



PRAYER & PRAISE

Pray that God will raise up good support teams for all of our missionaries.

Pray that God will continue to send more laborers.

Pray for guidance as to when to train and who to train as the next group of candidates to be part of the team.

Pray that the youth pastors movement will be structured well and have a good start.

Pray that the pastoring of pastors movement will also get off to a good start.

Pray we can build a Sepal team in Peru in the next few years and also contribute to the team starting in Chile.

Praise God for his faithfulness with each one of the teams.

Sepal Colombia is one of the 10 mobilization centers forming the OC Global Alliance. Even though this nation has been inundated with violence in the past, the church continues to grow. Now there are individuals and families that are willing to go abroad as missionaries. As part of the majority world mission movement, these Colombian brothers and sisters in Christ can serve in contexts where North Americans and Europeans have more difficulties. Field leader, Phil Brown shares some of the unique challenges of this country and how we can partner with them in prayer.

Aug. Sepulveda

Ministry & the Colombian Team

Sepal Colombia started in Cali, Colombia in 1965, upon invitation by a pastors' association. Currently we have 14 units with one more as associates. Four more units are training with us on ministry trips. We focus on leaders and pastors, training in evangelism and discipleship.

Training missionaries

In our training we cover the same materials covered in the U.S. internship. Our last formal training was held a couple of days a month for about a year. We did this in order to train people who still hold a secular job. This worked out well. We want those who train to know us and to work well before committing themselves; so we also have an apprenticeship system where most of the people who become part of the team have worked with at least one teammate in ministry. Once they are proven and have taken the internship they are approved by the board and become full members.

Financial challenge

Our number one challenge is finances. It has proven very difficult for Colombian missionaries to raise the needed support. We have to be very creative about it. Most of our teammates do some kind of secular work to support themselves. They all struggle even to pay the \$15 per month administration fee. The church here in general has not learned to support missionaries. What is interesting is that God is raising up people committed to pay the price to live the uncertain present knowing that He is faithful. I don't know if we have perfected the sending of a missionary on a 'shoestring budget,' but we believe that if God wants them to go and if they believe that they should go, then we don't want to stand in their way. It takes faith on the part of the missionary and also on part of the leadership to believe that God will provide and that the missionary will not just become stranded far away.

Read more about Colombia this month at www.OneChallenge.org.



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