



kidsalive[®]
INTERNATIONAL

PERU

Juniper Tree Children's Home

Juniper Tree is located on the outskirts of Lima and is home to over 25 at-risk and traumatized children. In family-style homes, house parents care for 6-8 kids, serving as role models while tending to their physical, emotional, educational, and spiritual needs. We strive to create an atmosphere where they feel safe, encouraged, and have the experience and ability to raise healthy families of their own someday.

While we are providing for their immediate, tangible needs, it is our hope that they will begin to understand the hope and healing offered in the Gospel. Recovery from trauma or abandonment can take a long time, but we are committed to working with them for as long as it takes. And we pray that they will each desire a relationship with Jesus and that they learn to trust in Him, the true source of their hope.

We are excited that many children continue their education either in university or trade schools after leaving Juniper Tree. Some of them are determined to work with at-risk kids one day because of the change that God, through Kids Alive supporters, made in their lives.

In December, four of our Juniper Tree students graduated from high school, our largest group yet! Goals for the next year include training a new director, connecting to the city water supply, building a workshop to train older boys in carpentry and auto mechanics, and raising funds for a multi-purpose building. We are overwhelmed with God's goodness, as we see real hope and joy in the eyes of these precious young people.

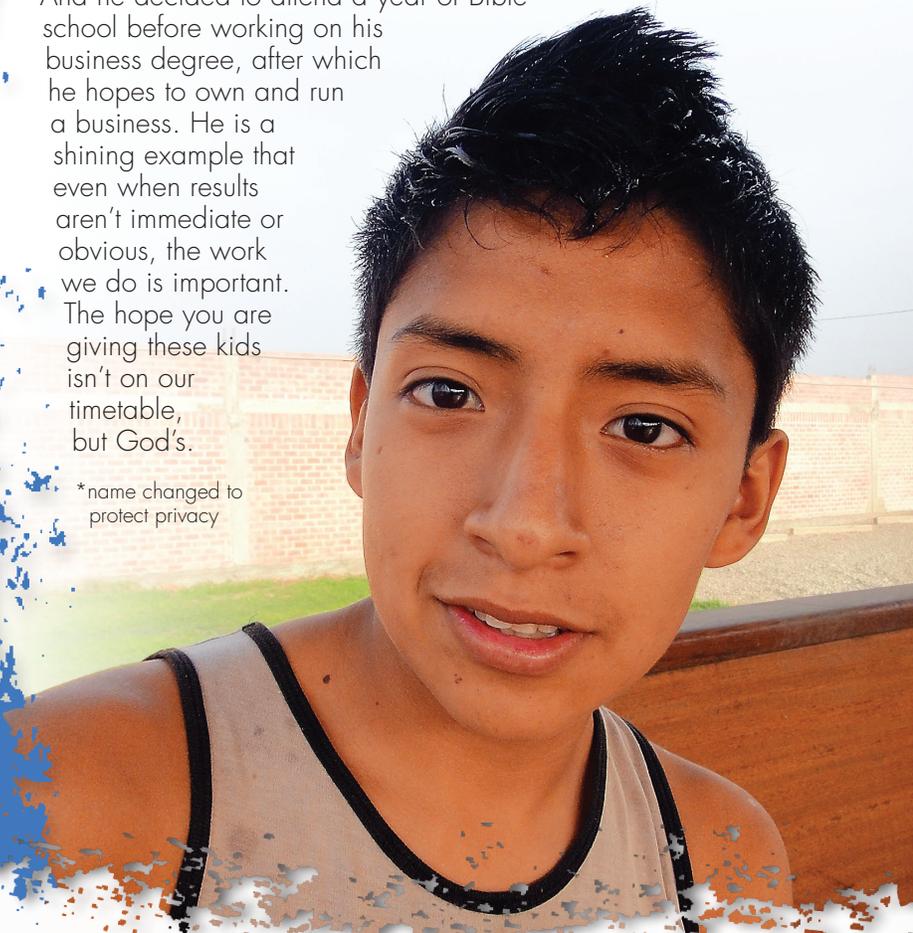
Hope Changes Everything...

AT JUNIPER TREE CHILDREN'S HOME!

One of our recent graduates, Jorge* has long been resistant to God and has a strong tendency to self-protect. This is not surprising to us, as his past experiences gave him reason to build up that resistance. Rejection, neglect, and other hardships are difficult for children to overcome, even when they finally find safety. Jorge's house parents consistently accepted him and treated him as their own child, showing him all the love and care they possibly could. Though it was often discouraging to see him reject their efforts, they remained committed to him.

Then a few months ago, Jorge approached his house father and gruffly asked what he needed to do to make things right with God. Finding a quiet place to talk, his house father explained that God is always ready to welcome him into His family. Something changed in him, and he decided to follow the call of Jesus. What a miracle it has been to see the difference in Jorge! His normal grumpy, pessimistic mood has been replaced with smiles. And he decided to attend a year of Bible school before working on his business degree, after which he hopes to own and run a business. He is a shining example that even when results aren't immediate or obvious, the work we do is important. The hope you are giving these kids isn't on our timetable, but God's.

*name changed to
protect privacy



"Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the Lord."

Psalms 31:24 (NIV)

What's happening...

IN PERU?

The beauty that is Peru can sometimes obscure the hopelessness: desperate poverty, rampant disease, and lack of sanitation. With much of the country surviving on meager incomes, hundreds of thousands of children are desperate and hungry. There is also little access to quality education, and many children live in constant danger from child predators.

Kids Alive has been rescuing the most vulnerable Peruvian children since 1993, through our residential homes, care centers, and school. Not only do we offer them nutritious food, an education, safe shelter, and medical care, but we are committed to sharing the love of Jesus with each one. These children desperately need to hear that they are valued and loved.

We are constantly exploring more ways to serve children here. From building or renovating more residential homes, to opening House of Glory as a home for teen moms, to expanding our school with more grades, we seek to provide for the needs of our kids holistically. Several of our missionaries were able to attend in-depth caregiver training in working with children from hard places, enabling them to better care for the many needs of each child.

The goal of our work in Peru is still to be the hands and feet of Jesus to every child we encounter, giving them the chance for a brighter future. When they begin to see hope for the first time, these children can break cycles of poverty and violence and affect their communities in positive ways.

Partner with us in prayer...

God is working at Juniper Tree! Please pray for:

- Our efforts to identify and train a new director
- Just the right house parents to care for our children
- Understanding and implementation of caregiver training by the staff

