

SPADER'S MAY UPDATE

GLOBAL YOUTH INITIATIVE

Inspiring Indigenous movements of multiplication...by focusing leaders' attention on the Life of Christ...multiplying from everywhere to everywhere

They say a picture is worth a 1000 words...so in this update I will write little but hopefully say a lot!



Last month I wrote about my brother's fishing trip. It went extremely well. Unfortunately I didn't get the bragging rights to the biggest fish, but I caught 4 of the 16 paddlefish. The largest was 56 pounds and the average was 40 pounds.

We had many great conversations about the Lord! Of the 8 brothers on the trip, 5 know the Lord and the other 3 are being loved into the Kingdom.

If you aren't sure...I'm the one on the lower right side...with the silly grin.☺ My fish is the big one on the far left!!

This last month we had our Global Youth Initiative meetings in Costa Rica at our new Multiplication Center. We had leaders from Eastern and Western Europe, Asia, Africa, Singapore, Latin America, North America, and Australia...24 different leaders were present...representing staff in 42 countries.



We spent almost half of our time sharing “best practices” and learning from each other. Four major papers were presented. I presented a paper on the role of suffering in the fulfillment of the Great Commission...a look at how Christ embraced suffering on the road to the cross. Woody Rowland, a 22 year veteran missionary in Latin America, presented a fascinating paper on the Latin culture and barriers in it. Jerry Manderfield, a youth leader with 1000 young people in Medellin Columbia, presented a paper on the G-12 movement...a discipling strategy used by the 350,000 member church in Bogota Columbia. Mark Edwards, through his paper, powerfully challenged us from Luke 9...asking us if we were merely making “followers” of Christ verses “disciples” of Christ. His challenge was seriously taken...one I will never forget.

The pictures below are of some of our discussion time and then a picture of the GYI leadership team, Dave Patty (President of Josiah Venture), myself, Bill Hodgson (Director of Campus Crusade Australia), Mark Edwards (Sonlife Latin America) and Mark Tittley (Sonlife Africa).



We also had built in some time for everyone to experience some of the local culture...Latin music and the local Britt Coffee factory. The woman next to me is Char ☺ (in case you weren't sure).



But perhaps my greatest joy came when I had the privilege to speak to eight young Latins who have sensed God's call on their life to be the first missionaries sent out by our ministry in Latin America. Not only has Mark Edwards led Sonlife Latin America into a strategic and effective ministry by starting over 50 youth group's with several hundred young people, but they have started an eight month missionary

training program for these 8 young Latins who sense God's call to leave the comfort of their home and take the Gospel to the ends of the world. In the picture below, these young people are headed to the following places:

Fabricio to Bolivia

Andes and Adriana to Tunisia, North Africa

Jeffry to Honduras

Norman to Africa

Alex to the inner city of Chicago to work Latin gang members

Manfred and Silvia to Uzbekistan.

These 8 young people represent God's incredible grace and His passion to see the Great Commission fulfilled. They also represent what GYI is all about...raising up that next generation and multiplying from everywhere to everywhere!



I'd appreciate your prayers this next month as I do training at the Pastors Conference at Moody, speak at Multnomah Bible College in Portland, and then train some pastors at a conference in Texas.

Thanks so much for your investment in that "next generation"!

Serving the Great Commission.

Dann and Char
Ps 78:3-7