



## Equipping Servants: Disciples Making Disciples

**Purpose: Equipping Servants/ Disciples Making Disciples -- helping pastors honor Christ by being true to His Scriptures: studying, understanding, living & teaching the Bible**

*We have not stopped praying for you, continually asking God to fill you with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom & understanding, so that you can walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work & **GROWING** in the knowledge of God, strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might.*

*Col 1:9-11*

### **Kep and Debbie James Update December 2025**

**Dear Friends,**

Thank you for praying for pastors and church leaders studying the Bible with us in Central and South America, Africa and Europe. A pastor we were with in Brazil recently told us, "The Lord continues to transform my life and my marriage as I repent daily of my sin and the inability of my own effort to change me. Pray for me as I seek to rely on Jesus to transform me". Keep praying for pastors and church leaders like this man, that they will grow in Christ, experiencing deep and true gospel transformation.

An excerpt from the recent training we did in Colombia and Brazil with ESI country leaders: "Growing in the gospel means seeing more of God's holiness and more of how really broken we are -- and our need for help that only Jesus can bring us. Our hope is not in our own goodness or in the vain expectation that God will grade on the curve. Rather, we rest in Jesus as our perfect Redeemer – the one who is our righteousness, holiness and redemption (I Cor 1:30)." (adapted from The Gospel Centered Life, p 14).

Last week we had a wonderful visit with my 95-year-old mother in Charlotte. She's doing well and continues to enjoy meaningful ministry and friendships where she lives.

Please pray for our upcoming ESI Facilitator Training in San Jose, Costa Rica the first week of February. Pray for each of the 80 participants that the Lord will use our 4 days together to encourage them in the gospel and motivate them to study Romans with us.

**Wishing you a meaningful Christmas!**

**Kep and Debbie James**

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## **Prayer Points:**

- Continue praying for the De Ark Church in Holland as we endeavor to be a help and encouragement to them.
- Pray for 80 Costa Rican pastors preparing to attend our upcoming ESI training February 5-7 in San Jose. Pray that the Lord will use our time together to encourage them to study the Bible, to understand it, to live it, and to faithfully teach and preach it in their local churches.
- Praise for the 4 ESI groups meeting in Italy, 4 groups in London, 5 groups in Paris, one group in Los Angeles, and 3 groups in Virginia and Florida -- as they study of Romans to grow in grace and in the knowledge of the Lord Jesus.
- Pray for Jose Gutierrez overseeing ESI groups in Central America. Pray for each ESI participant to grow in their understanding of the gospel and their love for Jesus, that they will live the gospel, and teach and preach God's Word faithfully in their local churches.
- Praise for the recent ESI Facilitator training in southern Venezuela. Many of the 120 participants plan to study the Bible with us in January.
- Pray for the 3000+ ESI participants in 250 groups in 37 countries, as these men and women grow in their love for God as they study His Scriptures weekly. Pray that they will experience deep gospel transformation in their lives, relationships and local churches.
- Praise for the ILC Church we planted in La Paz, Bolivia, that believers will continue to pursue Christ.
- Pray for the ESI groups that La Paz Pastor Edgar Mamani leads in the Tipnis area of the Bolivian jungle helping pastors study the Bible in communities that are traditionally resistant to the gospel.
- Pray for our ESI Africa leader (Paulo Da Silva) working with Isaac Chitibwe (Lusaka, Zambian pastor). Pray that God will use Paulo and Isaac to encourage and strengthen ESI groups across Africa.