

From Your Missionary ...

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Key Results From '06

Web Site

Serving over 200,000 youth leaders a month, www.ParaLideres.org continues to be one of the most important youth ministry Web sites in the Spanish-speaking world. This year the long-awaited version 2 went public in late September (an upgrade from ASP to .net for the two of you who care ③). We continue to be amazed by the generosity of our programmer, Xavier Cabezas, who donates his time, and of his wife, Kara, who lets him. Dora, our editor working from Mexico, stays on top of the day-to-day maintenance, reviewing collaborations, answering letters, and keeping us abreast of anything

we should be aware of. Although she needs the salary we pay her, she does her work as a ministry, caring about and praying for the leaders she is serving through the site.

Conferences for Youth Leaders

Our last few years in Mexico we referred requests for conference speakers for national events to our Mexican colleagues, but we would attend the one or two Spanishlanguage international youth ministry conferences because they gave us more bang for the buck. With one flight we can teach many of the most active and committed youth



leaders from a whole region and tell them about our youth ministry courses and textbook. This year we offered a free download of the e-book *Raices: Una Pastoral Juvenil a Fondo* to those who took our two-and-a-half-hour "Super Seminar" at the Youth Specialties conference in Central and in South America. A hundred and eighteen leaders have taken us up on the offer. Regional conferences also give us the opportunity to support our colleagues from the Latin American Summit and to network with key leaders.

Youth Ministry Textbook and Animated Classes

The creation stage is now behind us—the years of editing, writing, designing, and reviewing the 375-page textbook and 20 classes—but the distribution stage is still going on. In addition to the e-book format, the textbook is also being printed on-site for regional conferences and we're in dialogue with international publishing houses about its publication.



Over the past two years we've been working with both individuals and organizations that could use the courses. This year a leader in Chile and another in Costa Rica who were teaching the materials have stopped because of career and life changes, but a national leader in Argentina and another in Spain have picked them up. We get frustrated when traditional academic folks don't understand or value the interactive classes on CD, or the ones who get it don't have the authority to implement a broad training program. But we're encouraged when we remember that the information and format may be ahead of its time,

but it doesn't have an expiration date. Because it teaches biblical principles instead of the latest model or method, it will still be useful when people get around to using it.

Annelle & Tim Gulick