



October 10

Colombia

**Pastors Conference
online**

October 26-28

**Coaching Conference
with Blackaby Ministry**

**Donations can be made
to World Reach. Please
include a note that it is
for our ministry.**

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2 Timothy 2:2

2 The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

2020 A year for change

This year began like many others with a trip to Colombia and then to Honduras. I returned two days before the borders were closed. Weeks turned to months and now there is some talk of international flights into Central and South America. For the last 6 months, Zoom has replaced Delta as my travel method!

Meeting weekly with staff and pastors via zoom has proved to be very fruitful, and the highlight of my week is meeting a group of pastors from northern Colombia. Most are from the Barranquilla area and Edwin is from the Northwest, where he oversees about 100 churches. We have continued to build on the foundation of revitalization that was begun several years pre-Covid and have discussed how to be a church in the midst of the quarantine, refocusing mission and vision, desired indicators of spiritual maturity, discipleship pathways, and specific outreach aimed at men. Churches that were event-driven for primarily content delivery have struggled to maintain connections. Covid has revealed the weaknesses that were previously not recognized. Many of these churches transitioned well to digital, and all admitted they knew they needed to use digital means but until Covid forced the change – it was all talk and no action!

Covid has strengthened our teamwork in the fields because each missionary has stepped up to continue the work. The team in Bogota has carried the major load of continuing Bible Institute training via zoom and YouTube streaming. Simon has worked alongside me for years, and along with Andres and Kayla in Bogota, they have made many contacts for future sites for our Bible institutes in Colombia. Cristian, one of our graduates from 2015, has faithfully worked with us since graduation; he planted a church and continued to be trained for the work of ministry. He has a great future and has just applied to formally join World Reach. I am coaching Cristian regarding his church and developing an intentional discipleship pathway. It is an incredible blessing to see God lead with ideas and watch the implementation of positive change.

Jorge, a team member in Peru, asked could we do something to help train rural pastors with no internet access. Soon we had an international team from

Peru, Honduras, Colombia, and the US working on courses for an “SD card project”. We are partnering with 100fold ministry to use their phone app to help these men continue studying. We are in the final stages of production and hope to get this out quickly to the pastors and leaders. We hope for the day we can regather our traditional Bible Institutes, but also, we are trying to prepare for the expanded possibilities of online or use of cell phones for teaching.

The virus is still raging in Central and South America. Some areas are trying to reopen for work, but few churches have begun to meet. Many are financially desperate; others are suffering from lack of medical care as all resources are going to fight Covid. Many have lost loved ones, and we lost a team member in Honduras to Covid recently. I know of several pastors recovering from Covid in Colombia and Honduras now. Churches are hit hard financially since they cannot gather, most operated on a cash basis without a bank account. Digital giving options are rare down south.

Please be in prayer for Noel and Reina Gomez, they serve with us in Honduras. Both have Covid 19, Noel has been battling the disease for 12 days now.

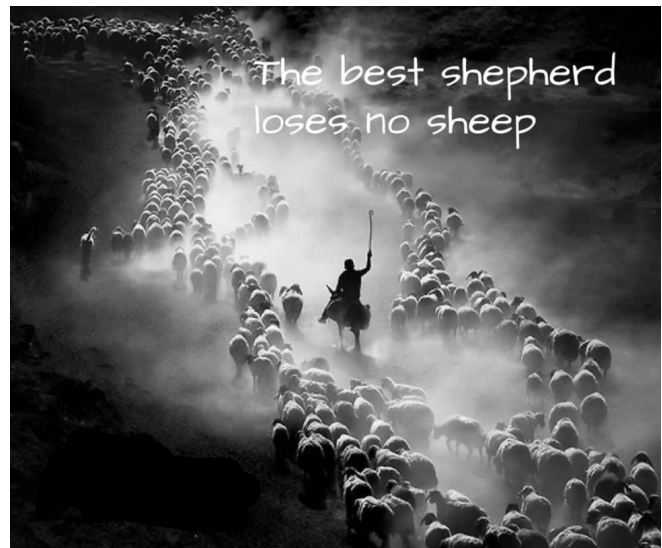
We thank God for your prayers and assistance.

For the Gospel,

Bobby and Lolly Wilson



I recently completed additional training in church consultation / revitalization. Please pray for opportunities help churches in the USA as well as in Central and South America.



Shepherding during the pandemic has been a challenge in most churches. Do you view change as a threat or an opportunity?