

January 2012

# Running the race, keeping our faith

Do everything without grumbling or arguing,<sup>15</sup> so that you may become blameless and pure, “children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation.” Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky.

**Philippians 2:14,15.**



## Prayer Requests

- Pray for the new Missionaries that are coming to Piura Peru this year to work together with us. Stacy Kuhns, Heidi Schmidt, Lowell and Melisa Ens with their 3 Children.
- Pray for the Peruvian Conference leadership, for wisdom and passion for Gods work.
- Pray that the students that have graduated and returned to Peru from Paraguay, will have a servant heart and be able to integrate the Churches.
- Pray for us as we are doing a lot of counseling, that God will give us wisdom and love for the people.
- I, Otto, was diagnosed with Chagas (those of you interested in knowing what it is, can look it up on the internet) I will start treatment soon. It looks like it can be cured.
- Pray for our family in Canada, that God will be with them and bless them.

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Greetings and blessing to all of you.

Sincerely, Otto and Lidia Funk

## Past

Reflecting on last year 2011, it sure has been a challenging year and has made us grow in our faith and dependence on Jesus. It is nice to see growth also happening in the lives of the Congregation. In the last year and half we have baptized 25 people in the Miraflores Church, that means a lot of teaching to new believers.

At the beginning of December we had the chance to baptize some people from our churches in El Paraiso, as we talked to the new Christians we mentioned the need to obey God in everything. Since then we had the chance to disciple and teach them and two couples got married legally and by the Church. I, Otto, had the chance to marry a couple with 2 boys on December 23, and one family with five children on January 14, 2012. Lidia and some girls from our Church helped with planning, decorating and singing at the wedding ceremony.

Christmas and New Year was not such a happy time for us. Our Son Kevin left for Winnipeg to continue his studies at CMU. On Christmas day we had about 7 hours of counseling with a large

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going to the least reached



family. God's spirit was with us and we and the family, could leave happy and more committed to follow in our faith. We asked ourselves if this might also be the real meaning of Christmas, restoring marriages, families and broken lives. Being tiered and all, we sensed a real joy seeing a whole family reconciled with tears of joy embracing each other.

**Present**

The ladies group, led by Lidia gets together every morning this week at 7:00 AM for prayer for the blessing of our Ministries in this year.

Our Commitment for this year is to: Forget what is behind us, make sense of the present and be assured of our future. We will not abandon our faith; we will not be silent until we have prayed, declared, and preached the good news of our Lord Jesus Christ. Even though the road is narrow and the walk is difficult, we know that we can trust our guide, our Mission is clear.

**Future**

This commitment will guide us every day of the New Year to see trough his eyes, and feel what he feels for this world.

January 19 is our General Meeting as Church and on the 26 to 28 we have our annual meeting as the Peruvian MB Conference. At these meetings we as Miraflores Church will propose to start programs for adults in Viduque and Catacaos, (human settlements of poor to extremely poor people) where we have worked every Saturday with about 150 Children for 2 years now. We think that it is time to focus on the whole family and not only on the children, as there is a lot of violence and abuse happening in the Homes of those children.

This new Ministry will also create a chance for our new graduates to develop their gifts and put in practice what they have learned. Our ladies group is also starting a Ministry for the woman in those areas.

As you can see we have a lot

of plans for this year, but we have also learned to trust in Gods guidance. Many times we have to change our plans because something urgent comes up.

Besides our plans in the Miraflores Church, we are also part of the local Conference and therefore we are available for all the Churches in Northern Peru.

This is also our year for MINA, when we come back to North America to share personally with you, our partners, who make our work possible through your prayers and financial support. We thank God for you and your faithfulness to expand his kingdom throughout the world until he comes again. May we all be found faithful to his calling and receive the crown.

**We love you in his holy love**  
Otto & Lidia Funk

