



Opened Doors

“I know all the things you do, and I have opened a door for you that no one can close. (Revelation 3:8) You have little strength, yet you obeyed my word and did not deny me.” Philadelphia was the brotherly love church. They endured many difficult situations. The Lord Jesus is comforting them by reminding them of His Sovereign authority, He is in control, He commissions, and He makes sure His people will get through the greatest trials while serving Him faithfully.

This passage can summarize what has happened lately among our Hispanic brethren.

The SBC of Virginia has been organizing Conferences in Spanish in the past years. It has been growing in number and in influence. This past September, we had a record attendance of 360 adults and 90 children. The local pastors of Richmond organized the logistics of the event. Also, **Parkway Baptist Church**, and **Kingsland Baptist Church** provided their leaders to help with children, and worship logistics. Many pastors contacted us saying they want to help with next events. There is momentum, and we have to join God on what he is doing.

“

It was the power of the church working as the body of Christ.

”

This is not a SBCV staff endeavor only, there were many hands and different languages working together to make this happen. It was the power of the church working as the body of Christ.

Churches have been working in partnership in other areas as well. Thomas Road en Español has a passionate ladies’ ministry: Alabastro (Alabaster), and in this last semester

they have taken their ladies’ ministry to the road. They have visited Richmond and Norfolk, where a group of ladies from different churches were waiting for them. They showed them how they do their service, from beginning to the end. Laura Guardia, from Lynchburg, explains the purpose of these trips is to equip and provide resources to the women’s ministry leaders in other churches to do their own women’s ministry. The fruit of these trips is that the leaders in Lynchburg had the opportunity to use their gifts and equip other women, and now the leaders of **Iglesia del Camino** in Norfolk started their own ministry in November of 2019.

Another open door happened in Appomattox. **Liberty Baptist Church** has an English a Second Language ministry. They have been ministering to immigrant workers in the local farms. Dr. David Towles attends Liberty Baptist and teaches Spanish at Liberty University. God placed in his heart to start a Spanish service at 8:00 am, and 30 people showed up to the first service! Dr. Towles asked the SBCV for help in this new program, and we contacted Pastor Sung Hoon Kim from Thomas Road en Español (Lynchburg). There was a time of prayer to find the right leader. On December of 2019 a newlywed couple from this church, Juan Pablo and Jimena Monteagudo, started traveling from Lynchburg to Appomattox to assist Dr. Towles in ministering the new group.

There is power in working together, but there is greater power in obeying together. May we be found faithful in this time and make much of King Jesus’ Kingdom. “I know all the things you do, and I have opened a door for you that no one can close. You have little strength, yet you obeyed my word and did not deny me.” ■