

# Pastor to Pastor TRAINING NETWORKS



ISSUE NO 11 | Winter 2021



*Ed Nerio Displaying a Certificate of Recognition  
from the Central American Mission Denomination*



## **P2P Receives a Major Award**

The Central American Mission denomination recently recognized Ed Nerio, our P2P Director in Central America, with a certificate for outstanding service to the Kingdom of God. The Central American Mission denomination is one of the largest denominations in Central America, and the largest reformed denomination. They have thousands of churches and have been stalwart partners in helping us advance pastor training in the region. During their annual meeting in January, they presented this recognition for both pastor training and pastor support in feeding pastors and their families during the COVID 19 crisis. We work with several denominations in Central America and all are appreciative of our contribution to their pastors. Congratulations to Ed Nerio and thank God for his faithfulness.

## Big Moves, Videos, and Other News at P2P

P2P Executive Director Gary Bulley will conclude his role as Pastor of Living Stones Church in Cumming Georgia to serve full-time with P2P on April 1 of this year.

Along with trips to Sierra Leone and Kenya in May, Gary will begin a massive project of producing videos of all of our courses in English, Spanish, and Quechua. These videos will be key moving forward as we multiply pastor training movements around the world. There is no substitute for in-person training; however, these videos can train those we cannot physically reach, demonstrate the quality of our training to church and denominational leaders, train teachers to train others, and provide our students an incredible resource to review once they finish a course. We will make these videos accessible on our website, [p2pnetworks.org](http://p2pnetworks.org), and available free of charge. Each course is 12 teaching hours and we have 12 courses to produce in each language.



*Gary teaching our Preaching course in San Salvador as Ed Nerio translates*

Both this move for Gary and this project are made possible by the generous donations of P2P partners and friends. Through your generosity we were able to raise enough support in 2020 to boldly move forward in 2021. We are grateful to God for his abundance through you and your faithfulness in supporting this ministry.

Gary will also continue to train US pastors to teach overseas, coordinate multiple partnerships in 16 countries, train national and international P2P coordinators, begin new schools overseas, represent P2P with our many partners, and prepare for the deluge of opportunity once international travel is fully open.

Please pray for P2P and for Gary as he begins this exciting new chapter for both P2P and his ministry. These are exciting and challenging times, yet with God all things are possible.

**This issue will continue with part 2 of a 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*

**Part 2 – Empowering the Uninformed and Ill Equipped**

I realize the title of this article may sound elitist and condescending towards committed pastors serving the Lord around the world. This is certainly not my intention. In fact, I greatly respect and even admire most of the pastors in every country we serve, most of whom are laboring bivocationally, in small churches, in difficult communities, with little support, and with little to no preparation. These faithful servants are my heroes.

I recall a pastor in El Salvador who continued to pastor in his community even after local gang members killed his son. He says, “If God is willing to give his son for me, how can I not be willing to give my son for him?” I am thinking of a pastor in a small Honduran church who completed our Missions course and proceeded to start three new churches among an unreached people group in the mountains. I work with a leader in the Peruvian Andes who once lived in caves with his young family and started 29 churches by walking miles, sometimes hundreds of miles, to various towns and villages who had prior to that time never heard the gospel. I am routinely amazed by the commitment, obedience, faithfulness, and passion of those we train. I feel humbled and honored to have the opportunity to speak into the lives of these faithful men of God.

Thus, when I suggest that many pastors around the world are uninformed, I am suggesting they lack important and even necessary information to excel in their ministries. Multiple sources indicate that 90% of pastors around the world have no formal or intentional Bible training. Bible training doesn't necessarily guarantee success, but a lack of Bible training can certainly limit success. Most evangelical pastors around the world do not have the theological background to process or respond to various issues and heresies in their communities including but exclusive to: cults, Catholicism, animism, spiritism, and hyper-Pentecostalism. This leads to weak theology, syncretism, and outright heresy. I had a Baptist pastor in Peru tell me he thought I was a great shaman. A Baptist pastor in the same class was proud to show me his holy Mormon underwear.



*Pastors in Buenos Aires Peru: a small village in the Andes mountains. It was on this trip one of the pastors informed me I was a great shaman.*

An equip missionary named Matt Zell wrote me an email after a theology class in Honduras.

*“Nathan's Theology of God class was sad in a way as almost everything was new for these folks. I had teary eyes a couple times as the pastors shared things like they didn't know that God was everywhere at the same time, or that God was outside of time. Some didn't know that all three persons of the Trinity are fully and equally God. They didn't realize that man was uniquely made in creation, and on and on. Things that a lot of Sunday school kids in the states already know about and for these PASTORS it was new! I don't question their call but rather see it as yet another proof of the Lord's using the willing with disregard to qualifications. I guess that should have been apparent when Jesus picked fishermen as His apostles.”*



*A Pastor and his Wife  
in Ayacucho Peru*

Whenever I meet with church leaders, I ask them what is most needed to expand the kingdom in their region, and the answer is always the same: leadership development or pastor training. This is why we go to pastors with intentional high-quality training in theology, hermeneutics, Old Testament, New Testament, etc. Their openness, enthusiasm, and gratitude for this information is always overwhelming. We are typically met with both tears and rousing applause. This is why they tell other pastors in other places about P2P, and even go teach themselves.

We also seek to empower the ill-equipped. Again, this is not a judgment on pastors, but an observation regarding their lack of opportunity to receive high quality practical training. Most pastors we teach do not know how to turn a Bible text into a sermon. They have no practical concept of discipleship, evangelism, missions, and even how to lead their church. These important functions of a biblical church are often completely absent in many international churches... and unfortunately many US churches as well. As a result, most of these pastors are frustrated and discouraged. Many are depressed. As we teach preaching, discipleship, evangelism, missions, and leadership, it is the same as giving a carpenter a Skill Saw, table saw, hammer, nail gun, level, etc. Their craft opens up to them. Nearly every pastor we train reports improved church health, increased church growth, higher baptisms, and often new community and mission efforts. Several pastors have returned with many thanks from their congregations, especially after the preaching class. They usually say this with a wry smile and an embarrassed twinkle in their eyes.

John Piper once said,

*“Pastoral and leadership training here in America is like opening another restaurant – there’s one on virtually every corner. On the other hand, pastoral and leadership training throughout the developing world is like opening a lone food bank in the midst of starving people!”*

We have found this statement to be abundantly true as we travel the world to train pastors. Our ultimate goal is for every willing pastor in every country we serve to have access to high quality theological and pastoral training. Together with God we can move towards that reality. What a privilege and joy it is to join God in raising up these faithful and committed pastors who in turn will change their communities and the world itself.

## 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/>



*Ed Nerio posing with the president of the Central American Mission denomination in El Salvador*

*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.*

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

P2P – Pastor to Pastor Training Networks

**P2Pnetworks.org**

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