

EL SALVADOR CONFERENCE

Carlos Tellez - From December 11-17, I had the privilege of leading a mission trip, alongside Oscar Portes, to Jucuapa, Usulután, El Salvador. A wonderful group of pastors, leaders, and congregants gathered for *The Panorama of the Life of Christ* conference. Together, we explored the life of Christ in chronological order—from the Intertestamental period through Christ's birth, earthly ministry, death, burial, and victorious resurrection. Throughout the week special emphasis was placed on how Jesus personally called, trained, and discipled His followers in preparation for the Great Commission. We also examined the Jewish background of the Sermon on the Mount, Israel's rejection of God's Kingdom, the purpose of the parables, and the prophetic significance of the Olivet Discourse. We are grateful for how God used this time to deepen biblical understanding and encourage local leaders, and we ask for continued prayer as they apply these truths in their churches and communities. Finally, we are so grateful for your prayers and financial support as you give so we can go to accomplish the Great Commission together with your partnership. To God be the glory for all the great things He is doing in His church in El Salvador.

Oscar Portes - First I want to thank the Lord for the opportunity to participate as an instructor on this mission trip. I am thankful to God's people who covered my travel expenses from Toronto to El Salvador and back.

Beginning with a smooth journey on Wednesday, December 10, we experienced God's blessing from the very start. Arriving at the San Salvador airport, we were warmly received and then transported to Jucuapa, where Pastor Miguel Salgado and his family welcomed us into their home with hospitality that went beyond five-stars, to at least six stars. As an example, on the day of our arrival one of their children graduated and the pastor's mother-in-law passed away. Despite these circumstances, nothing prevented them from offering us exceptional hospitality.

The volunteers at the host church, Camino de Salvación Baptist Church, mirrored the same love and care shown by the pastor's family. Each day of the conference we enjoyed delicious breakfasts, snacks, and a variety of Salvadoran lunches.

Due to the extensive amount of material being taught, it became necessary to add an extra hour each day. This allowed us to conclude on Wednesday at 6:30 p.m., after conducting the survey, receiving testimonies, distributing certificates, and taking a group photo. The joy with which the participants agreed to stay an additional hour each day was a source of great encouragement and gave us the strength to continue the demanding task of teaching the lengthy *Panorama of the Life of Christ*.

Personally, the seminar was especially meaningful as I am currently teaching the Gospel of John to a group that meets via Zoom and YouTube every Monday and Thursday, with participants from Venezuela, Bolivia, Argentina, Canada, and the United States.

In addition to teaching and fellowship, Pastor Salgado coordinated visits to several church families with



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spiritual needs so we could encourage and counsel them. I visited two families, sharing biblical perspectives on Christian life, while Carlos visited others. These visits reinforced the importance of personal discipleship and relational ministry, modeling in practice what had been taught during the sessions.

In conclusion, the conference was a complete success. Glory to God for all He accomplished through this visit.



Following are some attendee observations:

Pastor Miguel Salgado: *What I liked most was understanding that we can all make disciples, that an abundant life is necessary for multiplication ministry, and that we should develop others. I was deeply impacted by the challenge to make disciples not only locally, but throughout our country.* Note: Pastor Salgado's church currently teaches the following DM2 materials: *Romans* (Friday evenings), *1 John* (Sunday mornings), and ***Ephesians*** (Sunday afternoons)

Pastor Israel Zelaya: *I appreciated the chapter-by-chapter teaching and clear explanation of grace. I hope to attend the next conference.*



Pastor Douglas Zelaya: *The systematic study of Christ's life was excellent.*

Pastor Juan José Zelaya: *I gained a deeper understanding of Christ's life in the four Gospels and the importance of studying Scripture in context.*

Brother Carlos Geovanny Chicas Segovia: *I appreciated the historical perspective and how the Gospels complement each other.*

Milton Gómez (Preacher): *I was deeply impacted by the unity of the Old and New Testaments in the life of Christ.*

Roberto Quintanilla (Teacher): *This chronological and thorough study strengthened my assurance of salvation.*

Pastor Genaro Antonio Pérez Orellana: *The miracles of Jesus and the evidence given to Israel for believing in Him stood out greatly.*

Pastor Mario Alberto Díaz Pineda: *The study reaffirmed the truth and reliability of Scripture and the deity of Christ.*

Sister Yaritza Priscila Morataya Pérez: *The 400 years of silence showed God was working even when He seemed silent.*

Ivonne Guadalupe Arce de Saravia (Children's Ministry): *The clarity of teaching helped me explain Scripture better to young children.*

Please join us in prayer for the following:

Bolivia - January 15-19 to teach 1, 2, and 3 John with Carlos Tellez and Bret and Wanda Nazworth

El Salvador - The first of April to teach 1 Corinthians with Carlos Tellez

Sierra Leone - February to teach Ephesians with Tommy and Thomas Northcok and Clay and Andrew Ward

Brad Rigby - for future plans for Cameroon; political unrest has caused uncertainty

Oscar Portes - funding for future mission trips



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