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# Spreading the Fire



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Greetings in the name of the Lord!

**It's beginning to cool down here in Peru, and get crisper and cooler in the nights.** I find it easier to sleep at night now without a fan blowing full blast on my face, but the only draw back is that in Lima there is no sun. This time last year there was virtually no sunlight for about five months. It makes me understand why some cultures worship the sun—because they're so grateful when it comes back out!



However, that was offset recently at the time of writing this: I've just gotten back from a trip to Ecuador where it was as hot as 37 C during the daytime while we were there. You may recall in previous newsletters I mentioned this ministry trip. I accompanied Ron Smith, and our Peruvian worship leader Dennis Arevalo to Machala. **We had been invited a number of months ago for a conference with three churches from different denominations who wanted more of the power of the Holy Spirit and the fire of God.** The trip lasted three nights, which included ministering to people who needed healing in their bodies, and I



also had the privilege of praying for two young adults who had wanted to give their lives to Christ during the altar ministry. It was a huge joy to be a part of that!

A number of weeks ago, during a weekday I was at the Catedral de Fe (Church of Faith)—a church where several of my Peruvians friends attend. I frequently go in order to practice my Spanish with a translator friend who helps tutor me and actually *teach* me. While I was waiting for her, I ran into the former director of

this church's seminary, and upon talking to him, he invited me to come teach at the school. My friend who I was initially waiting on got in touch with me on the school's behalf within the week. **The invitation was extended to me to come teach specifically on the Holy Spirit the following Wednesday morning and "for as many weeks as I possibly can".** So, I've been coming in to teach in their chapel services on the Holy Spirit for an hour each week.



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This has been both a huge delight and an answer to prayers, as I've been bursting at the seams to be teaching more and asking God to open doors for me. He has! I'm also going to be heading up to Tarma and Huari Colca, up in the mountains 5 hours away from Lima where another Canadian missionary from my home fellowship ministers with her Peruvian husband.

I'm very appreciative of all the praying many of you do for me, asking God to open doors for me including being able to preach and teach, and operate in the things I'm called to here. I don't normally share personal details in my newsletters, but I do want to let you know that these last few months of my life and ministry have been incredibly stretching and challenging for me. I've felt like I've been going through the refiner's fire. I know I've been being prepared and God's bringing me into new dimensions as a result of it all. No matter how difficult things can get, God always uses tests, trials, and wilderness periods to strengthen us and make us stronger. I say that to say, **thank you so much for praying for me. I know that because of you I'm not really alone out here.**

I also want to thank those of you who gave financially to help me take these trips, which I hope to continually take in the months to come as the doors continue to open. Due to the nature of some of my support being given to me anonymously through my home fellowship in Peterborough, Ontario, I don't always know how to personally thank those of you properly who help me, so allow me to say it here in writing—thank you! You are each a tremendous blessing to me.

Blessings and fire on your head!

Steve



**Left to Right:** Street view of the church we ministered at in Ecuador; myself with Ron and Dennis, as well as each of the pastors and their wives; teaching at Seminario Biblico on the Holy Spirit.