# **RETURNtoCOLOMBIA.org**

### MIGUEL & MARIANGELA SANABRIA

Church planting missionaries to Colombia. Our desire is to glorify God through making disciples, planting churches, and training leaders of leaders.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration in reading my information packet. God has put a desire in my heart to serve Him in Colombia and I am excited about my part in reaching the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ. I count it a great honor to be used of God in this way.

I desire to see churches started and leaders trained all over Colombia and the entire world. Jesus Christ heavily invested His life in twelve men and it is my desire to do the same in my ministry.

In this packet, you will find who I am, my plan, and what I believe. It would be a great honor and privilege if you would allow me the opportunity to present my ministry and burden for the country of Colombia in your church.

I ask that, as you read through this, you prayerfully consider supporting my ministry to the country of Colombia.





Sending Church: Vision Baptist Church Pastor Austin Gardner Alpharetta, GA Sending Agency: Vision Baptist Missions Director Jeff Bush Alpharetta, GA

#### **MINISTRYINUSA**







**TOP:** Translating for one of our Missionaries during our Missions Conference

### **MIDDLE:** A surprise birthday celebration thrown by my teens class

**BOTTOM:** The teens class getting ready to prepare food for the children's class

**RIGHT:** Preaching at our Spanish Ministry

## Salvation Testimony and Call to Ministry

Miguel: My parents moved to America from Colombia when I was 12, lost and on my way to hell. By God's plan, an uncle of mine was witnessed to by a missionary at a Starbucks in Alpharetta, GA. After that day the missionary that witnessed to my uncle started Bible studies at my uncle's home, that is where I heard about Christ and what He had done to pay for my sin debt. After hearing the gospel many times, I decided to repent of my sin and follow Christ from that day on as my Lord and Savior.

In the summer of 2011, I went to my first missions camp hosted by Vision Baptist Church in which God worked in my heart about how great of a need there is around the world and how my life is not mine to live but for God to do His will in my life.

It was in that camp that God called me to be a missionary to a lost world. Today I am a church planting missionary to the country of Colombia. I left to find the American dream but instead I found a new life in Christ, and now I am going back to share the truth to the country of Colombia.



**Mariangela:** I grew up attending church and assumed I was saved just because my family was. I realized later on that I was completely wrong but pride kept me from seeking God. In 2005 I went on a missions trip to one of the Islands in the Philippines. While there I was asked to witness to someone. I started reading and explaining the

Romans road, as I had learned growing up in Sunday school. But reading those verses that day made me realize that I was so lost and in deep need of a Savior. That day I repented of my sin and accepted Christ's free gift of Salvation.



#### Training and Experience

**Pastoral Experience-** For about 2 years God has allowed me to pastor the Spanish congregation at Vision Baptist Church. During my time there I learned many things regarding ministry and was able to preach multiple times, start different Bible studies, and personally evangelize, see individuals saved, baptized, and discipled.

**Our Generation Training Center-** I attended the OGTC from 2011 until 2014 where I studied a wide variety of classes and spent time with veteran missionaries and the pastoral staff of Vision Baptist Church learning ministry in a disciple/mentor type relationship.

**Music Director-** At the Vision Baptist Church Spanish Ministry and Iglesia Bautista Monte Trinidad, I served as the Music Director for over three years. I was also in charge of selecting the music and orchestrating the schedule for each service, holding practices for special music, as well as leading the congregation to worship through song.

Sunday School Teacher- At Vision Baptist Church and Iglesia Bautista Monte Trinidad, I have had many opportunities to teach. I was able to teach high school students, college age students and single adults, as well as older adult Sunday School classes.

**Discipleship-** I have had many opportunities to disciple young men. Outside of regular church days, I taught the Bible to and spent time with individuals ranging from age 14 to 35. A few of these young men even got saved and began coming to church as a result of these times of discipleship.







TOP: Preaching in Peru, South America

MIDDLE: Going on visitation with our church members

BOTTOM: Fellowship with some of the brethren after church service.

#### **MINISTRYINUSA**







TOP: Mariangela with some of our church members after decorating the stage

MIDDLE: Our church's van route

BOTTOM: Teaching the teens class at Monte Trinidad

#### **Vision/Goals**

**-Bold evangelism:** In Colombia, we plan to boldly share the gospel of Jesus Christ.

-Plant multiple churches: Once new believers have been saved and baptized, they need a church. We plan to start multiple churches.

-**Preaching:** I plan to preach and we plan to teach the Bible which is the only truth that can save and sanctify.

**-Discipleship:** Part of The Great Commission is to teach, making disciples of all nations which we plan to do in Colombia. (Matt. 28:19)

**-Training men:** We plan to train national leaders that will be able to train others also (2 TIm. 2:2)



### Pastoral Recommendation

Dear Pastor,

God has given me the privilege of being Miguel and Mariangela Sanabria's pastor for several years now! Miguel was actually the first person saved in our church. He was born again here and has grown from birth to maturity here in Vision. I had the privilege of marrying them and watching them grow into the great ministry servants that they are today. I know that God has prepared them for this new ministry He has before them.



Miguel has served as a pastor on our church staff. He has lead our

Spanish ministry and also started a new Spanish ministry in Cartersville, Georgia at the Cloverleaf Baptist Church, pastor Justin Gazaway. Miguel is a hardworking, diligent servant of the Lord. He is a discipling machine. He has done every possible ministry here at Vision. He is highly loved and respected. He has taken care of our ministry podcasts. He has worked in Sunday School and every other ministry in our church. Miguel is the kind of team player every pastor would dream of working with. He loves Jesus. He loves his church. He is a highly respected leader in our church

Mariangela has been a part of our special music for over 8 years. She is one of the sweetest ladies you will ever meet. She has served in every ministry of our church as well. Miguel and Mariangela are loved at Vision. They are the heart and core of our church.

Losing Miguel and Mariangela to the mission field has cost our church and me! They have been a tremendous blessing to Vision Baptist Church. I never want to see anyone go to the mission field who doesn't cost the church to send them. Miguel and Mariangela cost. That is a tremendous recommendation. We are not sending someone extra that was sitting on the pew but a family greatly used of God in our church, servants, a pastor, one of my right hand men.

Miguel and Mariangela will be serving as a church planting missionaries in Colombia. They have prepared for this for years now. They have already done the ministry, serving as pastor and wife of two Spanish congregations. They both surrendered to missions many years ago. It is time!

Miguel is a man of character. He is hard working, diligent, faithful, and hungry to be used of God. Miguel is taking a very big step now as he sets out to start deputation. He is leaving a successful and growing ministry. His life already counts greatly but he believes God has something more for him. Colombia is in desperate need of church planting missionaries, the kind that really start churches! Colombia is probably the most under evangelized country in South America. At this time God is working greatly there and giving an unbelievable harvest. The need is great. The time is right. I ask you to help them hurry to the field.

I wanted to write to you and ask you to have Miguel in. He will bless your church. He will do a good job in Colombia. He has more than proven how God can use him here at Vision. He is worthy of your support.

If you have any further questions about Miguel, his character, dedication, preparation, or service please feel free to give me a call.

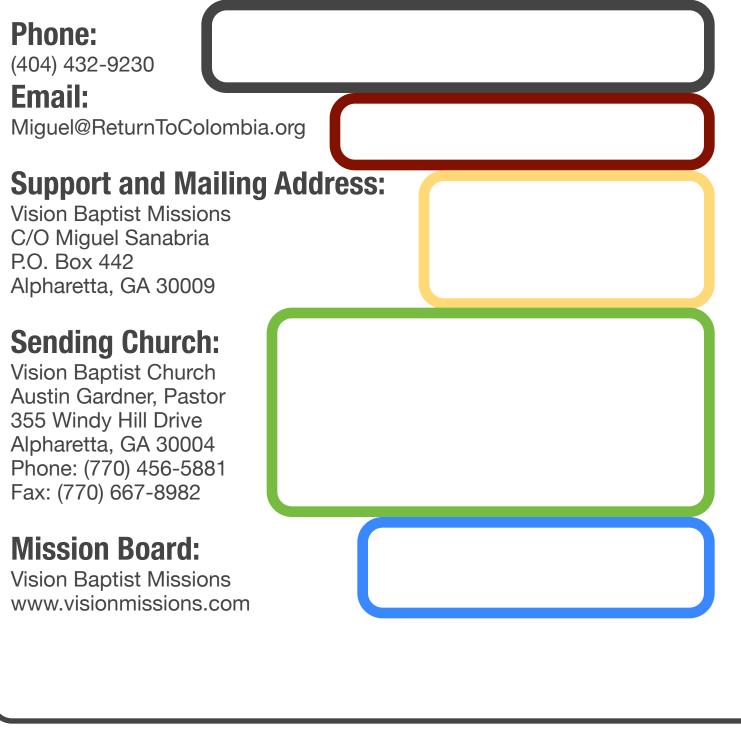
Our church staff and my family are overjoyed at this decision while at the same time grieving the loss of very great servants and friends in our local ministry. Please bless those that have been such a blessing to us!

Yours to evangelize the world in our generation,

## -W. Austin Gardner Matthew 6:33

# **Contact** Information

Thank you for taking time to review my information packet. For more information or to book me for a meeting, please contact me.



## **Doctrinal Statement**

**The Bible -** I believe that the BIBLE is the WORD OF GOD, and that it is divinely inspired. I believe in the plenary, verbal inspiration, that it is the only complete and final revelation of the will of GOD to man, and the supreme, infallible, authority in all matters of faith and conduct. I use the King James Bible for all teaching and preaching in English. II Timothy 3:16; II Peter 1:20,21; Mark 13:31; John 8:31,32; John 20:31; Acts 20:32

**God -** I believe in the Trinity, the unity of the Godhead. There are three persons: The FATHER, The SON, and The HOLY SPIRIT. They are equally perfect in every divine quality, and execute distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption. (A) I believe in GOD the FATHER (B) I believe in JESUS CHRIST (C) I believe in the HOLY SPIRIT. Genesis 1:1,26; John 1:1,3; Matthew 28:19; John 4:24; Romans 1:19,20; Ephesians 4:5,6

**The Father -** I believe in God the Father, an infinite, personal spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power and love. I believe that He infallibly foreknows all that shall come to pass, that He concerns Himself mercifully in the affairs of men, that He hears and answers prayer, and that He saves from sin and death all who come to Him through Jesus Christ. Luke 10:21,22; Matthew 23:9; John 3:16; 6:27; Romans 1:7; I Timothy 1:1,2; 2:5,6; I Peter 1:3; Revelation 1:6

**Jesus Christ -** I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only begotten Son, conceived by the Holy Spirit. I believe Jesus Christ is God. I believe in His virgin birth, sinless life, miracles, and teachings. I believe in His substitutionary atoning death, bodily resurrection, ascension into heaven, perpetual intercession for His people, and personal visible return to earth. Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 1:26-38; John 1:1; 20:28; Romans 9:5; 8:46; II Corinthians 5:21; I Peter 2:21-23; John 20:30, 31; Matthew 20:28; Ephesians 1:4; Acts 1:11; Romans 5:6-8; 6:9,10; Hebrews 7:25; Hebrews 9:28; I Timothy 3:16

**The Holy Spirit** - I believe in the person of the Holy Spirit who came forth from the Father and Son to convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment, and to regenerate, sanctify, and empower all who believe in Jesus Christ. I believe that the Holy Spirit indwells every believer in Christ and that He is an abiding helper, teacher, and guide. John 14:16,17,26; 15:26,27; John 16:9-14; Romans 8:9; I Corinthians 3:16; 6:19; Galatians 5:22-26

**Man** - I believe that all men by nature, choice and practice are sinners, but that "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." I believe, therefore, that those who repent of their sins and, by faith, receive Christ as Lord and Savior will rejoice forever in God's presence, and those who refuse to receive Christ as Lord and Savior will be forever separated from God. John 3:14,16; 5:24; John 5:30; 7:13; 8:12; 10:26; Romans 9:22; II Thessalonians 1:9; Rev. 19:3,20; 20:10;14,15; 21:18; Psalm 51:7; Jeremiah 17:9; James 1:14; Romans 3:19; 5:19; Proverbs 28:13; I John 1:9; John 3:16; John 1:13; II Corinthians 5:17; Romans 8:1

**Eternal State -** I believe in a literal Heaven, the eternal home of the redeemed. I believe Heaven to be the literal place where the saved will live forever in the eternal bliss and blessings of God. I believe in Hell, the Christ-less eternity for the lost, where there will be burning and tormenting for those without salvation, who have refused to receive the gospel and Jesus Christ as Lord. I believe that Hell, unbelievers, Satan and all the fallen angels shall be cast into the lake of fire to be tormented day and night forever and forever. Matthew 13:41-43 Mark 9:43-48; Luke 16:19-24; John 14:2; 2 Corinthians 5:8; Revelation 21-22

**Salvation -** I believe salvation involves the redemption of the whole man and is offered freely to all who accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, who by His own blood obtained eternal redemption for the believer. In its broadest sense, salvation includes regeneration, justification, sanctification, and glorification. There is no salvation apart from personal faith in Jesus Christ as Lord. Genesis 3:15; Exodus 3:14-17; 6:2-8; Matthew 1:21; 4:17; 16:21-26; 27:22-28:6; Luke 1:68-69; 2:28-32; John 1:11-14,29; 3:3-21,36; 5:24; 10:9,28-29; 15:1-16; 17:17; Acts 2:21; 4:12; 15:11; 16:30-31; 17:30-31; 20:32; Romans 1:16-18; 2:4; 3:23-25; 4:3ff.; 5:8-10; 6:1-23; 8:1-18,29-39; 10:9-10,13; 13:11-14; 1 Corinthians 1:18,30; 6:19-20; 15:10; 2 Corinthians 5:17-20; Galatians 2:20; 3:13; 5:22-25; 6:15; Ephesians 1:7; 2:8-22; 4:11-16; Philippians 2:12-13; Colossians 1:9-22; 3:1ff.; 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24; 2 Timothy 1:12; Titus 2:11-14; Hebrews 2:1-3; 5:8-9; 9:24-28; 11:1-12:8,14; James 2:14-26; 1 Peter 1:2-23; 1 John 1:6-2:11; Revelation 3:20; 21:1-22:5.

## **Doctrinal Statement**

**Baptism-** We believe in baptism by immersion after salvation with no merit for salvation in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost (Spirit). We reject infant baptism and any form of sprinkling for infants or adults. Baptism is an outward expression of our faith in Jesus Christ and simply a public testimony of what God has done by His grace. Romans 6:1-5; Acts 8:36-38; Acts 2;41; Matthew 3:16; Matthew 28:19-20.24; John 14:2; 2 Corinthians 5:8; Revelation 21-22

**The Church-** We believe in the local church, consisting of a company of professing, born-again believers in Jesus Christ, immersed in a credible confession of faith, and associated for worship, work and fellowship. We believe that to those local churches we are committed, for perpetual observance of the ordinances of baptism and the Lord's Supper, and that God has laid upon these churches the task of proclaiming to a lost world the acceptance of Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and the enthroning of Him as Lord and Master. Its scriptural officers are pastors and deacons. While both men and women are gifted for service in the church, the office of pastor is limited to men as qualified by Scripture. Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; Acts 2:42; Romans 6:3-5; I Corinthians 11:23-26; Ephesians 2:19-22; Ephesians 5:19-21; 1 Timothy 2:9-14; 3:1-15; 4:14; Hebrews 10:23-25

**The Relationship between Church and State-** We believe that every human being is responsible to God alone in all matters of faith; that each church is independent and autonomous and must be free from any ecclesiastical or political authority; therefore, Church and State must be kept separate as having different functions with each fulfilling its duties free from the dictation or patronage of the other. Matthew 22:21; Mark 12:17; Luke 20:25; Acts 5:29; I Timothy 2:5; Romans 13:1-7; 14:7-9,12

**Spiritual Gifts-** We believe that spiritual gifts are given to the church for the express purpose of winning the lost and edifying other believers. The Holy Spirit is given to each believer upon acceptance of Christ, and His purpose is to exalt and bring people to Christ. Speaking in tongues was the least important of these gifts and was given as a sign for unbelieving Jews. That is why Vision Baptist Church does not teach or practice speaking in tongues. John 7:37-39; 14:17; Acts 2:38; 1 Corinthians 1:22; 3:16-17; 6:19-20; 12-1

**Eternal Security-** We believe in the eternal security of all blood-bought individuals or believers and that such inheritance is incorruptible, and undefiled, and that each believer is kept by the power of God and nothing can separate us from Him, ourselves included. We believe that believers can lose the joy of fellowship with God, can grieve God and can quench the Spirit of God in him or her, but not lose his/her salvation. John 3:16; 5:24; 6:37-39; 10:27-30; Romans 8:35-39; Philippians 1:6; Titus 1:2; 1 Peter 1:5; 1 John 5:11-13; Jude 24

**World Evangelism-** We believe that the apostolic office ceased with the death of the Apostles. We believe that it is His church that He promised continual existence, to continue the work He started until He comes again. We believe that the ministry of reconciliation is committed to every believer, and all are saints/priests of God. The Lord Jesus Christ has commanded the preaching of the gospel to all nations. It is the duty and privilege of every follower of Christ and of every church of the Lord Jesus Christ to endeavor to make disciples of all nations. Matthew 16:18; 28:18-20; Mark 16:15; John 20:21; Acts 1:8; 2 Corinthians 5:18-21; 1 Peter 2:9; Revelation 1:6; 5:10

**Second Coming-** We believe in the literal return of Jesus Christ to the clouds to take all saved people from the earth before the beginning of the Tribulation period. We believe in his bodily visible return with his saints at the close of the Tribulation period to rule and reign for a thousand years on earth. We believe that unbelievers will face God and be judged at the Great White Throne Judgment according to their works, not for salvation, but for their proper and rightful places in the lake of fire. I Thessalonians 4:13-18, Revelation 4:1, Matthew 16:27; Mark 14:62; John 14:3; Acts 1:11; Phil. 3:20; Thessalonians 4:15; II Timothy 4:1; Titus 2:13; I Corinthians 4:5; I Corinthians 15; II Thessalonians 1:7-10; Revelation 20:4-6,11-15

**Biblical Separation-** We believe that all the saved should live in such a manner as not to bring reproach upon their Savior and Lord; and that separation from all religious apostasy, all worldly and sinful pleasures, practices and associations is commanded of God. II Timothy 3:1-5; Romans 12:1-2, 14:13; I John 2:15-17; II John 9-11; II Corinthians 6:14-7:1