

International Teaching Ministry of Douglas Jacoby



International Bible Teaching Ministry Update 2008 Issue 08 Vietnam and Chile

"Challenging men and women of faith to think"

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Dear All,

Greetings from Vietnam. Ho Chi Minh City (formerly Saigon) is a metropolis of 10 million, a bustling and beautiful city, and home to a warm and outgoing church. About half of the members became Christians since 2003.

Vietnamese Bible Study Workshop

Today was incredible! Our Friday session lasted 9:00-4:30 and covered *What Happens After We Die?* (Hades, paradise, etc) and *Genesis 1-11* (Big Bang, Evolution, Canaanite myths, the real meaning of early Genesis). Since members came an hour early for coffee and tea, we were easily able to begin our study a quarter hour early. *Every* member of the Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon) congregation took part; not one was missing. This meant, for most, taking a day off work -- which they did cheerfully. (How encouraging for the speaker, too!) In addition, half of the Da Nang group flew down to be with us, plus several brothers from Thailand -- nearly 100 hungry and zealous souls in all! I'm in the middle of an Asian Teaching Tour, very inspiring and with lots to share (soon).



Deadline for Middle East Tour registration

Just a reminder: April 15th is the deadline for registration for our summer tour to Egypt, Israel, and Jordan. To avoid any surcharge, please complete payment by this date. So far 140 have registered, including a number of kids/teenagers, from

14 nations.



Report from Santiago de Chile, by John Hoyt

The church in Santiago was planted in 1990, and has 250 members, ranging in age from 15 to the '70s. Santiago has planted two other churches (Viña del Mar and Concepción), and aims to plant even more in the next few years. This is a church that has a lot of "history," and despite the emotional challenges of a church split (in 2007) has refused to back down from biblical commitment.

"Challenging. Deep. Refreshing. Inspiring. These are words that disciples in Santiago, Chile used to describe the visit of Dr. Douglas Jacoby. In just four days we learned principles of parenting, strategies for studying the Bible, and the truth about the Holy Spirit. He also spent many hours teaching the staff and answering their questions.



"On Sunday March 12, the church heard two classes on the Holy Spirit, including how one receives the Spirit, the work of the Spirit in our lives, and common misunderstandings and false doctrines surrounding the Spirit. For some, the classes brought added clarity, while for others the teaching brought new perspectives that clashed with previous understandings. For all it was a challenge to think more deeply. Many friends and visitors were present, and afterwards the fellowship was abuzz with conversation and questions. The Wednesday class on Bible study strategies called all of us to go deeper into the Word. One of the most convicting moments was when Douglas asked the church how many had read the entire Bible. A number of hands went up, while many realized their need to read the Old Testament as well as the New. Now many brothers and sisters have made it their goal to read the whole Bible. Finally, we saw these strategies applied as we examined a few scriptures on lukewarmness, division and church discipline. Our convictions were strengthened by the call to love our brothers while dealing firmly and biblically with sin. The disciples, grateful for input, surrounded our guest speaker in the fellowship to ask even more questions.

"A special part of the trip was having Douglas' son James here with him. James spent time with the teen ministry, encouraging them to remain true to their convictions. All in all we are very grateful for how God inspired us and taught us so that through God's word we might be *thoroughly equipped for every good work.*"

Thanks for your help!

Many thanks for all your support and prayers. I'll send another update in a couple of weeks.

God bless.
Douglas