

New Hope Children's Home
Providing hope since 1995



NEW HOPE NEWS

A monthly newsletter from
New Hope Children's Ministries

May 2008

Defend the cause of the weak and needy;
maintain the rights of the poor and oppressed.

Psalms 82:3

Mother's Day...

a day to celebrate those who love on the children at New Hope

A holiday such as Mother's Day can serve as a painful reminder of the reality that most of the children at New Hope are trying to forget—that their mothers are no longer with them. Many of them have passed away; others have abandoned their own children out of their desperate struggle against poverty. As varied as the stories of the children are, they share the experience of losing their parents in one way or another.



While we cannot provide new parents for these kids here at New Hope, we do provide loving workers who care for the children as a mother would. They help with homework and soothe those who are sick; they wash clothes and pick up after the items that are strewn around the house at the end of the day. They wipe noses, clean wounds and dry tears. They give advice and worry about the kids as they face challenges at school. They rehearse school presentations and attend parent-teacher conferences. They do all of this, and more, not only for their own kids, but for the 8-10 children under their care at New Hope. Can you imagine?

So as we celebrate Mother's Day, we give a special "thank you" to our workers here and share these photos of the kids with their caregivers with you.



***You saw me when no one else saw me,
You loved me when no one else loved me.
And you gave me a name, I am your child,
I am the apple of your eye, because you loved me.***

These lyrics come from a Spanish worship song titled *La Nina de tus Ojos*. It has quickly become a favorite worship song for many members of the church, but particularly for the children at New Hope. Just last month I asked Luis, a 3-year-old boy, to sing me his favorite song and he started belting out this chorus. The older kids request this song at youth group on Friday nights, and I hear children humming it around the home frequently. For me, it serves as a reminder of the deep understanding that these orphaned and abandoned children have of the love of Christ because of their own life stories.

As believers, we know the spiritual experience of being adopted into the family of Christ. We can identify with the contrast of human love and the perfect love of God that is depicted in these lyrics. But the kids here at New Hope identify with these lyrics on a personal level as well as a spiritual level. They have experienced the loneliness of being overlooked by passersby on the streets. They have experienced the deficit of love when their parents turned them out, or when they were left alone after the death of a parent. So when they enter New Hope and are loved by Christ through the hands and feet of his followers, they understand the love of Christ in a personal way. They understand literally what many of us understand figuratively about the love of Christ.

As we pray for these children, we ask that God would use their broken pasts to give them a greater understanding and knowledge of His love, and that they would reach out to others who need to know the love of Christ as well.

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God. For just as the sufferings of Christ flow over into our lives, so also through Christ our comfort overflows.” 2 Corinthians 1:3-4



Want to make a difference?

Join Our Team!!

The value of the US dollar has dropped significantly over the past 8 months, which leaves the New Hope budget far lower than the monthly needs. Rising gas prices in turn elevate the cost of food and other commodities which have to be imported to Arequipa due to its high location in the Andes Mountains. Add these two things together it results in a desperate need for new partners in the New Hope ministry.

The opportunities are great—we are looking for new monthly donors, child sponsors, church partnerships and short terms teams to assist with construction projects. Would you consider joining our ministry team? Perhaps your church body or Bible study group would like to get involved. Your children may be ready to make an impact in the lives of less fortunate children in the world.

Would you consider how God may lead you to partner with New Hope in this ministry? The need is great!

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