



James Update

Strengthening the Church in Latin America

August 2016

Equipping Servants leadership team Bolivia

Meet our Equipping Servants leadership team in Bolivia. 17 of the 25 met together this past weekend to pray, plan and evaluate. One of our leaders, Baptist pastor Johnny, tells how God's Word impacted his life while studying Romans with us. "My aim in preaching was always to entertain my congregation. But studying Romans and Christ-Centered Preaching, God showed me that my ministry was fruitless because was all about me and not about honoring Christ. One Sunday morning I had to ask my congregation to forgive me for not leading them toward Jesus." Another leader, Assemblies of God pastor Mario states, "I can't tell you what an encouragement it is knowing that people are investing in our training as pastors here in Bolivia". Pentecostal pastor Rodolfo added, "Equipping Servants has been an oasis in the desert of my life and ministry -- and I didn't even know I was in a desert! My preaching used to be motivational speaking, but have come to understand that only the gospel of Jesus has the power of God to convince and transform lives for eternity".



Equipping Servants Ecuador

Pastor Tomas Diaz, our Equipping Servants pastoral training leader in Ecuador reports that the Ecuadorian church is starting to take on responsibility to fund some of the Pastor-Book-Sets in Loja. The result of pastors studying together over 3 years is that churches from diverse backgrounds are starting to work together for the first time ever — impacting the city of Loja with the gospel. The waiting list to get into Equipping Servants groups is long, and apparently God is meeting an important need because pastors travel from as far away as 3 hours each week to attend the training. Pray for the team in Ecuador as they consider taking the training to the Ecuadorian city of Guayaquil.

Thanking God for your partnership in the gospel with us,

Kep & Debbie James

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Our Purpose ...

to exalt Jesus by strengthening the church in Latin America to be true to the Bible, discipling believers to maturity & taking the gospel where it is least known.

Please Pray:

- **Equipping Servants pastoral training** —that the 700 active participants & 1550 graduates since 2002 will know the sufficiency of Christ & His Word, impacting the world & church for Christ.
- **14 Pastoral-Assistant Volunteers:** intensive 2 year training for pastors in Bolivia.
- **Equipping Servants Expansion:** pray as we start new training centers in Uruguay, Colombia and Cajamarca, Peru. Pray for God's supply for the 2500 Pastor-Book-Sets needed over the next 5 years.
- **Family:** Andrew & Angie have joined SIM to do church planting in Uruguay. They hope to move to Montevideo in October. Katie is seeing gospel impact in many relationships in Cleveland. Sami & Heather serve ILC church in La Paz in Biblical Counseling ministry and they are preparing for baby #2 to be born this month.