

### Training for Iglesia de Dios

Background: Jim Moyer was contacted in early January by Pastor Armando Carpio of Iglesia de Dios to conduct a discipleship training session for his church in January 2017. January 27<sup>th</sup> was chosen as part of their Friday evening service in downtown Los Angeles. Pastor Armando wanted to encourage his people to catch the vision of micro-groups as a vehicle for making disciples and making disciple makers. They were planning their kickoff service for the following Sunday morning so Jim quickly agreed. He then asked Joel Morris and Aaron Butler to join him as part of the training team. The wives were also invited and Gayle Moyer and Rosemary Morris joined us for the event.

Event Summary: The team launched late Friday afternoon in a CCC van to make its way to the geographic center of L.A. After encountering Friday night bumper to bumper traffic and a brief stop at world famous Filipe's Deli, we arrived at Iglesia de Dios right on time after taking Rosemary's advice that 15 min. late is right on time in Hispanic church culture. They had just begun their service and we enjoyed an inspiring time of worship. After the singing portion of the service, Jim invited Joel and Aaron to join him on the platform as Jim lead off with sharing the discipleship story of CCC. Aaron and Joel shared their discipleship testimony followed by Joel giving a presentation of the car, driver and map illustration showing the essential elements of a discipleship micro-group. Jim then explained the GRITS acronym to more fully define what being a disciple is all about as well as the possible potholes and sinkholes of beginning this discipleship journey. Aaron then concluded with the Q&A period where the response was lively with well thought out questions. Jim closed the service in prayer and we continued in fellowship with the attendee's for another 30 min. and as Jim helped get them the Discipleship Essentials books they had ordered. They offered a \$150 honorarium to the speaking team which Jim immediately credited back to them as an assist to help them buy their books. Great move!



Conclusion: Pastor Armando sent Jim an email after the following Sunday service and included pictures and a summary of the response from his congregation in beginning this process of making disciples. He also expressed his gratitude for the training provided. By chance a family had been there on Friday from a Bakersfield Hispanic church and they expressed interest in taking this vision and process back to their own church. Please pray for Iglesia de Dios as they earnestly desire to be obedient to Jesus' command to make disciples. The training team quickly recognized



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that this is a fairly easy process to reproduce (minus the Friday night drive) and our hopes are for other opportunities, especially among the Hispanic churches in the Los Angeles area. God blessed us with a terrific translator, a graduate of Biola University. I would remind us that this is a direct result of the Hispanic conference CCC held at the Lynwood church in April of 2016. We plant the seeds but it is always God who makes it grow, even when we are out of the picture. I believe this is just another small indicator of what God is doing with our past investment in discipleship.

Bless you all,

Joel (for the discipleship team)