

About Our Outreach in Spanish

Florida Advance – Saturday, 28 of February 2026

Bob Chatten

Welcome to this special night. It's always special when the Word of God is being shared, but tonight we're doing something that we've only done two times previously in the ministry and that is translating from Spanish into English, and all of this will be very exciting. So, I'd like to begin with prayer.

Heavenly Father, in the name of Jesus Christ, I thank you for this tremendous night. Thank you, Father, for the presence of these believers with Christ in them, for this great moment where your family is gathered. We know that this is a great blessing for you, it's a great moment for the world, that there are so many believers in one single place. Thank you for your Word, God - that it shows us what you're like and what you want, what your will is; it allows us to walk intimately with you and to know all that Jesus Christ has made available for us. Thank you, Father, for a great night in Your Word, in fellowship, in enjoying the music and of all the rest, and for all that you have done for us. In the powerful name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

Great! Well, for those who don't know me, my name is Bob Chatten. I have the great honor and privilege of being the coordinator for the movement of God's Word in Spanish for our ministry. Much of my childhood took place in South America. I lived in Peru, in Bolivia, in Ecuador, in Colombia. I currently typically spend 3 or 4 months of the year traveling to teach and visit the believers in different parts of South America where we have fellowships. (We'll talk a bit more about that in a moment.) Around one third of the ministry today is Spanish-speaking, made up of people that speak Spanish, without even mentioning those who are bilingual. Therefore, it's a large part of what we do in the Word in many areas.

As Steve told us, this weekend is about the Great Mystery, right? Our theme verse tells us that we want to get to the point of having a knowledge, an understanding, of the riches of the truths about the Mystery. In this Great Mystery, there are no countries, there are no languages, there are no different cultures, there are no differences of any type. We're all equal, as we learned this morning. We all have everything that God has given in Christ, so it's something very tremendous.

You that are here in this room tonight are a great example of this. We saw last night that there are people from 8 different states present here, and I also think that people here or their families are from many different countries. Let's see for a moment.

Where are the people from Venezuela? Let's see. Venezuela!

Very good. That's fantastic.

Where are the people from Ecuador? Good.

Where are the people from Colombia? Okay, Colombia, good.

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Where is Peru? Good. Druzzo. If my brother were here, my brother was born in Lima, by the way, so he also is Peruvian.
Where is Bolivia? Okay.
How about Chile? Great greeting, Chile.
Panama? Good.
Argentina?
Costa Rica?
United States?

Very good. So, in this very room, we have, at minimum, believers from 8 states in the United States and 10 countries. That's Word over the world. That's Word over the world!

What we are trying to do tonight, part of the design of this evening, is to give you a bit of a vision about how the Word is moving in different languages and places, that you understand a bit more about the vision of what we are doing, and that you also enjoy hearing the Word in another language. Normally the Spanish speakers would have the headphones on, and now you can see a little bit of how it is for them to fight for the Word and learn it. And it's going to be great.

I want to bring to the stage someone whom you saw briefly last night to speak with you a bit about some of the things that we are doing in South America. That's Andrea Dillon. Andrea and her husband, Alex, coordinate the mountainous area of Ecuador (which goes from Ibarra to Cuenca, more or less, all this section of the mountain range of Ecuador.) They are the coordinators of this area. And Andrea is an example of a believer who originally learned the Word in her own country as a young person. She was one of our young leaders in Ecuador. Later, I made the "mistake" of bringing a believer from the United States with me to Ecuador and introduced them and they fell in love and got married. She came to the United States, learned more of the Word, and then we sent Alex and Andrea back to Ecuador where they currently serve in important positions there.

And there are days when Andrea forgives me for this, there are days when Andrea doesn't forgive me, depending upon how things are going at home. I don't know how we're doing today. More or less? Okay. So, I would like you to welcome Andrea Dillon so she can tell us a bit more about what is happening in South America.

Andrea Dillon

As you can see, Bob is someone that I consider a father in the Word, and that is why we look similar physically.

As Bob said, my name is Andrea Dillon and, along with my husband Alex, we have been in Ecuador for almost 12 years. When we decided to return (and, in the midst of tears because one doesn't want to leave where one is living), but we have the privilege to serve God and His people and enjoy seeing how the fellowships and the Word can move from a small beginning and grow. So, we've had the privilege of seeing that and we're very grateful to God for being able to do so. And I am super grateful to be here. I didn't think I would be here, but here I am and I am

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happy to see you all. And all the believers from Ecuador send their love to each one of you. That's why I came – it's not about us but about God.

A little bit for you to know about what is happening in South America and even in Europe: We have more than 40 churches in the home where the Word is taught in Spanish. They are spread across 21 cities or towns in 7 countries, in addition to believers that connect from an additional 13 cities and towns in 5 countries in South America and Europe. So it's cool because not all of the people have the opportunity to have believers around, but the people fight for Word.

On top of offering simultaneous translations for meetings such as this one so that our English-speaking friends can understand what the Spanish speakers are saying (it takes work); we have available teaching series, classes, advances, leadership training, and publications in Spanish. And, if anyone is interested, there is also a fellowship in Portuguese as well. In part, we're sharing this because you may have families and friends in South America or in other parts of the United States who would like to know more about where fellowships of believers are available near them, or they may be interested in attending one of the advances in South America (the meals are spectacular) or if they want to know more about what is available in Spanish, they can get in touch with Bob. For whatever you might need, you can get in touch with him and we can help you. Okay?

Again, it is a blessing to be here and I love you very much.

Bob Chatten

So, there's a lot available and a lot happening and you are part of that as well, if not in person, with your prayers. And prayer is a very important part of moving the Word. We count on your prayers in all that we're doing in these countries. I, who have the privilege of traveling a lot to be with the people in different places, clearly see when people are praying here for what's going on there. You can see the results: God moves, things happen, people who would not otherwise have a way of getting to know us or meeting up with us show up and we have the privilege of sharing how big God is. So, thank you for praying for all of this.

In addition to Andrea, we have others with us this weekend, several people who are coordinators of churches in the home in Spanish in different parts of the country. When I call your name, I'd like you to please stand so that everyone can see you, and please stay standing until I introduce everyone. This is so that you can see some of the leaders in Spanish from different areas.

Of course, we have right here in this area leaders of the Word who coordinate churches in the home in their own houses.

- We have Noan Olivera, whom you saw sing this morning.
- We have Esme. Right. Esme León, whom we saw teach.
- We have Druzzo Goyzueta, who is in charge of the sound here.
- We have Gustavo Granadillo and his wife Katheryn. We'll hear Gustavo sharing the Word a little later.
- And Ernesto and Nola Flores. There they are.

Of course, all of these are coordinated by Steve and Lita. In addition to these:

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- We have the coordinators of the Spanish-speaking group in Atlanta, Georgia: Leonardo and Vicky Alvarez. They coordinate in Spanish in Atlanta.
- We also have a coordinator who was previously here as a Spanish coordinator in Florida in Cape Coral, she now coordinates a group in Los Angeles, that's Luzmelia Rivadeneira.
- And we have one of the coordinators of a group in Spanish in New Jersey here. That's Aneira Diaz.
- And it is also important to mention Gina Tuarez: For many years, Gina, along with her husband, were the coordinators of the country of Ecuador. They are responsible for much of the movement that we have today in Ecuador and is a pillar of the church. Where is Gina?

Well, now to help us sing some songs together here tonight, I am going to invite to the stage Milagros Vetterlein and Christina Armstrong. And while they're coming up front here, I'd like to share a little about both of them because they're very important as well. Milagros and Christina, if you could make your way to the stage, please. There are Christina and Milagros. Come on up.

Christina and her husband are what we call "Lightbearers". Lightbearers is a program where people volunteer to be sent to any place in the country, or other countries, to move the Word – to start new fellowships in the home; to move the Word where it hasn't been before or maybe an area where we want to see the Word increase. We have done this a lot. Andrea and Alex were sent to Ecuador. That's part of that as well. At different times we have sent groups to New Brunswick and Cherry Hill in New Jersey; we sent a group to Boise in the state of Idaho; we sent a group to Tampa here in Florida. We sent 14 Lightbearers to Atlanta some years ago, and they now form the base of much of the movement in that part of the country. And, a year and a half ago, we sent 7 of our top young leaders to Charlotte, North Carolina, and Christina and Ty are part of this group. She coordinates the fellowship in Spanish in Charlotte.

And Milagros. Let's see. Milagros Flores Vetterlein, what can one say? Milagros is a person of historic importance in all of this. Milagros was the third believer in all of South America to know the Word, by the way. Milagros was in the very first Power for Abundant Living class that was ever taught in Spanish anywhere in the world in 1974, along with Luzmelia who was in the same class; also one of the first. Also, Milagros later on was part of the first group of Word Over the World Ambassadors sent to Venezuela. She was the coordinator of the Ambassadors in Venezuela, was the Country Coordinator of Venezuela for a time, and is really something special. How many here in this room are part of or have a connection to the Flores family of Venezuela? (Laughter.) Aha! All of you owe this woman because she is the one that got into the Word and spoke it to her brothers. And because of that, all of you and many, many more, are here. So, today, Milagros helps us coordinate our activities in Venezuela. She is also the one who trains simultaneous translators. She has a children's fellowship, and much more. Also, she has the "blessing" of being my neighbor; I can see her from my window.

So tonight, to help with the songs, we have Christina and Milagros, with Milagros with her cuatro instrument from Venezuela.