



# Integrity ministries

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## Thurston Summer Report

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Jim and Waldemar looking at the evangelistic magazine which was sold on all the news stands in 1970-74.



Waldemar in 1970



The evangelistic newspaper brought back many memories.

## Reflections: Past and Present

My name is Waldemar Verdugal. Forty years ago, I walked into Alfa and Omega, a University Christian student meeting sponsored by Campus Crusade for Christ in Chile. The leaders of this group were Jim Thurston and his wife. They taught, trained, and counseled the students who came to the meetings about their relationship with Christ. This training has been with me for 40 years. Jim has been able to help me over the years, especially during the difficult times in my life. When I invited Christ into my life in 1969, it was a joy to work hand in hand with Jim and his wife. They always believed in me, and even to this day, he continues to minister in my life.

### Pioneer Outreach

Accepting Christ, encouraged me to reach others for the Lord. I formed a drama group in Alfa and Omega that was very successful. This was a pioneer outreach, and the first time Christian drama was used outside the church to share the Gospel in Chile. The group that Jim led was a first to take Christ to the students of my generation. He raised a consciousness about the need to share Christ with others. This helped me to grow spiritually and strive for excellence.

### Author of 28 books

Who knew at that time I would be the author of 28 books? Many are being pushed over the Internet through Amazon, and twelve were published in Mexico. While in the States, I was a Professor at the University of Southern California. My influence continues as I write for *El Mercurio*, the most important newspaper in Chile, and also articles for two Latin magazines; *Caras* and *Vogue Magazine*.

### Mother Teresa

One of the most exciting times of my life was working for six months with Mother Teresa in Calcutta. Helping in a leper colony with her, impacted me forever. To see her working with people who were infected by highly contagious diseases, touching them with her hands without any fear, stimulated my faith in Christ.

### AIDS

While working in India, I became ill and was given a shot with a contaminated needle. Soon after, the Doctor diagnosed me with AIDS. Over ten years have gone by, and God continues to give me strength to write. As a writer, God has given me His energy to continue at a ripe old age of 62. I have had some extremely difficult problems in my life, but Jesus has helped me overcome them. I will serve Him until he calls me home.

*This testimony was given to Sally and I in May 2015.*

*“One generation shall praise thy works to another, and shall declare thy mighty acts.”*

Psalms 145:4

It is so rewarding to see former students we led to the Lord serving Him even after 40 years.



May 1, at 5:50 P.M. the Calbuco Volcano burst into life after decades of inactivity. It was the first time in 43 years. In eight days it erupted three times. This led the government to order the evacuation of 2,500 people. Calbuco is one of the most active volcanoes in Chile, having erupted in 1961 and 1972, and many times before that. The eruptions caused the cancellation of flights to and from Chile. It forced farmers in the area to evacuate their livestock. Please continue to pray for the Christians in the area who lost their homes, churches, schools, and businesses.

## Ministry Up Date



*Women's group*

Ladies Bible study began in May. They meet twice a month in our home. The meeting began with Sally leading the group in a study on prayer with Jim translating.

Last week our topic was on the Lord's prayer, Luke 11:1-4. Sally began with, "Our Father." "We need to start our prayers with the awareness that God is our Father. The same intimacy that exists between a child and their father is to exist between us and God. Perhaps you have a hindrance in this area," she said, "because you did not have a good role model in your

earthly father. Maybe your father was angry, unapproachable, abusive or rejected you, but God is the perfect Father. He loves you unconditionally. He will be there all the time. You can overcome this and have an intimate relationship with him."

We had a wonderful prayer time dealing with our relationship with our Heavenly Father. The women continue to build on their prayer foundation. This gives you an idea of what's going on in ladies ministry.

## Thieves stole almost everything

"My house was broken into and I have practically nothing left", said Pastor Miguel Fuentes, at our last evening church service. He had gone to a meeting and the thieves made a hole in the front door. They took his computer, clothing, and money he had saved to purchase a car. Later he explained, "the robbery has been a blessing, as it allowed me to see the love and response of the church." Pastor Miguel has been doing a wonderful job in the ministry, and the enemy isn't happy.



*Pastor Miguel*

## Evangelistic Radio programs

We just finished recording another 30 evangelistic radio programs this week. We now have 180 programs recorded. The goal is 365, or one daily for a year. Albert Dib writes the scripts and is the speaker. Many Christian radio stations receive and use the free programs.



*Albert Dib*

## Visa



After seven months of waiting, Sally's visa finally arrived! Now she is a legal resident of Chile.

## Congress consults with church leaders



*Jim in Congress*



*National Religious Leadership group*

The Chilean Congress is beginning to write a new constitution. They have asked for input from different groups in the country. We shared about the continual need of religious freedom, and the rights that pertain to individuals and churches of Chile.

## Prayer and Praise

1. Thank you for your continual partnership.
2. For our Josh McDowell videos on YouTube.
3. Albert Dib's daily radio program recordings.
4. Our ladies Bible studies.

Blessings,  
*Jim + Sally*