



Morning Star Child Reach Ministries News Bulletin

January 16, 2009

WELCOME NEWCOMERS!



CECILIA Several months ago we needed to hire an assistant care taker for the house at Morning Star. We had used Cecilia and her mother on temporary assignments before when needing to give Jorge and Margarita time off, and although she was not a believer, we felt it would be an opportunity to provide her with need employment and be able to expose her to the gospel. The first Sunday of this month she came to our house in Chiclayo to ride out with us to Pueblo Nuevo as usual except that she came a half hour early and asked to speak to Tom. She asked if he could help her to pray and receive Christ as her Savior. After a clear explanation of the Gospel she prayed very simply and earnestly, asking God for forgiveness and turning her life over to Him. So she was the first (in this case "spiritual") newcomer of 2009.

JENNY The very next day we received a call from a family court judge in the mountains northeast of Chiclayo regarding a nine year old girl who had been removed from her mother's care due to alleged physical abuse. The father lived in Chiclayo and the judge had sent her down here expecting to place her in the state children's home but there was no room. We're not sure how he came to have our information, but we agreed to take her case. After being with us a week her father came to visit, and although the human decision as to her future rests in the prevue of the presiding judge, she quickly made known her opinion to her father with the theologically naïve yet insightful sound bite which we will cherish for quite some time.... "Daddy, I want to live here because they're going to make me a Christian"! ☺ Oh how we pray!!



SARAH Thursday January 15th, began with a visit to the local state hospital. One of the local family court judges had requested we take in a baby boy whose medical needs exceeded our current care giving capabilities so we had to turn that case down for the time being. Then a visit to another family judge who had two cases pending, a baby born December 29th and left in a box on someone's door step, and a sibling group of 3 children already processed for adoption, although it's statistically very difficult to place a sibling group of that size. Decisions are pending on both those cases. Carol was serving lunch when the call came in from the social worker in the state adoption office. A midwife in a small town 30 miles to the south of Chiclayo had delivered a baby girl on Monday to a young mother who was from the mountains to the east. The

mother expressed her desperation that not knowing who the father was, and having been totally shunned by her own family, if she did not find someone to care for the baby she felt the best option would be to end both their

lives. The midwife commented the case to some friends who gave her the phone number of the social worker who in turn, knowing how slowly the government agencies would respond, called us aware of the fact that we had both the means and the commitment to act quickly. It was 1:23 pm and the mother had said she would wait until 2 p.m. Tom grabbed the diaper bag kept on hand for just such situations, and he and Michaela jumped in the car. Forty five minutes later, they located the midwife in the small town of Pacanguilla, and she led them down the street to a small adobe house and picking their way through the muddy hall way they found the mother and baby in a small dark room in living conditions most of us would not submit our pets to. After a careful explanation of the legal implications and procedures involved in her decision, the video testimony was recorded, an affidavit signed and the baby girl rescued. On the way back to Chiclayo Michaela named her Sarah (whoever goes with Dad gets to name the baby) and halfway to Morning Star added Elizabeth. She's eating and sleeping well, and we rejoice in the opportunity to share God's love and care with this newest arrival.



The other baby that has been with us for several months,

Jose Alberto, has made remarkable strides in his development. When he arrived, due to the neglect he had suffered, was lethargic and non-responsive, definitely not the case anymore, as he is about ready to walk at 11 months of age.

With four more children on deck for admittance, it becomes an increasingly urgent matter of prayer that the second house in the new housing duplex be finished and another set of house parents located to meet the need.



STRONG TOWER CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Already has as many students registered for the upcoming year as there were for last year, and there are still 7 weeks of registration left to go. Two new teachers have been hired and a third under consideration in case a full roll of 80 students is reached.

While everything seems to be bursting at the seams, we all value your prayers for the Lord's wisdom, direction and provision as we move ahead into this challenging New Year. Thank you so much for partnering with us in this small part of His magnificent vineyard.

