

DBU Forms Partnerships in Chile

When the 8.8 magnitude earthquake hit Chile in February of 2010, DBU only had one Chilean student, Miguel Faundez (pictured below), at the time. The epicenter of the quake registered near Miguel's hometown, leaving a wake of destruction.

After traveling to Chile shortly after the earthquake, he worked with DBU to plan a mission trip for DBU students. While help with reconstruction was obvious, Miguel also explained the need for ambassadors of Christ to come minister to his people.

In October of 2010, 14 DBU students and staff members made the trip to Chile, and since then, the University has been able to partner with various Chilean churches and schools, including the following:

- Antofagasta Baptist College
- Chilean Bible Society
- Grace School
- Temuco Baptist School
- The Union of Evangelical Baptist Churches

DBU continues to partner with various individuals in Chile, including Miguel '10 who now works as assistant editor of *Especialidades Juveniles* (Youth Specialties), the Spanish-speaking arm of Zondervan publishing, and director of Global Youth Ministry Leadership Training with YouthHOPE.



Chilean miner Jose Henriquez (pictured above left) with his wife, Blanca, along with DBU alumnus and Chilean native, Miguel Faundez. Miguel works with Zondervan in South America. He served as the liaison and host for Henriquez and his wife as they toured the United States.



Chilean Miner Speaks in Chapel

Jose Henriquez tells of being trapped 69 days in a Chilean mine

“Without any doubt, the power of God has no limits,” Jose Henriquez shared with student during a DBU chapel service. Henriquez was one of 33 Chilean miners trapped in a miner's shaft in Copiapó, Chile, for 69 days in 2010. He shared with those in attendance about God's provision during a time of waiting and praying for rescue.

Assisted by translations from Dr. Bob Garrett, director of the Master of Arts in Global Leadership and Piper Chair of Missions at DBU, Henriquez shared with students how an explosion, which he calls God's “accident,” occurred in the mining shaft Henriquez was working in on August 5, 2010. After assessing the damage, Henriquez and his co-workers came to the conclusion that only God could save them.

The miners were aware that Henriquez was a Christian, and soon they gave him the assignment of leading the group in a prayer. The miners began a practice that lasted the

69 days of holding a prayer service every day at 12:00 noon and 6:00 p.m. As the days progressed, those in the group, even those who were not Christians, became more willing to join in prayer and sing praise songs.

“For us, prayer was so important,” he explained. “We felt God's presence in a very special way.”

During the two months that they were trapped, Henriquez was confident God would save them. The miners also felt the presence of the Holy Spirit with them. They saw physical healing take place, reconciliation between miners, and a provision of food and nourishment that could only be attributed to God's miraculous power. “It was amazing to watch the Lord responding to us, even in the dark... we began to see what God was planning to do with each of us,” he expressed. “That was the reason we could be tranquil. We could have peace and be united together.”

“God didn't need any doors to get down there in the mine where we were,” Henriquez continued. “Every time we called on His name, He came. He was there, and He was present.”

When the time came to be rescued and before anyone left, the group came together and prayed, thanking God for saving their lives. They prayed for blessings over the capsule that would take them to freedom and greatly rejoiced together when they finally made their way above ground again.

Henriquez testified that this accident was meant to bring glory to God. Fifteen days after he was saved, he began traveling around the world, sharing about the miracle that occurred. He counts it an honor to bear witness to the saving power of the Lord.

As he concluded his testimony, he was given a standing ovation by those in attendance. “Please don't give me praise,” the humble and gracious man said. “The glory goes to Jesus Christ. He is the one who accomplished this.”

Henriquez has written a book recounting his experiences, entitled *Miracle in the Mine: One Man's Story of Strength and Survival in the Chilean Mines* by Zondervan publishing.