

# Report of the Peru Mission Trip - CFC Canada

Thank you for your prayers and support for the Peru outreach. God made it very clear that he wanted me to go. Your prayers were very needed as I was in a country that had a lot of relationship problems. I really needed God's wisdom and guidance as I tried to show His love in many different experiences.

*This is Pastor Samuel and his team.*



He is the Base Director of CFC Peru. I was very impressed with the program he organized for the short term team and the care they demonstrated.



The mission trip was for 12 days. Two days were needed for travel.

On the first day in Peru I was a tourist. It is an interesting city that has very elegant old buildings that reminds you of Europe.

The next day in Lima, the pace increased immensely.

I did worship in Spanish for 2 sessions before teaching excerpts of the blessing course to a large group of women and later seminary students.



I got up at 4:30 the next morning and flew to Iquitos which is in the Amazon and had temperatures of 85 °F to 95 °F. The rest of Peru was around 60 °F which was pleasant. This is Peru's winter.

Iquitos is a lot poorer than Lima. I saw very few cars and thousands of moto taxis. Educated people can't get jobs so they drive moto taxis.



I sensed a lot of discouragement and not much opportunities for the young people, so many leave the country.



Marsha, Becky, and Rachel from the United States, were the rest of the team. They worked with the children while I taught excerpts of the Blessing course. We are preparing crafts for the children.

I am a candle lady and know that making candle is nurturing to women. Women have little value in many parts of the country and there is a lot of abuse to women and children. This has been going on for generations. I have seen the Blessing course change root problems and I am hoping this course can help break the cycle. The Peruvian people are amazing as they are willing to risk, learn and trust God.



Samuel, the base director, wanted many people to experience the Blessing course. He said that what I was teaching, people never heard before, including pastors. The short form of the course was 6 to 8 hours long but I was given 3-1/2 to 4 hours with each group. At times, I felt overwhelmed because I had to try to give the people enough knowledge that they could practice better communication.



In 9 days, I taught excerpts of "*The Blessing Course*" using different themes for each group, 13 times, 2 sermons on Sunday, "*How to be a Blessing Church*" taught school teachers, *How to Create Harmony in the Classroom*, parenting and a session with teenagers. Probably the most upsetting experience was with the teenagers as it was a question and answer session and I recognized there was abuse in many families. This seems to be a common behavior.



I gave a revised course for about 50 pastors. They have minimal education and are eager to learn. I discovered that they didn't want to read or participate openly in a discussion for fear of being wrong or embarrassed. I had to change the program quickly. I really needed God's guidance.

*These are some of the pastors I worked with.*

The pastors liked the Blessing course, saying they have been praying for guidance in how to change the strong holds that were crippling the people. They felt I was an answer to their prayers. Some of them started following me from course to course. The people blessed me a lot.

***Sunday Sermons Topic: "How to be a Blessing Church"***



People and the Pastor in this church were very excited about my sermon and asked me to return.





### *Sunday Evening Sermon*

My sermon was very interactive and it was amazing to see how the congregation responded and began to practice communicating differently.

I prayed for help many times during different sessions and God always gave me inspiration. I recognized there was no way I could do anything like I did without the guidance and help of God.

It is very humbling. This was probably the hardest and most stretching outreach I have ever done but communicating with value was very needed. They are very hungry. They all asked me to return.



### *Some of the groups I taught the Blessing Course to:*



A few of the schoolteachers, when I began to pray, many of them wept -- it was obvious that they were in pain. I then had to meet their personal needs and expand the program.

Everyone got a Spanish workbook thanks to the financial support I received. There wasn't time to cover everything but they been given the resources to study. Thank you for your help.

Something different happened; the first evening I was in Iquitos I had an accident. The people take off the covers of the water mains and leave holes on the sidewalk. I looked away for a second and the next thing I was flat on the sidewalk. I fell badly and knew I broke bones. I took painkillers for the rest of the time and continued on. What was amazing was when I taught I had no pain and lots of energy. I recognize God looked after me because I was in pain at night, which affected my sleep. I have 2 broken ribs and damaged cartilage. I also slammed my head and need a chiropractor to realign my neck. I would appreciate prayer for my recovery particularly my neck.

I did have a morning trip down the Amazon River. It is quite spectacular and a beautiful reminder of the wonder of God.



As I worked with the people I realized that many of them were lacking hope for something better in the future and this feeling has been going on for generations. All Christians need to learn to live their faith and be different with each other so we are not being influenced by the world. People need to see the love and power of God through our actions and care.

I feel God is saying that I am to return to Peru with a team in which we will study together in Canada and be prepared to teach communication of value, prayer, and music. We will have translators in Peru. I am planning to take this team down sometime in the spring of 2011.

If anyone is interested about what I am planning, please get in touch with me by phone at: **604-904-7974** or email at: **sharon@getbold.com**

Blessings to all of you and remember the commitment and love God has for all of us.

Sharon