

Latino Family Camp unites Southern California families



Children enjoy the inflatable slide at the Latino Family Camp.
Photo courtesy of Salvador Gonzalez

Event aims at building family altars.

By Amauri Neres Pereira

More than 450 people from all over Southern California convened at Camps Mt. Craggs and Gilmore in Calabasas, Calif., for the divisional Latino Family Camp.

“We united as a church family to adore Christ,” said Divisional Secretary for Latino Ministries Major Hector Diaz, who led the event with his wife, Major Ana Diaz. “It helps these families establish bonds among each other for support.”

Special guests included Western Territorial Multicultural Ministries Secretaries Lt. Colonels Zoilo and Magali Pardo and Latin America North Territory Chief Secretary Lt. Colonel Josue Cerezo and Territorial Women’s Ministries Secretary Lt. Colonel Ruth Cerezo.

The three-day camp—themed “Biblical Foundations to Build a Family Altar”—consisted of three workshops focusing on biblical precepts and their importance and benefits for families.

Josue Cerezo challenged attendees to remember that God's purpose is building families (Gen. 1:27-28), while Ruth Cerezo cited Job 22:23 to discuss the benefits of building the family altar.

Families also had a chance to enjoy a "carnival" that included games, sports and even shaved ice. One night, delegates convened for a bonfire where many shared testimonies and musical talents.

On the last day of the camp, Southern California Divisional Commander Lt. Colonel Doug Riley visited and prayed for the families in attendance. The event concluded with 25 people accepting Christ and 150 families signing a pact to build the family altar for Christ.

"Everything went smoothly, and this is the best Family Camp we have had so far," Hector Diaz said. "We hope to make it better and have more attendees next year."