



Cultivating our minds to love God fully

August 2025, Newsletter #3

“Pray!”

On July 21–23, Richard attended a conference of the Consortium of Christian Studies Centers in Charlottesville, Virginia. He presented a paper called “One Thing Necessary” (Lk 10:42) in a workshop called “Thinking Biblically: Putting the Bible at the Center of the Center.”

Dr. Ryan O'Dowd, co-presenter, described the seminar this way: “Most senior academics at study centers have come from a variety of backgrounds ... And yet never, except in maybe one case, the Bible. This session asks how centers might make scripture a more central and guiding part of their quest to think Christianly about the world in which we live.”



Dr. O'Dowd described the intellectual importance of the Shema (Deut 6:4–5). Richard spoke about Jesus as our model for loving God with the mind. (If you want a copy of his presentation, please write to us.)

We learned two lessons from the conference. First, though our Center has few resources and is very new, we possess the most precious asset: a focus on the scriptures and

learning to love God with the mind. We make scripture a more central and guiding part of our quest to think Christianly about the world in which we live.”

Second, when Richard explained the complexities of operating a Center in Argentina to a leader in the Consortium, his only advice was, “Pray!” To which we express a hearty “Amen!” Please pray with us. (In fact, in September we begin a monthly prayer meeting for the Center in Spanish.)

Apologetics Conference

On July 23, we hosted a conference about presuppositional apologetics at a historic Presbyterian church in city center: Saint Andrews. The pastor provided a welcome and a few comments about 1 Peter 3:15 – “In your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect.”



Richard taught about Psalm 14 and Romans 1. Iván developed theological themes arising from these passages, such as worldview and presuppositions. We also awarded two books through a raffle.

This was our first church-focused conference, and it was a success. Almost fifty people participated. Most of them represented our target constituency: 20–40 years old and affiliated with the university as students, graduates, academics, and leaders. We also received our most generous offering yet:

\$75,000 pesos or \$56 U.S. dollars from the participants. Here are a few pictures:



A participant commented: "It's rare to find this type of event in Buenos Aires. I'm very happy to have participated. Everything was excellent: the organization, the reception, the speakers, and their topics. It's clear they know a lot about the subject. Also, their heart is for unbelievers. The agenda was excellent. I encourage you to continue with this work, and may God bless you."

Growth Potential

Alejandro, our Administration Coordinator, produced an insightful analysis of our activities this year. For instance, our website and social networking received 70–100% more traffic than other new ministries, indicating the formative impact of our site.

In addition, educational levels affiliated with our ministry are 10–15% masters and doctoral graduates; 40–45% university graduates; 5–7% trade school graduates; and 10–12% current university students.

Evangelicals represent only 15.3% of the population and only 8.9% of them attend university. This cohort is attracted to our

ministry. These are current and future leaders in every sphere. Our reach also extends beyond Buenos Aires, since our online events draw thinkers throughout Latin America.

Alejandro's analysis also confirms three patterns. First, the Center appeals to intellectually hungry persons. They want to deepen their biblical and theological understanding and to love God with their minds. Second, the Center serves the church by providing instruction and support for this segment, which is often unavailable in individual congregations.

Third, most participants hear about the Center through social media or personal referral. Next, they attend online seminars, a movie discussion or conference. From there, they participate in online reading groups or in-person seminars that demand more commitment. As understanding and desire grows, some seek further instruction and mentoring in a small group, as well as serving at Center activities. For instance, our Friends



of the Center group will read together Daniel Strange's [Making Faith Magnetic: Five Hidden Themes that our Culture Can't Stop Talking about and how to Connect them to Christ.](#)

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