

# WORLD REACH®



## Prayer Request for Upcoming Events:

**June 29- July 8** (Lolly and Bobby)

How to Study the Bible, Bible Institute, Bogota, Colombia

**July 9-15**

Evangelism Training, San Pedro de Uraba, Colombia

**August 17-26** (Lolly and Bobby)

Marriage Conference & Graduation, Medellin, Colombia

**September 14-17**

Church Revitalization, Asunción, Paraguay

**October 11-17**

Coaching Churches, San Pedro, Colombia

**November 9-12** (Lolly and Bobby)

Marriage Conference, Barranquilla, Colombia

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2 Timothy 2:2

<sup>2</sup>and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also.

## Latin American Church Revitalization Report

Have you ever had an ah-hah moment? Things you have been doing, thinking, and planning were suddenly seen in a new light. How did you respond? I often wonder about the Church of Ephesus. How did the church of Ephesus respond to the indictment by Jesus? How were they so busy caring for their sound doctrine and did not miss His absence? (Rev. 2:4) I wonder what we are missing today? Sometimes the Word of God jumps off the page or someone can ask a powerful question that opens our eyes to a new perspective.

In May, we gathered in Lima, Peru over 50 missionaries from World Reach and Latin American pastors to promote church revitalization in Latin America. Eight countries were represented! Three days of “Coach” training produced many moments of thinking, “What have I been doing?” New more effective ways of leading were discovered. Some embrace changes easier than others and many rely on their opinions and directives to get things done. These leaders learned about a new tool to have in their tool box that sets them free from creating a sense of dependency upon the leader for answers. They learned great leaders ask powerful questions. New relationships were formed in the coaching workshop activities. Denominational walls came tumbling down. A new brotherhood was discovered and forged on the truth of the Gospel! It is difficult to put a price tag on this benefit.

Two full days of church revitalization training on Embers to a Flame, led to more coaching opportunities on the topics we discussed. Some had heard the Embers to Flame Conference before, so we presented the material in a fresh way with discussion and coaching to hone their skills. I spoke in the conference as did seven of my team. (three are pastors from Colombia.) The effect? Powerful, challenging and transformational.

Regarding coaching Simon said, “Even though this was practice and we are learning, I was able to find real

solutions to real issues. This works!”

One long time ministry coworker shared he was challenged to develop his personal spiritual formation. Though he had planted seventeen churches, he recognized he was not feeding his own soul. The pastors in the meetings have planted 88 churches in their ministries so far!

We heard three Colombian pastors share their personal church revitalization story. Pastor Hernandez went from a church for sale sign to an effective and passionate inner-city ministry. Pastor Osorio went from a declining church of 24 members that has transformed in a little over 2 years to 80 members. The growth was through a vibrant focus on prayer and evangelism that led to conversions. Pastor Zayas went from a stagnant church to one evangelizing drug dealers and users. Now they have a new problem – their building is too small! They began revitalization with a new building, now they are expanding the facility and the ministries.

The bottom line – the prescription in Revelation 2:5: remember, repent and recover your first love deeds will revolutionize you and your church!

Thank you for your partnership,  
Dr. Bobby Wilson



The World Reach team and other church leaders we assembled in Lima Peru for Church Revitalization training.



Far left: Interviewing Church planters and Bible Institute Coordinators

Middle: A practical coaching exercise

Far right: Pastors from Brazil and Colombia