



How to Make ITEM Part of Your Estate Planning

Dear friends of ITEM,

As friends and supporters of ITEM, we know you believe in our mission and have been faithful to help with prayer and financial support.

In the area of financial support, we have never mentioned estate planning, but we feel that it is something we all should do as we manage the funds God has blessed us with.

As you make or possibly amend your estate plans, we ask you to think of ITEM and the possibility that you could help with our mission even when you are with our Lord.

If you would like to speak with someone about how ITEM might be part of your estate planning, please contact executive director Tom Smith at (717) 640-6268. You may also email him at tomsmith@item.org.

Thank you for your continued prayer and financial support for ITEM as we serve Christ and the Kingdom together.

—Carlo Hansen, ITEM Board member

Prayer Requests

1. Praise for Mark Jenkins teaching biblical hermeneutics in Bolivia (see next page), John Lewis teaching Christian ethics at Kiev Regional Bible College in Ukraine, Fritz Harms teaching world religion at Baltic Reformed Theological Seminary in Latvia and Alister Torrens teaching doctrines of the Church at Evangelical Reformed Seminary of Ukraine.
2. Pray for Bill Wilton, who will be teaching biblical theology and Christ-centered preaching of the New Testament from Feb. 29 to March 14 in Nepal.
3. Pray for Mitchell Persaud, who will be teaching biblical leadership and marriage/family from Feb. 29 to March 14 in Nepal.
4. Pray for more churches and individuals to contribute to ITEM's ministry.

How to Contribute

In the U.S. send contributions to ITEM, PO Box 31456, St Louis, MO 63131 or at www.ITEM.org through PayPal.

Email: lwhesterberg@gmail.com.

Contributions to ITEM in Canada may be sent to:

Action International Ministries

3015A 21st NE

Calgary AB T2E 7T1

Phone # 618-939-5069

Check us out on Social Media

ITEM is on **Instagram**: [@itemmission](https://www.instagram.com/itemmission). Follow our journeys and tag us when you go on yours.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/InternationalTheologicalEducationMinistries/>



Passion Plus Experience Could Equal New Seminary

Mark Jenkins, pastor of Providence Presbyterian Church, Madison, Wisc., recently traveled to Cochabamba, Bolivia, where he taught on hermeneutics and spoke at a conference on Revelation. He spoke with ITEM about his trip.

EDITOR: What was the most surprising thing about your trip to Bolivia?

MJ: This was my second trip there. I've been really impressed by the ambition and vision of the growing reformed community there.

EDITOR: That's an answer I wasn't expecting. What made you say that?

MJ: Their church life is very serious. They have numerous conferences throughout the year. Bible study is constantly going on. The local church life is very energetic. And they really want to establish a seminary. They were asking me questions along those lines. They want to raise money for books. They're thinking long term. They said, "We want pastors like you, when you retire, to consider coming down to teach for longer stretches at this seminary that, Lord willing, we're going to have." They've got their eyes set on really wanting to make an impact on the church in Latin America at large.

EDITOR: That suggests a high maturity level among the believers.

MJ: Yes. They're smart, they're asking good questions; they're trying to get their hands on more books; they're wanting to know how to preach Christ. That ambition, desire and energy is very present.

Now, on the other hand, the picture gets confusing. There's a side to the way they handle the classes that is less than what I would want to see.

EDITOR: What do you mean?

MJ: If I were in charge, I would have been cracking the whip big time. Time means nothing there. You have to throw out when the class is going to start. Beyond that, there would be some men who would apparently be taking the class but would come only for the first half or just the second half.

EDITOR: Three hundred people attended your Revelation conference. That seems like a lot. Did that surprise you?

MJ: That's what I mean by the ambition. That shows you the energy and activity level of the church. I think the subject matter interests people. They say if you do surveys, even in the U.S., the book people most want to hear preached is Revelation. Of course it's the book most pastors are not wanting to preach.

EDITOR: Give me an example of what you mean by the energy of the church.

MJ: The fact that 100 people wanted to take a hermeneutics class. It's a very normal thing for the Christians there to get together, to study the Bible, to be in fellowship. Connecting with that ambition is important.

They've got so much potential. The Lord is really at work. It's a blessing to be with them, to learn from them.

Yet at the same time, we have to see certain holes there. They have a love and ambition and joy in the Lord. We've got some resources we can help them with that are only going to benefit them further. It showed the need for organizations like ITEM.

EDITOR: That's an interesting way to think about it. Their passion plus our experience—that could lead to good things.

MJ: Exactly. There's your newsletter line right there. We don't have more passion than they have. Their church leadership is really thinking big.