussed and prayed for with young people on camp plus the upcoming camps.
- The three girls taken into care.
- For Sarah, her Mum and sister, missing Sarah's Dad

**What would you do?**

We have a long standing relationship with Maritza and her three girls who Sarah got to know through Sunday school. They were recently taken into state care (for the eldest two this is the third time). For the benefit of the children we want to help them (supporters in the UK have been helping with their school materials) but unfortunately, for the state to act, as has been necessary in this case, the children needed to be seen as without support. Otherwise, because of the lack of state resources, the state will look to those who are helping out to provide the help that the state should provide for them. The mother also has to assume her responsibilities.

In this situation how do we show these children and young people a love that is more than just words? How do we make sure that the state fulfils the role it should and that the mother plays the part she should whilst also providing support to the children?

*With love and prayers, Paul, Sarah, Sophia and Emily XXxx*