

THE ARAUJO FAMILY

Serving the Lord in Arequipa, Peru | js@araujofamily.com | +51.953.510.366

Immigration Process

Thank you for your continued prayers for Sarah's residency visa through marriage. We went to the immigration office in February, which is when we were told that her documents were technically all accurate but needed to be notarized and have an apostille in the U.S. before being translated and certified in Peru. In order to get both a PA and an FBI criminal background check notarized with an apostille, Sarah needed to travel to the U.S. to expedite the process. The Lord used a special contact at her local congressman's office to once again act on our behalf. Praise the Lord, Sarah received the last document she needed within **ONE** hour of leaving for her departure flight after nearly three weeks in the U.S. Please pray for her final approval upon submission of the translated documents.

We have a **TWO**-year-old

And just like that, our beautiful baby Adelyn Mae is no longer such a baby. She turned two years old on **April 19th!** We thank God for the indescribable joy she brings to our lives and family as we watch her little personality shine through and the milestones fly by. We praise the Lord for each day of health He has given her and for every moment of His sovereign protection over her life thus far. Please pray for us as parents to continue to give our all in loving her, training her, nurturing her, instructing her, and living out our faith in Christ by example before her. Please pray with us for the Lord to mold Adelyn's heart and character from a young age.



Junior, Sarah & Adelyn Mae

Update from the Field...

We wish to thank you for partnering with us in prayer and financial support of our family and the ministry that the Lord has entrusted to us. Over the past four months, we can honestly say we have witnessed God at work answering those prayers in amazing ways that have encouraged us tremendously. We pray that you, too, will rejoice with us as you read our brief report!

Raising up T.H.I.S. Generation for Christ

Train^{ing} - We were so humbled by a dear family's response to our prayer letter in December 2022 when they funded our seminary needs. By God's grace, we were able to hold a gala-style dinner on January 16th to benefit our seminary professors and students. It was a sweet time of fellowship and celebration as we gathered together, recognized the 7 full-time students who completed their first year of studies, awarded the top-performing student, and enjoyed a catered meal of traditional Arequipan food. It was such a worthy effort to make in recognizing the time and resources that so many sacrifice in order to teach or study in the seminary. We are very grateful for those of you who pray for and invest in needs like these so that we can continue to encourage, train, and equip believers in rightly handling God's Word for His service.

Please pray with us as the first semester of the second year of seminary began on April 3rd. The courses being offered this semester are: Pastoral Epistles, Heretical Sects, The Epistles of John, Doctrina III (Anthropology, Hamartiology & Soteriology), Church Planting, Church History, and a modular course on Homiletics I. Please pray for all 7 pastors/professors who volunteer their time and energy to teach in the seminary with relatively little compensation - that the Lord will equip them, use them, and meet their every need. Please also pray for the students who enroll - that the Lord will bless their efforts, strengthen them in their understanding of His Word, and equip them in applying their knowledge to serve Him. Lastly, please pray for our seminary secretary, **Elisabet**. She has faced debilitating symptoms for more than a year now but recently received a diagnosis of **lupus**. While we praise the Lord for the clarity He gave the doctors, we ask for your prayers for her as she works through the implications of learning to live with this chronic inflammatory autoimmune disease.



Youth Leadership Retreat in Mollendo



13-year-old Isaac, baptized 01/01/23



Youth Training Center progress



01/23/23, Leydi made a profession of faith

Giving Options:

Check contributions to our ministry should be made payable to IPM and sent to IPM, Inc., 100 Spring Ave., Hanover, PA 17331.

To give online, please click the link below: <https://www.ipmworld.org/donation-form.html>

*Be sure to include a note with all contributions designating "Junior Araujo Support" or any other special designation that you may have for us. Thank you!

Helping - Despite the volatile political unrest that Peru was facing at the time with violent protests causing road blockades throughout the country, we were able to safely and successfully conduct a youth leadership retreat in Mollendo from January 3rd through the 7th. We had 13 of our youth leaders in attendance alongside 27 visiting youth leaders from Bolivia and Argentina. Words cannot begin to express the power of God at work through this retreat where youth leaders were poured into and given time to recharge. It was a mutually encouraging time for the youth as they were challenged, exhorted, and stirred in love by their peers, pastors and leaders. Those who were discouraged and/or living with compromise in certain areas of their lives gave testimony afterwards to the Lord's convicting touch upon their hearts. Those who were already faithful in their personal walk and service to the Lord were sharpened and strengthened to continue steadfast in their commitments. We have since seen our own youth leaders taking on greater responsibilities as they help lead our youth group, visit youth members, and begin to function more as a unified body instead of isolated members. Please pray specifically for our youth leaders who have committed to serving the Lord in eight distinct areas of the youth ministry: Milton, Jhadiel, Abraham, Julio, Irene, Mayra, Ericka & Rebeca.

Impacting - We continue to work tirelessly on the plans and vision for the Youth Training Center, praying that the Lord will ultimately use this space for His name's sake for generations to come. Right before launching into the major demolition efforts necessary for this project, I had the opportunity to use our baptistry one last time before it was destroyed in preparation for a new one. On the very first day of the new year, January 1st, Isaac was baptized before the church congregation. Please pray for him in this phase of his youth & faith walk.

While the visiting team of carpenters who were scheduled to come in January/February cancelled their travel plans due to the political unrest in both Lima and Arequipa at the time, they ended up rescheduling their visit for April 14th through the 22nd. Since writing last, we have made wonderful progress with the floating ceiling, electrical system/lighting, the front platform/baptistry, and even new windows in the Youth Training Center. We were very blessed by the 8-member team who came and helped us install custom bookshelves. All of the bookshelves are now complete as is the bottom cabinetry of the kitchenette including the installation of the sink, built-in oven, stove top, and mini fridge. We praise the Lord for His humbling provision throughout each stage of this project through so many of you. We can't wait to share the end results with you shortly. An inauguration service is just around the corner...praise God!

Sowing - Throughout January & February, Sarah and I met extensively with a young couple - Daniel & Leydi. At the time, Daniel was a prodigal believer deep in vice, and Leydi was a lost soul facing a demonic spiritual and mental battle. Through those meetings of evangelism, discipleship, and studying God's Word together (both individually & collectively at times), Daniel has since recommitted his life to the Lord, quickly and unapologetically leaving vices, cutting off bad influences, reorganizing his priorities, encouraging his family to return to church, and even enrolling as a full-time student in seminary. Leydi appeared to make a very conscious and deliberate decision to place her faith exclusively in Jesus Christ; and, while only the Lord knows her heart, we believe that to be true. Leydi is still meeting with Sarah for discipleship. Please pray for Sarah's wisdom as she works through difficult topics with Leydi like her clinical diagnosis of schizophrenia, a history of abuse & self harm, experiences with the occult, and a past of bad influences. Please pray for both Daniel & Leydi, that they will individually grow in grace and be filled with the fruit of righteousness. In way of the church plant in Majes, we praise the Lord again for His provision through generous contributors who funded the Christmas outreach there. Irma, Carlos, and Angie organized a beautiful children's program complete with scripture memorization, a candlelit drama emphasizing the true meaning of Christmas, and special songs. We were able to provide each child in attendance with a gift and enjoy typical Christmas bread and hot chocolate with all who came. Please continue to pray for this church plant, for the young leaders, and for the congregation to grow in maturity and number.

As always, thank you for being a part of our family & ministry in Arequipa, Peru. We love you in Christ - Junior, Sarah & Adelynn Mae

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