

Notes from interview with Fernando Rocha 5/14/2026:

- Fernando's mother, who lives in California, travels to Costa Rica to visit on 4/15/2026. It has been 3 years since they have seen each other. When Fernando was in Tijuana, she would visit periodically. Fernando is looking forward to her visit with great enthusiasm.
- Fernando has a full schedule with the church he and Sylvia attend. He is preaching for 3 consecutive Sundays while the other pastors are busy with other ministry activities, and Fernando is very grateful for the opportunity to minister in the church this way. He and Sylvia are also busy leading their young marrieds group and providing marriage counseling to some of them.
- Fernando's small group/church plant effort is moving forward. They are planning a sports outreach activity for evangelistic purposes.
- Academia Ministerial Cristiana (AMC) will be hosting a one-day conference on expository preaching soon. Preparation is underway now and Edier Urbina will be teaching the course.
- Fernando is looking into leveraging social media better for connecting with Costa Rica pastors and churches to make them aware of AMC and how AMC can effectively train and equip their church leaders for ministry. Instagram and Facebook are digital tools that look like the most effective way to broadcast information about AMC and its course offerings to the desired audience. Fernando is investigating how to set up, manage, and use these platforms.
- Sylvia is focusing on women's ministry, encouraging and teaching women in the church. Healthwise, they are still working towards additional testing and diagnostics of the inflammation and discomfort that she experiences periodically. The biopsy was negative for cancer, and Sylvia is trusting in the Lord for what may come. Fernando and Sylvia are still exploring what options there are for her to have useful health insurance at a manageable cost.
- For their application requesting a residence visa from the Costa Rican government that will allow them to stay long-term. The next step is to submit additional paperwork on May 22nd. For this third attempt to be granted a visa, they have the assistance of a Costa Rica immigration lawyer, and he is optimistic that this time they will be successful. He is a Christian who is also attending AMC. He expects that within 3 to 6 months after the May 22nd paperwork is submitted, the Costa Rica government will reply with a positive answer. Meanwhile, Fernando and Sylvia will have to continue exiting the country (they drive across the border to Panama) every 90 days for one day and then re-enter Costa Rica to get a new 90-day tourist visa.