



Operación  
**SAN ANDRÉS**

...five barley loaves and two fishes,  
but what are they among so many?  
John 6:9

# HEARTBEAT

## Collique

News and Happenings at Operación San Andrés – Collique, Lima, Peru

July, 2013

### True Love Waits

A common observation of modern society made by the older generation is that today's children grow up too fast. Adolescents are becoming sexually active at an increasingly younger age, influenced through school parties where dances are more and more sexually suggestive and sex games like "sex roulette" are becoming normal. The teenagers in Collique are exposed to these types of parties via internet videos easily found on YouTube.

While traveling from Collique to downtown Lima, looking out of the bus window, one can see many teenage girls with babies in their arms; it can be a baby brother or sister, but many of them carry their own child."

OSA is aware of these facts. In the after school program, the teenagers learn to think about and plan their future on the basis of their "life project" on which they repeatedly work during the year. Also OSA teaches them to consider the consequences of the decisions they make in every aspect of life. OSA teaches the teenagers that sexual intercourse is meant to take place within the context of marriage, like the Bible teaches.

To better teach the teenagers in this area, OSA hosted the course "Sexual Integrity" simultaneously with a course for their fathers, "The Father's Blessing." The fathers were taught the importance of their role in the family and the teenagers the emotional, spiritual, physical, and social benefits of saving sex for marriage.



Father embracing his son after he asked him forgiveness



The teenagers with Elizabett and Kees, OSA's missionaries, showing their ring

Sunday, May 26, was an important day in the lives of nine teenagers in Collique. In a special ceremony (known as Purity or True Love Waits ceremony) in a tent on the field behind the OSA house the teenagers, in the presence of their parents, promised God to save sex for marriage.

Before that moment, the fathers had asked their sons and daughters for forgiveness for their shortcomings in their upbringing and spoke words of blessing on them.

The teenagers' pledge was accompanied by

a ring, which they will wear until the day of their marriage, to always remind them of this day and their commitment with God.

OSA delights in the fact these teenagers are wearing their rings daily and the ceremony is marked in their memory. Please, keep these teenagers in your prayers that they will hold on their pledge and might be a positive strong example among their friends.

The courses were given by "Foundation for Families," the organization who also presented the Marriage Course last year.

### Telemedicine Consults

On Thursday, June 13, Dr. Ray Verm was at the OSA house seeing patients in the office, which usually is his consulting room during medical campaigns. However, this time he didn't fly into Peru, but he was at his computer in the US. This first online video conference consult went well, and the patients were glad to see the familiar face of their American doctor, although it was on a screen.

An older lady was surprisingly comfortable with the setup seeing her doctor on the screen. Upon the question how she was doing, she started moving her arms up and down in front of the camera.

The hardware even included a stethoscope, which transferred a clear signal to the



headphones of Dr. Ray. With the help of Meche, OSA's assistant to the director and nurse for the occasion, he was able to check on the heartbeat and lungs as though he were doing it in person in Collique.

OSA is working on further improving the system and planning on a next telemedicine consult on August 26.

## Making Chocolates a Mission Project

Charo, OSA's social worker, was aware that one of the mothers of the children in OSA's after school program knew how to make a variety of chocolates. One day, she asked this mother if she was willing to share her knowledge with the other mothers during some workshops.

Charo and the mother helped the mothers calculate the cost of the final product and the possible profit if they would sell the chocolates.

Before the final session, some mothers heard about the living circumstances of the family of a little boy in the José Galvito preschool.



Especially now it's winter in Peru, which started earlier and seems colder than last year, the home with walls of grass mats doesn't give the shelter from the cold this family needs.

The mothers who participated in the chocolate workshop decided to sell part the chocolates they made and from the revenue they purchased plastic to cover the grass mats. Together they went to the house and covered the walls.

OSA is thankful for the servant heart and humble spirit of these ladies and hopes this attitude will influence the community.

## Winter in Collique

Those of you who have been in Collique are familiar with the scene in the picture just below, a view of the valley of Collique from the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the OSA house. All summer, the sun shines brightly each day when even the Pacific Ocean, about 17 miles from the OSA house, can be seen.

What a difference with the climate in the winter. Many days start with a thick fog, which dissolves in the morning, sometimes followed by some sunshine. However, there are days when the fog just hangs between the hills all day long and a drizzle falls down on the little shacks made out of grass mats on the hillsides of Collique.



The humidity—close to 100%—and temperatures in the high 50s makes life tough; since the houses don't have central heating or insulation, the cold, damp conditions are almost the same inside as they are outside.

OSA is grateful being able to help the neediest families by distributing jackets and blankets. At the moment, OSA is planning on expanding the distribution, as the OSA staff encounters families who recently arrived from the jungle areas of the country with few personal belongings to start a new life in Lima. The only places they can afford to live are on the hillsides of Peru's capital.



## Upcoming Events

July 20

- First Youth Group meeting at OSA

July 21

- Worship Service

August 26

- Telemedicine Consults

October 4-12

- Fall Mission Trip

## Please, PRAY with us for

- Health of the people during this winter season
- First youth group meeting
- Following Online Video Conferencing Consults
- The teenagers who made the pledge noted on the first page
- Thanks for the servant mothers and their love for their neighbors

### Bible verse of the month

**"For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one."**

**1 John 5:7**

You can still be part of the Next Mission Trip to Collique  
October 4-12

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Visit the Facebook page for more  
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