## 3D Cochabamba, Bolivia

by John Wry

It was almost a year since we'd moved into our new home here in Windsor, Ontario. In our minds, this was a great place to finally settle and finish raising our kids who were still at home. With two airports nearby for travelling to DM2 conferences, it seemed the perfect arrangement. But then a major family matter necessitated our return to Bolivia. My first response was, "No way, I'm never moving back!"

Fast forward to the present, and here we are, super excited about the future. What happened? I'm glad you asked! Let me explain.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, for the past 16 months we've been mostly confined to our home. So, to be able to continue discipleship training, we had to change the way we were doing ministry. Zoom was the means we used. It soon became apparent this was to our advantage as geographic location no longer limited who could attend. We found ourselves teaching just about every night of the week. In total we taught over

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350 hours to people in Argentina, Bolivia, Venezuela, and Spain. A lot of these hours were invested in training youth. We saw about a dozen young people really flourish and begin to teach others.

Just last week as we wrapped up our last section in our 1 Timothy study, I asked some of them to share. Ananias from Bolivia shared how he is teaching Romans 1-8 to a group of 6 youth. Victor from Venezuela shared how he is teaching 9 young people. Claudia from the southern part of Bolivia requested prayer as she begins teaching a young lady from her church. Jhonny, Alvaro, Yair and Celestina recently returned from a trip to a rural village where they taught a Romans 1-8 conference to a group of 5 young people. Several young men are taking turns teaching the book of John to a group of 40 on a weekly basis.



How did this happen? Obviously, a famous, motivational speaker got them fired up, right? Or maybe it was the latest discipleship program. Or maybe they got paid. Actually no. None of the above reasons are why these young people are so on fire for the Lord and motivated to share their faith. Rather, it was through long, intense training in the word of God, beginning with the clarity of the gospel and the empowering grace of God, and a tiny bit of encouragement, that these young people

began to be used by God as weapons for righteousness in ways that are very particular to them and to their age group.

More on Reverse

This experience and God's clear opening of doors are why we are now excited about moving back to Bolivia. We are eager to implement DM2's newest project, called 3DTC, in Latin America. The 3D Training Center is an intense one-year program intended to establish young people in their faith and set them on a life-long course of disciple-making before going to university and starting a career.



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One door we have seen God open is in the area staff. Just last week a brother from Cochabamba, Daniel Paredes, verified his fulltime involvement in this ministry starting in September. However, there are still many hurtles to be crossed before the first day of classes begin on the 7th of February. We covet your prayers for wisdom in every decision. One big hurtle concerns funding. Our plan is for the center to become completely selfsufficient by the 4th year. In the interim we will need to pay our staff and there will be building and administration costs, among other things. Please pray for visiting professors as well. We already have 5 confirmed, but we need several more to cover the 26 courses in the curriculum.

If you've read this far, I want to thank you for your interest in this ministry. It means a lot to us to have people rooting for us and praying for us as we press on in the ministry of the gospel of grace to which God has called us.