



## News from San Salvador

On March 4-10 I had the privilege of holding a series of evangelistic meetings in the Central American city of San Salvador. I have had the privilege of preaching in most Central American countries, San Salvador being one of the few exceptions. I had always wanted to visit San Salvador because I have Salvadorian friends in the United States (mainly in the Los Angeles and Washington D. C. areas) who have encouraged me to do so.

Even though El Salvador is the smallest Central American country, the Seventh-day Adventist Church is growing at a phenomenal rate. There are now close to 350,000 baptized members in the country and there are four missions and one conference. The church members are organized into small groups and the greater share of them are involved in direct outreach to their neighborhoods.

The meetings were scheduled each evening at 6 p. m. at the Central Church. The church building seats about 800 people but an additional 400 chairs were set up in the outdoor patio. On opening night the facility was maxed out with standing room only. Each succeeding night was the same. Not only were attendees occupying every chair but there were people standing outside and also in the aisles. I am told that an average of 300 non-Adventists attended each night.

At the end of each sermon I made a call and hundreds responded throughout the course of the week. By week's end one hundred twenty five souls had been baptized with many more preparing for future baptisms. Two of the sermons I preached were on the importance of observing the Sabbath. Over one hundred visitors responded to the call by coming forward and making the commitment to keep the Sabbath regardless of the difficulties or consequences involved. The presence of the Holy Spirit was marked and clear! Praise the Lord!

The final Sabbath was a high day. I preached at 11 a. m. 2:30 p. m. and 6:00 p. m. Each session the church was totally full. The religious zeal and enthusiasm of the Salvadorian members is truly amazing. It was clear to me that the church there has not been bitten by the Laodicean flu bug.

As I flew back to Fresno on March 11 I couldn't help but think about what would happen if we in the United States could recover the passion of our first love. What would happen if we could put our priorities in the proper order and make God's kingdom first in our lives? What would happen if we placed our money, our time, our talents, our strength, our influence on the altar of sacrifice? There would be such a revival of primitive godliness as we have not seen since apostolic times. The Holy Spirit would do His work and thousands would be converted in one day. The power of the Holy Spirit is at our disposal if we are willing to put our lives at His disposal. This is what we must pray for and must live for.

*By Stephen Bohr - July 2006*