



Dearest Friends,

At the beginning of this year, the two of us felt nudged by God to accomplish three things in 2023:

- To read and pray through the Bible, individually, and share what we've learned each evening.
- To support our family, friends, and neighbors in love and prayer, as God gives us opportunity.
- To *write every day*; Jack on his autobiography, and Mary Anne on the theme: "*How God seeks to shape us into His image, over a lifetime*," illustrated with relevant personal stories.

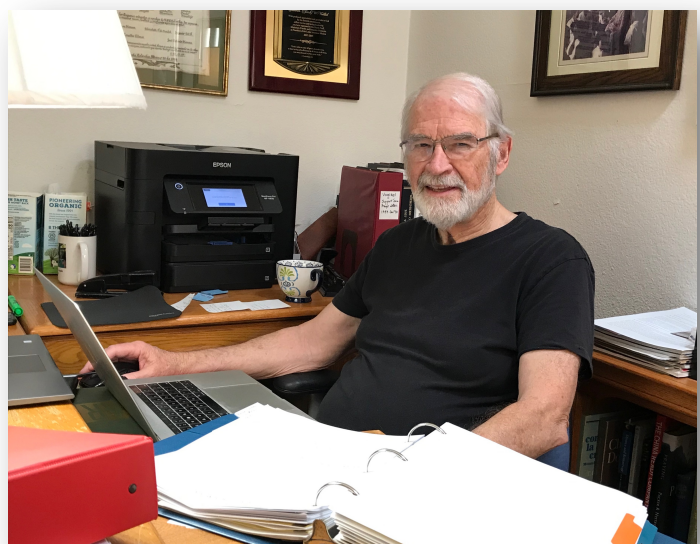
On February 13, our daily reading was from Exodus 35 and 36. In the light of God's call to write almost full-time this year, Exodus 35:30 to 36:1, took on special meaning for both of us:

The LORD has specifically chosen Bezalel, son of Ur [and] ... filled him with the Spirit of God. The LORD has ... gifted Bezalel and Oholiab... with wisdom and ability to perform any task involved in building the sanctuary. Let them construct and furnish the Tabernacle, as the LORD commanded.

What caught our attention is that when God calls a person to a creative endeavor, His Spirit gives all the grace and wisdom needed to complete the task. Day by day we are asking God to do that for each of us. The picture above portrays how the Holy Spirit's presence breaks through our daily struggles and efforts to write well and often brings light, creativity, and color.

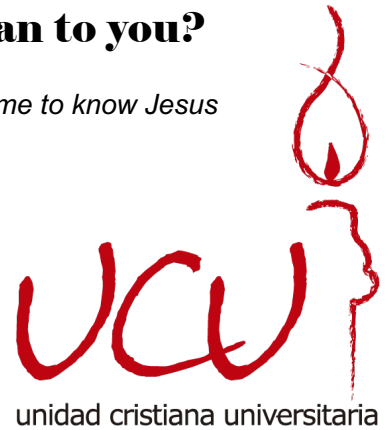
Jack diligently kept a journal since 1970 and saved copies of all our prayer letters. He's drawing on these to write his Memoirs with greater accuracy.

He also decided to ask a few friends who participated in the Colombian university student ministry, what those years meant to them. The letters we've received lead us to thank and praise God for His work in their lives and ours. On the next page, we share four sentences of testimony, a note of praise and two prayer requests.



What did the student movement, UCU, mean to you?

- I can honestly say that the best experience of my life was to come to know Jesus Christ in UCU. (Jairo Lopez)*
- UCU enabled me to develop an understanding of who God is, through the profound and transformative power of the Bible and rich, systematic discipleship. (Eugenio Restrepo)*
- In UCU, I learned to love the Lord, His Word, and His people and that has become the blood that runs through my veins. ("Mencho" - Elvia Turnbull)*
- Because of the vision for outreach that I received in UCU, I continue to do missionary work in my city of Pereira, helping new churches grow in sound doctrine and seeking to advance the Kingdom of God, even in these difficult times. (Luz Marina Betancourth)*



Praise and Prayer requests

1. Praise the Lord with us for the men and women who came to know Jesus and/or were discipled and equipped for ministry in the Colombian Student movement from 1968 to the present.
2. Please pray for each of us as we seek to write 5 to 6 hours a day. Ask God to guide, strengthen and illuminate us as we do so.
3. Please pray for the current Colombian University Student Movement, UCU, as they seek to share Jesus on campus, disciple those who come to faith, and train leaders in events like "Immersion" pictured below. Pray for them as they seek to raise funds for their workers and send a delegate to the IFES World Assembly, in Indonesia, this August.



We thank God for your friendship, love, prayers, and support,

Jack and Mary Anne Voelkel

June 4, 2023