



ATEK PERU



Quick facts:

Potential population impact: 1.5 million

Number of languages: One

Geographic area: Peru

Timeline: 2006-2019



Focus:

- Leadership development
- Literacy
- Scripture engagement



Goals:

- Teach reading with comprehension
- Offer leadership training and workshops
- Provide Scripture and discipleship resources
- Develop workshops for training Sunday school teachers
- Facilitate sexual assault prevention and awareness

Snapshot:

ATEK, an acronym that means “shining the light of the gospel to the Quechua speaking world,” does just that. Thousands of Bibles have been distributed, but there are 1.5 million Cusco Quechua speakers and only six ATEK staff. Join them to multiply their efforts as they share the truths of Scripture, equip leaders, and teach literacy.

The Cusco Quechua Bible was completed in 1988 and revised in 2004. Unfortunately, only about six per cent of the population currently make use of the Scriptures.

The Challenges:

Cusco Quechua speakers lack access to the Bible in their heart language, and many desire to learn to read and write. **Illiteracy, discrimination, poverty, and under-resourced churches** leave hundreds of thousands of Quechua speakers without the knowledge of God’s love and His amazing purpose for their lives.

The Plan:

Promote the use of Scripture by providing written, audio, and video materials in the Cusco Quechua language.

Provide training for pastors, leaders, men, women, and children on the following topics: teaching methods for reading with comprehension, literacy, training Sunday school teachers, developing Bible studies in Quechua, health, and leadership development for the church and community.

Produce and distribute written materials on the prevention of sexual abuse. These are distributed in the public schools, Sunday schools, and churches. This is aimed at church leaders, facilitators, parents, and children or youth.

The Impact:

Leaders are equipped. “We can testify with joy that many leaders and pastors are now able to read and write,” explains Fredi Quintanilla, director of ATEK. “They are learning from the Word of God and teaching what they’ve learned.”

Women are becoming literate. Since it is much more difficult for women to access education, the majority of ATEK’s literacy participants are women who are eager to learn. Many have moved on to training others!

These leaders walk great distances through all types of weather, some of them even carrying their babies on their backs, in order to receive their training. They are criticized and are sometimes the subject of gossip for taking a counter-cultural role as teachers and leaders. Even in difficult times, however, these women support each other. They are confident that they can help other women find and follow the path of faith in Christ.

Sexual assault is being addressed. This problem exists outside of, and within the church. Church leaders have openly addressed this, moving against social norms. School children have approached teachers after presentations, realizing that they have experienced sexual predation, and, as a result, appropriate actions have been taken.

Training is bearing fruit. Hundreds have been trained, leading to changed lives. Marcelo experienced this. He tells us that before coming to know Christ, he abandoned his wife and children and spent everything on alcohol. After a pastor showed him kindness instead of judgement, he got involved in church.

Later, church leaders sent Marcelo to participate in ATEK’s leadership training. Marcelo began to understand the importance of the family and how he had failed as a father and husband. His children had moved far away and didn’t want to see him anymore. Marcelo decided to seek them out and ask for forgiveness.

Miraculously, his children believed that he was truly repentant and chose to renew a relationship with their father. Since that day, their family life began again. Marcelo, his children and his grandchildren are getting to know this wonderful God who healed their relationships.

Marcelo is convinced there is nothing impossible with God. For this reason, he is serving in his church and teaching married couples. He believes that God loves the family. We want to hear more stories of redemption like Marcelo’s.



Your prayer and financial gifts will share the love and Good News of God’s Word with Cusco Quechua communities.



...so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

Isaiah 55:11 (NIV)

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