

# UNDER THE SOUTHERN CROSS



“*Harvest of Faith*” was the title of one of our **Joy of Serving** women’s courses this past year, a study of Ruth’s faith in the God of Israel as she gleaned in the barley fields of Bethlehem. We’re looking forward to focusing on the book of Job this upcoming year. An essential part of every fruitful harvest is bountiful sowing. For that reason, we believe it’s so important to concentrate time, energy, and resources in developing our next generation of leaders in Chile through the ministry of **ICAT**—our three Bible institutes in Santiago, Temuco, and La Serena. ***We must invest in the seeds of the future!***



Diane with students Angélica and Brigitte

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- **STAFF** – Curtis’s first year in full-time B.I. ministry has been a challenging one to say the least, from this standpoint. Some of our best pastor/teachers have other priorities and are not interested. The attempt to form effective working committees is equally frustrating as several good men agree to help and then seldom show up for meetings! We are thankful for our dedicated fellow missionaries and for **Pastor Rubén Contreras** and his wife **Jacqueline** (caretaker and secretary in Santiago). Additional plus factors are **Pastor Neftalí Mariluán** as new national treasurer and **Pastor Claudio Villarroel** as interim director in Temuco. Please pray the Lord will give us others like them!

- **BUILDINGS** -- As some of you will remember, the Temuco B.I.’s main classroom was condemned and torn down after the 2010 earthquake. Pray that the paperwork, finances, and workers needed for this project will come together this year. Thanks to our local metropolitan churches, Santiago B.I. will get a facelift in February—tile, windows, doors, etc.



- **& STUDENTS** – They are the highlights! On Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> Curtis had the privilege of speaking at the graduation service in Temuco for **Joel Torres**, a Chilean pastor’s son whom we’ve known since his childhood. One of our most motivated Santiago students is **Jorge Santis**, who hopes to have his kidney transplant surgery behind him before classes start again the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of March. Pray for the promotion in local churches over the summer here and for God’s calling of new students.

Happy 2013!

Curtis and Diane  
 Steward



With BI grad Joel Torres and wife Marjory

- **PROGRAMS** – Three hours four nights a week doesn’t sound like a lot, but for men with day jobs and families, it means sacrifice. We desire maximum benefit for their investment, starting with curriculum considerations and possibly additional studies ourselves. We’d also like to encourage post-grad theological education as well as develop a regular extension program. GMSA has a goal of starting a tri-country Bible college in the next decade. ***Thank you for praying that these plans will go forward by faith, in God’s will, for an abundant harvest to His glory!***