

# the table is set

BIBLE SUNDAY 2018

## Bible Sunday Project: Bread of Life

### Peru

Peru is a beautiful country in South America. There are busy cities where the rich and the poor live side by side, and there are expanses of towering mountains where people live in unchanged traditional villages. The distinctive hats and ponchos of the national costume show the vibrancy of the people and the richness of their culture.

In Peru there are high levels of poverty – it is thought that 2 out of every 3 children are living in poverty. This means they are not getting the food and care that they need. 25% of all children in Peru are suffering from malnutrition. They are not able to go to school, and up to a third of children aged 6 to 14 are sent to work, often working long hours at dangerous mining or construction sites. Children and their parents in Peru need to be shown care.



Distinctive national costume is still prevalent in many rural villages.

### Bread of Life

The Peruvian Bible Society saw that there was a real need amongst the children in their country. Working alongside local churches and agencies, they set up the Bread of Life project.

Children are invited to church halls and centres and given the food that they so desperately need. Either before or after school the kids get to sit down together and eat. Over time their health improves. Schools also report that children who attend the Bread of Life groups start to perform better at school, with improved concentration and discipline.



Children are being taught from the Bible while receiving a simple meal.

Alongside their physical needs, the Peruvian Bible Society is meeting their spiritual needs. Children are being taught from the Bible. They sing songs, play games, colour-in and pray. These kids, many who come from broken homes where they experience abuse, are learning that Jesus loves them dearly. It is a joy to be able to give these kids the gift of a children's Bible or activity book.

While children are being looked after, parents are also getting involved. It's wonderful to see that as Bread of Life groups are set up, mothers are coming along to help out. They volunteer to help with preparing the breakfasts for the children, working alongside the volunteers from the Bible Society and church. Whole families are being impacted by the Word of God through the Bread of Life project.

Visit the Bible Society NI website to watch a video of the Bread of Life project  
<https://biblesocietyni.co.uk/project/peru-bread-of-life/>

## Valeri's Story

Valeri is 8 years old. The Peruvian Bible Society has shared with us how she has been impacted by the Bread of Life project:

“Valeri studies second grade in a local primary school. Her mother makes every effort to look after her children, but she is the sole breadwinner since the father left the home and now has a new family. Valeri has been coming to the Bread of Life project since 2013. She says she likes the Bible stories and she prays every night before going to bed. She likes to hear songs by Christian singers; she'd like to be a singer when she grows up. One of the things she most enjoys is singing in church on Sundays. Some of the things she doesn't like about her neighbourhood are: the rubbish in the streets, the gangs that mean she can't play outside, and the lack of water and drains in her house. Despite the difficulties, she is a very happy girl and thanks God for what she has.”

## You can help

This year Bible Society NI is supporting the Bread of Life project in Peru. Your church could help.

Every £40 raised will meet the cost of feeding and teaching one child for four months. This includes the cost of workshops, staff travel, Scripture materials used by the teachers in the Bible classes as well as a nutritious breakfast each morning – milk, cereal, and fresh bread rolls with butter and jam.

Please consider supporting this great project and help more children in Peru get the physical and spiritual food that they need.

