



integrity ministries

Thurston New Year Report

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CHILE OFFICE

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VERSE OF THE YEAR

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." *Jeremiah 29:11*

Jim Thurston, Recipient of the Chilean National Merit Ministry Service Award



CHRISTMAS WITH THE CHILEAN PRESIDENT

After our meeting with the Chilean President in October, we were invited to attend her staff member Christmas party. It is wonderful to be able to reach out to the leaders of our country as they too need our prayers.

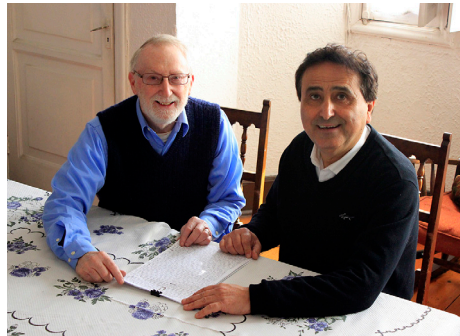


MINISTERING AT A DRUG REHABILITATION CENTER

Sally and I were invited to speak and minister at another local church and their drug and alcohol rehabilitation center affiliated with Teen Challenge.

The church is made up of the families of those who are going through the program. After my message and Sally's testimony, many related to what she shared. God spoke to many of the lives and over 50 came forward to pray and ask for God's victory in their lives.

Ivan, the director, and his staff are accomplishing great things at the center. The government has its own drug rehabilitation programs where their recovery rate is 3%. The Catholic church's recovery programs rate is 6%. In most evangelical recovery centers such as Ivan's, the rate is over 90%. Why the big difference? It's because the role of the Holy Spirit working in their lives after they receive Christ.



RADIO PROGRAM UPDATE

Alberto Dib and I go over the material for the radio programs we are recording. We now have 300 programs prepared and only lack 65. Once we are done, we will have one program for each day of the year.



WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY

Sally participates in our home Bible study each week. She teaches once a month about prayer.



RECEIVING CHRIST AS HER PERSONAL SAVIOR

Sally prayed with a spouse of a resident of the drug rehabilitation program (see left). This picture was taken as the spouse was praying as she received Christ.



ENGRAVED BIBLE GIFT

Jim received an engraved Bible for his weekly volunteer work at the President's Chapel.



FIRES IN CHILE

For the last couple of weeks, Chile has been blazing in fire. Over 100 separate forest fires over all central and southern Chile. A heat wave, an ongoing drought, coupled with strong winds spread the flames even farther. The chain of wild-fires unleashed a catastrophe, killing at least 11 people and numerous cities were completely burned to the ground.

Please keep the country of Chile in your prayers as hundreds of homes, villages, schools, fields and cattle have been scorched and destroyed in this wide-spread devastation.

We are collecting financial donations towards blankets, sheets, kitchen appliances and utensils, hygiene products, towels, clothing, basic necessities and other household items. We will purchase the items locally in Chile.





TEACHING LEADERS ABOUT COMMUNICATIONS

Jim teaches at a leaders retreat about using mass communications within the framework of the church. Over twenty church leaders participated in the event.



CHRISTIAN BUSINESSMEN ON THE MOVE

For 40 years one of my desires has been to start a Christian businessmen's group so they may reach out to their peers. There has never been a group like this that has ministered on a constant basis. A few years ago a friend of mine, Luis, and I tried to start a group, but with the death of Lina, and going to the States for furlough, the group fell apart.

The other day I ran into Luis. We discussed re-starting the Christian businessmen fellowship again. I mentioned to him, it would be a great idea to set up a meeting to see what would happen. He replied, "I know a few who might be

interested, but they are about one hour south of Santiago." I said, "Let's go and talk to them and see what can be done."

When we arrived, we found six men waiting for us. They were vitally interested in reaching their city for Christ and using their influence as the spring board to do it. The initial group includes a private school benefactor, (see adjoining note to the right), a TV station owner, a communication chief, and a Psychiatrist. We have had three planning meetings and in March the idea is to have a city wide out reach. Please pray for this new group which has no name or affiliation at this time.



OUTREACH TO WOMEN

During a local church's Christmas event, Sally was asked to give her testimony to a women's group for their evangelistic monthly outreach (an outreach where the church women invite their non-believer friends to fellowship and create community. About sixty women attended the event and over forty came forward to ask for prayer after Sally's testimony and message. God greatly ministered to their lives that day.



MAKING AN IMPACT

Ricardo Cabrera is the founder and owner of a 400 student Christian high school. As we talked, he explained to me that he is active in a local church and the Lord gave him the vision to start the Christian school. He said, "You don't remember me, but I know you." I said, "Clue me in." He said, "back in the 80's, I received Christ through you." I immediately gave Ricardo a big hug. I was full of excitement to see another person who had received Christ, was active in a local church, and is making a tremendous impact in his city. You are part of this!

THANK YOU!

Thank you for supporting our ministry in Chile. Please keep us in your prayers as we continue to be a beacon of hope and a source of strength to those that we reach and to those that we provide encouragement and blessing that are hurting and struggling.

Your partnership through prayer and financial support is a tremendous blessing. Thank you for partnering with us in this tremendous opportunity of compassion and spiritual care.

Thank you for caring and sharing.

With love,

Jim & Sally

