

CTS MISSION TRIP REPORT

Dr. Eddie Ildefonso

1 Corinthians 2:1-5 (NASB)

1 And when I came to you, brethren, I did not come with superiority of speech or of wisdom, proclaiming to you the testimony of God.
2 For I determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified.
3 I was with you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling,
4 and my message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power,
5 so that your faith would not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God.

The Lord delights to get the Glory as He works through weak vessels to insure that only He receives the glory and the honor. My recent mission trip to the countries of India, Pakistan, Zimbabwe, South Africa and Chile was without a doubt a work of God.

I want everybody associated with Covington Theological Seminary to know that program of Impact for Eternity is alive and well. It is my conviction that a Seminary has the obligation to train men and women for the purpose of fulfilling The Great Commission. As a seminary we come along side of the local churches to train its members so that they are properly equipped to fulfill The Great Commission. We cannot exist in the vacuum of the halls of academia. Impact for Eternity is doing exactly that.

These past few years have been very busy years for Covington. We seek to give our Lord and Savior all of the glory. Covington has successfully started new International Extension schools and or partnered with existing schools in the following countries: Ghana, Nigeria, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Honduras, Chile, Pakistan, India, Romania, Barbados, and Indonesia.

The new school in India under the leadership of Dr. Pandu Maddala has realized an impact in the local community of Gudivada, India. The opening ceremony saw 100 pastors and additional 100 plus leaders from the local churches with 5 government officials to attend the inauguration ceremonies. The week proved to be more than what was expected with invitations to the local television station to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Today the school has over 600 inquiries for next year's class.

The flag ship school of Lugoj, Romania under the leadership of Dr. Gary Fleetwood continues to grow spiritually with the both the Bachelor's and Master's programs fortified with locally trained professors who are graduates of Covington. During our last visit to the Romanian extension we were invited to the local radio station to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ. The station interviewed us with the intent to promote Covington on the air. In addition they had us to preach several times and the radio station reported that over 900 people responded to the gospel call.

The school in Lahore, Pakistan under the leadership of Pastor Javaid Masih continues to grow under great persecution with over 900 plus students in attendance. This past month the school saw 18 of the pastors killed under the persecution. With 14 churches burned to the ground and 165 orphans left to be taken care of. We have classes four times a year along with numerous Skype sessions throughout the year. These students are dedicated to growing in the knowledge of their salvation. This school has planted over 65 churches throughout Pakistan. The last Bible Conference saw over 8,000 Christians in attendance.

The school in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe under the leadership of Dr. Mike Varner has seen resurgence in both quantity and quality of the student body. In March 2013 we saw 52 students graduate out of which 8 were Master students. The school has added 79 additional certificate level students. This past year Grace Church from the state of Georgia under Dr. Sullivan's leadership and Living Word Christian Center from the state of California under the leadership of Dr. Eddie Ildefonso joined together to evangelize 269 villages along the Zambezi River in the country of Zimbabwe. This past year both churches had evangelism teams on the ground, and we were able to evangelize and plant 31 churches. As result, several follow up discipleship sessions were conducted and today we have 79 new pastors and leaders from these new churches enrolled in the certificate level program at CTS Zimbabwe. Here is classic example of a Seminary and local churches teaming up to fulfill The Great Commission.

The new school in Johannesburg, South Africa under the leadership of Dr. Teddy Del Ameida (Covington graduate) was initiated with 30 plus bachelor and 30 plus master level students in attendance.

The new school in Talagante, Chile saw a tremendous response to the gospel. I was invited to preach at an evangelistic crusade where 347 people professed Jesus Christ as savior. The orientation meeting had over 200 people in attendance. The students were excited to attend the class sessions and have committed to evangelize the community. Living Word Christian Center will send a team down to Chile to join with the students to evangelize and plant new churches.

Your prayer and financial support allows Covington to continue to have an impact for eternity.