



Wednesday, December 30, 2009

Hello!

Just sending you this update on the Christmas fundraising campaign for our children's soup kitchen in Lima, Peru. We kicked-off the campaign in November with the goal to raise \$2,400 for the coming year's food budget. So far, as of today we've received \$614; it's a good start but we need your help to finish!

This very important operation works efficiently and directly to give relief to some specific children in Peru. They not only depend on us for food; they also benefit spiritually by the Bible lessons and discipleship they receive.

The program is staffed by a local church in Lima called Centro Familiar Cristiano and is managed by Pastor Jorge Arevalo. They work in a purposeful way with the children to know their situations and to track which children attend the meals regularly and what their needs are.

Last month when Pastor Jorge sent us an update for the newsletter he told us about two specific children that have been helped by this wonderful program. Pictured on the right is 7 year-old **Rosa Andrea Nicol Sanchez Flores**.



Pastor Jorge wrote us saying:

"Since being assisted by the JKids meals her life has had a new purpose – now she knows Jesus and is being disciplined in Christian principles. God is restoring her self-esteem and her value. Every Saturday that she attends the JKids soup kitchen she encounters a Christian family that envelopes her in the love of God."

He also told us about 7 year-old **Yeraldine Rosa Espiritu Perez** (left). *"She comes from a humble home, poor, but she has a smile, a hope. Yeraldine encountered in the JKids program a motive to continue being happy in life. She is thankful to God for Corban, for making it possible for her to find a family and good*

friends by their help for the program."

If you haven't yet, please consider a special contribution for this very worthy act of feeding hungry children (write "JKids" on the memo line or note). And from all of us here at Corban, a big thank you for your help in the work to feed these impoverished kids this Christmas and throughout the year. We hope you've had a very Merry Christmas and have a Happy New Year!



December 30, 2009

Dear Friends and Supporters of Corban,

This is a particularly difficult subject for me to address. I have long held to the model given to us by a Father of orphans who earnestly sought the hand of God for the needs of his orphans and God supplied in some faith building ways. We have relied on that faith building principle and, as those of you who know us well, what God has supplied for Corban could only have been done by his hand. Not a one of us had the talent and ability to bring about such a fruit from labor. I am however reminded of a faith principle as well as a worldly principle which is stirring me on to be bold in my asking. The faith principle being that all of everything belongs to God and we are just stewards of what has been given to us. The worldly principle being one taught by my Mom as she would say to me - "I can't read your mind. If you need something you need to ask me."

Our present circumstances require that we now ask you to give an extra measure to Corban. Our present financial situation, not unlike many non-aligned ministries, has experienced a drop in donations. We cut staff to part time and curtailed all possible spending but still find ourselves with unpaid commitments of about \$5,000.00. This ways heavy on us and while the increase in business at the resale shop has helped keep us moving we cannot keep current. One of my favorite songs has a phrase I claim. "I am not skilled to understand what God has willed what God has planned". We at Corban hold the mission of Corban with an open hand and yet with perseverance press towards the goal.

We are also experiencing a need to send a team to Peru. The specifics of the trip require several board members as well as several others to make a trip possibly in late February or early March, the purpose being to build some bridges (figuratively) and to iron out some cultural wrinkles. We need help getting the team down to Peru and for a stay of about ten days. The estimate of the trip will be \$4,500.00 for a team of four.

We are claiming for ourselves this beautiful verse in II Corinthians 9: "Now this I say, he who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must do just as he has purposed in his heart, not grudgingly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that always having all sufficiency in everything, you may have an abundance for every good deed; as it is written, 'HE SCATTERED ABROAD, HE GAVE TO THE POOR, HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS ENDURES FOREVER.'

Thank you in advance for all you have done in the past and all God will provide through you in the future.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Cothran
Corban Board Member and Treasurer