



Dear Co-laborers,

Normally we only talk about ministry in our letters but this month we need to talk about another more personal subject. We trust in the Lord and our supporters to understand.

Our son, Ezra, is nine years old and has been a typical little boy for most of his life. We did notice that he was lagging behind in some areas of development a little but decided he was just a late bloomer. He has had small idiosyncrasies, but nothing major. This all changed when Teresa traveled to the jungle.

His small tics and oddities exploded. Instead of one small tic, he had several, including vocal tics. He began making noises, snapping his fingers, rolling his eyes over and over. It began to interfere with eating and other basic habits. It was very concerning how fast his symptoms came on, and instead of ebbing, they only increased.

When Teresa returned, the tics didn't stop completely. We took him to a neurologist who began the stages of diagnosing him with Tourette's syndrome. Tourette's syndrome is an involuntary compulsion to move or make sounds. It leads to secondary conditions like OCD very quickly. It is not known why or how it develops, but the doctor told us that it normally presents itself with small movements at young ages. The most difficult and pivotal age for children diagnosed is 9 years old. Children with Tourette's tend to have struggles in areas that we noticed were difficult for Ezra but had hoped he would grow out of.

This discovery explained so much to us. Ezra has struggled communicating in Spanish, even being around it daily. He has struggled emotionally for a boy of 9 years old and has been a challenge for us. Thankfully, the doctor said that many kids his age can eventually grow out of it with treatment, but if left untreated it could escalate.

Unfortunately, this is where we have run into a wall. English-speaking behavioral therapists are few and far between in Lima. Even if he did speak Spanish, we have been told that he needs a therapist that can interact with him in his heart language for him to be able to open up. It is supposed that Tourette's syndrome is heavily tied to anxiety, insecurity, and stress. If a therapist is going to have any success, Ezra needs to be as comfortable as possible in the language to receive the treatment properly.

We have spoken openly to Ezra about Tourettes. As we are already “weird foreigners,” we have taught our children that being weird is okay. Sometimes being weird is a great thing, since “We’re all a bunch of weirdos,” as long as we’re weird for the Lord. We do not focus on his tics but accept that is just part of him. He understands his condition and understands what it means. Many Peruvians, on the other hand, don’t understand this condition very well, so a child making random noises in Sunday school has not been easy for him. Even so, he’s taking it all like a real champ. We know he’ll be okay, and the Lord will use this for His glory.

What does all this mean for us? We need help finding a therapist that specializes in motor and vocal tics. It has been so difficult to find one here in Perú and we are unsure if it will be possible for Ezra to receive treatment here. Not only that but due to recent events, it has become clear we need to raise more support. This fact, coupled with the need to get Ezra to a therapist that can treat him, we are considering a six-month furlough in 2026.

This will give us ample time to raise the support needed, visit our current supporters, as well as make sure that Ezra has the best chances for treatment. While we haven’t made a solid decision yet, we ask for your understanding as we pray over what next steps to take. Please pray for Ezra. Please also pray for Isabel. Being the sister of the “noisy” kid comes with its own challenges. No matter what, we are thankful in all things.

As for ministry, please pray for Patrick’s upcoming trip in two weeks to train 50 pastors in the mountains of Perú. We pray for impact and the Holy Spirit’s empowerment to take this teaching to spread the gospel while changing lives for Christ. Patrick will be bringing needed supplies and Bibles to the pastor during this trip. We pray God uses it mightily.

Lastly, Teresa had the privilege to finish another course of trauma healing classes. This course contains Biblical truths, while mixing in mental health techniques. Unfortunately, due to the nature of the class, she cannot share names from this ministry. But we ask for prayer, as one of the ladies who participated in the course is not saved. She has been searching for God and has reached out multiple times to Teresa to hear more about the Bible. Please join us as we pray for her salvation.

Please feel free to reach out to us via email at Trulyisplenteous@gmail.com or through our Facebook page at “Pruetts in Perú” or on Instagram at [Pruetts_in_Peru](https://www.instagram.com/Pruetts_in_Peru). From the bottom of our hearts, we are thankful for your endless prayer support. Your prayers are so precious to us, and we are so blessed to have prayer partners like you. We cannot do what God has asked us to do without you. Thank you!

10/03/2025