

# INTERN REPORT

## By Edwin Martinez

Hi, I want to begin by saying, Thank you all for the opportunity to serve with you and for making my position as Greg's intern possible. I couldn't have done it without your prayers and financial support. It's a bitter sweet moment knowing that it is coming to an end. It was a year I will truly treasure. For those that don't know me, my name is Edwin Martinez. I was born and raised in Southern California. You may say, I'm a long ways from home, but having spent two years in New England I can truly say, "This is home". I have been blessed with new friends, mentors and a new family. In the fall of 2014 I attended BICS, stayed for the summer serving at camps from North Carolina to New England. Once I finished the summer I thought for sure I was going home, but God had a different plan for me. He had me stay another year in New England as Greg's intern.

Assisting Greg this year has been a growing experience. We just ended another amazing and exhausting summer of ministry with Greg and I am happy to say the excitement has not ended and the work that comes with it doesn't seem to be slowing down anytime soon. The longer I spent with Greg, whether it is at his office or on our long drives back home, I began to understand that true meaning of discipleship. Disciples are built not from a pulpit, but through one on one mentoring in a small, intimate setting. I am convinced that if more Pastors and leaders in the faith around the world would just begin to open their homes more than their churches and begin to do life with their members and their neighbors, then we would begin to see a maturing of believers and a spiritual explosion in New England and all over. When Jesus saw Peter and Andrew fishing in the Sea of Galilee, he didn't say, "Come, listen to me on Sunday morning and I will develop you into a great fisher of men". Instead Jesus said to them, "Come, follow me and **I will show you** how to fish for people". I now personally understand the great commission. When Jesus said, "go and make disciples", he didn't mean, "Go preach about me", or "go invite people to church". What he was saying to them was, "Now go and make disciples just the way I disciplined you."

This year I have attended three different Installation services, which I had no idea what that was until I met Greg. Together we preached at two different churches. I was blessed to personally to preach at seven different churches and helped 3 different churches with outreach ministry or events. Attended meetings, webinar, and leadership conferences. We visited 15 different churches. Doing this has caused a greater appreciation to ministry, pastoral work, leadership and has challenged me to take my call seriously. Striving to handle Gods word with accuracy. Again some of our best conversation have been on our way to or from our church visitations, but not all learning has occurred outside the home.

Living with Greg and doing life with him inside the home and with his family has been a huge blessing. I have been blessed to be able to see Greg be a father to his children, son to his mother, brother to his sister, and a husband to his wife. Being a first generation Christian, it's not every day you get to see the Christian life practiced and especially as a family. Living with him and being his intern, I am able to see him at his highs and lows. Not many people are willing to show, or are able to do this. He has been a mentor, friend and at times a father figure to me. With his family I am able to participate with his family activities and devotions. Some things I would love to do with a family of my own. I couldn't ask for any other way to be disciplined. Words can't express my gratitude and joy in my heart. I can't tell you how amazing it is to see and experience Gods provision. I am thankful and blessed for all that God has been doing through this internship. I want to thank The Eastern Region board for making it possible for me to learn and do ministry hands on, and for the privilege to grow in my relationship with the Lord.

In Christ, Edwin Martinez