

Reaching Iowa Hispanics for Christ



Church Planting
Correspondence Courses
InHim
Family Altars
Lifebridge Christian Church

December, 2022



Lifebridge Church Influence...

- Lifebridge Christian Church in Des Moines, a group of nearly 100 active participants meeting at Ft. Des Moines Church of Christ facilities on Sunday nights.
- Active group in Marshalltown meeting on Tuesdays.
- **InHim** on-line activity weekly with dozens of Spanish speaking countries signing on.
- Correspondence Courses
- Affiliated groups meeting in Omaha and the Scottsbluff, Nebraska.



What I am going to write is not about politics but is a plan to reach the Hispanic community in the state of Iowa. Personally, I grew up in a family of nine, in a town called Nueva Rosita, Coahuila, very close to the border, between Eagle Pass, TX and Piedras Negras, Mexico. My parents were merchants who imported products from the United States (USA) to Mexico, which allowed me to travel and cross the border legally on many occasions.

With the arrival of NAFTA between USA, Mexico and Canada, in the last 20 years not only economic prosperity has increased but also the trafficking of drugs, humans, weapons, and more. Besides, the Mexican cartels not only control the southern border of the USA and Mexico, but also, in many Mexican communities the Mexican state no longer operates and this is happening in regions of Central and South America.

To better understand the immigration situation, I have traveled to the borders of Tijuana, Juárez and Piedras Negras, Mexico. There are millions of people who are crossing illegally, not only by the river, but also by air, land, etc.

For many years I have asked myself this question of how to reach Hispanics for Christ in a world that is becoming independent of God. What God has shown me during all this time is how to integrate Hispanics to Christ and how to introduce them through English-speaking churches. To achieve this goal, we are developing a plan that consists of the following:

STAGE 1. We invite you to help us pray for this plan.

STAGE 2. To continue the on-going **BIBLICAL COURSE (BC)** that is in charge of the coordinator **Mildred Rivera** and an assistant **Candelario Garcia**. At the moment the course is offered by mail, the materials we use are from **LATM**.

STAGE 3. To promote the BC through Hispanic newspapers in regions with the largest Hispanic presence, both in NE and IA. This includes cities like Omaha, NE; and in IA, cities such as Council Bluff, Storm Lake, Denison, Carroll, Spencer, Cherokee, Perry, Des Moines, Quad Cities, Sauk Valley, and adjacent areas. The objective is to connect families through course registration.

STAGE 4. To establish **FAMILY ALTARS (FA)**, these consist in that

FAMILY CAMPS...

Held twice yearly at Central Iowa Bible Camp over Memorial and Labor Day weekends.

HISPANIC NATIONAL CHRISTIAN CONVENTION

Held each July in various locations across the United States with 300-800 attendees



the parents are the servants (leaders) of the FA. The goal is to teach that the church begins at home. Its dynamic involves prayer requests, a biblical reading, devotional and, finally, prayer. This will be done daily at a time that is convenient for the family. Also, the altars will meet once a week using Google Meet or Zoom.

STAGE 5. To establish **TRAINING CENTERS (TC)**. The FAs will meet once a week in an English-speaking Church of Christ. The purpose is for the first generation of Hispanics to have their Bible training in Spanish and that the children (the second or third generation) grow up with the English-speaking children participating in the programs of the English-speaking churches.

STAGE 6. After 5 – 6 years of incorporating Hispanics into English-speaking churches, sharing the same faith and sharing the use of the building, the goal to achieve is for the second and third generation of Hispanics to be part of the English-speaking churches.

In order to put this plan into action we need a budget to be able to cover the monthly cost of publication in Hispanic newspapers in the states of Iowa, Nebraska and Illinois.

Revista El Perico \$97.00/month
6,000 journals/month
Omaha, NE and Council Bluff, IA

Periódico La Prensa \$336.00/month
12,000 newspapers/month
Storm Lake, Denison, Spencer, Cherokee, Carroll, Perry, and Des Moines, IA



La Reina Magazine \$350.00/month

3,000 magazines/month

Des Moines and Marshalltown, IA

Hola América \$1,200.00/month

10,000 newspapers/month

Quad Cities and Sauk Valley, IA; Sterling and Rock Falls, IL

Total cost:

\$1,983.00/month

\$23,796.00/Year



Lifebridge/InHim

InHim...

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