

**Writing for the glory of God;  
Workshop attracts aspiring Christian writers in Chile**

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**Temuco, Chile** (LAMNS)—“If just two writers are inspired to work for the glory of God in Chile, it will have been worth it.” So says Lilian Avendano, the National Coordinator of a recent Christian writer’s workshop that drew aspiring authors and journalists from all over Chile.

“Our goal was to raise up Christian writers,” reflects Eugenio Orellana, the event’s International Director and a missionary with the Miami-based Latin America Mission. “We want to encourage them to write, and to advise them until we can produce one or two good writers.”

Christian publications in Latin America today are full of material from North American and European writers. Eugenio says his organization, Hispanic Literature Ministries, wants to train Latin writers who will form their own corps of journalists in the new millennium.

The workshop drew 87 registered participants for the six-day event, held at the Temuco Theological Institute in southern Chile. Workshops were offered in the development of writing style, grammar, the analysis of Biblical and Latin American writers, book publishing and writing for radio.

Eugenio says he was pleased with the conference because it drew more people than expected, those in attendance were mature Christians and they were serious about the type of training that they need to carry out their work.

Organizers plan future events, and hope to organize a Latin American Association of Evangelical Writers that will unite Christian journalists and offer training and support. “We are beginning to talk with Chilean leaders about a second seminar in Chile, this one dedicated to Christian communication through radio and television,” Eugenio says.

Eugenio says that with more radio and television stations being operated by Christians, but not always with the best programming. “We want to help train people how to reach non-Christians by radio and TV,” he says.

“We have just whetted their appetites,” says Juan Rojas, editor of Caribe and Bethany Publishing Houses in Miami who led several workshops at the Temuco event on writing and publishing books.

“I want to write poetry,” says Rodolfo Calderon who rode the bus 2 ½ hours each way every day to attend the conference. “The Mapuche Indians with whom I work express themselves poetically. If I can learn to write poems, I can better communicate the Gospel to them.”

The Latin America Mission currently has approximately 240 missionaries in 15 countries and is seeking to place 300 new missionaries in Latin America in the next three years. The U.S. headquarters can be reached at Latin America Mission, Box 52-7900, Miami Springs, FL 33152, by e-mail at [info@lam.org](mailto:info@lam.org), or by calling 1-800-275-8410. The mission’s web site may be found at <http://www.lam.org>. LAM’s Canadian office is at 3075 Ridgeway Drive, Unit 14, Mississauga, ON L5L 5M6.

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