



the Vine institute Grapevine press

God's Kingdom without Borders

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Spanish-Speaking Leaders Equipping

by Kay Rudd



One local Spanish-speaking pastor believes there could be over 300 Spanish-speaking churches in the Salt Lake Valley. The Vine Institute has a long-range goal to equip leaders in Spanish-speaking churches. For us, this goal has progressed slowly, but we have learned much. Yet little by little, we have experienced promising growth.

Pastor Ricardo Flores and Pastor Oziel De La Cruz are two of the local Spanish-

speaking pastors who have participated in the Christian Leadership Program and know how beneficial it is as a leader. They both asked The Vine Institute to expand our leadership training in their churches. Pastor Oziel said he wanted everyone to be equipped to grow in their faith and life as leaders.

Two leaders from Comunidad Cristiana received certificates this year from our partner Timothy Leadership Training In-

stitute as Advanced Trainers and now are facilitating a course in Spanish on *Caring for God's People* at Iglesia Cristiana Ciudad de Dios Utah. What a testimony of sharing their training by teaching others! Pastor Ricardo recently stated that two more churches expressed interest in The Vine Institute's courses: one in Provo and the other in West Valley City. Organic Multiplication! 🍇



Pastor Oziel De La Cruz

Glad I Met The Vine Institute

by Karl Mueller

I first heard about The Vine Institute while living in Colorado. A ministry colleague told me about their heart to walk alongside and train leaders especially those dispersed from their original homeland now living in the Salt Lake City area.

Soon after, I had the opportunity to talk and meet with Dr. Peter Asiamah. These initial conversations began a friendship and partnership that continues to this day.

For the last three years, I have been the speaker at the annual leadership conference hosted by The Vine Institute every October. I was impressed by The Vine Institute's passion for and commitment to encouraging and training Diaspora—people dispersed from their homeland—leaders from around the world who now live in Utah.

As I travel across North America facilitating leadership seminars and courses for Diaspora leaders, I rarely find a ministry like The Vine Institute that brings together



people from different cultural and ethnic backgrounds and encourages them to interact, learn from each other, and build relationships across cultural, language, and racial lines. The leadership conference a few weeks ago was an excellent example of this. Leaders from eleven different nations spent a day together. We learned from each other, laughed together, built

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Everyone is Blessed! by Peter Asiamah

This year we saw significant growth of our Christian Leadership Program with international churches growing qualitatively and quantitatively. Diverse Christian leaders are now demonstrating and reproducing God's truth in families, churches, and communities. As I have said before, "healthy leaders = healthy families = healthy churches = healthy communities."

Wonderful Testimonies:


- Four Tongan community leaders from the Wesleyan Methodist church shared how the course *From Harm to Harmony* transformed their lives and families. They chose to honor those who they had not always honored in their families.
- During action plan reports, one of our students, a leader from the Chin tribe of the Burmese community in Salt Lake City, shared what he had done for *Caring for God's People*. The Chin leader made many visits to the homes of two families in need of reconciliation with each other. He encouraged them, taught them, and prayed for them. As a result of these home visits, they forgave each other and began coming

to church and sharing fellowship with one another. Glory to God!

- This year The Vine Institute trained five English-speaking and seven Spanish-speaking facilitators to help in teaching our courses. Our Christian Leadership Program is growing by an increase of six students per semester.

- Right now, we have seven students from different nationalities: Anglo-American, Sudanese, Burmese, and Mexican taking the *Capstone Project*, our final course, to enable them to graduate next June 2019.

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Get involved with us by donating financially, praying or volunteering. Please join our Christian Leadership Program and enjoy learning with people from all over the world. Spread the word to others. 



Vine Relocation


After the first of the year The Vine Institute has to relocate to another location.

- We need a place for a Vine office.
- We need a new home for the theological library.

Please let us know if you have any ideas or options. pasiamah@vine-institute.org

(continued from page 1, *Glad I Met The Vine*)

relationships, and explored biblical ideas crucial to effective leadership. It was a picture of what heaven will be like men and women from every tribe, language, people, and nation worshiping before the Throne. What a blessing!

Thank you to The Vine Institute for stepping out in faith and being committed to the Diaspora church in Salt Lake City! Thank you for your partnership in ministry. May God bless you and all with whom you work. 

Karl H Mueller
Senior Consultant: DAI North America