

Dear Fellowship Partners,

update august 2002

As I said in our last letter, this summer is shaping up to be a busy one. I have just safely returned from an eleven-day trip to Ecuador and what an awesome experience that turned out to be. I was invited by the local Exodus ministry in Quito, Camino de Salida to come and put on a ministry development series. I also spoke at the Ecuadorian national conference on ministry to the homosexual. I was a bit apprehensive about going, seeing that I spoke very little Spanish and wasn't sure whether the material we use in our Upper Room series would apply to the Latin culture. But all those fears disappeared as I taught from my experiences over the years in ministry. Here is an overview of my trip.



Auda, Phil, Betty & Tim

Friday: I flew out of Portland early in the morning and arrive in Quito at 10:15 PM. Tim, my host, picked me up from the crowded terminal and I entered the streets of a culture that was completely foreign to me. This was my first trip to South America. I would stay the next five nights at the guesthouse of HCJB, a worldwide radio ministry.

Saturday: I got a tour of the city of Quito. There are one and half million people living in the city. It is a strange mixture of poverty and modern western comforts.

Sunday: This was the beginning of my speaking. I spoke at four church services. It was Father's Day, so I shared about how God changed my heart to my Dad. Talking about homosexuality doesn't happen in the church. There is a tremendous amount of shame, so hearing my story was a first

for most. This was also my first of many speaking engagements with an interpreter, Betty. In the afternoon I got a chance to go to an Indian market and later met with the board of Camino de Salida in the evening to talk about their ministry.

Monday: I got a tour of HCJB and saw where Betty works. She started the first AIDS clinic on Quito. There is growing concern that if no intervention takes place, AIDS will look like Africa as far as magnitude within the next ten years. I had lunch with Esly Cavalhero, Director of Exodus Latin American and discussed, among other things, the Upper Room program and how it might be used to help train international ministry leaders. The evening was taken up with speaking at Camino's open group. The facility was crowded with many people interested in hearing this 'gringo's' story.

Tuesday: We took a break and traveled to La Pallacta hot springs high in the Andes Mountains. It was beautiful and a great chance for Tim and I to talk about ministry.

Wednesday: Several of us boarded a bus to travel south to Guayaquil, site of the conferences. It took nine hours to descend from the mountains, through the rainforest and banana fields to get there. I have never seen such poverty. I was riveted to the window.

Thursday: The ministry development seminars began. Teams from Chile, Peru, Colombia and Ecuador attended the first-ever series on ministry and leadership development. My day was long, beginning at 9 AM and concluding by 6:30 PM. In the evening many of us went to the waterfront area for dinner and strolling.

Friday: Day two of the leadership/ministry development continued as I introduced the idea of transparency and weakness in leadership. This was a new concept and contrary to Latin culture. The day concluded with a time of anointing and commissioning. The national conference began that evening and I shared my testimony. The theme was "Beauty for Ashes."

Saturday: I taught four workshops on understanding homosexuality and the change process. By the last one I was exhausted. In the evening I spoke on "what beauty looks like."

"He has sent me to bind
up the brokenhearted to
proclaim liberty to captives,
and freedom to prisoners."

ISAIAH 61 : 1

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Sunday: I had the opportunity to preach at a church in a poorer section of the city, which was near the prostitution and homosexual areas. It was a wonderful opportunity. That night we flew back to Quito, rather than take another bus trip.

Monday: Early in the morning, I boarded a plane home. It was hard to say good-bye to Tim and Onilda and those I had come to know in that short period of time.

I got a follow-up email from Tim and here's part of what he had to say: "You were definitely used by God to encourage and form many of us. Thanks so much. People appreciated your transparency, teachings, testimony... talked about your dependence on God, being a man of prayer, your humbleness... your personal sharing with

them... being a role model... etc. Well... lots more I could say, but just wanted to encourage you and let you that God is taking our investment into these lives and bringing about fruit."

I am excited to be involved in helping other ministries, and am looking forward to when I can go back. Thank you for your prayers throughout this trip. I felt them and was filled with a peace and strength by God.



Phil teaching at the ministry development series in Guayaquil.

In His service,

ministry update

After years in the making, the Taking Back Ground Volume One workbook is completed! This powerful curriculum will be available for ministry and personal use around the world. If you would like to order a copy, call us at the office or go on-line. The cost for the Year One workbook is only \$25, plus shipping.

The Taking Back Ground Volume Two book is still being completed. Please pray for the quick yet careful progress to complete this series.

Former PF leader, Morgan Davis, has taken on new responsibilities as Regional Coordinator for Desert Stream Ministries. Morgan organized a conference called **At The Cross: Restoration & Reconciliation** which will be held September 20 & 21 at Irvington Covenant Church in Portland, Oregon. Speakers include, Kin and Jolene Lancaster as well as Luida Johnson. For more information call 503.495.5733

thanks

Last month we asked you, our readers, to help us furnish the Upper Room. Gloria from Rolling Hills Community Church put us in touch with Todd Berk who generously supplied us with many items that would help make the upper room complete. Thanks Todd for the entertainment center, king size bed, couch, TV, nightstand and the many other items. It is truly a blessing. Also, we thank Rolling Hills for picking up the tab for the U-Haul!

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Thank you, Jody & Rae Lynn Cox, and Ron & Heidi Perry for leading the "Changes the Heal" video series this summer. It has been a very profitable time with close to 35 people each week.

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Thank you to all those who continue to financially support us.

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aug / sept calender

aug 5; sept 2

Board Meeting

aug 9; sept 13

*Family and Friends support group.
7 p.m.*

aug 6, 13, 20, 27

*Changes that Heal video series.
Please join us, 7 p.m.*

aug 18

*Rolling Hills Community Church
presenter: Jason Thompson*

september 28

*Multnomah Biblical Seminary
Speaker: Phil Hobizal*

september

*No open meetings.
Leadership preparation for TBG*

*September 20 & 21
Restoration & Reconciliation
Desert Stream Conference
Irvington Covenant Church*

*Check website for additional updates
throughout the month.*