



PERU MISSION TRIP GUIDE



ASHLAND
CHURCH

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INTRODUCTION

This guide will help prepare you for your mission trip to Peru. While it is by no means comprehensive, it does contain important information that you should know before traveling to Peru. It is recommended that you read this entire guide before you leave and download a copy to your phone so that it is accessible without internet access or print a physical copy and bring it with you.

VISION

To treasure and spread a passion for the supremacy of Christ in all things for the joy of all peoples in Peru.

STRATEGY

Planting churches where they do not exist and strengthening churches where they do exist for the purpose of planting churches where they do not exist.

BASIC INFO

Language: Peru has three official languages: Spanish, Quechua, and Aymara. Spanish is the most widely spoken throughout Peru. Quechua and Aymara are native languages still spoken in some parts of the Andes Mountains by a small portion of the population.

Population: 31.3 million (slightly larger than the population of Texas)

Area: 1,285,216 sq km (almost twice the size of Texas)

Religion: Roman Catholic (60%), Evangelical (14.6%), unspecified (21.1%), none (4%), other (0.3%). While not an officially recognized religion, animism is widely practiced and syncretized with Roman Catholicism.

Source: <https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/countries/peru/>

CULTURE

While sharing some cultural similarities with other Latin American countries, Peru has unique and diverse cultures of its own. These cultures have been shaped over centuries, often around differences in language and geography. There are distinct customs and behaviors between those living on the arid coast, in the Andes Mountains, and in the Amazon Rainforest. Within these broad geographic zones there are a plethora of different subcultures.

This guide will briefly highlight some of the most important differences for those visiting Peru from the United States. Keep in mind that every person is a unique individual made in the image of God. Therefore, we should not expect anyone from anywhere to always act the same way in every situation. These are simply some broad cultural norms to be aware of, not strict laws of behavior. Adjust your expectations and learn to appreciate cultural differences. At times you may be surprised to find yourself more “at home” in Peru than in America!

RELATIONAL-ORIENTED

Like much of Latin America, Peruvian culture is generally more relational-oriented than task-oriented. This means that many Peruvians prioritize relationships over tasks. Meals and food are very important to Peruvians, in part because they create an opportunity for building friendships. Trust is built through relationships, not merely on qualifications. Be prepared to sit around and talk for what may feel like a long time. Getting to know others is not a means to an end and is not wasted time. Enjoy it! Show love to others in Peru by spending time with them and getting to know them.

TIME

Because they are more relational-oriented, the average Peruvian is typically not as time-sensitive as the average American. It is not uncommon for an event or meeting to begin at least thirty minutes later than scheduled and to last much longer than anticipated. Plan

to stay around long afterwards to talk or help. An important exception to this is transportation. Transportation schedules (buses, flights, trains, etc.) will operate on time, so arrive early.

DAY VS NIGHT CULTURE

An important difference in Peru between the culture on the coast and in the mountains is the difference between day and night culture. In the mountains, especially in the rural, agrarian villages, most activities cease when the sun goes down. People work in the fields during the day and return home at sunset to eat and rest.

Cities on the coast, like Lima and Ica, have more of a night culture. During summer days people stay indoors out of the sun and take long afternoon breaks to avoid the heat. Nights are cooler and are when people are out and about. Many activities begin at dark and people stay up late into the night. Don't be surprised if a Bible study or event begins around your normal bedtime. Be flexible and adjust your sleep schedule.

PERSONAL SPACE AND TOUCH

One aspect of culture we typically take for granted is the amount of personal space and touch we are comfortable with. In more urban environments and in more relational-oriented cultures like Peru you may experience less personal space (particularly when using public transportation) and more touching than you are used to (particularly with greetings - see below).

GREETINGS

Peruvian women greet men and women with a "kiss" on the right cheek (usually just a quick, light touch of the cheeks and making a kiss sound). Peruvian men greet women with a "kiss" on the right cheek and greet other men with a light handshake. However, many Peruvians are aware that Americans do not greet with a kiss and will be prepared to give a light handshake. Do whatever is comfortable, but don't be surprised if you are greeted with a "kiss" on the cheek.

Because of the relational-culture it is important to greet everyone. Throughout Peru you should greet and say goodbye to everyone at church before and after a service, Bible study, special event or when entering and leaving a home. In smaller villages like Cordova, you should greet everyone you pass on the street and meet when entering a room. Even if you do not speak Spanish, learn simple greetings like how to say hello, how are you, good morning, good afternoon, good evening, and good-bye.

AFFIRMATION/NEGATION - SAYING “YES” AND “NO”

Many Peruvians are less comfortable saying no than many Americans. This is associated with the relational-culture. Rather than disappointing someone or hurting their feelings (and damaging the relationship) by saying no, many people may not give a straight answer. They may say yes, but not follow through, or they may offer an alternative. This is important to remember in evangelism or when inviting others to church or to an event. Do not assume that an affirmation of “yes” comes with the same level of certainty and commitment that we expect in the United States.

WHAT MAKES PERU REALLY UNIQUE

Many of these cultural norms can be found across Latin America, but there are some unique features of Peru that really stand out when compared with other countries. A big one is the food. Living in America you have probably never tried Peruvian food, but it is highly touted on the international gastronomy scene. Peruvians are very proud of their culinary skills, so you should always speak highly of their food. Meals are important for building relationships. A quick way to earn favor is to eat everything put in front of you with gusto and praise the food and cook alike. The only thing Peruvians love more than talking about their food is eating it. By far the most popular fast food chain in Peru is Kentucky Fried Chicken, so you can make a quick connection by mentioning where you are from. The Peruvian dishes I highly recommend are Lomo Saltado, Ají de Gallina, and Arroz con Pollo (see [page 21](#) for photos). Most Peruvians tend to eat a large lunch late in the afternoon and a light dinner late in the evening.

In the mountains, farmers who work in the fields far from home will typically eat a large breakfast, light lunch, and large dinner.

It's common in the U.S. to disparage soccer, but do not do it in Peru, because Peruvians love fútbol (as it is called in Spanish). Outside the United States, most of the world enjoys soccer, but Peruvians take it to another level. If there is a soccer game involving the Peru National Team or an important game between two local teams basically everything will shut down. Make plans accordingly.

Traditional dance is another unique feature of Peru. Each subculture has its own style of dance and accompanying music and costumes. Most festivals are highlighted by dance competitions and dancing. Be forewarned, as dancing is a controversial topic among evangelical Christians in Peru. Because of the association with debauchery and pagan religion there are many different opinions on dancing. It is best to avoid dancing and discussing the issue altogether, but follow the lead of the local church and missionaries.

PERSONAL INSIGHT

Personally, I liken Peruvian culture (particularly in Ica and Cordova) to Southern culture in the United States. In the South, we're big on food, sports, religion, and people. Southern culture is more relational-oriented, especially in rural, agrarian areas. People will sit around and talk and drink sweet tea on the porch for hours without an agenda. Trust is earned by relationships. Like Peruvians, we love our traditional foods and sports teams. And also like Peruvians, we typically care more about religion. In the South, there are many nominal Christians who need to repent and believe in Jesus. In Peru, there are many nominal Catholics who need to repent and believe in Jesus. There are still many major differences, but don't be surprised if you find yourself right "at home" in Peru!

Important note about culture: As Americans and as Christians we often have many strongly-held beliefs about cultural norms that we are not even aware of until we encounter a different culture.

Not all cultural differences are issues of morality (though some are), and when entering a new culture we must be slow to speak and judge and quick to listen and learn. When it comes to cultural differences often it is not a matter of right or wrong, better or worse, but just different.

CLIMATE

The climate of Peru is very diverse. The coasts are hot and dry, the mountains are cool with a dry season and rainy season, and the tropical rainforests are hot and humid. Peru is located in the Southern Hemisphere, which means that when it's summer in the United States it is winter in Peru.

ICA

Known as the City of Eternal Sun, Ica is one of the world's driest inhabited cities. It is located in the Atacama Desert and will typically have less than one inch of rainfall annually. In the summer (December – March) average highs during the day are in the 90s, while the average lows at night are in the 60s. Winters (June – September) are cool with average highs in the 70s and average lows in the 50s.

AYACUCHO/CORDOVA

At 9,000 feet (Ayacucho) and 10,000 feet (Cordova) above sea level Ayacucho and Cordova have climates typical of the southern Andes Mountains. During the dry season (May – October) precipitation is rare, but still possible. During the rainy season (November – April) light to hard rain is possible every day. Precipitation typically begins in the early afternoon and lasts into the night until the early morning, but full days of rain are common. Temperatures are fairly consistent throughout both seasons. During the day the average high is in the 60s and 70s, while at night the low drops into the 30s and 40s. Snow is only found at higher elevations.

Important note about climate: Unlike in the United States, heating and air conditioning are uncommon in Peru. Most private dwellings do not have it. Some hotels do and some do not. That means whatever temperature it is outside, it will be around the same temperature inside. Plan and pack accordingly.

MONEY

CURRENCY

The currency of Peru is the Nuevo Sol. Typically, the exchange rate is 1 U.S. Dollar is around the equivalent of 3 to 4 Peruvian Soles.

Currency exchange rates fluctuate daily, so check the exact rate before your trip on [Google](#).

CREDIT CARDS

Visa and MasterCard are widely accepted by most establishments in larger cities such as Ica, Ayacucho, and Lima. Identification is usually required for credit card purchases. Normally a passport will suffice, but you may be required to have some form of Peruvian I.D. You should check with the merchant before you pay by credit card. You may be charged a fee by the local establishment and/or by your bank or credit card company. You should notify your bank or credit card company of your travel plans and ask about fees. Some credit cards do not charge foreign transaction fees. Only cash is accepted in small towns or rural villages like Cordova. Be careful of credit card fraud. It is recommend that at least one person on your trip brings a credit card, kept in a safe location, in case of emergencies.

ATMS

ATMs are available at airports and large cities such as Ica, Ayacucho, and Lima. You will need to use a four digit pin. You may be charged a fee by the local establishment and/or by your bank or credit card company. Check with your bank or credit card company before your trip to find out about fees. You can typically withdraw Peruvian Nuevo Soles or US Dollars from most ATMs. ATMs are not available in small towns or rural villages like Cordova. For your safety it is preferable to use ATMs located inside banks or other establishments with guards rather than ones on the street.

CASH

Your team leader will create a trip budget and advise you on how much money will be needed for your trip, including how much cash to bring. Tourist-oriented businesses will accept US Dollars, but most other establishments will only accept Peruvian Soles. Any US Dollars you bring to exchange must be in like-new condition (no markings, no tears, etc.). You can exchange your money at a casa de cambio (exchange house) or with a cambista (a person who exchanges money who usually wears a brightly colored vest with dollar and euro signs). Exchanging money at the airport in Lima or at banks is typically the safest option, but usually they have the worst exchange rates. There is a bank at the Plaza del Sol mall near the seminary in Ica where you can easily exchange money. Most merchants will not accept large bills or money that is worn down (especially in small towns and rural areas). Carefully inspect any money given to you for counterfeits and worn down money. You should refuse any suspicious bills or worn down money. You should always count money given in an exchange to verify an accurate transaction.

TIPPING

Tip 10% at restaurants. It is not necessary to tip taxis or bus drivers, but you should tip the driver for prearranged transportation to and/or from the airport. If you sight-see you should tip your tour guide.

BARGAINING

You can barter for a lower price with most taxis (not including prearranged transportation to and from the airport or Uber) and with most merchants on the street that sell souvenirs. This is especially true at the Inka Market in Lima where bartering is expected. Other establishments do not barter. If you are unsure of the fair price, ask a local how much they would expect to pay.

For information about financial support see Appendix III on page 19.

PACKING

PACKING

Packing will depend largely upon the type of trip, time of year, and your destination(s). What follows is not an exhaustive packing list, but suggestions based on traveling to Ayacucho, Ica and/or Cordova.

PASSPORT

Your passport must have at least six months left before it expires to enter the country. Check the date and renew at least two months in advance if necessary.

CELL PHONE

Check with your cell phone service provider before your trip about international plans and fees. If you do not have an international plan it would be best to leave your phone in Airplane Mode with Wi-Fi enabled during the entirety of the trip. While connected to Wi-Fi you can send and receive iMessages and FaceTime calls with another iPhone for free. You can also download WhatsApp to make calls and send text messages with Wi-Fi to anyone with the same app. It is highly recommended that you download WhatsApp as it is the one of the primary forms of communication in Peru. If you have an unlocked cell phone, when you get to Peru you can purchase a prepaid Peruvian SIM card (around \$30 for 15 GB of data) or you can purchase a cheap prepaid phone with a SIM card and purchase credit.

PLUGS

Peru operates on 220v, 60hz plugs, while the United States operates on 110-120v, 60hz. Peru uses both Type A and Type C plugs and most electrical outlets in Peru are designed to incorporate both plug types. Type A plugs in the United States typically have one prong slightly wider than the other, these will not work in Peru. The prongs must be the same size. Many devices are dual voltage. Before you go check the voltage for the electronic devices you are bringing. You may need an adapter or converter depending on what you are bringing.

Due to the voltage difference, most small handheld appliances (hair dryers, electric kettles, etc.) will not work even with an adapter.

CLOTHING

This varies depending upon the time of year and destination(s). See the Climate section for information about the weather. In Ica and Ayacucho you should wear business casual attire for church events. Women commonly wear conservative black dresses with their shoulders covered. Even during the summer men should wear business casual pants and shoes to church events. Outside church events, men and women should always dress modestly.

In Ica during the summer (December – March), you should pack short sleeves, shorts, sunglasses and/or a hat. Shorts should be a modest length. During the winter (June – September), you should bring long sleeve clothing and/or a light jacket for the evenings.

For Cordova and Ayacucho pack a jacket, layers of warm clothing, good walking shoes or boots, and a hat. During the rainy season you will need a rain jacket and boots. It is highly recommended to wear closed-toed shoes, long pants and socks at all times in Ayacucho to repel biting insects. Unless you are a man playing soccer with other men, do not wear shorts in Cordova. You should not wear sunglasses. Instead wear a hat, especially one with a wide-brim. You should expect your clothing to get dirty, so pack accordingly.

TOWELS AND BEDDING

Unless you are staying at a hotel, you should bring your own towel. Wash cloths are rarely provided at hotels. If you are going to Cordova you should bring a sleeping bag to stay warm while you sleep.

OTHER

Toilet paper and hand soap is not always readily available in restrooms. It's usually a good idea to carry hand sanitizer and a small amount toilet paper with you just in case. Never flush toilet paper anywhere. Used toilet paper should be placed in the trash can near the toilet. It is also recommended to bring ear plugs as it can be noisy at night and a small first aid kit.

EXPECTATIONS & PRECAUTIONS

Peru is a developing country, which means the standard of living throughout most of the country is lower than what we expect in the United States. Many of the modern conveniences we take for granted like high-speed internet, air conditioning, and hot water are not the norm in many parts of Peru. In the rural parts of the mountains the standard of living is even lower and many homes do not have indoor plumbing or running water. Be thankful and adjust your expectations accordingly.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

Your church family will be praying for your safety throughout your trip to Peru. While safety and security are never guaranteed to us in this life, there are practical steps we can take to reduce risk and live wisely.

While it is not required, it is strongly recommended that you get travel insurance for your trip. Most health insurance in the United States does not cover international travel. Missionary Travel Association (<https://gowithmta.com/>) and Faith Ventures (www.faithventures.com) specialize in travel insurance for short-term mission trips. Other options include Gallagher (www.travelwithgallagher.com) and Allianz (www.allianztravelinsurance.com).

An excellent resource for traveling internationally is the U.S. Department of State website www.travel.state.gov. It is required that you check and read the [Peru specific page](#) before your trip for important up-to-date travel and safety information. While it is not required, it is strongly recommended to enroll in the free [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#) to receive important safety and security updates should they occur during your trip.

Likewise, it is required to check and read the [Center for Disease Control's Peru specific page](#) for important health information about vaccines and staying healthy before traveling to Peru.

ADDITIONAL SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

- You are responsible for adhering to the safety and security guidelines established by the U.S Department of State and the Center for Disease Control. Failure to follow their recommendations could result in danger to yourself and others.
- If you have any concerns about your physical health or have chronic health conditions, particularly respiratory or heart problems, consult your primary care physician before you decide to go. Especially if your trip is to high elevations like Ayacucho or Cordova.
- Most trips include a lot of walking and standing in the sun. It is highly recommended that you prepare by exercising and staying physically fit. This is especially important if you are traveling to high elevations.
- If you are traveling to high elevations you should also prepare for Altitude Sickness. You can find more information about Altitude Sickness at the [CDC website](#).
- If you are susceptible to nosebleeds talk to your primary care physician or pharmacist about bringing Afrin or some other medication.
- Stay hydrated at all times! One or two bottles of water a day is not enough. Bring a refillable bottle and fill with purified water.
- Do not drink tap water or consume ice or juices made with tap water. You can brush your teeth with tap water, but do not swallow. You can drink coffee and tea prepared with boiled water.
- If you are going to Cordova, buy plenty of bottled or boxed water before you leave Ica.
- Be careful about what you eat. Eat only foods that are well cooked and served hot. Avoid all salad. Stick to fruits and vegetables you can peel. If you are unsure check with your team leader or missionaries (not the locals).
- Traveler's diarrhea is very common. Be prepared by bringing your own over the counter medicine.
- Stay away from street dogs. They carry diseases like rabies and can be aggressive and bite.
- It is recommended to bring a small first aid kit.

ADDITIONAL SAFETY PRECAUTIONS (CONTINUED)

- In Ayacucho small biting insects (sometimes called no-see-ums or midges) are very common. Their bites can cause very painful sores and swelling. Bug sprays and eucalyptus oil are only minimally effective. The best prevention is to wear long sleeves, long pants, long socks, and closed-toed shoes at all times when outdoors. Any area of exposed skin around the feet or ankles is especially susceptible to bites.
- Be aware of your surroundings at all times.
- Be careful when driving or walking across the street. The driving style is much more aggressive in Peru than in the United States. Reliable public transportation is preferred. Cars will not always stop for pedestrians.
- Bring valuables (e.g. jewelry, cell phones, cameras, laptops, etc.) at your own risk. If you do not need it, leave it at home. If you must bring it, use it sparingly in public or leave it at the hotel.
- Keep your wallet and phone in your front pocket or purse in front of you strapped across your body. This is especially important in places with pickpockets like Lima and Ica.
- When you go out and about only take as much money as you anticipate needing.
- Always travel in groups. Women should never travel alone.
- Limit travel at night and only travel at night within secure areas.
- If an earthquake occurs seek cover under a sturdy object or safely walk outside to an open area where you will not be in danger of falling debris or electrical wires or moving vehicles.

RESOURCES

PHONE NUMBERS

- U.S. Embassy: (01) 618-2000 or +51 1 618-2000
 - Important Note: In the unlikely event of an emergency contact the U.S. Embassy first.
- Rick Martin (Missionary in Ayacucho): +51 971 183 343
- Donna Martin (Missionary in Ayacucho): +51 998 446 088
- Pastor Wilfredo Pardo (Ica Family Bible Center Church): +51 985 438 794
- Alex and Jackie Pardo (Ica Family Bible Center Church): +51 991 785 212
- Eric Turner (Ashland Church): +1 859 588 5589
 - Important Note: While in Peru even your saved American numbers will not work unless you have added the +1.

ADDRESSES

- U.S. Embassy Lima: Avenida La Encalada cdra. 17 s/n Surco, Lima 33, Peru
- Ica Baptist Seminary/Family Bible Center Church (Centro Bíblico Familiar): Calle Madre Selva 165 Ica 11001, Peru

RECOMMENDED APPS

- WhatsApp (<https://www.whatsapp.com>): Download for free communication (calls and text) while connected to internet. Most Peruvians have WhatsApp.
- Google Translate (<https://translate.google.com/intl/en/about/>): Download the Spanish Dictionary before your trip for offline translation.
- SpanishDict (<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/spanishdict-translator/id332510494>): Spanish translation app that works offline.
- Google Maps (<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/google-maps/id585027354>): Tends to work better in Ayacucho than Apple Maps.

WEBSITES

CIA World Factbook Peru

<https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/countries/peru/>

US Embassy in Peru

<https://pe.usembassy.gov/>

Peru Travel Guide

<https://www.lonelyplanet.com/peru>

Official Tourism Website of Peru

<https://www.peru.travel/>

APPENDIX I

TRIP CHECKLIST

REQUIRED:

- ☐ Read the Peru Guide
- ☐ Check passport expiration date and renew if it will expire less than six months from your travel date
- ☐ Read the [U.S. Department of State travel to Peru website](#)
- ☐ Read [Center for Disease Control and Prevention travel to Peru website](#) and get any necessary vaccinations
- ☐ Read [Missions: How the Local Church Goes Global by Andy Johnson](#)

STRONGLY RECOMMENDED:

- ☐ Get travel insurance (see suggestions on [page 12](#))
- ☐ Enroll in [U.S. State Dept Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#)
- ☐ Read [Foreign to Familiar by Sarah Lanier](#)

APPENDIX II

HOW TO GET TO/FROM ICA

FROM THE AIRPORT TO THE HOTEL OR BUS STOP

- You can arrange transportation from the airport to a hotel or to the bus stop ahead of time through websites like [Booking.com](https://www.booking.com). If you have requested transportation ahead of time there will be someone with a sign with your name waiting for you in the lobby.
- You can also arrange transportation at the airport upon arrival with a private transportation company. They are stationed at the exit from baggage claim. You should only arrange transportation from one of the official transportation companies at the airport with a desk, not from a random taxi driver in the lobby or outside. Before signing anything, paying, or loading make sure you have agreed on a rate for your entire team to travel to the hotel or bus stop.
- If traveling directly from the airport to the bus stop arrange for the transportation company to take you to the Cruz Del Sur Javier Prado bus station. The address is Avenida Javier Prado Este 41, San Isidro 15034.
- Be aware of your surroundings and very careful loading and unloading your luggage at the airport and bus stop.

FROM THE BUS STOP TO ICA

- Once you arrive at Cruz Del Sur, find the line to purchase tickets for the next regular or express bus to Ica.
- Wait in the lobby until your departure time. Do not leave the bus stop. It is not a safe part of town.
- Depending on the type of bus you take it may stop a few times before Ica. Ica is the last stop. Make sure you are in Ica before you depart the bus.
- When you arrive at the bus stop in Ica there are official taxi drivers inside the bus stop. Arrange with one of the taxi drives inside the bus stop to take your team to your hotel or to the seminary if you are staying there. The seminary address is Calle Madre Selva 165 Ica 11001, Peru. If they are unfamiliar with the address you can tell them it is next to SAT Ica where taxes are paid.
- Again, be aware of your surroundings and very careful loading and unloading your luggage at the bus stop and at the seminary or hotel.

APPENDIX III

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

As of 1/1/24 Peru mission trips cost*:

- Short-Term Trips (7-10 days): \$500 + Airfare
- Summer Mission Team (4-5 weeks): \$1,000 + Airfare

Ashland Church mission trips are subsidized with Ends of the Earth Funds. That means our church has already contributed financial support to your mission trip. The listed price reflects this reduced cost for which you are responsible to pay. Those who are in need of additional financial aid are encouraged to raise support through personal support letters and fundraisers. You will find a sample support letter in the following appendix on page 20.

Even if you are able to pay for your trip in full we encourage you to seek out other Christians to partner with you financially and in prayer.

How Partners Can Give:

- Those who want to give financially toward your trip can make a tax-deductible gift to our church's Ends of the Earth Fund. They can give:
 - Online at www.ashland.church/give. Select Ends of the Earth from the drop-down.
 - By mailing a check made out to Ashland Church to P.O. Box 324 Richmond KY, 40476. Enclose a note or include "Ends of the Earth - trip participant name" in the memo line.
 - In the offertory boxes during our worship gatherings. Enclose a note or include "Ends of the Earth - trip participant name" in the memo line or on the giving envelope.

*Costs are subject to change. Team leaders and translators may be eligible for a discount. College students going on summer mission teams are eligible to apply for additional support through the Ends of the Earth Summer Mission Trip Grant Application.

APPENDIX IV

SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER

Dear _____,

I hope this letter finds you well. God has been doing an amazing work in my life lately. I've been able to share the gospel with a number of my coworkers/classmates, and I have grown so much in this process. By God's grace, He's given me a passion to go beyond my office/school walls to share with others as well.

This (trip month) I will be participating on a short term mission trip to (location) with a team from Ashland Church. Ashland Church has been sending teams to work with church planters around the world for a number of years. Each time, God has used the team in wonderful ways to refresh the church planters in the area and reach the surrounding communities. This year a team is going to (location) to (description of mission work). I am so excited to be a part of this team!

The trip dates are (dates) and the total cost is (price). Will you please prayerfully consider partnering with me? Even a small contribution would be greatly appreciated. I believe the return on our joint investment will yield eternal results! My financial support is due by (deadline). If you can assist me financially, you may give a tax-deductible donation in three ways:

- Online at www.ashland.church/give. Select Ends of the Earth from the drop-down.
- By mailing a check made out to Ashland Church to P.O. Box 324 Richmond KY, 40476. Enclose a note or include "Ends of the Earth - trip participant name" in the memo line.
- In the Ashland Church offertory boxes during worship gatherings. Enclose a note or include "Ends of the Earth - trip participant name" in the memo line or on the giving envelope.

Finally, I ask for your prayers. If you will pray, then I believe God can use me in a mighty way and do "immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine." Please pray for the local church and church planters we are going to serve; pray that God will grant them fruitful ministries. Pray for the spiritual preparation of our entire mission team and for those we will encounter. Pray that I will be sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit and obedient to His voice. I appreciate your prayer and support for this trip.

Whether through your prayers or your financial support (or both), I want to say in advance that we are so thankful for your contribution towards helping us participate in God's work in (location)!

With gratitude,

Your Name*

*Adapted from a sample support letter of The Summit Church.

APPENDIX V

A (BRIEF) PHOTO TOUR OF PERU

These photos are meant to help give you a glimpse of who the people are and what the places are like where we serve in Peru. Pay close attention to the similarities and differences between the locations (geography, size, income, architecture, food, dress, etc.).



Rick and Donna Martin



Pastor Cesar and
Vanessa (Ayacucho)



Pastor Wilfredo and
Raquel (Ica)



Ayacucho



Ayacucho Outskirts



Lima



Ica



Ica Outskirts



Cordova

PHOTO TOUR CONTINUED



Ayacucho Church



Ica Church/Seminary



Cordova Church



Ayacucho Worship



Ica Worship



Cordova Worship



Ayacucho Street



Ica Street



Cordova Street



Lomo Saltado with
Chicha Morada



Arroz con Pollo with Aji
de Gallina



Venison, Rice, Potatoes
Homemade in Cordova



ENDS OF THE
EARTH