

# Pastor to Pastor TRAINING NETWORKS



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*Ed Nerio and Gary Bulley at Tabernacle Baptist Church in Ilopango, El Salvador*

## On the Road Again

The world is slowly opening up in the midst of COVID and we are excited to be travelling once more. Most countries are still closed to us, but recent trips to Sierra Leone and El Salvador promise that access to more countries may be realized in the next few months. We have trips to Lima and back to El Salvador scheduled soon and will be in the Andes Mountains in January. We are hopeful for more trips in 2021 and are currently coordinating several possibilities. Please pray that we will soon have access to all 17 countries where we have partners.

**This issue will conclude our 4-part series  
on “The Need for Training Pastors”**

Part 1 – *The Hole in our Mission Strategy*

Part 2 – *Empowering the Uninformed and Ill Equipped*

Part 3 – *Missionaries can't be Everywhere*

**Part 4 – *Multiplication is Better than Addition***

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The Ministry of the Apostle Paul lasted approximately 15 years and spread the Gospel throughout the Roman Empire. He started church planting movements in 6 major regions: Cyprus, Phrygia, Galatia, Macedonia, Achaia, Asia. In Romans 15:23 he says there is no place left for him to work in these regions. In essence, “My work is done.” How can he say this? Is every person in these regions now Christian? Has he planted all of the churches that need to be planted? Obviously, the answer to these questions is no.

Paul can say there is no place left because Paul was a multiplier. The New Testament lists at least 16 travelling companions of Paul and at least 19 co-laborers. 2 Timothy 2:2 gives us insight into Paul's practice and strategy.

*2 Timothy 2:2 - And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.*

Notice this passage lists 4 generations of disciples. Paul was in the habit of training disciples with an expectation that these disciples will train others, who will in turn train others. This is how he can say, “*There is no place left for me to work in these regions.*” Paul's strategy was to start a church planting movement in a region and raise up reliable men to continue the movement. He is no longer needed because he has discipled faithful leaders to carry on the work. More importantly, Paul realized these leaders collectively can do far more than he is able to do individually.



*The P2P Leadership Team in El Salvador*

We see this principle likewise in the great commission itself where we are told to “*Make disciples of all nations.*” The two primary thrusts of the great commission are evangelism and discipleship. They are like two wheels of a bicycle. We need both wheels to get very far. Furthermore, upon closer examination we realize that evangelism leads to addition, while discipleship leads to multiplication.

Allow me to illustrate using El Salvador. If I set out to personally evangelize people in El Salvador, how many could I lead to Christ? Hopefully, I would have some success, yet that success would likely be limited to a handful of people. P2P has trained over 800 pastors and leaders in El Salvador, and these pastors have in turn trained their congregations. Nearly all our graduates report increased baptisms in their churches. We can safely say that discipling these pastors in evangelism and discipleship has resulted in thousands of Salvadorans coming to Christ. This does not abdicate our responsibility to evangelize. It does increase our responsibility to disciple.



*The P2P Leadership Team  
in Sierra Leone*

Likewise, if I wanted to start churches in El Salvador, how many churches could I start? If I am fortunate, I may be able to start 1. I asked our coordinator, Ed Nerio, how many churches our graduates have started in El Salvador, and he indicated that he lost count at 50.

This principle works with our schools as well. How many pastors can I personally train in El Salvador? I may be able to personally train 100 in this one country. Yet, thousands remain untrained. The only way to train all of those who need and desire training is to train trainers who will in turn train others: disciples making disciples.

Americans cannot train all of the pastors in the world who need training as 90% of the world's pastors are yet untrained. However, if we can equip and empower nationals to train pastors, we can achieve this goal. This is why we strive to start training movements where every willing pastor in each country can be trained. Going into COVID we had 23 locations where Americans taught, but over 40 locations where nationals teach. This is both intentional and exciting.

Our ultimate goal in each country is to raise up “*reliable men who will be qualified to teach others.*” These networks are intentional and strategic. Ed Nerio’s team in El Salvador now consists of dozens of people in both teaching and support roles. Americans now teach only 1 in 10 classes. They are starting schools in 5 new locations throughout the country this fall and all 5 will use almost exclusively national teachers. The only exception is that I have been given the honor of kicking off 4 of these locations.

Our network in Sierra Leone, Africa is not as evolved yet. However, there is a P2P leadership council that meets regularly to strategize and plan. They have identified solid contacts with pastors who desire training in a dozen cities in Sierra Leone as well as pastors in 5 additional West African countries. Coordination is underway, and plans are being made to begin schools in all of these locations. The P2P team in Sierra Leone is led by Pastor Tamba Lebbie, and consists of over 25 teachers.

All this to say that multiplication is better than addition. Multiplication is God's plan for kingdom growth and missions. P2P is committed to multiplying training networks around the world. Our strategy is not to simply train pastors; we desire to train pastors who train pastors.

## Reliable Men

In 2 Timothy 2:2, Paul instructs Timothy to entrust what he has received from Paul to "reliable men." In this final segment, I want to share with you the quality of people we work with in P2P.

Manuel Pacheco is a pastor in San Salvador of a church consisting of about 80 people, including children. It is not a large church, but it is a spiritually mature and faithful church. Manuel and his church are leading an effort to start 5 new churches in an area with no healthy churches. Groups of leaders from his church travel to this area every weekend to work in evangelism and discipleship. He calls each person on the team missionaries, and so they are: men, women, boys, and girls. Manuel is a graduate of our program and is now an instructor. In fact, Manuel taught Old Testament via Zoom to a group of pastors using our program in the Salinas Valley in California.



*Pastor Manuel Pacheco*



*P2P Preview Presentation  
in Pastor Marcos' church*

Marcos Masferrer is a pastor of a small church in San Martin. This church meets in a building with corrugated tin walls and roof. The church has no windows and seems to me like an oven in the Salvadoran heat. Pastor Marcos and his family live in the church in some rooms in the back. Marcos left a lucrative sales career where he was the top salesman in his company in order to respond to God's call to this humble community. Gangs are a huge problem in San Martin and frequently extort money from pastors and churches. One pastor had to pay \$1500 per month, which is a small fortune in El Salvador. Marcos led his church to be a house of prayer where people are praying 24/7 365 days per year. They prayed the gangs right out of the community, and Marcos is now the leader of the pastors in that area.



*Julio and his wife shortly after his being released from the hospital on July 24<sup>th</sup>*

Julio Rojas Flores is a name that is familiar to P2P friends. Julio is our national coordinator in Peru. Julio has a PHD in Cultural Anthropology and is a veteran pastor in the mountain city of Ayacucho. Julio now serves full-time training pastors in Peru using the P2P process and materials. We teach in Spanish and Julio takes each course and teaches in Quechua in over a dozen additional locations. Julio recently contracted COVID and was hospitalized for about a week. He was in very bad shape and many of us were both fearful and

fervently praying for Julio. Julio recovered, and although we advised against this, Julio was back teaching within a week of being released from the hospital. I asked Julio about this last week, and he said he had to go because pastors desperately need our training.

When I talk about our strategy to train national pastors to train pastors in each country, I am often met with skepticism and questions. Sometimes people will raise an eyebrow and give me a funny look, other times I am outright challenged for being naïve or irresponsible. Yet, when I consider the reliable men and women God has given as friends and partners, I know that our process is in good hands. These three highlighted here are not unique, but very typical of the quality of leader we invest in. Kingdom leaders in other countries are very capable, often more so than our own country. As we equip and empower these leaders, I am supremely confident P2P is in good hands.



*Our National P2P Director Ed Nerio recognizing missionaries in Pastor Manuel Pacheco's church.*

*Pastor Pacheco is to the left of the podium.*

## Support P2P

We are a faith-based ministry that relies entirely on the generosity of our partners and friends for support. We believe we can change the world by training leaders in thousands of communities around the globe to lead healthy and vibrant churches. As we train pastors and leaders who in turn train other pastors and leaders, tens of thousands, if not hundreds of thousands of communities will know the light of the gospel and the goodness of God's Kingdom. If you would like to support this vital pastor training ministry, you can send your tax-deductible donations to:

P2P Networks  
9 Lake Sydney Drive  
Dawsonville, GA 30534

Or you can give through our website at:

<https://www.p2pnetworks.org/donate/>

Check us out at:

**P2Pnetworks.org**

**We are a kingdom first ministry. We are delighted to share our process and materials with anyone seeking to build God's Kingdom through training leaders. We are eager to assist and mentor those with a similar faith and heart for the nations. We ask nothing in return but faithfulness. If you have an existing mission partnership and believe God is calling you to train leaders, please contact us. We will do all we can to help.**

**Contact Gary Bulley at  
[garybulley@gmail.com](mailto:garybulley@gmail.com)**

### **Our 12 Courses** Typically taught over 2 years

- 1. Theology of God**
- 2. Theology of Salvation**
- 3. Theology of the Church**
- 4. Hermeneutics**
- 5. Old Testament**
- 6. New Testament**
- 7. Applied Church History**
- 8. Pastoral Ministry**
- 9. Missions/Church Planting**
- 10. Discipleship**
- 11. Evangelism**
- 12. Preaching**

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