

The Yursik's

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Dear PCG,

We are very excited to be writing you seeing as we are 5 months into our internship with Les & Charlene Melton! There is so much that we have been able to learn from their wisdom that they have acquired through their many years on the field here in Central America. Among the many wonderful experiences that we have had since our 5 months of being here the most important has been learning from the people. The people here in Central America have offered us so much insight into the mindset of those that are impoverished, their abandoned heart to chase after Father God is truly moving. Their lack of care for materialistic ideas within the culture really makes you adjust your mindset to "travel light" and constantly be about the Father's business.

The IMIT internship truly has given us a broad spectrum of missions. Throughout our 5 months here we have had the opportunity to be a part of the serving and equipping of the national ministers alongside Les and Charlene. One of our favorite experiences when traveling with them was getting to see the beginning of a work in Costa Rica, where PCG has finally just been officially recognized. This will probably be along the lines of the start of our journey in Peru; what a useful experience! We learned that the start of a work is only possible by God's supernatural intervention every step of the way! We also have enjoyed spending quite a bit of time at the AHICAM children's home. This is what God has called us to center our future work around and we learned some serious lessons about what it takes to run a home and minister the love of Jesus to kids with so much trauma and pain. We have also been able to put our Spanish and Guatemalan driving skills into practice when teams come in! Through helping with teams, we have been able to learn the role that "short term missions" play in the calling of a missionary in ministering to the state-side Church. Accounting is another thing the Melton's review with us, this includes projects, teams, and personal budgeting. They also share with us from their experiences on the culture, each day feels like we get a new little "cultural lesson;" if we could sum them up, it would be that "a missionary is called to change hearts, not culture." They have included us in emergency situations like hospital visits or unfortunate but necessary confrontations. We have been able to watch building projects from beginning to end and the careful relationship a missionary has with nationals in helping financially but also empowering them to be independent. We have learned from their countless testimonies that God is always faithful through the years.

Spanish is among the greatest needs we have in order to establish a work in the the nation of Peru. Currently, we are conversational, but have gaps in our sentences due to lack of vocab. We pursue more knowledge of the language each day and are constantly placing ourselves in situations to "sink or swim." Les and Charlene enjoy getting a laugh out of making us introduce ourselves in Spanish to every congregation we go to (even those with 500+ people!), each time we are left motivated to practice more and study harder! We have finished 2 out of our 3 required rounds of language school; we only have 1 more to go and are hoping to squeeze in more! Les and Charlene have also been so helpful in giving us time periods to get our online school work done for our last 2 trimesters of Bible College. We will be graduating with a Bachelor's Degree in Biblical Studies with an emphasis in Global Missions on June 9th! We are anxiously awaiting June to be able to meet with the board and present them with the vision God has placed in our hearts for our future mission field of Peru. As God continues to use our little laid down lives, we are believing that He is going to bring about a "love awakening" to Peru! We feel that God has called us to be big dreamers and live in His kingdom where the supernatural is natural.

We are so greatly appreciative of the Melton's for allowing us to live in their home this year and for helping prepare us for our call. We are also thankful to the PCG for being with us in prayer and for dreaming with us!

Sincerely, **Taylor and Micah Yursik**