

Teaching a conference in Medellín

Dear Family and Friends,

What an adventure we had on a very fruitful teaching trip to Colombia from Jan. 26–Feb. 6.

The first weekend, we hoped to teach a 3 day conference on Evangelism and Discipleship in Rusia in the mornings in hopes of launching a new Bible Institute (BI) in that area. A few days before, we were informed of a strike that was blocking the main highway, which might prevent us from getting to Rusia. As plan B, we contacted other pastors in Montelibano (a nearby area) to see if they'd be able to host the same conference in the evenings. It turns out that we were able to get to Rusia with some adventures by taking "motos" and braving herds of water buffalo. But the evening church (with only 2 days notice) had many more students and pastoral contacts, and they were more interested and better equipped to host a 3 year BI than the morning site. So we believe the Lord allowed the strike and adventures to guide us to the Montelibano church to have our BI there.

The next week, we helped lead our Colombia missionary team retreat near Medellín. We made great strides nailing down areas of responsibility, naming Cristian Fuentes as the new BI Director for Colombia, Simón Flórez as Director of Youth Ministries & Youth Camps, Maria Vélez as Director of Administration & Volunteers and Anderson Naranjo as Director of Communications for World Reach's ministries in Colombia.

The final weekend, we taught the same conference in downtown Medelllín at Ágape Church, with whom we've been working for 6-8 months hoping to finalize the

## Brad & Colleen Taylor News

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launch of a new BI there. We had 50-60 students, 40 of whom indicated that they want to be students in the Medellín BI. They understand that they have to do 3 years of coursework with projects, grades, etc. The last day of the conference, all the students went out to the streets to share the Gospel using EE. They talked with 60 people, 14 of whom made professions of faith in Christ. God is good! Brad was also privileged to preach on 2 different Sundays during this trip.

The third area in Colombia where we hope to launch a new BI is Úraba. 5 pastors & leaders made the 6 hr. trip on moto from Úraba to the Medellín conference. This showed their great interest in having a BI in their area.

## Please pray for us for:

- 1. God's guidance in starting 3 new BIs in Colombia this year.
- 2. Raising funds for Muthetheni, Kenya BI dormitory project.
- 3. For the launching of 2 new BIs in Peru.

If you'd like to support this ministry monthly or with a onetime gift, send your check payable to World Reach (preferenced to Taylors' ministry) to:

> World Reach P.O. Box 26155 Birmingham, AL 35260

or give online at: <u>www.world-</u> <u>reach.org</u>, click on Donate now & select Campaign (donor preference) as Taylor, Brad & Colleen.

Thanks so much & God bless you!

Brad & Colleen Taylor



Riding on moto w/Colleen @ 60 mph



Walking across the blocked bridge



The water buffaloes almost got me



Teaching at Montelibano church



At the Rusia church