A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT
SEASONED WITH SALT

Dear friend of Langham,
I’ve been known to say that I love our Langham Scholars, the more than 300 theological leaders supported by Langham, men and women who often go on to teach and equip future pastors and serve as leaders in their countries. I do love our scholars, but I love the students of Langham Scholars more. These students, once trained and discipled by the scholars, are multiplied out into the world to serve as agents of change—transforming their communities with the power of God’s Word. They start Bible institutes and discipleship programs. They minister to the poor and marginalized. They plant new churches. They are serving as salt—penetrating into society to preserve it. Serving as light—shining God’s truth into the dark corners of the world.

Antonio Barro, one of our Langham Scholars and founder of a seminary in Brazil, has said, “The beauty of this multiplication is that you don’t control it; it’s the work of the Holy Spirit. These students are like seeds, and the wind is blowing and taking these seeds to many places. One of the greatest blessings we have is to let these students go and trust that God is going to move, guiding and blessing them.”

In this issue, you’ll meet Antonio and learn about some of his students. I hope you are moved and encouraged by their ministry stories—stories made possible by your faithful support of Langham.

Partnering in Christ,

Benjamin K. Homan,
President, Langham Partnership USA

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ON THE INSIDE
TABLE OF CONTENTS
3 GOD IN THE HOT SPOTS
3 STOTT ON STEWARDSHIP
4 MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

SALT AND LIGHT
IN SOUTH AMERICA

Langham Scholar Antonio Barro was pursuing his own seminary degree when God planted the seed in his heart to start a seminary in his home county of Brazil. For the past 20 years, what started as a small seed has been bearing fruit around the world.

Antonio founded the South American Theological Seminary (SATS) in Londrina, Brazil, with a passion to train students to move beyond the walls of the church to minister in their communities.

We want to teach students how to read not only the Bible, but to read society as well, and make a bridge from the Bible to society, from the church to society,” Antonio says. “The church has to become like Jesus said, like salt and light.”

Today, the more than 1,500 graduates of SATS are scattered throughout 15 countries, starting Bible institutes, planting new churches, ministering to people in jail, working in the public sector, and serving as agents of transformation in their culture.

SATS students Almir, Elisabeth and Rafael represent some of this fruit. Trained at SATS, today these faithful servants are showing how biblically trained leaders can transform not just churches, but entire communities.

“...You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? ... You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden.”
Matthew 5:13-14
Today, he is the pastor of a low-income neighborhood on the outskirts of Londrina, in addition to serving with the Brazil Police Department as a juvenile delinquent specialist and a crime scene investigator. "My goal in working for the police is to contribute to justice for my society, but my challenge working as a pastor in my community is to share the grace, the love, and the Gospel of Jesus. My calling is to serve," he says. He credits his theological education at SATS with shaping his holistic approach to ministry.

**A RENEWED VISION**

SATS student Elisabeth Bentelzeb says she was called to ministry from a hospital bed. Because of a health condition, Elisabeth's vision is impaired. For most of her life, she's lived under the weight of the word "can't." Theological education opened the eyes of her heart, and she intends to use her degree as part of her ministry to others struggling with disabilities.

"I started to understand that I could do something more, and help others who are visually disabled. And, that's why I sought out attending SATS," she says. As Elisabeth's knowledge of the Word deepened, so did her relationship with Jesus. "Over time, I began to see all of the things that I could do," she says. "The school taught me that I could be different, and my professors really helped me in my walk. SATS taught me that I could be different. After I graduate, I plan to go out banging doors they think are closed." 

Jesus has given me—the task of testifying to the good news of God's grace. — NIV

**GOD IN THE HOT SPOTS**

**UKRAINE**

Langham Scholars from Ukraine and Russia are modeling prayerful fellowship as they continue to partner on the Slavic Bible Commentary. This historic book will serve as a bridge for the people of Eastern and Central Europe—allowing them to understand the Gospel in their own language, in their own context, and on issues that matter most to them.

**NIGERIA**

In the midst of widespread persecution by Boko Haram, Langham Scholar Philip Tachin is ministering the hope of Christ where he can. When not teaching at the university, he helps run a ministry that provides good water and free Bibles to communities across the country. He says, "Despite our tough challenges, we do feel the presence of God with us."

**MIDDLE EAST**

There are now 9 Langham Scholars serving in the region, leading churches and seminaries. Many of them are involved in the Arabic Bible Commentary, which will bring deeper biblical understanding to Egyptian and Middle Eastern readers, as well as for the thousands of new Christians who are searching for ways to apply God's Word in their own contexts.

**STOTT ON STEWARDSHIP**

In a sermon titled “Ten Principles of Christian Giving,” John Stott notes that our giving, as Christians, has symbolic significance. He says:

“Our Christian giving can express our theology because our gift symbolizes our support of the cause to which we are giving. For example, when we contribute to evangelistic enterprises, we are expressing our confidence that the gospel is God’s power for salvation, and that everybody has a right to hear it. When we contribute to economic development, we express our belief that every man, woman, and child bears God’s image and should not be obliged to live in dehumanizing circumstances. When we give to the maturing of the church, we acknowledge its centrality in God’s purpose and his desire for its maturity.”

**Planning for a Lasting Legacy**

One way that you can play a lasting role in supporting Langham’s mission to biblically equip and mature the church is to include us in your future financial planning. To learn more about legacy gifts to Langham, contact Jack Degrenier at jack.degrenier@langham.org or 602-538-6763.