

June 20, 2016

Dear friends, is with joy and thankfulness in our hearts that we are sending out this newsletter! It has been a time of joyful work as we have seen how God is doing remarkable things in our days.

The last three months we have been able to go as planned! We had Josh Black with us for 10 days and help us to run two pastors' workshops on Preaching the Epistles from 2 Timothy. We went to Consolación del Sur in Pinar del Río province. This church has been a good venue for that last 4 years, and pastors and missionaries that are leading churches were equipped and encouraged on how to preach from 2 Timothy. It was also an opportunity to have pastor Frankys Abad, the local pastor, lead his first instructional session ever.

The following week we went to Santa Clara, the largest and most important city in the center of the island. The church that hosted was the First Baptist Church there. We were there in 2012 and 2013, and are now glad to have returned to Santa Clara after taking off 2014 and 2015. There is a good community of pastors there and they welcomed us very enthusiastically and eagerly dug into the Word of God. This was also an opportunity to have Yonail Pérez, a pastor from the area, to have his first instruction in a workshop.



The last pastor's workshop of the season was the last week of May. We went to the east of the island in the middle of the mountains. This was our first year there and it was very encouraging to share with pastors of small communities that are working in remotes rural areas. We gathered 23 pastors very



committed to take the Word of God to their congregations. We were surprised that, even though they work in rural and remotes areas, the churches they serve have a medium size membership from 60 to 120 members. A couple of the churches even have 200 members. This was also another opportunity to have Giancarlos Martínez with us, again, having his first instruction in a workshop.

We thank God for the pastors with a passion for expositional preaching and that share the vision of training pastors on how to handle the Bible properly. The instructors' training we had last February is bearing its fruits as four of those pastors have already joined us in different workshops as instructors, preaching, and leading small groups. We are thankful for these pastors that are investing part of his time and energy to help us train a new generation of expositors in Cuba!

During this season we also took some preaching opportunities outside of Havana. I was invited to preach at an event in Pinar del Rio Province, a gathering of young people who work with youth. There were around 120 youth workers. I taught on the priority of preaching Christ and we promoted Equipo Impacto training scheme at that event. Several of those gospel workers where interested in our training.



Regarding our training scheme: we are glad to have just finished our first course two days ago! Our first 4 apprentices were trained this year on how to deal with Epistles, going over the whole book of Hebrews. They presented their work on the text week after week, also studying and David Helm's book on *Expositional Preaching*. At the same time, they remained involved in local church ministry with several opportunities to teach and

preach to congregations. We are pleased to have already started looking for new apprentices to start in September.

As for coming commitments: Alexis and Lourdes are heading to England in mid-June. They will attend the Proclamation Trust's EMA (*Evangelical Ministry Assembly*) and Cornhill Summer School. They also will have a very busy schedule of meeting individuals, churches, and Christian organizations to talk about the ministry of Equipo Impacto, giving reports to those friends in England that have been supporting Equipo Impacto over the years and encouraging others to get involved. Alexis will also be teaching at a preaching workshop with the Charles Simeon Trust in the Dominican Republic in August, teaching at a marriage retreat, and preaching at a pastors' conference.

Prayer Request:

1. For Alexis and Lourdes to have a fruitful trip to England.
2. For God to continue equipping the new instructors that are coming to serve in pastors' workshops.
3. For the new applicants to the "Havana Plan," our training scheme.
4. For all the opportunities for teaching and preaching that Alexis has this summer.

To God and only to God be all the glory,

Alexis Pérez Alfonso
Director of Ministry
Equipo Impacto