

Desert Streams Report



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Report for Winter, 2011-2012

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Advanced School of Ministry Seminar, 2012

As many of you know, we have been actively involved in the Advanced School of Ministry for many years. What began as an invitation to attend a single seminar y help interpret for an American pastor and leader (Pastor Frank Damazio), has providentially become a major part of our ministry here in Mexico. The Lord has not only used these seminars to cause us to grow spiritually, but has allowed us to minister to pastors and leaders all over Mexico, in Costa Rica, as well as many pastors of Hispanic churches in the U.S.

This year's seminar was called "Strategic Transformation". The entire seminar was focused on conquering specific mountains in society (including education, arts/entertainment, government, religion, business, family and the media) for the Kingdom of God. I was actively involved in preparing the notebook of just under 160 pages for the 800 students who would attend. I had been working on translating material and preparing my own classes since August. It was quite an accomplishment when I finally finished editing and typesetting the material at the beginning of January.

Our main speaker was Doctor Tim Hamon of Christian International College, from Florida. He shared a series of six powerful messages on the Biblical basis for transformation in the society through the preaching of the Kingdom of God at all levels. Doctor Hamon really challenged all of us through his teaching sessions to think about ways to bring the message of the Kingdom to areas of society many Christians would never consider.

I interpreted for Doctor Hamon's six sessions. Also, both Sara and I shared our own classes. I did a session called "Redeeming the Arts" and Sara did a session on entertainment. It was amazing how many artists came to me for prayer and encouragement at the end of the seminar. I never have considered myself an artist, although I enjoy music and the arts. But after my session on art, many young leaders identified with my teaching.

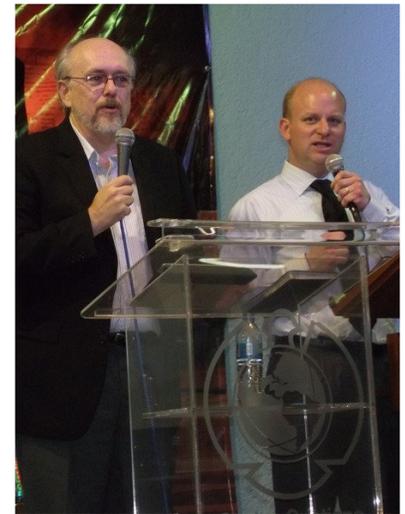
Our entire leadership team taught sessions of several topics; we also had the participation of a couple from the church in Cuernavaca that has been involved in politics and business. We especially enjoyed the session about impacting the business world for Christ, which was presented by Kerry Brown (Bill Brown's son).

We are thankful to the Lord for the opportunity he gave us to bring new inspiration for ministry to many pastors and leaders.

Visit to Michigan

When the seminar in Cuernavaca was over, we immediately headed by home. We had Friday and Saturday to prepare for Sunday services and pack for our trip to Chicago and Michigan. After preaching twice on Sunday morning, we headed for the airport and flew to Chicago.

My parents met us there that Sunday night,



Interpreting for Dr. Hamon

and we spend the next couple of days visiting the Museum of Science and Industry and the Shedd Aquarium. On Tuesday we headed to Michigan to spend some time with Grandpa and Grandma.

Our children especially enjoyed a couple of weeks with their grandparents. It had been almost five years since they had seen them.

Anna really enjoyed playing with her cousins (my sister's children). When the time came for us to go back to Mexico, it was a little hard to have to say goodbye.

It was great to be with the family again after many years away. Hopefully, we'll be able to visit again sometime soon.

Back to Work!

We came back to Mexico late Thursday night and Friday was another work day. It was time to prepare to preach on Sunday and begin my Bible School class material for Monday.

I have been teaching a series on the Tabernacle of David. This course, originally in the form of a book written by Kevin Conner, has been a blessing to study. It is amazing how many types and shadows of the church are revealed to us in the Tabernacle of David.

The following Tuesday, we packed our bags again, and Sara and I headed to Cuernavaca to attend the planning meeting for next year's Advanced School of Ministry conference. We had a great time with the leadership team, praying, planning, talking and, yes, eating!



Some of us visited Pastor Jacobo's new church building while in Cuernavaca. It seats almost 8,000.

Dear Friends and Family in Christ,

Sara and I would like to thank every one of you who prays for our work and ministry in Mexico. We appreciate your love, prayers and support. We are especially thankful for those who have been supporting us faithfully for many years. May the Lord bless you greatly!

In all things we must remember that there is a time to sow, but also a time to reap. We have seen this many times in ministry and in giving. At times we are planting seeds, and at other times we are picking the ripe harvest.

Let us remember the words of the Apostle Paul who said: And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. (Gal. 6:9 KJV)

With Love In Christ,

David & Sara Lont

David and Sara Lont



P.S. Please write to us: David@RiosAlDesierto.com



Anna with her cousins Haley and Emily

Prayer for Mexico

As many know, there is much drug-related violence throughout Mexico. Although the area where we live and minister remains quite peaceful, many other parts of the country have been adversely affected by this situation. Please join us in prayer for the nation, that the Kingdom of God would be established and the violence would cease, that peace would prevail and that the church would prosper throughout Mexico. Psalms 140:1 says, "*Rescue me, O LORD, from evil men; protect me from men of violence.*" (NIV)

Many churches around the country will be praying together for Mexico on May 1. Our church will be involved in a prayer meeting as well on that day.



Bill and Gerda Brown, ministering at the conference in Cuernavaca.