



Many Have Asked, How Did I Get to Chile? Here's my Story

In 1963, at the urging of my former youth minister from the Bremerton Presbyterian Church, John Flack, who later became the National Men's representative for Campus Crusade, encouraged me to join him in evangelizing university students. Many weekends, John would take a few of us from the church youth group to share Christ on the Seattle-Bremerton ferry, a ride of sixty minutes, and to the University of Washington. These experiences were formative for me, shaping my understanding of ministry and my own faith journey.

Seattle World's Fair

I had come into contact with Campus Crusade in depth during my senior year at Seattle Pacific College, when Gordon Klink came to train counselors to work at the Moody Science Pavilion at the 1962 World's Fair in Seattle.

After graduating from college, I taught at Marcus Whitman Middle School in Seattle for a short time. At the end of the school year, I took a leap of faith and attended an Arrowhead Springs Campus Crusade staff conference. It was there that God's calling to join Campus Crusade transformed my heart and life. That summer, Crusade doubled in size from 60 to 130, a testament to the power of faith.

My journey in Christian ministry began at the University of Oregon, where I received my personal training under the Campus Crusade Campus Director. After one and a half years of dedicated work, I was then sent to the Southern Oregon College in Ashland to pioneer the work there. As the Campus Director at that school, I was initially alone. However, with God's blessings, I was able to establish a thriving Christian community. Over 10% of the total enrollment indicated they received Christ, with seven of those students entering full-time Christian work.

After a very successful 18 months at Southern Oregon, I was asked by Bob Kendal, Latin American Director of Campus Crusade if I would be interested in

going to Latin America. Without hesitation, I said. "Yes." (Of course, my parents weren't too happy with that decision.)

Leaving the US

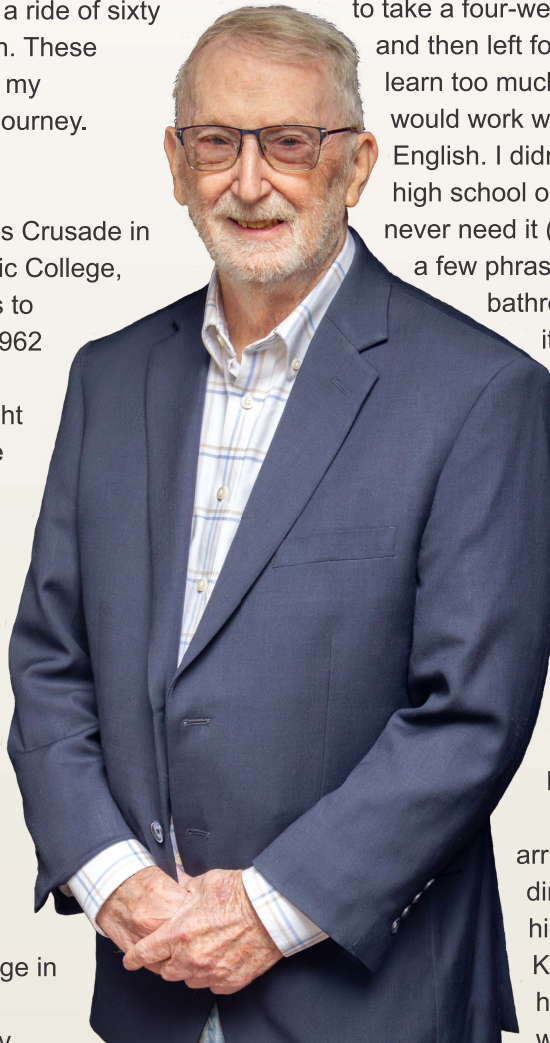
Within three weeks, I shipped out and was on my way. There were six staff willing to go. We were sent to Mexico to take a four-week "crash" course in Spanish and then left for our appointed country. I didn't learn too much Spanish, as the idea was I would work with someone who spoke English. I didn't take any foreign language in high school or college as I thought I would never need it (famous last words.) I did learn a few phrases, such as "where is the bathroom?" or "I'm hungry, when is it time to eat?"

Before I left the US, I knew nothing of the country or the people I would meet. I knew Chile was in South America somewhere, but I never took the time to look it up on a map. The goal was to help the newly appointed National Director. I sold my only two possessions, my bicycle and my ham radio receiver, to help buy the airplane ticket.

After three weeks of my arrival, Hugo, the newly appointed director, received an offer of a high-paying job at the YMCA in Kansas City. For him, this was his dream. He wanted a good wage and not having to raise his personal finances, just as all the

Campus Crusade staff do. His departure, however, was a significant blow to my purpose in Chile. He left me, a newcomer, in a challenging position, and it was a profound test of my faith and perseverance, weighing heavily on my spirit. Here I was all alone, not speaking the language, and with two new recruits. What do I do? Return or move on.

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Latest News

From September 27 to October 19, the FIFA U20 World Soccer Cup, featuring players aged 20 and under, is currently taking place in Chile. People from around the world are roaming the streets of various cities in Chile to support their home teams. Events like this often generate an open atmosphere for sharing the Gospel, as attendees move out of their usual environments.

One of our staff members has organized an outreach to share the Gospel during this time. At the first outreach event at the National Soccer Stadium in Santiago, we were proud to receive support from nine local churches, which highlights our strong community spirit. Eight thousand specially printed tracts were distributed in one day. The plan is to visit other cities where the games are held and continue this outreach, aiming to distribute a total of 20,000 tracts.

Additionally, on November 1, we will once again be stationed at the entrances of cemeteries, just like in past years, with another specially printed tract (50,000 printed units) for those coming to remember loved ones.



Sally with Sara Ossa Garrido, President of The National Committee for Evangelical Education of Chile.

From p1

God had called me to Chile, so I began training the new recruits using the knowledge I had gained in the US. Since I could hardly speak Spanish the first few months, we communicated through hand gestures. I figured if I could get all the materials translated into Spanish, they could learn from reading them, and I could gauge their understanding by their actions. As time went by, my Spanish improved, and the Chile organization grew from two to 35 full-time staff. God greatly blessed, and thousands indicated they received Christ as their personal savior during this time.

Political Problems

Shortly thereafter, Chile experienced a period of political difficulty. The country went from a democracy to a three year Marxist Government to a 17 year Military rule to finally become a democracy again. I later found out, I was on the Marxist black list to be killed. Praise the Lord, it didn't happen. Under the Military, things were difficult as we had certain restrictions and a 10 PM to 6 AM seven days a week curfew. But God protected this "gringo" from all the political turmoil and anti-American sentiment.

After 10 years as the Chilean Director, my job had finished. The staff had been trained, and now it was time for them to take the reins. Chile was one of the very few countries that had had a foreigner as a director for so long. Most countries started with a national and grew from there. With my job done, I returned to the US.

Rip Van Winkle

In the first 10 years in Chile, I had only returned to the US twice, and each time was for only a month. Having been gone for so long, it seemed like I was Rip Van Winkle when I arrived. The US society had moved on, and I was left behind. I felt like I didn't fit in. The fast-paced lifestyle, the cultural changes, and the technological advancements were overwhelming. Crusade wanted me to go to Mexico, but my heart was in Chile. Therefore, after 14 years on staff, I resigned and began to pray, "Lord, what would you have me do? Just tell me and I will do it."

After a few weeks of prayer, early one morning, the Lord impressed upon my heart to return to Chile to start a discipleship ministry using mass media technology to help train people.

Using Technology to Disciple

At the end of 1976, I began producing Bible classes on videotape, marking the beginning of a new era

Help I'm Lost!



After a three-month search, we found and purchased a video machine on eBay, similar to the one seen here. It was an important machine needed to complete our studio upgrades. But, when UPS sent it to our shipper in Miami, the machine was delivered to a wrong address. Someone signed for it, but it was not our shipper. Sadly we lost the money and the machine. The Lord tells us, *All things work together for good!* UPS is attempting to find it, but no results have been communicated as of this writing. As we desperately need it, please pray the machine is found.

in my ministry. This innovative use of high technology allowed me to multiply the best Bible teachers in the country and reach a wider audience. With the large video machines of that time, we took the equipment to churches and began teaching using mass media. Some of the students who received Christ in previous years would help me go out to churches, further expanding our reach.



It is now 2025, 58 years have passed, and I'm still in Chile helping to fulfill the Great Commission and building disciples, not only Chileans, but people all over the world, as our videos, available on YouTube, are seen worldwide.

Looking back on my Campus Crusade ministry in Chile, I am filled with gratitude for the personal connections and relationships that have been built. The staff I recruited and trained, although no longer with Crusade, are in full-time ministry, except for those who have passed away, a testament to the strong bonds and the training they received.

Another blessing is that approximately 40 students who received Christ through the ministry are now in full-time ministry, and six couples are serving as missionaries in other countries. There are hundreds active in local churches. These personal connections are the true blessings and they stand as a testament to the lasting impact of our work. Biblical discipleship is the way to have lasting results. I am on the board of the Chile Campus Crusade (CRU) organization, as I was named Director Emeritus. We meet once a year. Additionally, I attend essential events throughout the year.

Through all these years God continues to greatly bless His work. Our journey of growth and impact in the ministry over the years has been significantly enhanced by the unwavering support of you, our partners. With the help of your generous gifts, we were able to purchase TV cameras and other video equipment, upgrade them over the years, and continue to build and remodel the TV studio. Your contributions have had a profound impact on our growth, and we are deeply grateful. THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR CONTINUED PRAYERS AND SUPPORT.

Prayer Requests

1. That those receiving one of the 20,000 tracts given out in the Sub 20 Soccer World Cup will respond and receive Christ as their personal saviour.
2. For preparation to do beach evangelism during February 7-22, 2026 (more about this in our next letter.)
3. That we may have our studio upgrades running soon.
4. Handing out 50,000 tracts on November 1, in many of the cemeteries in Santiago.

Psalms 63:3-4 *Because your love is better than life, my lips will glorify you. I will praise you as long as I live, and in your name I will lift up my hands.* NIV

Blessings

Jim & Sally