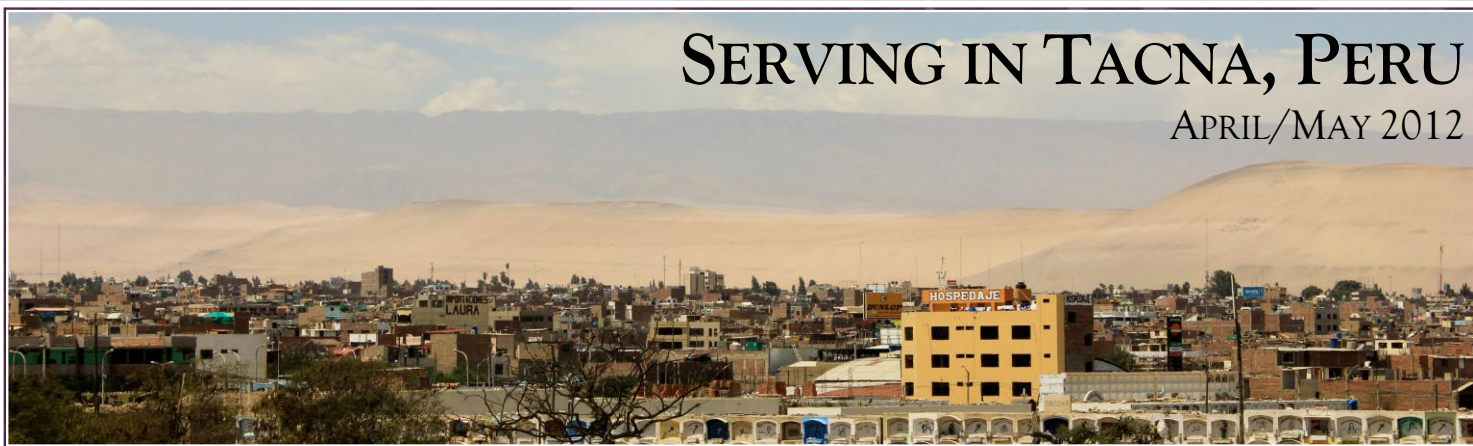


# SERVING IN TACNA, PERU

APRIL/MAY 2012



**“I HAVE BUT ONE CANDLE OF LIFE TO BURN, AND I WOULD RATHER BURN IT OUT IN A LAND FILLED WITH DARKNESS THAN IN A LAND FLOODED WITH LIGHT.” – JOHN KEITH FALCONER**

## ~ Praises ~

- Praise the Lord for safe travel to Quito, Ecuador and for a gracious hostess.
- Praise the Lord for providing the funds for this trip to Ecuador.
- Praise the Lord for His overwhelming goodness to me in allowing me to serve in Peru among so many wonderful people.

## ~ Prayer Requests ~

- Please pray for wisdom as I help in various capacities in ISM International Academy – so far, conversational English has been one of my main responsibilities. – but I have also helped with church music and in writing letters in English for the school.
- Please pray for the upcoming mission trip to Pucallpa, Peru (the jungle!) as we work with hundreds of children and mothers.
- Please pray for the Viñani Bible Club, that it will continue to grow and develop into a full-fledge ministry in that area.
- Please continue praying for Olga's family, that they would come to know Christ as Savior.
- Please pray that God will continue to help me with Spanish. There are days when my tongue just doesn't seem to want to work!
- Please pray for Calvary Baptist Church that God will raise up leaders and faithful members.
- Please pray for the funds to come in for the extra months I will be staying here in Peru.

Dear Family and Friends,

Would you believe it? As I write this letter, I sit surrounded by the majestic mountains of Quito, Ecuador! April and May were both filled with busy activities. The church members continue to mature spiritually and the church itself is very much alive. In April, Pastor Earnhart started a weekly Bible Institute. The current study is over the background, formation, and doctrine of a Biblical Baptist church; and I have very much enjoyed following along with the other church members.

The Bible club in Viñani also continues to grow. Not only do the children continue to invite friends; but we have also had more church members express a desire to get involved in this ministry. We hope to hold a “movie night” for the parents, with the goal of making contacts for a future weekly Bible study in this area.

May started off with a church outing to the nearby “forest,” several acres of trees, soccer fields, a zoo, and picnic areas. We all enjoyed the time of food and fellowship as a church family. May also held almost three full weeks of visitors  
*(cont. on page 2)*



## new website...

I have found that keeping up a website is just not practical for me at this time in my ministry. Not only do I NOT have the technical mind to format and design it as I would like, but I also do not have the time (usually four hours per post) to write, format, and post an update. As



the date approaches for renewing my domain name, I have concluded that using email, facebook, twitter, or a phone call is a much more practical way of keeping folks up-to-date on the ministry here in Peru. If you do not currently receive updates by email and would like to be added to my list, please send me an email at [saparks85@gmail.com](mailto:saparks85@gmail.com).

I have also opened up a phanfare.com site where I have uploaded ALL the pictures for the last nine months!! You can view my site at [www.onecandletoburn.phanfare.com](http://www.onecandletoburn.phanfare.com). This has proved to be a more efficient way to organize and post pictures; and I would encourage you to check it out! They say “a picture is worth a thousand words.” At any rate, it should give a nice peek into my life and the ministry in Peru.

**“BUT YE ARE A CHOSEN GENERATION, A ROYAL PRIESTHOOD, AN HOLY NATION, A PECULIAR PEOPLE; THAT YE SHOULD SHEW FORTH THE PRAISES OF HIM WHO HATH CALLED YOU OUT OF DARKNESS INTO HIS MARVELLOUS LIGHT.” I PETER 2:9**

*(cont. from page 2)*

for us. We had guest speakers from Arequipa, a family from Canada wanting to spend their summer in Tacna, a missionary couple stranded on their way to Argentina due to a miner's strike, and more guest speakers. In addition, Mrs. Earnhart had a Mother's Day banquet and school program to plan (while struggling with sickness). And to top things off, two of the children had to be taken to the hospital for either stitches or medical tests! Due to all the wildness of May, I got in some good practice making market runs and preparing lunch!

And now, here towards the end of May I am in Ecuador! Thanks to a very generous invitation to visit for a month from the director of ISM International Academy of Quito, I traveled to Ecuador on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. I had been in communication with the director for almost a month but no dates had been set. Less than a week before my flight, I received the itinerary! I scrambled to pack, run errands, book travel to Lima, rap up my ministry responsibilities in Tacna, and say goodbye. I am very thankful for the opportunity to visit a new country and culture, become familiar with the schools here, help in the church, and meet new friends. The people here have been very gracious, and I look forward to the next month serving here in Ecuador!

Please keep me in your prayers as I work for the next several weeks in Ecuador. Following my return to Peru, I will be taking a short-term mission trip to the jungle, and I would appreciate your prayers for that trip as well! May God bless each of you richly this next month.

In Christ,



Sarah Parks



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### the joy of learning...

Madison's eyes grew wide as I lifted her into the crowded combi, probably because everyone was staring at her. When you're a cute, blonde-haired, two-year-old in a world of dark-haired people, well, you're just bound to pick up a few stares...and Madison gets more than her fair share. She sat on my lap in silence taking it all in...the people, the dialogue, the smells. I gave her our passage money and she obediently paid the youth who came to collect our fair. As we neared our destination, I told the driver "bajo" and the combi screeched to a halt. As we scrambled down into the bustling street, Madison turned to me and asked, "why you say bajo?" I picked her up, in a hurry to get our errands done, and responded, "because we wanted to get down."

During that week, I took Madison with me several places. Each time we climbed down from the combi, she asked me, "Sarah, why you say bajo?" And each time I would off-handedly reply "because we needed to get down." One day, she didn't accept my quick answer and kept insisting to know what "bajo" meant. I stopped walking and picked her up. "Madison," I said, "bajo means down. When we are in the combi and it is time to get down, we have to say bajo. This lets the driver know that we want to get down." She seemed to accept my answer this time and we continued on our way.

That night, I held Madison on my hip, playing and talking with her. Kids love to be held upside-down, and she suddenly realized this was her chance. She wrapped her legs around my waist, threw her head backwards and cried, "Bajo! Bajo!" I couldn't help but laugh. "Madison has learned a new word!" I told everyone excitedly. It gave me a nice feeling to see how she had observed me using the word, asked the meaning until she understood, and then used it in the correct context. Later as I thought about what she had learned and how I had felt, the thought struck me *this must be how God feels when we learn some new truth and then use it...correctly*. I hope I make my heavenly Father laugh with excitement as He watches me learning and putting into practice His truth.

### STAY CONNECTED...

*Not everyone can go, but everyone can be involved!*

**PRAYER:** Prayer is key! God has shown me over and over again this past year how much I need Him – and my need for Him will only increase as I step into a new country, language, and life, and am stretched to new limits. PLEASE KEEP ME IN YOUR PRAYERS!

**FINANCIAL SUPPORT:** If you would like to support me financially, please make checks payable to Sarah Parks/Peru Internship and send to my home address. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

**ENCOURAGEMENT:** My website [onecandletoburn.phanfare.com](http://onecandletoburn.phanfare.com) is up and running! Feel free to check it out or send me an email at [saparks85@gmail.com](mailto:saparks85@gmail.com). Tacna, Peru is located in the southernmost tip of Peru and is many, many miles from home. I would love to hear from each of you!

### CONTACT ME...



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