



Fourth Quarter '11

Into the
THIRD MILLENNIUM

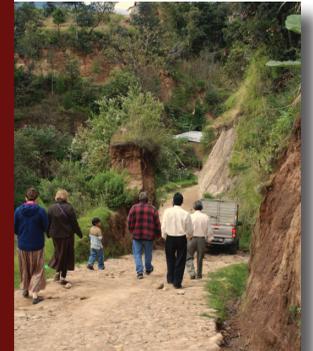
Third Millennium Ministries Quarterly Newsletter

Fourth Quarter 2011

WHO IS THAT ON THE COVER?

How far would you walk to learn God's truth?

When Pastor Pier Benites helped found the Facultad Teologica Evangelica (FTE) several years ago in the highlands of Guatemala, he discovered that some of his students were arriving late for 10AM classes because they had been walking since 3AM to get there. In order to better meet the needs of their students, FTE faculty sought to change their teaching model. Today, there are ten satellite schools, serving 210 students, all of whom are rural Mayan and indigenous to the highlands of Guatemala. This past October, FTE held



WALKING DOWN A ROAD IN GUATEMALA

it's fourth annual graduation ceremony, celebrating a class of 115 students.

Pastor Benites recently visited Third Millennium Ministries' studios and shared with us how vital Third Mill resources have been to his ministry:

"Third Millennium materials have been so important for teaching my students. My students are of Mayan descent. Their first language is Mam, with Spanish as a secondary language. They spend their days working in the fields planting corn and beans. They don't have a public education system, so they send to me whoever they deem the wisest among them to become the pastor of their village. Usually they have the equivalent of a first or second grade education. They are smart, just uneducated. Having the [Third Mill] videos in Spanish makes it much easier to go over lessons again and again until they have an understanding of it."



GRADUATION, OCTOBER 28, 2011



Deep-seeded superstition, endemic to the students' Mayan culture can make learning biblical theology initially confusing. Pastor Benites shared the following story with us:

"If they had to go up a mountain to cut a tree for firewood, they would pray first to the mountain to allow them to take the tree, then to the tree to forgive them for cutting it down. I told them [they] don't have to do that because God made the mountain and the tree for [them] to use. [They] need to thank God. This was an entirely new concept for them."



PASTOR PIER BENITES OUTSIDE THE FACULTAD TEOLOGICA EVANGELICA

In many ways, this story mirrors the Apostle Paul teaching the Athenians in the Book of Acts that their unknown god is truly the God of all. Even though the rural Mayans had been exposed to Catholicism centuries ago by explorers and missionaries, they were unaware of basic Christian doctrine. We, at Third Millennium, are grateful for the dedicated faculty and

students of FTE and their commitment to walking in God's truth. Congratulations to the Facultad Teologica Evangelica Class of 2011!

For more information about the work of FTE in Guatemala, please visit missionhousingministries.org



STUDENTS OF FACULTAD TEOLOGICA EVANGELICA

Join Our Team!

When you partner with Third Mill, you help ensure that Christian leaders around the globe have access to sound biblical truth and training, at no cost!

Please consider joining the Third Mill team by returning your contribution in the enclosed envelope, or you can visit www.thirdmill.org and click the "Donate" button.

Thank you!



From translators to designers, animators to administrators, writers to developers... these are some of the talented folks behind the scenes that make the work of Third Mill happen!

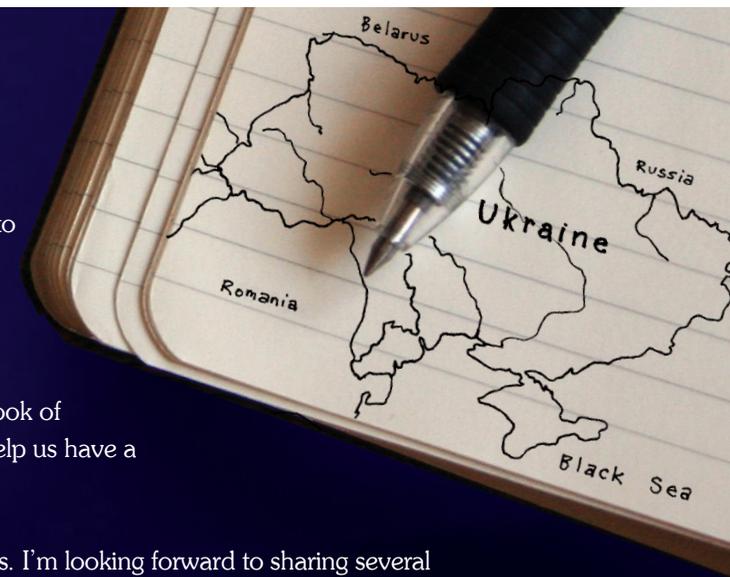
FROM THE FIELD

I am thrilled to know that [Third Mill] materials are available in both Russian and English. I'm excited about seeing them used to help build up the body of Christ—especially my brothers and sisters in Christ in Ukraine whom God has sent me to serve.

The Primeval History series is wonderful. People need to understand the Old Testament. We just finished studying the book of Genesis and would have loved to have had such materials to help us have a deeper understanding.

I've had the privilege of serving the Lord in Ukraine for 18 years. I'm looking forward to sharing several series with my pastor and members of my church in Ukraine—especially *The Apostles' Creed* series, *Making Biblical Decisions* and *The Primeval History*.

You're producing something of eternal value. This is great and wonderful!
Melinda Wallace, Missionary in the Ukraine



WHAT'S RICHARD BEEN UP TO?



Richard recently taught in Seattle for Re:Train, the training arm of the Acts 29 church planting network. Dr. Justin Holcomb told us, "Pratt's teaching was very, very helpful... He came up with an array of brilliant prisms that light up the Scriptures in a new way... thanks to him our students have a renewed appreciation, understanding, and love for God's Word." In 2012, Richard will be in China, Taiwan, Singapore, the United Kingdom, and the Ukraine.

IIIM APPS HELPING PERSECUTED CHURCH

This past June, Third Mill's mobile apps for iPhone, iPad and Android were successfully launched. We regularly hear rave reviews from users around the world about the quality and accessibility of our apps. In countries where Christianity is illegal, having access to Third Mill materials through a mobile platform is crucial. Using our apps provides heightened security for believers, because it makes it more difficult for a government to track the transfer of religious materials to a user's IP address.

One apps user (whose name must be kept private for security reasons) writes,

"I have given your online download information to many people, who have downloaded in China on VPN connections [Virtual Private Networks are not linked to a single IP address]. Your latest online [compatibility] to use on iPhones, etc. is a tremendous advantage, especially with VPN connection to the iPhone. Your material is being using in China, Cambodia and Thailand, that I know specifically about."

It is truly a blessing to know that the free materials accessed from our website and phone apps are not only

being used, but are often life-lines for those seeking Christian community and teaching in hostile environments.



PRAYER FOCUS

The International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church was recently observed on November 13th. On that day, believers around the world set aside times of prayer to lift up fellow brothers and sisters facing hostility and fear, as a result of their Christian faith. At Third Mill, we are committed to praying for and helping alleviate the isolation experienced by persecuted Christians. Our materials, DVDs, website, and mobile apps bring hope, connection, and truth to our weary co-laborers. It is always a blessing to receive letters and emails from around the world sharing testimony of how the Lord is using Third Mill to serve the persecuted church. A Pakistani Christian whose church faces constant persecution and fear of attacks against its pastor wrote:

"We are very thankful to you and to all your staff for sharing the Word of God with others through your website... Thank you once again for this wonderful work you are doing for the lost souls."

The Third Mill team invites you to join with us this Advent season to pray for the persecuted church. As we celebrate the birth of Emmanuel, may we be humbly thankful for our freedom to worship and mindful of our brethren in other parts of the world who face hostility because of their unwavering belief in Jesus.

