

W5 on Missions

Who?

David & Suzannah Nacho

David grew up in La Paz, Bolivia, and Suzannah grew up in California, USA. They met at Regent College in Vancouver and were married in 2006. David enjoys soccer, volleyball, playing the guitar, preaching and leading Bible studies. Suzannah likes to swim and uses this time for reflection. The Nachos have three young children: Sofia (6), Andrés (4) and Anna Laura (1).



When? David and Suzannah were appointed to CBM in 2006 and have served in El Salvador and Argentina. In April 2011, they were re-assigned to their current ministry.

Where? The Nachos live in Cochabamba, Bolivia. Known as the city of eternal spring, “Cochabamba is the fourth largest city in Bolivia...and is located in a fruitful valley surrounded by a patchwork landscape of mountains, and farm fields that produce abundant crops of maize (corn), wheat, barley, and citrus fruits.” (www.bolivia-online.net)

What?

The Nachos work with the Bolivian Baptist Union (UBB) in the areas of theological education and leadership formation. David teaches at the Baptist Theological Seminary and facilitates study groups in local churches. In addition to dedicating her time to their young children and supporting the ministries of their local church, Suzannah helps facilitate relationships between Bolivian and Canadian churches and offers income generating and practical teaching to women.

David is the national director of the Centre for Interdisciplinary Theological Studies (CETI). CETI provides training in integral mission at a basic small group level (2 year course on church, work, family and society) and at a Masters level (online theology courses with annual meetings) that is accredited through Carey Theological Seminary, Vancouver. “CETI continues to grow in Latin America, and specifically here in Bolivia... Currently we have three groups in Cochabamba and one in Santa Cruz. David is also supporting the growth of CETI in Cuba with our Baptist partners, as well as in Sao Paulo, Brazil in a church where 20 facilitators were trained.” (Nacho Ministry Update, August, 2015) In August, Masters level students from all over Latin America

met together in Argentina, where David taught a course on hermeneutics and spirituality.

David also helps train local leaders in the Timothy Leadership Institute, a 12 module program of 6 weeks each that equips church leaders in practical congregational and community ministry and care. As a result, “Jacob started a youth discipleship ministry using his musical talent; Inés started cleaning the street garbage around the church with one youth and soon formed a little group to do so weekly, Irene made herself available to pray with young wives for their marriages and offer some words of advice when asked, Severo started a prayer group with other men in his church.” (Nacho Ministry Update, Sept. 2014) The Bolivian Baptist Union, its seminary and the Centre for Integral Mission are all working together to offer Timothy courses throughout Bolivia.

One example of the practicality of integral mission is through vocational training. “In Bolivia there is a strong entrepreneurial culture, with many small businesses, street vendors, and people selling things on the side to make a profit. It is not unusual that stores are family-run businesses, with the family living in apartments above the store. As a result of this context, doing business well and God honoring, is a very relevant topic for Bolivian Christians. Responding to this need in July, CETI sponsored two workshops given by Sharlene Craig on human resources from a Christian perspective, and team building in the work place. In the evening workshop for managers the question was asked, ‘How can we determine if someone will be a good worker? Because in the past, hiring someone just because they go to our church doesn’t work out.’ People got really excited as Sharlene went through interviewing techniques, using references and how to determine needs.” (Nacho Ministry Update, August, 2015)

The Nachos ask for prayer for David, that he might have the energy needed while teaching in Bolivia and travelling internationally with the CETI program. Please pray for Miroslava, Milena, Miguel and Samuel, whom David is mentoring in facilitation in CETI and Timothy, that God would give them wisdom and understanding in their work.

Why?

“Eugene Peterson’s word helps me understand the connection between what we do on Sundays and what we do the other six days, ‘Worship does not satisfy our hunger for God—it whets our appetite. Our need for God is not taken care of by engaging in worship—it deepens’ (Chapter 4, *A Long Obedience in the Same Direction*). We need worship to see our lives with missional eyes; that is, to be attentive to the ways in which God is moving in our work, our family and our society, and to worshipfully join in his mission.” (Nacho family blog, June 14, 2015)

Lisa Lohnes

Corresponding Secretary for UBWMU/ABW