

January 5, 2009

Dear :

I wanted to thank you for your interest in the goals and ministry of the Texas Gulf Coast Bible Institute.

We have enjoyed another wonderful year in 2008 under God's guidance and blessing! Here are some of the highlights:

- Julio and Fior Beitia and Renzo Mayorga become our second graduating class.
- Renzo launches the Clear Lake Hispanic group, and the Beitias continue working in Baytown.
- Andres and Gloria Guajardo and Agustin Garcia come as new full-time students.
- Kevin Montgomery arrives as assistant director and merges seamlessly in every way.
- Last year's graduates, Dimas Velasquez and Giovanni Mendoza, work successfully in Impact and Honduras and report 12 baptisms and other growth as well.
- The video conferencing network expands to 28 sites in 10 countries, offering 68 courses from 19 professors from 5 countries. More than 100 students participate.
- First online video course launched, which now has over 90 students from 22 countries.
- The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board grants the TGCBI authority to award a Bachelor of Biblical Studies degree, which our 2008 graduates receive (and also, retroactively, our 2007 graduates)

What does 2009 hold? Renzo will continue to work in Clear Lake, and the Beitias will returned to Florida to minister there. Lord willing, we hope to continue expanding the video conferencing network (our goal is to have at least one site in every Latin American capital by 2012). We will take our second school trip to Israel (and now Jordan) from May 29-June 10, 2009. We will change our school year beginning from January to August, to coordinate better with other schools. We will record and put several more courses online, hopefully 1 a month.

We are grateful to God for his provision and guidance, and he has also blessed us through you. We ask for your continued interest, support, and prayers. May God bless you in 2008.

Stephen Austin
Director, Texas Gulf Coast Bible Institute