



GATEWAY MISSIONS



May 2018

Connecting People, Nations and Continents for the Great Commission

*“Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth.” Psalm 46:10 (NIV)*

A MAN AFTER GOD’S OWN HEART



Jane Ann and I had the pleasure of hosting Pastor Leo Grisales in Lubbock for a few days prior to the Pursue Missions Partners Retreat in Ruidoso, NM. We have been friends and partners in the Gospel with Leo since I met him in Amazon in 2012. Our spirits connected with his and since then we’ve collaborated on at least a dozen ministry events: Leadership Conferences, Youth Conferences and Summer Mission Outreaches. He has a tremendous vision for the churches in Colombia to participate in missions and work in unity toward seeing the Great Commission fulfilled. Thank you to everyone who attended Leo’s reception to hear him share his heart. Leo felt so loved, honored and blessed by your words of encouragement and gifts.



GOD IS EXALTED AMONG THE NATIONS



God is doing amazing things throughout the nations! Gary and I were privileged to attend the recent Pursue Missions Partners Retreat. Thirty-three missionaries from around the world interacted in Ruidoso, NM where we were inspired, motivated and refreshed thanks to Pastor Paige Allen, Dawn Brown and Terri Reed. The Pursue Missions team along with several of the

Church on the Rock pastoral staff did an outstanding job of making us feel appreciated and valued. It was invigorating to be with other men and women who labor faithfully for the Lord. Hearing each other’s testimonies about our ministry opportunities and obstacles was enlightening. Sometimes, especially with the international missionaries, there is a sense of isolation which can be very intense. That is why it is beneficial to gather together from time to time in order to get a fresh perspective. Through the teachings, prophetic words and prayers, we were all challenged to re-establish our identities as sons and daughters in Christ, to reaffirm and realign our visions and calls to be Strong, Courageous and READY for the New Thing God is about to do. Thank you Pursue Missions for investing your time, love and energy in your partners! We were all impacted and revived.



CUBA ~ A NATION IN TRANSITION



Cuba has never been more primed for the Gospel than now. Limited for years by Communism, Cubans are hungry for the power of the Gospel. On the surface, life in Cuba has not changed much in the last 50 years. People work. Children go to school and play in the streets. But much is changing behind the scenes, especially with the church. Presently there is a growing tolerance for the church to come out of hiding and become more visible. An important challenge the church faces is the need for pastoral and leader training. That is why Gateway Missions is focusing a great deal of our energy in Cuba. Often new believers—and even pastors—have limited access to biblical training. Since the revolution led by Fidel Castro in 1959, communism has repressed the freedom of the church. Many of the country's leading pastors fled Cuba to seek asylum in other countries. It is my opinion that three events have given a window of opportunity for the church to flourish. First was the fall of communism in the former Soviet Union in 1991. Secondly was the transfer of power from Fidel to his brother Raul who did not rule with the iron fist of Fidel. Thirdly, in December 2014 the United States announced that it would begin to normalize relations with Cuba for the first time in more than 50 years. The consequences of this decision opened the door for many pastors and church leaders to seek a more stable life elsewhere. That being said, the need to train, equip and confirm emerging pastors and church leaders is unprecedented. How can we ignore the need in a nation that is just 90 nautical miles off the coast of Florida? Together we have an opportunity to significantly impact 11.5 million people with the truth and freedom Jesus Christ offers to those who have been held captive for so long.



Pastor Alex Gonzales is a faithful pastor and extraordinary translator that I've had the honor of working with in Cuba. What is amazing about Alex is that he taught himself to speak English and he is very fluent. He would rise up early and stay up late studying while his wife slept by his side. Four hours every day for four years, he dedicated himself to learning the English language while working and pastoring, so he could be a greater influence for the Kingdom of God in his nation.

Running the race to win,

Gary and Jane Ann Casey

Our mission is to train, equip and encourage frontline pastoral leaders in some of the most demanding parts of the world. Giving these strategic leaders a hand up is the most effective way you can help advance the Gospel in Colombia and Cuba. Jane Ann and I invite you to partner with us in serving men and women like Pastor Alex and Pastor Leo by strengthening their spirits and renewing their visions for the Great Commission. Our Pursue/Gateway Missions Cuba trip is July 21-28.

Your gift is tax deductible as allowed by law. All funds are used for designated projects and for the total ministry of Gateway Missions.

P.O. Box 53660 • Lubbock, TX 79453 • 806.928.0986 • gary@gatewaymissions.org • jacasey@gatewaymissions.org • 806.928.0934