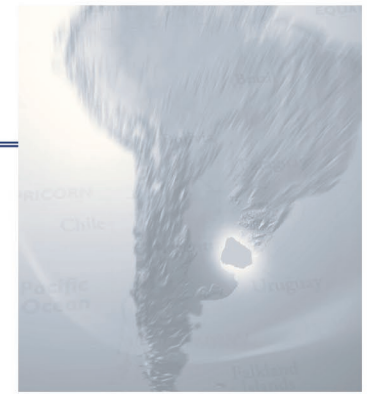


## PLANTING AND ASSISTING CHURCHES IN **URUGUAY**



Most of you know that Micki and I sold our one-story town house and hope to build a new house later this year on a property we bought close to the seminary. The property has a fig tree that is busting, and a few that are producing for the first time, like the avocado and lemon. The trees remind us of the spiritual principle of “sowing and reaping.” Our full-time summer seminary begins in December and goes through February. It can be exhausting, but after the work is done there is the joy of seeing fruit in the local churches!

### **Plant, Cultivate, and Defend**

Our seminary theme is “Plant, cultivate, and defend the good seed of the Word of God.” Our seminary “planted” by participating in the visitation programs of our two churches in Colonia. We also led a department-wide Vacation Bible School. This year, the students became “detectives” and helped the kids solve Biblical mysteries that point to Jesus. Later, we travelled far north to the city of Rivera to help a new church plant with evangelism and special meetings. We “cultivated” by offering 12 biblical and practical courses. Among them were “Theology of Missions” with Rodney Fitzsimmons, “Homiletics” for the men with Pastor Juan Terryn, and “Paul’s Epistles” based on my new book. The women studied “Women of the Bible” with Andrea Terryn and “Home Economics” with Micki. A highlight for everyone was “Fundamentals of Biblical Counseling” taught by guest professor Ivan Villalobos. Finally, students learned to “defend” God’s Word as we studied the history of the Bible and “The Truth Project,” a video series that shows the supremacy of the Christian worldview over a secular one.

### **A Special Graduation**

We held our graduation ceremony on February 22. Until now, we have not had more than a couple of graduates in a given year. This year, we celebrated five institute graduates and one seminary graduate. I exhorted them to serve with the kind of love that abounds in knowledge and all discernment (Phil. 1:9), and each received a study Bible as a gift from the seminary. We are on schedule for five more seminary graduates next year. None of this would be possible without the amazing team the Lord has blessed us with.

### **Sponsor a Student**

All of our seminary students attend on a work-scholarship basis. Uruguay is socialistic with low wages and a very high cost of living. Providing scholarships incentivizes students to work hard in the seminary, and our entrance requirements incentivize them to work in their local churches. A full summer of study costs \$750 per student, and it looks like we will have at least fifteen students next summer. Right now, there is nothing left in the scholarship account. Will you please pray about contributing to this account, or perhaps about sponsoring one or more students? Work-scholarship funds can be sent to the BWM address listed below with “seminary scholarship” in the memo. Thank you for your friendship and prayers!

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