

# THIS IS YOUR PLACE!

ALEJANDRO VERGARA, CHILE

I had fallen asleep, forgetting to breathe. I was dying. Then I remembered what my mom had told me. I said, "God, if you will help me, then I will try to get my life in order." Then a friend from Chile came with a bottle of whiskey. He stayed there all night. He would give me little sips of whiskey to keep me awake until the morning came. When I finally came to, and the drug had subsided, I was taken to the hospital there in Angola.

A hashish pipe caused me to experience an appendicitis attack. I was in the hospital about 30 days where a Russian doctor operated on me. That experience frightened me. I was outside of my country for a whole year at the young age of only 19. After that, I returned to Chile. When I got home, my dad told me, "Son, it is so good that you are coming back to study." I didn't even have in my mind one thought of

coming back to study. But so as not to upset my father, I said, "Okay, I'll study." I was in the university for five years. Even though I knew the difference between right and wrong, I kept smoking, drinking, partying, etc. But I felt it was not as I should be living. I did not feel good about what I was doing.

My mom spoke a lot with me about believing in the Lord and seeking the Lord. I did not listen with my heart, but I listened out of respect for her. My other brothers did not listen at all. My mom always planted seeds in my heart. She always gave me a little New Testament. Out of my love for her, I would take it and put it into my bag; and forget about it. But when I was traveling after high school graduation, that drug experience had quite a strong effect on me.

During the second year at the university, I met my wife. I fell in

love the moment I saw her. But she was a whole lot different than I was. She was studious, relaxed, laid back, and very beautiful. I thought to myself, "She would never like someone like me, because of my lifestyle." Since her brother was studying the same course that I was, I began to study with him. I would go over to their house where she lived, to study with her brother. As a result, we started dating. She became a veterinarian; and I was an engineer. We married on January 19, 1986.

But we had a lot of communication problems in our marriage. At one point, we were very near separation. It was difficult, but we continued to go to the Lutheran Bible study. Then a former FGBMFI Chapter president from England came to minister. When he ministered to my wife and me, a lot of ugly, but true, words of knowledge came from his lips about me. However, after that, my marriage was changed and healed. That was a beautiful year for us in our marriage. We began to pray together.



*He and his wife have 2 sons and 2 daughters. He is the FGBMFI National President of Chile.*

I went to my first FGBMFI Chapter meeting with my daughter, in case I wanted to leave quickly. They gave me a copy of this book, "The Happiest People on Earth." But when I got to the meeting, I heard a voice speak to me, saying, "This is your place". It was not in my heart, it was audible in my ear. I turned around and I didn't see anyone there. That made me pay attention a little closer.

In six hours, I finished reading the book. My wife got upset at me, because we were on vacation, and here I was not paying attention to the family because of this book. I thought, "Well, it's a great story, it's a great book, but too bad, the founder had just died."

I was invited to another Chapter meeting. In that meeting they

wanted to elect somebody to be in charge of that Chapter. There were about six men and 40 women in the meeting. In my mind, I began to choose who I was going to select out of these six men. But in the time I was sitting there in that meeting, these men began to get up and leave. I was wondering who was going to get elected if they were all getting up and leaving? I was the only man left, so I was placed in charge of that FGBMFI Chapter.

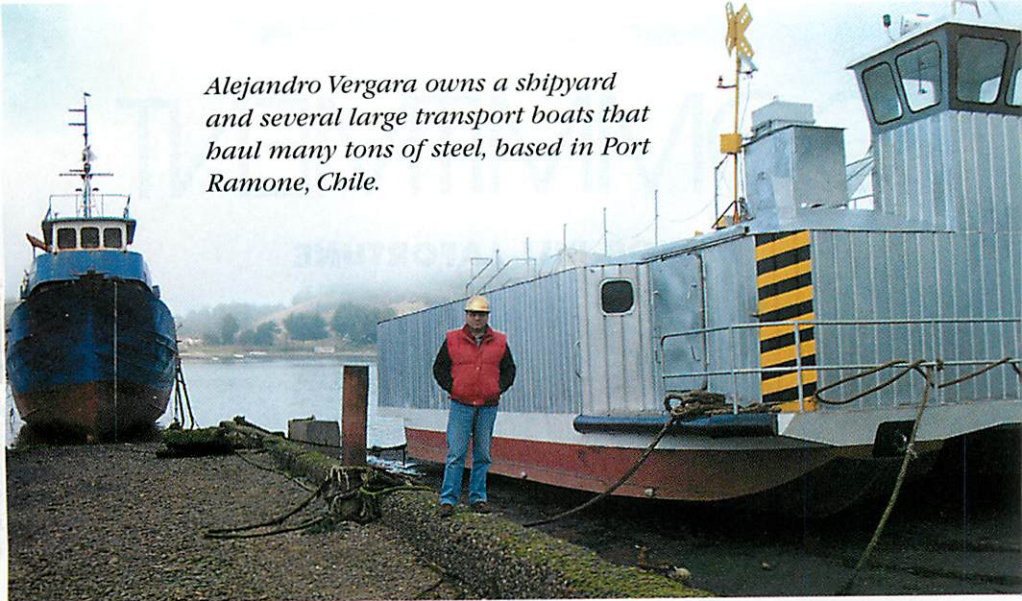
I traveled to Paraguay in 1996, because I knew that Richard Shakarian was going to be there. He invited me to lunch to share the vision. In a moment I saw that this was the new generation with the son, in other words, Richard. Back when I closed the book back in the cabin when I finished reading the book, I felt something died there. But when I was with Richard in that meeting, it opened back up to me again. It was the same feelings that I felt when I was reading the book, as I listened to Richard talk about the vision of the FGBMFI. I returned to Chile and began the FGBMFI in Chile according to the true vision of FGBMFI.

I took very seriously the vision of the Fellowship. My wife was

expecting this to just pass, like a fad. But when she began to see the fruit of the fact that men began to come to the Fellowship meetings, and marriages began to be restored; then, she began to get excited.

One day in 1998 I was in my office. I felt like someone had entered the room. Just as I began to look up to see who it was, I felt the presence of the person standing there. I lifted my head as if to say, "Okay, what do you want?" But nobody was there. Whoever was there had incredible authority. It was someone that you could not resist. I felt like he was asking me, without asking me verbally, "What is it going to be?" He didn't even ask me a question, but it was just His presence there carried such an authority and such a command that it was like I could not say no. I said, "All right, here I am." I felt like something came over my body. Every time I talk about the Lord, that same presence falls over me. To any man that I speak to, any person that I speak to, in the plane, on business, in the hospital, wherever, when I begin to talk about the Lord, that same presence comes over me and they always receive Jesus.

*Alejandro Vergara owns a shipyard and several large transport boats that haul many tons of steel, based in Port Ramone, Chile.*



To this day, still, no one has ever said no. It is incredible. I begin to speak to this person, and at one point or another, there will always be a door that will open where I will begin to speak to this person. Right there, I will introduce myself and they end up coming to know Jesus.

A change is coming to Chile. There are a lot of businesses that are going bankrupt for many reasons. I feel that God wants to reach people as a result of this. God is preparing me urgently for this! I am waiting upon the Lord for His divine direction to help my people in my country. In reality, we are so useless. We are being used because we are so

incapable in doing so much in ourselves, that we are seeing God do great things through us.

There is an anointing that I feel when I pray for and minister to people. I tell a person, "Look, this is not me that is giving this to you. It is Jesus that is giving it to you. Try it. If you are brave, try it!" The person will try it and Jesus does the rest.

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