## PERUVIAN POST



Drama Team



Painting the Church building





# OLA! COMO ESTA? YO ME LLAMO KENDRA MCCRACKEN...

Sadly, that is all the Spanish that I learned during my two weeks in Peru © Yes, it really is over, and I can't believe how quickly it all came and went. I spent so many months preparing for it, and in two short weeks it was all over! The only thing I would have changed about it was to make it last longer. But I guess that's why I plan to go on other trips!

The whole trip lasted July 3-16. Around 600 students were there, with about 50 leaders total (I was a little off when I said 850 in my last letter). We were all split into fifteen groups with an average of thirty students in each. The first two days were spent in Miami, where each group spent 6-7 hours a day learning the twenty-two minute drama, "Spellbound", that we would be performing in Peru. Exhausting and long,



After "Spellbound" in the marketplace

but very, very fun. I got to play the China Doll.

"Spellbound" is basically an allegory of the creation of Earth, the Fall of Man, Jesus coming to earth to heal and teach, and His crucifixion and resurrection. The whole drama was performed to a Spanish soundtrack playing in the background. We had a great team who put on a good show!

We landed in Peru the night of the 6<sup>th</sup>, and spent the next ten days doing the drama, playing with kids,

handing out flyers, washing and braiding kids' hair, and painting a church building.

We did the drama 2-3 times a day in markets, public schools, and some villages in the poorer sections of Lima. We all had a great time playing with the kids, who loved having

us there. Just playing "Ring Around the Rosie" or "Simon Says" meant so much to them.

Everywhere we went, many people were receptive to the drama and gave their hearts to Jesus! It was amazing to see every time. Communicating with the people was difficult, and probably the most frustrating part of the trip for me. Most of us spoke no Spanish, aside from some basic phrases we were taught in Miami, and there were only four translators for our team to share, so most of the time we could do little else but smile and make

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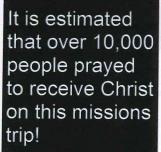
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#### More pics on the Web:

http://dvlp.briomag.com/ briomagazine/general/

More trip info on MySpace:

www.myspace.com/



Thank you for being an important part!

partial and course on



Our Team

hand motions. Still, I think they appreciated the effort ©

I think that was one very important thing that I learned: Despite us knowing no Spanish and sharing very little in common with these people, God used us through simple things, like a smile or a hug or a silly game, to reach them. I saw that happen every day and was blessed by it.

Funny, I went to Peru thinking that I would try and get out of my comfort zone a little bit and tell people about Jesus. Well, that all happened, but I did not expect to change so much on the inside as well.



Guinea pig tastes a bit "fishy"

A friend of mine told me that mission trips often end up impacting the missionary more than the people ministered to, and I think she's right. I made wonderful friends, and we had great leaders who were fun and true examples of Jesus to us.

I loved being in Peru, and the trip wouldn't have been at all possible without your support, financially and spiritually.

Thank you, thank you, THANK you so much for your donations, and especially your prayers! God used you in more ways than you can imagine. I was blown away by how quickly all the money came in (in one month)!!!

God bless you all, and I hope to see some of you next summer!

Love, Kendra