

Reflections on 2006

As the year draws to a close, I see some of the blessings God has provided at the Texas Gulf Coast Bible Institute:

- **Dimas Velasquez, Giovanni Mendoza, and Rene Arzu** began April 10 as our first full-time students, working at **Impact, Alvin, and Baytown** in their church planting work. Soon they will finish their first year of course work in text, language, and ministry.
- In March, **Ignacio Barcenas, church planting coordinator**, started to work weekly with each student in his respective area of the city.
- **Small groups** have begun in each student's area, and the **first two baptisms** occurred in Baytown in July—**Luis and Angelica Martinez**.
- We began to build a **video conferencing network** with other cities and countries to take advantage of other schools, professors, and courses in the brotherhood. Currently on the network are **TGCBI (Houston), Dallas, Miami, Arlington (VA), Silver Spring (MD), Little Rock (AR), Hidden Valley (Houston), Quito (Ecuador), Valencia (Venezuela), and Maracaibo (Venezuela)**.
- We are connected with Quito and Little Rock for a total of four classes this quarter.
- Other sites soon to come online, Lord willing, include **Guatemala, Buenos Aires, Tegucigalpa (Honduras)**, as well as other sites within the US.
- Through this, we can draw on a pool of **18 professors** from three countries.
- In January, the **total number of students involved in these courses will be right at 100!**

In January 2007, Lord willing, we will welcome our second class of full-time students, who will take their courses with several students from Dallas and Little Rock, and likely Quito as well. Later in the spring, we hope to begin to put some of our courses online in DVD format, so that those will be available in any schedule to anyone in Latin America.

To all of you who have faithfully supported us financially this year, we say thank-you—God has blessed us and this work through you. We would ask you to continue to do so in 2007, and if God leads you to do so, to increase that support.

To those who may have recently learned of this work, or are not currently involved in any way, we would ask you to consider giving to the school, either a one-time gift or a monthly pledge. This will help us to achieve our expansion goals next year. If you wish, you can designate it for students, technology, online programs, adjunct professors, or anything else. You may arrange that with Steve Austin at 713-910-2819, austin@tgcbi.org, or can get more information, in English or Spanish, at our website www.tgcbi.org.

Please pray for us. God bless you this year.

Steve Austin
Director, TGCBI

"Now to him who is able to immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory..." Eph. 3:20