

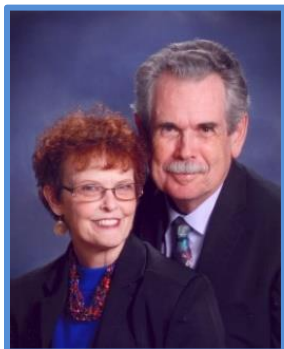
LATIN AMERICAN LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Developing Healthy Churches and Church Leaders in Latin America and Beyond

Mission and Ministry Newsletter

Bob and Jan Young, 10704 S 89th East Ave, Tulsa, OK 74133

www.bobyoungrsources.com



Milestones in Our Lives: a message from Bob and Jan

We want to express our gratitude to all who have accompanied us and supported us on our journey of ministry and missions. In **1965**, Bob preached his first sermon. In the fall of **1967**, he began preaching every Sunday. In **1969**, Jan became part of the ministry team.

From **1970 to 1995**, we spent 25+ years in fulltime local preaching and evangelistic ministry. During a dozen years in the universities (**1995-2007**), there were very few Sundays when we did not have a preaching or teaching assignment. Since retiring from the university, we have been continually involved in mission work with regular teaching and preaching responsibilities.

Fall 2022 marks 55 years of fulltime teaching and preaching for Bob.

Across these years of preaching, teaching, and missions, we have been blessed by the support, encouragement, and prayers of thousands of people.

When we retired from the university in **2007**, our good friend, Don Vinzant, remarked that we should have another 15 years of useful kingdom service ahead of us. Now **2022** has arrived! After retiring from the university 15 years ago, we spent a brief time in local ministry, but for the past 15 years, we have had a fulltime involvement in Latin American mission work, with Bob often spending 4-5 months each year in Latin America preaching and teaching.

Working within a network of churches committed to spreading the gospel, during those 15 years thousands have become followers of Jesus, hundreds have been encouraged in Christian living, church leaders have been developed, elders have been named in dozens of Latin American churches, and national evangelists and missionaries have been trained to continue the work. Those national workers are taking evangelism and missions to new levels far beyond what we imagined 15 years ago.

Since the beginning of the pandemic 2+ years ago, our activity has not diminished, it has only changed form. Often it seems even more intense than before. Now much of our work among national churches and church leaders is being done via technology. I have remarked that the problem with technology is that you can be in many countries and many places every day!

Somewhere on this journey, we have become older! (We will not say how old, but those who know us best can figure it out!) Our introduction to Latin American mission work at Holmes Road in Lansing, Michigan is now over 40 years behind us. We have been traveling to Latin America regularly for almost 30 years. We have been publishing a mission newsletter for 17 years.

We anticipate resuming a more limited travel schedule in 2023, but not as intense or frequent as before. The work of Latin American Leadership Development has changed during the past two years with more funds directed to helping national workers and fewer dollars invested in travel. We pray that opportunities for facilitating the evangelistic outreach of national workers will increase.

A new chapter in our ministry is currently unfolding! After conversations with the elders at Fort Gibson, we have agreed to serve alongside them and also to serve as a mission point person. Six of the mission points the church supports involve national workers in Latin America. We will continue to live in Tulsa and commute as needed. On Sundays, we are committed to being with the church at Fort Gibson. At the same time, we enjoy our church family in Tulsa where I am helping teach the Wednesday afternoon Early Bird Bible class this fall-winter-spring.

We covet your continued prayers and encouragement as we seek to be “kingdom people” whose lives are devoted to sharing the Good News of Jesus, making disciples, and strengthening those disciples for the work of the Kingdom, always to the glory of our Savior!

Neyba, Dominican Republic Update

With the pandemic increasingly behind us, the new churches are again growing in attendance and baptisms are frequent. *(picture right, attendance at a recent campaign)*

Good news! Thanks to the generous participation of the Fort Gibson church, the La Descubierta building construction should be fully funded once all of the commitments that have been made by donors and churches are received! An update with more information is available online:

http://www.bobyongresources.com/missions/2209-Sep_mission-report_special-1.pdf



Cajamarca, Peru Update



The work in Cajamarca advances, although at times more slowly than hoped. Pray for the work, and for Yexon, Bettzy, and their family. They will complete two years in Cajamarca in February 2023. This work is genuinely “pandemic church planting!” A recent three-day “Christian Living” conference counted an attendance of 120. The conference was attended by some who came long distances, with several brothers and sisters recommitting their lives *(pictures, above left and to the right)*.

The pastor, co-pastor, and secretary of a nearby religious group have asked for Bible studies with Yexon *(picture, above right)*. May the gospel go into all the world, penetrating hearts, with confidence that the power is from the gospel and not from us.



LALD is committed to at least three years of fully funding this church planting project, anticipating stabilization of the work, followed by a systematic withdrawal and transfer of the work to the local church – self-sustaining, self-governing, self-duplicating.



Who is Jesus? A Unique Telling of the Story of Jesus

Recording has been completed for the “Life of Jesus” video series! I was blessed to share time regularly with Larry Bowles (co-host), Kenny Taylor (videographer) and Barrett VanLandingham (sound).

Now the real work begins with editing and production. While I am still hoping for a release date of late 2022 or early 2023, more realistically I am anticipating that it may be mid-2023.

Many have indicated interest in this series. Thank you! I will keep you posted.

Updating Recent Mission Activities

(Highlights of some of my teaching and preaching in Spanish)

I finished teaching a two-month Saturday morning online course covering Second Corinthians at **Tijuana School of Preaching**....I presented three lessons in an online seminar on the subject of eschatology, attended and viewed by about 100 church leaders from all across Latin America....I preached in an online weekend campaign for a church in **Bogota**....I presented Bible studies for an online prayer and praise group.

Prayer Requests

Please include in your prayers our brothers and sisters, many of who are in very difficult situations and circumstances: **Venezuela, Peru, Colombia, Ecuador, the Dominican Republic.**

Pray for these Bible Institutes that are training national teachers and preachers for evangelism and ministry: **Baxter Institute** (Honduras), **Tijuana School of Preaching** (Mexico), **Interamericano Bible Institute** (Peru). The schools listed are those with which I have a relationship. Plus, there are many other Bible institutes across Latin America.

Pray for **Spanish Literature Ministry**. Pray for the continued impact of the evangelistic study series, “**En Pos de la Verdad.**”

Pray for Jan and me about our future plans, how we can best respond in 2023 to invitations in the Dominican Republic, Peru, and Colombia, and what God wants for our future.

Thank you for your passion, your prayers, and your partnership!

Please keep praying for these works and for us. We appreciate your prayers, encouragement, and support.

Through my host congregation (Main and Oklahoma, McAlester, OK), you can make tax-deductible gifts (payable to “Church of Christ,” memo line “Latin American Leadership Development” [LALD]). **ALL CONTRIBUTIONS SHOULD BE MAILED TO MY ADDRESS** (10704 S 89th East Ave, Tulsa, OK 74133).

Dios les bendiga (God bless you),

Bob and Jan Young

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The full moon rising reminds me of the brilliance of the sun, even when its light. I marvel that the moonlight is brighter than the multiplied city lights below it.

Jesus is the light of the world; he describes his followers as the light of the world. I can only think that we can be light only when we clearly reflect his light. May we never forget the urgency of the task. Multitudes are receptive to the gospel. Many people hunger and thirst for the word of God. God’s people want encouragement and training in evangelism, discipleship, and effective church leadership.

When the gospel is preached, the light of the gospel enters hearts and a new day is made possible in the lives of believers. Thank you for helping us make that happen as we seek to fulfill God’s purpose in this world – to save as many as possible!

When you support Latin America Leadership Development, you are part of a network of Christians committed to taking the gospel to Latin America. Through evangelism, discipleship, and leadership training, spiritually healthy and mature Christians and churches are developed, capable of reproducing themselves. A primary goal is training those who will train others (2 Tim. 2:2), recognizing that the most effective kingdom workers are national Christians who understand the culture and language, are known and trusted, and easily develop friendships and relationships that carry the gospel to their own nations.