

Into all the world! How?

By Bob Young

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Those with their eyes wide open in evaluating the evangelism and mission work of the church recognize that we are not gaining ground. We are not even keeping even. In a world where the population is multiplying rapidly, we are falling further and further behind in our efforts to win the world for Christ. We must put our eyes on multiplication rather than on addition. We must think in terms of how the church can multiply—in local congregations and in new church plants. We must identify more workers. We must escape the model that depends on “staffing” to do the work of the church. We must involve the members. We must work toward stable, self-supporting, self-multiplying churches.

This requires healthy Christians, healthy churches, healthy leaders, and a healthy biblical vision. We must share this vision broadly as we work with the Christians, churches, and church leaders on the mission field.

One of the organizations that shares my vision for healthy church development is the vocational training program (EVO) overseen by the Memorial church in Houston. Part of my activity is coordinated with and through them. I think you will be interested in the following excerpts from a recent report from EVO.

Excerpts from the recent EVO newsletter, with some editing for clarity and some additional clarification in brackets:

- The **Miramonte congregation in San Salvador appointed three elders** for the first time on Sunday September 4. [This is the first time this church has had elders. A couple of other churches in El Salvador have had elders previously, but this is the only church in El Salvador with elders at the present time. The church has been working toward this goal for several years with the help of various church leaders in El Salvador.] Bob Young helped with the induction ceremonies. Bob Young, Juan Meza, Cynthia Cedeño and Bob Miranda had been working with them for a good while [assisting in training for leaders, youth, the ladies, and the congregation].
- **Two new elders were appointed at the Aviación** congregation in Torreón [Mexico] in August. This well-organized congregation is growing and helping establish several new congregations in the area.
- Jose Tomas and Pedro will be in **Cali, Colombia** later this month for final preparations to establish three **elders** there.
- Bob Young, Bill Watkins, Juan Meza, and Bob Miranda were guest speakers at the **National Hispanic Preacher’s Retreat in Nashville**.
- The **Las Caobas congregation in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic** is a well-organized church with elders and deacons. Recently children’s classes were held for the first time in the second floor of the building. The second floor was built with the help of several congregations in the US. They were meeting outside the building, weather permitting, before this. You should hear these children singing!
- In the last 3 months, our regular leadership seminars were taught in...
 - **USA:** Baltimore, MD; Goldsboro, Raleigh, Charlotte, NC; Lexington, KY; Nashville, TN; Dallas, Weslaco, Amarillo, TX; Las Vegas NV; Los Angeles, CA; Waukegan, IL; Milwaukee, Brandon, Wausau, WI
 - **MEXICO:** Monterrey, Matamoros, Cd. Victoria, Veracruz, Villahermosa, Cd. Carmen, Campeche, Cancún, Ensenada, Camalú
 - **BOLIVIA:** Santa Cruz, La Paz
 - **URUGUAY:** Montevideo
 - **ARGENTINA:** Buenos Aires
 - **ECUADOR:** Ibarra, Tulcán
 - **COLOMBIA:** Cumbal, Túquerres, Pasto, Samaniego, Bogotá, Pereira, Cartago, La Virginia, El Varal, Banco Magdalena, San Andrés
 - **PERU:** Lima, Cuzco
 - **EL SALVADOR:** Miramonte, Santa Clara, Santa Elena, Cojutepeque, San Luis de la Reina, San Gerardo, Nuevo Cuscatlán
 - **DOMINICAN REPUBLIC:** Santo Domingo [various congregations]
 - **VENEZUELA:** Caracas, Barquisimeto, Barinas, Maracaibo, Barcelona, Maturín
 - **CUBA:** for the first time, Juan Meza went to Havana
- Our instructors were: Juan Meza, Bob Young, Pedro Sánchez, Alberto Castañeda, Demetrio Hernández, Paco Rada, Jesús Conrado, Julio Cedeño, Cynthia Cedeño, Julio David Cedeño, Sarah Cedeño, Luis Cedeño, Amanda Nitsch, Henry Flores, Armando Artiga, Beto Hernández, Pedro Rodríguez, Hjalmar Paredes, Fernando Díaz and Bob Miranda.