

Joseph and Zulema Kotvas, Missionaries to the Deaf in Peru, South America

March 2018 Ministry Update



Our Family



Deaf Camp with Bro. Allen Snare



Preaching at Efata Baptist Church



The El Agustino Mission



My High School Class



Beautiful Esther

For more pictures & info, visit ReachAndTeach.org/mar2018

Ministry

We had a great deaf camp this year with Deaf Evangelist Allen Snare. Two were saved, and at least six shared testimonies of surrender to the Lord. Pray for us as we plan next year's camp and attempt to reach a wider audience. Our church also hosted a camp for our hearing young people with approximately 150 in attendance and multiple decisions.

In our Sunday afternoon service last week, I spoke about our relationship with Christ, how we are crucified with Christ, risen with Christ, and, one day soon, glorified with Christ! Last week I also spoke at our church-wide Easter outing. It's a great opportunity for our church members to bring their family and friends to hear the Gospel. One young deaf woman was saved! I'm thankful for the faithful soul winners in our church who invested in her life.

In April, we will be celebrating the third anniversary of our mission in El Agustino. God has been good to us there, and we have had several more decisions to serve God this quarter, as well as one profession of faith. Pray for *Iglesia Bautista Luz*, the hearing church that is allowing us to use their facilities; their lease is expiring, and they are still looking for a new location to rent.

I'm also looking forward to officiating my first wedding in April. Anthony and Julissa are two deaf young people who have made some bad choices, but they are determined to get married and make things right with the Lord. They are participating in weekly marriage counseling, and Anthony will be baptized on April 8th. Lord willing, they will be married the third week of April.

School started this month, and I'm happy to be teaching high school this year. There are eleven students in the high school, with possibly more coming soon. It's wonderful to invest in the lives of these Christian young people who have grown up in our school.

Family

Our family is doing well, praise God. I was finally able to get my Peruvian driver's license this month, which is a HUGE blessing. I don't have a car, but the ministry here has a pickup truck which I can use occasionally. My Peruvian citizenship is still pending, but the process is in the final stages, and Lord willing everything will be done by the end of April.

Esther is charming at five months old. We just received her American birth certificate and passport, so she's officially a dual citizen, and travel-ready, just like her brother. JJ is a handful! He performed his first somersault last week. He's speaking more and more in English, Spanish and Sign Language.

We are struggling financially right now, with very low levels of support, but God has never failed us, and we know He never will. We are so thankful for all the help so far with Zulema's visa process. Over the next few of weeks, it will take about \$600 more to receive her visa, and then we need to travel to the states for that to become permanent, which will be another \$2000 or so for the whole family.

We hope to have everything done in time to attend my brother James's wedding on May 15th! Lord willing, we would travel to the states for the wedding, and then stay for a little over a month to report to our supporting churches. This is a complicated process and a lot of money, but God can.

If you would like us to visit your church in May or June, please let me know! We are so looking forward to visiting the churches and individuals who have prayed for us and supported us over the past three years. It will be wonderful to be able to report on the work here.

God bless,
Joseph and Zulema Kotvas, JJ and Esther

