

**Equipping global leaders
to preach God's Word
- November 2019 -**



Above Antigua, Guatemala, capital city of Spanish colonies in Central America centuries ago, in front of Mt. Fuego, an active volcano (it spewed out lava the night before we were there!)

Dear Great Commission partners, with overflowing joy and gratitude to the Lord and to you, Holly and I want to express our **sincere appreciation** for the partnership we share in the Lord's work. Paul ends many of his letters expressing personal thoughts about those who work with him, such as Tychicus, "a beloved brother and faithful minister and fellow servant in the Lord." (Col.4:7) We echo the same sentiment.

Recent stories – After doing trainings in October in Kenya and Ivory Coast, I headed a different direction in November with our Latin America director Mike. In **Peru, Guatemala and Panama** we trained pastors and I conducted dissertation interviews with graduates. Several pastors told me that while their sermon prep time has **increased**, their sermons have become **shorter** and people are understanding more, since now they preach what is in the Bible and don't just wander through their own ideas. Pastor Rafael from Guatemala said, "Pathways has brought a total change in how I preach and how I see people and how I apply the Word of God." Dina shared that she has become more discerning of **dangerous interpretive patterns**, like expecting God to give us what we want, that flow from a lack of knowledge and submission to the Word.



Interviewing graduates of Pathways

Pastors in the Peruvian Amazon related that their personal growth from Pathways **compels** them to train others, and there are many villages upriver deeper in the Amazon that are asking for Pathways. Even those who have received training in biblical storytelling don't know how to explain the stories to their hearers and help them **understand the meaning** for today. I'm thankful for these and [many other stories](#) of changed lives and ministries being impacted by handling God's Word well.



In Pucallpa along Ucayali River
into the Amazon

For your consideration – Although I try not to mention **finances** often, I've [written a blog](#) that offers some updates on where we stand as the ministry grows, and some developments in our mission, ReachGlobal, along with some **suggestions**. Please know how grateful we are for those of you who give regularly and sacrificially to equip pastors globally. [Follow this link](#) as you consider **year-end giving** and **adjustments for 2020** in view of ministry expansion, increased expenses and other mission developments, particularly if you have not yet joined our support team or if you have been giving the same amount for many years. If you have any questions, please email me (eric.belz@efca.org) or call me (360.915.3921). For giving options, [CLICK HERE](#).



Upcoming work – Please be in prayer as I leave next week (Dec.3) for training in two locations in opposite parts of **Tanzania**, and remember to keep the family in your prayers while I'm away.

For a message I just preached on
GRACE
("A Dead Dog Becomes a Prince")
[CLICK HERE.](#)

Have a blessed Thanksgiving and Christmas delighting in God's goodness and grace.

Walking with you by faith in Christ's service,
Eric, Holly, Adam, Andrew and Alyssa

