

July 7 – August 10, 2026

PERÚ 2026

TRIP OVERVIEW

This month+ long trip will include visits to 10+ homes and villages, 5 plane rides and over 24 hours of driving through rough terrain in the Andes mountains. From July 11 – July 18 I will be joining the Robb's, an American missionary family serving in Arequipa, Peru. From July 20 – August 02 I will be in a village in the province of Tayacaja visiting family.

During my stay with the Robb family, I will travel on mission with them into the Castilla province tucked in the Andes mountains. They've very kindly opened the door for me to join them on a trip to minister to the villages they are building community with. We will be accompanied by a local Peruvian pastor who will help translate between Spanish and the native language of Quechua. The longest fraction of mountain driving will take place on this leg of the trip. Terrain is dirt road mountain switchbacks. Max elevation we will reach is ~16,500 feet. Driving into this region from Arequipa will take approximately 8 hours. Once in place, the commute between each village is roughly 45 minutes.

The next leg of mountain travel will involve a 7 hour drive on paved roads from Lima to Huancayo with my family followed by a 5 hour drive into Tayacaja. Once leaving Huancayo, the drive will once again be on dirt mountain switchbacks as we travel east towards el Distrito de Lambras. After two weeks we'll head back to Lima and I will conclude the final leg of my trip.

I will be documenting what I can learn about the real world concerns these communities have. I will also document the experience of traveling and living on mission in the Andes mountains. I'm excited to experience the ways that God is working in their lives and find ways to honor these communities through storytelling. I'm encouraged to develop an educational program that provides a broad-topic planetary science curricula and maybe even a mission component can be included for the experience of serving in the kingdom of God through international missions. I'll be gauging how realistic bringing interested students with me on future trips could be and plan to detail an expense report for calculating a projected cost per person with this trip serving as a template itinerary.

A component of my documentation process will involve *listening*. As a states-raised Peruvian American there are cultural ties to the land and family and skills of Andean life that have gone undernourished in my heart. It is possible with travel limitations that my version of listening may only involve photographing natural landscapes and descriptive journaling. However, I have the full intention to gather stories and store up customs which I will hold as encouragement for my remaining years.

WiredByWeather | ClimaNosCablea dream board

- i. Identify possible lesson plans for geosciences concepts. Identify features of biomes within scripture that can form biblical connections for storytelling.
- ii. Try to source possible field sites (locations) to revisit with students.
- iii. Learn about how my family was evangelized to in the late 20th century and collect family stories and testimonies.
- iv. Collect environmental information and gauge community awareness of public protected land rights.
- v. Missionary conference in Arequipa -> how to serve in specialized ways, build community connections for future visits.
- vi. Learn about the native curiosity and the depth of imagination in various communities. Gauge their interest in learning about science and document what works and doesn't work in teaching.
- vii. Listen to what God is showing and teaching me.
- viii. Identify new concepts to study and publish in *Research Comms: Science Review*.
- ix. Maintain a trip expense report. Develop a projected expense report for a future field trip with the aim to deploy a weather station, ie. I need to also identify desired instrumentation package and site requirements.

VISION

My mission work in the mountains of Peru will involve strengthening community ties in Peru by spreading the message of the gospel. Tensions from the civil war in the late 20th century has left communities scarred. My ambitions are to encourage and unify my country; The one I've had little privilege to visit. I want to return and help them develop. God has placed a calling on my heart to be a messenger who serves to build up God centered communities in Peru who are also equipped with knowledge about their environment. I want to encourage a new generation of Andean Academics who are devoted to the Lord, who respect the land

and want to steward it wisely. With intention to develop intercultural trade within hard to access regions, I will document firsthand examples illuminating the truth that human civilization depends on the habitability of our land.

This trip is only the beginning of a network of scholars who will defy the limits imposed by circumstance. This is a mission to prove how much more capable human development can be when we work to glorify God as the creator and live for Him. Everything I do, I do to honor Him, the One who sent me. And boldly at that! This work is for His kingdom, from now and for a thousand generations. Welcome to the journey. Let's work together to re-establish a life-long learning journey with God and His creation.

-Susan Harrison-Bolaños