# **The Stover Family**

ROBERT, SARA, JOSIAH, CALEB, JOSHUA, LYDIA, ZACHARY, ELIJAH, & MELODY

## NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2023

### MISSIONARIES TO PERÚ

I remember as a young boy memorizing Micah 5:2, "But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting." The word "little" captured my attention. God uses little things; praise His holy name for that! Just as God used a little town to be the birthplace of the Savior of the world, He can use your and my little lives for His honor and glory. May we present ourselves to Christ this Christmas so that He can continue to get great glory through the "little things."



#### Praises:

-God has seen fit to provide more than 1/2 the amount we need to purchase a new vehicle to use for our family and the church ministry. We are humbled by your generosity and grateful for your prayerful and financial investment for the ministry here in Tacna.

-We recently found out that God has blessed us once again with another child. Everyone is excited about the new sibling arriving Lord-willing in June. We appreciate your prayers for good health and for wisdom in raising our children for the Lord.

#### Missions

November 17-19 we held our 2nd missions conference. Missionary Luis Benites, a friend of more than 20 years, was able to be with us to present the ministry God has given he and his family in a needy area of Lima. Hearts were stirred, and we were able to add the Benites family to our missions family and to increase our giving to our 3 current missionaries as well. Please pray that we as a church would have the Lord's heart for missions.

#### Christmas Outreach

The month of December presents unique opportunities to minister to the families of the area surrounding our church. Through generous giving of God's people, we were able to buy Christmas gifts for the children who attend our 2 Bible clubs and the church.

Our church will provide the traditional hot chocolate and fruitcake (panetón) for them to enjoy at their Christmas parties as well as December 23rd after we present our Christmas cantata, "The Greatest Gift." Please pray with us that God would work and move in people's hearts as they hear the Gospel presented through song and a Bible message.

## **Upcoming Summer Activities**

Please also pray as we make preparations and hold several summer activities:

-1st Family Camp: January 25-27

-Teen Camp: February 13-17

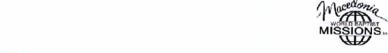
-VBS: February 29-March 2

If you would like to help towards camp, you can send any gift to Macedonia marked, "Stover Special Funds." The cost to sponsor one teenager is \$35.

We are so grateful for the Christmas offerings that many have sent in. You are such a tremendous blessing! We wish each of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year full of God's blessings!

Worshipping the Christ Child,

Robert & Sara Stover and Family





Dear Pastors and Praying Friends,

My name is Robert Stover and for those of you who may not know me, my family and I have served as church-planting missionaries in Peru since 2008. We currently serve in the city of Tacna. I am privileged to represent the Tacna Christian School Project that was started by our co-laborer Missionary Bethany Homan, who went home to be with the Lord this year following a lengthy battle with cancer. It is my desire with the Lord's help to carry on with the vision that God gave Bethany.

We appreciate so much the generous giving of many that has allowed the school property to be purchased, a security wall to be constructed along the perimeter, and the water and sewer systems to be prepared. Pastor Henry Sucapuca is the faithful Peruvian pastor who is helping with the administration of the project here. After much prayer and consideration, we want to inform you of the first phase of the school project.

Currently, there is approximately \$36,000 available in the school fund. We believe that first step forward would be to begin a daycare in 2024. This project would cost between \$4-5,000. It is our thought that this would be a good method of school advertisement in the community. The daycare would be self-supporting once the initial construction is complete.

Here in Peru, the cost of building the first floor of a permanent structure is considerably more expensive than building upper floors. Due to the frequent earthquakes we experience, it is necessary to invest in a strong foundation. Added to this, the cost of building materials has risen since Covid. We plan to divide the construction in various phases to make the costs more manageable. Having said that, we know God is able!

According to our architect's estimate, the first phase (which would include 3 classrooms, bathrooms, and a teacher's room) would cost around \$105,000. This is half of the first floor we would plan to eventually construct and would allow us to begin three preschool classes. We would need to raise the additional \$75,000 by the month of April or May to be able to complete the construction, inspections, and paperwork in time for the new school year to begin in March of 2025.

Please pray for us concerning this great opportunity and also for the Lord's direction in regards to many decisions that must be made. Pray God would be preparing even now those who will teach and minister at the school. We desire God to be glorified in every detail of this project. If have any questions, you can contact me at rstover22@yahoo.com or 330-238-4944. Thank you for your consideration and have a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Your Friend in Christ, Missionary Robert Stover- Tacna, Peru









Any gifts toward this project can be sent to:

Macedonia World Baptist Missions PO. Box 519 Braselton, GA 30517 (marked Tacna Christian School Fund)

Thank you for your prayers and giving!