

## One Down and One to Go!



**Above:** Esteban and Liberato gather with the students to celebrate the completion of their very full year of study. Then everyone who attended classes huddled together, including our youngest student, Amilkar. Everyone who would like to take classes isn't able to attend full-time, so we have some students who attend whenever they are able to do so.



## Glory to God in Mexicali

Earthquakes can't stop them, or drug cartels, or catastrophe in the stock market; not the war in Afghanistan or the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. The church in Mexicali made a commitment to begin and sustain a preacher training school, and that's what they're doing. Under the leadership of Esteban Lopez they have given their support physically and financially so that Liberato Ovalle can oversee the teaching and training of those students who attend the Latin American Bible Institute in Mexicali. With the appointment of elders and deacons the church is expecting to do even greater things for the Lord. As the apostle Paul wrote, "Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us" (Rom. 8:35, 37). As Jesus taught, once we put our hand to the plow we shouldn't ever be looking back. (Thank you for your continuing support of this important ministry.)

**Left:** Pablo Salazar, Daniel Martinez, Ernesto and Luis Hernandez, all love to praise God in song. Singing isn't a part of the curriculum at the school, but it is one of the favorite activities of the students. Not only do these men express their love for the Lord in this way, but they encourage the rest of the church family. Here they are helping everyone to celebrate the completion of the first year of Bible training at LABIM. We praise God for their love!

## New Elders & Deacons!

Esteban Lopez, Liberato Ovalle and Guadalupe Galaviz (new elders), join the 5 new deacons recently appointed to work with the church in Mexicali; Diego Alatoree Sr., Adan Ferrel, Alfonso Valtierra, Daniel Martinez and Daniel Marquez. This is the leadership team for the Mexicali Church of Christ, as it works side-by-side with the Latin American Bible Institute.



## God is able to do even more than we can imagine!



Two students from the Latin American Bible Institute in Mexicali, Oscar Alonso and Oscar Parra, join Carol in a "photo op" moment as they celebrate the completion of their first year studies. Thanks to your support, these two young men are already sharing their knowledge of the bible and personal testimony with others. Both of these men are from Mexico City, one of the largest cities in the world, where literally millions of people have never heard the true Gospel. What an impact they could make! What a return on investment for everyone who has given their financial and prayerful support to the school!



2 = 4

June marked the end of another school year and the beginning of summer vacation, which is certainly welcomed by millions of students. Now, think about a school that runs non-stop for two years and then grants the much needed summer vacation to its students. That's exactly what the students at LABIM experience when they are challenged to study in a program that imparts double the amount of teaching (and requires double the amount of work), than a regular school program in any given year. Teachers, staff and students' family members are also challenged with such a fast pace. In only two years they receive four years worth of quality, in-depth, bible knowledge. Therefore, 2=4, or even more, when Christians learn spiritual truths that will allow them to teach others what the Lord Jesus came to provide for us. Other rewards on this intensive Bible training include:

- (1) a Bachelors' degree is obtained in half the normal time, and
- (2) the costs for room and board for each student are cut in half, and
- (3) Christians with well-rounded Bible knowledge are ready to bring the gospel to

lost souls in only two years.

This training approach has been proven to be effective by many years of experience at Sunset International Bible Institute, (which the school in Mexicali is patterned after), and does not compromise the quality of the program. Certainly not everyone is suited for a challenge like this, but anyone who commits themselves to the work can do it, provided they have the desire and determination to acquire the preparation that will help them become better servants in the kingdom of God. Because of that, current students and future candidates deserve to hear the same words of encouragement that Paul gave to Timothy: "Take pains with these things; be absorbed in them, so that your progress will be evident to all. Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; persevere in these things, for as you do this you will ensure salvation both for yourself and for those who hear you" (1 Tim. 4:15-16). When students persevere in their studies at LABIM salvation will soon be ensured for two, three and more people that will hear the good news through them.

*Submitted by: César Gámez*



## Our First Annual Fundraising Campaign Begins This Fall

Several new students will begin LABIM training later this summer, and along with our growing demands to expand the facilities, equipments, and staff, we are extending an invitation for every member of the Lord's church to get involved. Details coming in September!



**Mexicali VBS 2010:** It's a big job that requires a lot of sacrifice from a lot of people, but the rewards are out of this world. Several young people were introduced to the teachings of Jesus Christ for the first time. Lives are being changed for the better. Thank you for your support!

## The Martinez Family Summer



What do Latin American Bible Institute students do with their summer? Daniel and his family headed to Ensenada. You might think they would be kicking back and relaxing, but you would be wrong. While they are enjoying the fellowship of the church family, they are handing out food and clothing, singing praises to God for the ministry He has given them, and praying that God will meet the needs of the church. Their primary goal has been to meet the young people in Ensenada and invite them to the youth meetings they're holding on Saturdays.

Following, you can read what Daniel has provided as his agenda for a few days:

**Tuesday**—Visited with the brethren and visitors of the Church of Christ in the "89" neighborhood, including brethren from the U.S.A. Studied in preparation to teach a Bible class, then taught the brethren at 6:00 p.m.

**Wednesday**—Visited again with some of the brethren and visitors, then spent the day cleaning the church building and classrooms.

**Saturday**—Took the youth to give out invitations in the neighborhood for our medical campaign. Then I studied for a Saturday Bible class with the youth group at 10:00 a.m. and also prepared to teach on Sunday. Daniels wife, Mely, organized games with the youth group in the afternoon.

In addition to teaching, Daniel also likes to lead singing in the worship service. We praise God for the Martinez family and their commitment to glorify the Lord in their service to others.

## The César Gamez Family Summer

After graduating at the top of his class at the Sunset International Bible Institute in Lubbock, César and his family headed to CA, and have already moved out to Firebaugh, where he will be growing the Lord's church. But, Before they started the work in Firebaugh, they worked as part of our staff at the Yosemite Bible Camp for Woodward Park Church.

César is also working to produce the "Journal" newsletter for the Latin American Bible Institute and he'll begin forming a foundation of men from the Central Valley who will be able to take the gospel to Spanish-speaking people.



Later this summer Daniel Marquez is planning to bring a group of young people to Fresno to work with César in Firebaugh. Isn't that amazing? A mission work from Mexicali in the Central Valley! Brothers & Sisters, this is the new world: God has brought the mission field to our own back yards.

The Woodward Park Church of Christ has been giving to the support of César's education, and now we'll be supporting his work in Firebaugh. As we see his family standing in front of the facilities at SIBI in Texas we have to be grateful for all the saints who have sacrificed over the years to establish and maintain that school. From a beginning class of just six in 1962, Sunset now sends 100's of preachers and missionaries into the world each year with not only a great Bible education, but the ability to minister to those who are lost. These students love the Lord, and they love people. When we recognize the worth of every individual we have begun to develop the mind of Christ. The Latin American Bible Institute in Mexicali is an extension of the vision and love that first expressed itself in Lubbock. Keep supporting the dream!



## What Piece of the Puzzle are You?



The 11th chapter of the book of Hebrews gives us a list of people who played significant roles in God’s plan of redemption. They were people who lived a life described as “walking by faith, not by sight.” We don’t even know the names of many of the people God used over the centuries and many of those people didn’t know God was working through their lives. We have another list of names in Luke 3:23-38. These people represent a “genealogy” of Jesus Christ , with perhaps some surprising characters included. “Obed, the son of Boaz,” for instance, was also the son of Ruth, (Matt. 1:5), a Moabite woman. The Moabites were enemies of the Jews, but there’s Ruth, right in the middle of Jesus’ genealogy. Go figure!

So, where do you fit in? Where does the church at Woodward Park fit in? How does the Latin American Bible Institute in Mexicali fit in to the commission the church has been given: “Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you” (Matt. 28:19-20).

The Jews were proud of the fact that they had the blood of Abraham running through their veins, but John the Baptist reminded them that God can raise up children of Abraham from stones lying on the ground. The fact of the matter is, all of our “roots” go back to the Garden of Eden. We have all descended from Adam and Eve, and like them, we have “all sinned” (Rom. 3:23). That’s the point! We all need a savior and there is “only one name by which we must all be saved,” Jesus Christ. There’s only one “race” of people God is concerned with and that’s the *human race*.

Mexico, like the Sudan, Cambodia, Ethiopia, and India, all represent just one piece of the puzzle; every one of them important to God. However, because Mexico is a neighbor of ours it seems we have an even greater responsibility to reach out with the gospel. Connect your piece of the puzzle with this piece of the Lord’s work in Mexicali.

