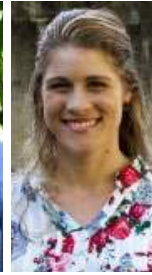


Steve, Rachel, Raúl, Adrianna, Jim and Joel (L-R), staff on the Resonate Central America Team from Guatemala to Costa Rica, highlight some of the fruit of God's Kingdom we see along with partners in the region.

SEPT 2024



## TRANSFORMATION REVISITED: MISSION AND GOSPEL IMAGINATION IN CENTRAL AMERICA

As Christians, we all long for shalom and reconciliation. So why, despite the global Church's growth and expansion, do we still see so much conflict? What kind of transformation are we truly seeking? Could it be that we have been living within a limited missionary imagination, shaped by a predominantly Western understanding of the gospel, thereby reducing its holistic message and witness? Are we now at a moment when a transformative Christianity—one that seeks shalom and the reconciliation of all things—calls for a networked, global-local Church that emphasizes the importance of peace, justice, and contextual visions of the Kingdom? We are at a unique point in history where the Church is approaching a global tipping point, with enough local leaders who can address local challenges from a

uniquely local perspective, embodying God's kingdom in both word and deed across every sphere of life.

In this spirit of transformation, last July, 17 Caminantes and partners from Central America attended the Stott-Bediako Forum in Medellín, Colombia, where they revisited these ideas with an imaginative approach, expanding their holistic understanding of the gospel. Together, they reflected on how they can become faithful witnesses of the gospel, sent into the world to live as Jesus did—transforming their surroundings to align with God's purposes. As our reflections continue, we invite you to share your thoughts! What ideas can we explore together to ignite and expand our missionary imagination and truly embody faithful witnesses of the gospel?

### PRAYER POINTS:

- Adrianna, Raul, and Oliver have joyfully welcomed a new family member, Mattías Alberto! Everyone is doing well, and Adrianna has returned from her maternity leave. Please pray for their adjustment as a family of four and for Adrianna as she settles back into work.
- Thanksgiving for the partners and Caminantes who attended the Stott-Bediako forum in Colombia in July and the Faithwalking Module 4 in August. May all the learnings and deep questions continue to resonate in their lives and ministries as they work together in God's mission.
- We are finishing up the recruitment for the Caminantes 2025 Cohort soon! Please pray that the right people will respond. You can check out more info at [bit.ly/4emHZ8Z](https://bit.ly/4emHZ8Z)
- Jim, Jeison, and others we know are participating in the Lausanne conference in Seoul, Korea in September. Pray for unity and vision among believers, and for the Church worldwide to be inspired and encouraged as it points to Christ's Kingdom.

## ECCLESIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

What factors might motivate people to reimagine their lives as active participants in God's mission? What will it take to spark a movement of missional engagement? We believe there is a thirst for new forms of church in Central America. Many potential church planters are interested in exploring alternatives: there are individuals with ecclesiological dreams for their generation that respond to the challenges of our current context and who have received some formation and inspiration for new models. However, they often feel alone and isolated in their search for communities on mission. Lacking authorization or tools, they struggle to create, innovate, or join alternative missional communities to or within traditional churches.

In response to these questions, and with the support of an Innovation Experiment grant, we will host a conference next April, creating a collaborative space for partners to bring together missionally-minded individuals. The event will offer networking opportunities and practical tools to help them start building new models of missional communities. We can not wait to share more in our upcoming newsletters! In the meantime, what do you think will motivate people to reimagine their lives as participants in God's mission? We would love to hear from you!



Partners and Caminantes during Module 4 of Faithwalking.

## LEADING AND LIVING WITH INTEGRITY CORE VALUES

Caminantes and our partners in Central America continue navigating their transformational journey through Faithwalking. In August, they gathered together for Module 4: Emotional Maturity. There, they engaged in deep and challenging conversations about the importance of establishing healthy boundaries and the core values God has called them to, in order to guide their lives. They explored how to lead with integrity and emotional maturity, gaining valuable tools to define themselves while staying connected to others. This process empowers them to create space for those around them to discover their own identity and core values, fostering spiritual growth, understanding, and authentic connection. As we approach the final two modules, we invite you to pray for their continued spiritual growth.

## TWO AWESOME VISION TRIP OPPORTUNITIES!

### LEARNING FROM PEOPLE ON THE MOVE February 28 - March 9, 2025

Join us on a 10-day journey, beginning in Central America and ending in the United States, as we follow a migration route. We will visit four countries, learning from the faith of those we meet, hearing their stories and connecting them to our own. Together, we will gain a deeper understanding of the current context in Latin America and our interconnected world. We believe God will speak to us through one another, helping us respond in deeper love and gratitude for our Lord and our neighbors. If interested, please immediately contact one of us, or Ruth Lemmen ([rlemmen@crcna.org](mailto:rlemmen@crcna.org)), explore further details here: [bit.ly/InfoMoveTrip](https://bit.ly/InfoMoveTrip) or download the recruitment poster here: [bit.ly/PosterMoveTrip](https://bit.ly/PosterMoveTrip)

### WHERE FAITH MEETS ADVENTURE: YOUTH VISION TRIP June 18 - July 2, 2025

Over 15 days, a group of North American and Central American youth will visit Costa Rica, El Salvador and Guatemala. Each country will highlight a different focus: good holistic mission practice, urban incarnational ministry, and rural grassroots community transformation. Hosted by local ministries and leaders, they will experience spiritual and missional formation through engagement of the culture and history of these nations. Know someone who may be interested? For more info click here: [bit.ly/InfoEncounterTrip](https://bit.ly/InfoEncounterTrip), or download the recruitment poster: [bit.ly/PosterEncounterTrip](https://bit.ly/PosterEncounterTrip).

*Engaging People. Embracing Christ.*

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