

Go Preach the Gospel



To the Whole World

“How Shall They Hear?”

Training Men to Preach in Their Native Lands
A Work of the Bear Valley Bible Institute of Denver

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Gary and Conrad Pender, translator,
with students from ITL, Guatemala

INSTITUTE OF THEOLOGY OF LATIN AMERICA

Central America was once one country with the capital of Antigua located in present day Guatemala. Now, seven different countries compose the land area between Mexico and Colombia in South America. I have had the opportunity to teach the gospel in three of these countries. In August and September, I taught on two different occasions for the **Instituto Teológico Latino Americano (ITL)** located in the metropolitan area of Guatemala City.

In August, I taught the **undergraduate students** in ITL. The first class graduated in April, 2011. These new students are in their second quarter. Two are from Panama; the rest are from Guatemala. What each one has in common is a love for the Lord and the lost and a determination to sow the seed of the kingdom. I taught **Intertestamental History**, a course I have never taught in my 25 years of teaching gospel preachers. However, I thoroughly enjoyed it.

The teachers of the Bear Valley Bible Institute have just completed revising and standardizing the curriculum of 48 courses so that the same courses can be taught in

each school. Teachers now have access to the outlines, syllabi and tests. The two courses I developed are **The Scheme of Redemption** and **Intertestamental History**.

In September I taught the **graduates students**, including some of the **teachers** of ITL. Three members of the class received their Bachelor of Biblical Studies in April and are preaching the gospel in Guatemala.. Two are teachers at ITL; another is one of the preachers at the Linda Vista congregation nearby.

The **Master's Program at ITL**, which is a three-year course of study composed of 12 courses, began in April. Denton Landon, a Bear Valley coworker, first taught Introduction to Graduate Study, designed to enable the students to do scholarly Biblical research. Wayman Swain, a regular graduate instructor, taught the Gospel of John. I taught the courses of Old and New Testament Theology.

For the last three years I have been learning Spanish. With the help of a dictionary, I was able to translate the power point slides for Old Testament Theology into Spanish. My translator, Conrad Pender of Costa Rico, translated the notes for New Testament Theology. The students were very patient as I read some from the Spanish Bible. They also had some good laughs at my expense. My daughter describes my Spanish efforts as having “a strong Texas accent.”

The **faculty** is composed of Darvin Alvarez, Bryon Benitez, Hiawatha Jones and Anibal Ramirez. Hiawatha also serves as the President of ITL. Hiawatha and Bryon have served together as missionaries in Guatemala for 10 years. One of their goals was to begin a school of preaching. ITL is the fruit of their labor. We at Bear Valley Bible Institute are thankful to be a part of this work of God

—Gary Fallis

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Evangelistic team from ITL (left) with Darvin Alvarez and Conrad Pender beside church in Coban

A NEW CONGREGATION IN SAN CRISTOBAL

ITL has planted a new congregation in the area of **Alta Verapaz** about four hours from Guatemala City. Only two congregations serve this area of one million people, and one of them is about to close its doors. ITL is providing financial assistance to four graduates until the church becomes self sustaining: **Abner Ramos, Francisco Ramos and Erminia and Wilder and Ingrid Ordoñez**. The graduates work closely with **Darvin Alvarez**, an evangelist who works with the **Coban** congregation only about 30 minutes away. Darvin was one of their instructors at ITL.

The graduates began meeting in April in **San Cristobal**. They were soon joined by a family who had to walk two hours to worship in Coban—**Felix Cahuec**, his wife, **Erlinda**, and their four children.

Recently, the Lord added the first two converts to the San Cristobal church family. **Jose Armando Cal Caal**, a friend of Felix, who is 26 years old, was baptized into Christ on August 27. The evangelistic team met him when they were doing visitation in the local hospital.

The second addition is **Jorge Leonardo Cahuec Moran**, a single young man who is 20 years old. Abner met Jorge at a food stand and befriended him. Jorge told Abner that he ran away from home when he was only ten years old and began to work in a fair. When he was 19, Jorge finally returned home and asked his parents to forgive him. Naturally his parents were overjoyed because they thought he was dead, and now were able to see him again. Abner took advantage of this personal story and told Jorge that he had another story that sounded very similar to his—it was, of course, the parable of the “prodigal son.” Abner emphasized that what Jorge had

done was the right thing, but that there was another step he was yet lacking. Just as he came home asking his physical parents for forgiveness, Jorge now needed to return to his heavenly Father asking for His forgiveness. Abner further said that God would eagerly forgive him. After Jorge heard the plan of salvation, he was eager to be baptized. As a result, Jorge confessed his faith in Christ and was baptized into Christ on a Friday morning, September 2, in the Coban congregation’s baptistery.

These **examples of conversion** show how the graduates of ITL are preaching what they have learned. They are sowing the seed, the Word of God, and God is giving the increase. The **Linda Vista congregation** is also being “a city set on a hill” by establishing a missionary church in the city of Coban. And ITL is not only training native evangelists for two years but is also assisting them afterward both spiritually and physically, as they mature into seasoned gospel preachers. Jesus is preached; God is glorified; we are thankful.

—Gary Fallis



Esdras baptizes his mother into Christ

FIRST GRADUATION AND ANNUAL LECTURESHIP OF INSTITUTO TEOLÓGICO LATINO AMERICANO

The theme for the ITL lectureship was “**What Does the Bible Say?**” Keynote lessons were by **Bob Turner** and **Francisco Rada**. Workshop classes were taught by **Denton Landon** and **Donnie Bates**, BVBID Coordinators, and **Nicolas Chiquival, Raul Duran** and **Guillermo Poz**, preachers from Guatemala. **Conrad Pinder** from Costa Rica and **Abraham Alata** from Peru helped translate many of the lessons and activities.

Seven full-time graduates and **three Saturday program graduates** completed their Biblical studies. Most of the full-time students received a Bachelor of Biblical Studies from BVBID and a Bachelor’s in Theol-

ogy from ITL. Others received certificates of completion.

Denton Landon, Bear Valley Coordinator, served as the after-dinner speaker and encouraged the students to consider this time as simply the beginning of a life of study of God's word. People were present from the United States, Germany, Costa Rica, Peru, and El Salvador.

Darvin Alvarez was the Master of Ceremonies. **Anibal Ramirez** presented the students to the President of ITL. **Hawatthia Jones**, ITL's President, presented the degrees and certificates from ITL and **Bob Turner**, BVBID Extension Director, awarded the degrees and a certificate of completion from BVBID. **Byron** hooded those students that completed their Bachelor's Degree. **Nicolas Chiquival** led two songs. Brother **Stephen Warren**, one of the elders of the Kingsley Terrace church in Indianapolis, gave the elder's charge to the graduates, emphasizing the commission God had given each one of them. **Rogelio Calderon** had a Scripture reading and **Maclovio Calderon** a prayer at the end of the ceremony. After two challenging years of study and ministry experience, the graduates are anticipating the future.

After the graduation, everyone enjoyed a great lunch and a cake to celebrate the occasion. Over **400** people were estimated to be in attendance.

—Gary Fallis



Bob Turner, BVBID Director, speaking at ITL Lectureship; Byron Hernandez, ITL, translating

THREE BAPTISMS ACCOMPANY GRADUATION

The annual ITL Lectureship and the first Graduation was complimented by three baptisms into Christ. The **first addition** took place on Sunday afternoon. The parents of Esdras Tista attended the graduation of their son,



ITL Graduation

and his mother, **Francisa**, was baptized. She said, "We gave Edras to the Lord and to His church several years ago. Now it is time for me to give myself to the Lord and to His church." Needless to say, there was a lot of rejoicing at this occasion. Esdras stated, "It is the best graduation gift I could have ever received." Francisca came to see her son graduate, but she herself graduated from the world of darkness into God's marvelous Kingdom of light.

The **second addition** involved Byron's mother, Aralee Hernandez. She attended the lectureship and graduation. Some of her family also came to visit her. One of those was Aralee's niece, a faithful Christian, who had a 15 year old daughter named Katherin who was suffering with cancer. The doctors had amputated her left arm, and she was receiving chemotherapy. Her mother has been studying some with her and anxiously wanted her daughter to come to the knowledge of God's truth. Byron studied with **Katherin**, and she was baptized.

The joy did not stop with Katherin's baptism. After she was baptized, **Jose Alfredo**, a young man from the Linda Vista congregation, desired to be baptized. Other Christians had been studying with him.

God used a chain of events -- people coming to the Lectureship and the Graduation -- **to bring three precious souls to salvation.** The magnitude of their conversion is even more apparent as Katherin went to be with the Lord shortly afterward. She lost the battle with cancer but won victory in Jesus. We believe that God will use these three new Christians to touch the lives of others. Please pray that this may be the case.

—Gary Fallis



Former ITL Transportation



Diesel 15 passenger Nissan Urvan

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Please make a notation on the envelope or a note with the check "Gary Fallis Mission Fund." A gift of \$20.00, \$50.00, \$100.00 or more will help us in the training of gospel preachers.