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Spreading the Fire



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Greetings in the name of Jesus!

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I trust that as this newsletter reaches you, you've had a wonderful Christmas and New Year season. It's hard for me to believe at this time last year I was getting ready to head to Peru!



This past holiday season marked the first time, other than in Bible school—where I spent the Christmas season away from home in another culture. There's lots of differences in how Christmas is celebrated here but most of it is familiar to me. The most notable change for me is that many Peruvians stay up past midnight on Christmas Eve, and eat their family dinner at that time. Then they open their presents or whatever they do together as a family, and stay up until as late as 4 or 5 am. I still celebrated the North American way with other missionaries who invited me to have a supper on Christmas day, but it doesn't mean I went to bed at a decent hour the night before, as there were MANY fireworks going off in my neighborhood well into the night! In fact, they were one thing I had to try tuning out in my neighborhood for about two weeks.

New Year's is also an all night affair, as many churches I'm aware of had all-night services until breakfast the next morning. I went to one where some Peruvian friends of mine attend, and we watched Fireproof—dubbed in Spanish of course. I could stand to learn more of the language and get more fluent in it, but I'm proud to say I understood most of the movie!



Many of you ask me what does a week in my life look like. For the time being, it's different from week to week, but one constant thing is that almost every Saturday night I go out to a different youth group or young adult meeting, and just make friends and new acquaintances. Doing this week after week has also led to some opportunities during the week to meet with college students or people my age wanting to practice their English and help me with my Spanish, and some pastors/leaders I've been able to give *Fuego Santo* books to—who've greatly appreciated it.



Other times I accompany Ron Smith, director of Fire Peru, to other locales to deliver a month or two's worth of boxes of food to pastors running feeding programs out of their churches or schools. We sometimes drive as far as 3 hours away, spend a few hours there fellowshiping and encouraging the believers, then we return and that's our day.



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Some of the things I mentioned for 2010 in my previous newsletter are soon going to begin taking form in a practical way. For now, the Bible school I mentioned is going to be training between 7-14 leaders, in two or three week intervals as we prepare these men in the Scriptures and power of the Holy Spirit. Then we will begin to send them out to plant churches. It is our desire to send them with the same food we are giving to other ministries and with Derek Prince books that will bridge the gap with other ministries in the area, and then bring them back in for more 2-3 week training sessions. This way, they are working and practicing what they learn *while* they're learning it.

Our church *Centro de Fuego* is growing and averaging around 40-50 people in our services, and seeing new visitors each week. We have a sense that we're now beginning to reach a snowball effect, and by June we hope to send our first group of church planters out to plant a work in the area where they live. Our vision and goal is not to grow a very large church and collect lots of people under our roof, but to 'seed' this country and plant works in conjunction with other ministries in the areas we can't effectively build in ourselves.



Pastor Manuel holding all the books he's read or been given in the previous year.

The books you helped us to translate and print from Dr. Michael Brown (*A Time for Holy Fire/Es Tiempo Para El Fuego Santo*) have gone into Argentina, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Colombia, Brazil, and Mexico. We hope to continue translating more, and eventually get a deal worked out with a publisher here who would also put them in bookstores and allow us a portion of the printings so we can continue giving many away. I've also got a Peruvian friend currently translating another title of one of my mentors from FIRE, but at this stage we still have not had word yet from the US publisher about permission to print and distribute it in Spanish. Please keep that in prayer—we'd like to get this title printed and in peoples' hands sooner rather than later.

Other prayer points:

- Funds to go to Iquitos in May—approx \$400
- For preparedness—church planting and teaching in this level will be a new capacity, and a challenge for me.

Thank you for all your friendship, prayer, and support, as well as encouragement.

Blessings and fire on your heads,
Steve Bremner