

International Convention for Youth Leaders 2007: Mendoza, Argentina

The Numbers

- 20 hours on a plane +
- 27 hours on a bus to get to
- 1 conference with
- 3,000 youth leaders, where we lead
- 3 workshops +
- 1 forum in
- 2½ days

Highlights

- We've never had so many speaking responsibilities at a convention as we did at this one, but it is a great feeling to watch what we've been learning and preparing throughout the past 12 years help leaders now. As we left Mexico we were wondering if God still wanted us involved in training youth leaders in Latin America, or if He had something else for us. This conference felt like a confirmation of our decision to continue our work in Latin America.
- On the last morning of the convention, a tall 20-something from Buenos Aires came up to me and said: "My name is Annabelle. You probably don't remember me, but at the convention four years ago we met when we got off at the metro at the same stop. I don't know why, but you asked me if I was going to the convention. When I said yes, you gave me a CD with lots of the resources from your Web site. That was a turning point for me and I just wanted you



to know what a difference it has made." I wish I knew more about Annabelle. I wish I knew her whole story and why the CD was a turning point. But time is always so short at a 2½-day convention; there were others waiting to talk with us. So after a kiss on the cheek we said goodbye, but the tears in her eyes reminded me that God does indeed do more through our small efforts than we ask Him to or even imagine He will.

- "Each year at the convention we honor pioneers in the field of youth ministry in Latin America, people who had the vision to work in this area before it was as popular as it is now, people who have made possible the quality of resources and training we now have. Today we recognize the founders of the Web page www.ParaLideres.org that many of you use, Tim and Annette Gulick ..." As he introduced us, Lucas Leys, the director of Youth Specialties-Latin America, explained to the crowd that since we founded it in late '98, hundreds of thousands of youth leaders have used [ParaLideres.org](http://www.ParaLideres.org) and it has been a significant aid to the development of youth ministry throughout the region. Lucas handed us the award and said, "On behalf of the thousands of youth leaders who use the Web page, 'Thank you.'" None of that would have been possible if it weren't for the team of people who have supported us and worked alongside us all these years. So ... **thank YOU!**



Tim & Annette

Since '94 we've mailed monthly letters out to over 400 friends and family who at some point said, "Sign me up." Now, 13 years later we have no clue if you actually want to keep receiving them. In an attempt to be good stewards of the resources we've been entrusted with, we've come up with the following three options: **A)** If you want to stop receiving our letters, do nothing. **B)** If you prefer to receive our updates in your e-mail, simply go to our Web page, www.4loves.com/mexitext, and enter your e-mail address where it says "Subscribe me!" **C)** If you want to keep receiving the *paper version* of our monthly prayer letters, let us know by postal mail, e-mail (below right), or call us at 407-443-0116. Thank you for your help with this.