

BIBLICAL INSTITUTE OF CENTRAL AMERICA

FACT SHEET

From the Caribbean . .

Two year Bible school to train preachers/leaders - Additional vocational training when needed.

Low Cost - Food, housing, clothing, etc. according to local standards. Approximately \$285/month for single students and \$395/month for married students.

History - The first class started in February 1998 and graduated in December 1999 in El Progreso, Yoro, Honduras, C.A. A sister school in Guatemala City, Guatemala, opened in January 2004. A second sister school was added in Jinotepe, Nicaragua, in January 2008.

Activities - Students attend class 7:30 AM - 3:00 PM, Monday - Friday. On the weekends they do practical work. Saturdays are filled with door-knocking and training others to do Bible studies in area churches (II Tim. 2:2). Sundays provide opportunity for preaching and song leading. Every year each school conducts ten one-week campaigns. Every student also participates in starting house churches. Upon graduation, each student will have had 600-700 home Bible studies. Yearly, the campaigns, along with the weekend work, produce 1700-2500 baptisms. Each student is recommended by his home congregation.

Staff -

- George W. Hall - Executive Director, limited teaching, fund raiser, coordinator of special group missions (i.e, teen service groups, medical missions, campaign workers, etc.)
- William Racancoj - Director, Honduras, day-by-day operations, teaching. He has an assistant.
- Roberto Alvarez - Director, Guatemala, day-by-day operations, teaching. He has an assistant.
- Dr. Erick Garcia – Director, Nicaragua, day-by-day operations, teaching. He has an assistant.
- Classroom teachers - A unique approach has been taken in this area. The schools have no resident full-time teachers. Approximately 80 different teachers teach in the three schools. They eat/sleep at the school facilities. One subject is taught weekly; therefore, only one teacher is needed at a time. For example, a preacher will teach Mark for one week; then he returns home and another teacher will come to teach another class. Only their expenses are paid.

Facilities - The Institutes are housed in modest homes. There is one classroom, bedrooms (one for guest instructors and others for single students), and a kitchen/dining room. Married students live in rented homes.

Vocational Training after Graduation - Dependency upon the U.S. dollar has caused multiple problems. Dependency kills dignity, faith, vision, sacrifice, etc. When preacher support and buildings are funded from the U.S.A., a “welfare state” is produced. Typically, the preacher is paid three times the average salary. He becomes the “pastor” who is not accountable to the local church. The church is weak - never mature. Our concept is to “teach them to fish, not to provide fish”. Upon graduation, vocational training is provided to those who need a trade. Graduates are not placed on U.S. support.

Contact Information:

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BICA:

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Guatemala: APDO 73; Correo Central, Guatemala City, Guatemala; C.A. (Overseen by Fairmont Park C/C)

Nicaragua: PO Box 0155, Jinotepe, Carazo, Nicaragua, C.A. (Overseen by Northside C/C; McDermott Rd. C/C)

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George Hall, Director

...to the Pacific shores of Central America ...