

December 2011/January 2012

5th Pastor's Retreat in Queretaro, Mexico

Last month more than fifty pastors and many of their wives gathered in Queretaro, Mexico, for a week of encouragement, training, networking, and even rest. The retreat was organized by Paco Damian (our field coordinator in central Mexico) and his church, Iglesia Biblica Misionera in Queretaro. This year's teachers included some of our field coordinators from Argentina (Eduardo Buldain) and Paraguay (Alcides Gonzales.) The event was underwritten by a grant from the North American Baptist Conference as it has been for the last several years.

Hispanics for Christ wasn't the only NAB organization represented. Randy Schmor and the Gateway Team were there, as well, to build on relationships started at past retreats, and develop new relationships with pastors across Mexico.

There were numerous examples of our ministry among hispanics, but two stood out. Paco Damian has been encouraging and coaching Walter and Dula Medrano, two Peruvians working among children in a very poor neighborhood in Silao, near Guanajuato, Mexico. They have a great passion to teach these children about Jesus as well as feed and clothe them and extend a little love to them in their extremely difficult circumstances. Their intent is to reach their parents and eventually plant a church to support the whole family. They are reaching dozens if not hundreds of children with the Gospel.

We are also helping a pastor in Villa Bernal, Luis Chan, to lead his new church while at the same time training leaders in five other villages to eventually start new groups in their homes. I spent some time with him helping to work out a plan for accomplishing this training and providing resources to carry it out.

They celebrated the works accomplished over the past year and looked forward to the substantial efforts focused in the coming year on Guadalajara, Mexico City, Puebla, Pachuca, Uren (Michoacan), and in several villages surrounding Queretaro.

Your support of HFC allows us to work among these native church planters, coaching them, encouraging them, and providing resources for making disciples and forming new churches across the Americas.

Extending the Kingdom of God among Hispanics,
Geoff Hartt

Praise & Prayer

Requests

- *Praise the Lord for fifteen new Hispanic churches started across the Americas this last year!*
- *Pray for new partnerships with NAB churches and financial support to expand our work.*

“You have heard me teach many things that have been confirmed by many reliable witnesses. Teach these great truths to trustworthy people who are able to pass them on to others.”
—2 Timothy 2:2

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Paco and Shawna Damian in center with leaders of the new church in San Ildefonso, Mexico.

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