

# Update: ATEK



## Highlights:

- Public schools are inviting ATEK to teach Bible stories to children.
- The Quechua Bible Dictionary has been printed and is being distributed.
- Thousands are exposed to the Word of God through ATEK's work.



## Progress:

- More than 700 Quechua Bibles and 4,485 other printed resources were distributed.
- Nearly 30 pastors went to marriage workshops. These pastors are now training 65 couples on the subject of marriage.
- The Quechua Bible Dictionary underwent its final edit and was printed.
- More than 600 pastors and lay leaders received training in theology or teaching.
- More than 400 children from five public schools, and 591 Sunday school children, learned how to prevent sexual abuse. About 240 youth and 183 children attended other camps where they emphasized and reaffirmed their faith.
- Fifteen lessons on discipleship are ready for publication.



## Quick Facts:

**Purpose:** To nurture healthy families, churches and communities through Bible-based mother-tongue literacy programs.

**Potential population impact:** 1.6 million

**Number of languages served:** 1

**Geographic area:** Peru

**Focus ministry:** Leadership development, literacy, Scripture engagement.

**Remaining ministry year need (to August 2018):** \$36,432

**Start date:** 2006

**Projected end date:** 2019



*Like a light on a stand, the gospel brings hope and salvation. Because of your gifts and prayers, someone can receive God's Word in their heart language. Thank you for supporting your Peruvian brothers and sisters in Christ.*



## Stories of impact

### Trained to serve

Rosalino is a Quechua leader. Attendance at his church was rapidly decreasing, and he noticed the same thing happening at churches nearby. He tried to get help from regional church leaders, but they were unwilling to get involved. His frustration led him to ATEK. "Forgetting my intellectual limitations, but with great passion and love for God, I travelled with the hope of finding help," he says.

At the beginning, the ATEK training was very difficult for Rosalino as he did not know how to read or write. But he says that the love of God and love for His Church gave him strength. In spite of his old age, Rosalino was able to learn quickly because the training was given in a practical way.

Rosalino describes the leadership training: "I was encouraged, strengthened and challenged to leave my fears and respond to the needs of my church. Now I prepare my lessons and object lessons, and the brothers listen to me and understand. Now the church where I attend is growing. I have chosen to lead not just in my church but I am also helping other churches near to my community. The brothers encourage me and invite me. Now I see myself as I am in Christ, as part of the church body in my region. Now I am looking for ways to receive more training because it helps others. My life has improved in every way. Thanks to the training that ATEK offers in my language, I am able to help others also." Thank you for providing training for people like Rosalino.

### Reading introduced her to God

Kusi (pseudonym) lives in the community of Paropata and cares for her alpacas with her two-year-old daughter. She is the breadwinner for her family, putting her husband through university. But ever since he began his training, her husband began to belittle and ignore her.

She describes her experience: "He told me that he was ashamed of me, because I couldn't read; he just kicked me out of his room. I was so hurt by my husband's attitude; I just wanted to die. I returned to my community and went to visit my in-laws; I was sure they would understand and comfort me, but they said: 'Who do you think you are? My son doesn't deserve such an ignorant woman who doesn't know how to read.' These words hit me like a ton of bricks. Every day I wished I had never been born. I had no one to share my pain with, not even my mother was there to help me. She died when I was a child and that was why I had never been to school.

One day some Christians from the church found me crying inconsolably. They comforted me and invited me to church. I accepted. This is where I found acceptance."

The Kusi's church leader was invited to ATEK to receive some training and when he returned, he brought some reading and writing booklets. He told everyone that they should learn how to read and write in their own language.



Kusi said, “This is the opportunity to learn to read that I didn’t get when I was a little girl.” With a lot of dedication, Kusi learned how to read. She also received a booklet entitled, *Woman, You are Unique and Important*. These Bible verses explained to her that she is important to God and He is the One who gives comfort and true love. Every day she read from her booklet and learned to live with the hope that God was taking care of her.

Kusi read and understood that she was to forgive all those who had hurt her. Now she has found some happiness; she forgave her husband and her in-laws. Kusi has expressed that her future doesn’t depend on her family because God is caring for her.

She finished her testimony saying: “I wanted to learn how to read so that my husband would see worth in me, but now that I learned how to read, that is not my motivation. **Now I want to live because I read that God loves me. He healed my hurts. He comforted me and so I live for Him. No one can take away the joy I have in the Lord.**”



### Pray for the people:

- Dear God, we thank you for the children who are coming to know Jesus Christ through the Bible stories told by ATEK workers in public schools. We pray that you will open the doors of more public schools and expand this outreach.
- Lord, thank you for providing for ATEK and for the families involved. We ask you to supply each family involved with spiritual, mental and physical health. Please continue to bring ATEK the financial and personnel resources they need to carry on your work.
- We pray for the leaders involved in ATEK. Thank you for them, Lord. Please protect them, and give those who are trained the opportunity to use the skills they have developed. We pray that the women in leadership will join with ATEK in Sicuani and that more churches and leaders would get involved in ATEK.

