

PassionLife

FELLOWSHIP

Heave Your Heard? Pastors and Churches unite for life in Colombia

Something extraordinary is unfolding in Colombia. Pastors and churches are mobilizing tens of thousands of people to stand for life. The news of this movement is spreading. Christian leaders in Brazil, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Cuba and more are asking for details and wondering, “Can we do in our country what pastors and churches are uniting to do in Colombia?” This brief update may help you discern the answer.

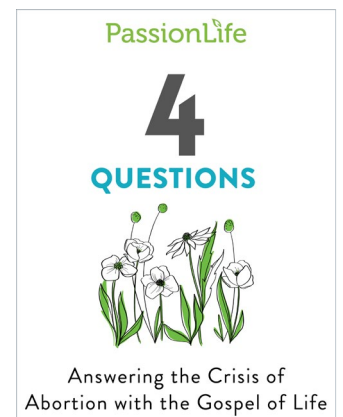
The catalyst in Colombia

In 2017, about 60 pastors gathered in Armenia to soberly ask 4 Questions too long neglected.

The 4 Questions are:

1. What does God say about human life, including life in the womb?
2. What does God say about the shedding of innocent blood, including abortion?
3. How do we bring the grace of the Gospel to the guilt of abortion, so that people are forgiven and set free?
4. What does God call us to do to stop the shedding of innocent blood and how have others done so?

These 4 Questions were originally designed to provide the underground church in China with a simple way to teach biblical ethics and crisis intervention in a rapidly reproducible format. It's been re-taught and shared with over four million people in the last 8 years.



One couple, Pastor Fernando Lara, and his wife, Esperanza, returned home to Bogota and began to teach the 4 Questions to others.





They gathered together those willing to help rescue mothers and babies from abortion. In 2021, Fernando and Esperanza opened Latidos de Amor: Ayuda a la Mujer Embarazada. Their volunteers provide young mothers at risk for abortion with medically accurate information, a free ultrasound,

and practical help in finding God's provision for them and their baby.

4 Questions/4 Outcomes

In September 2021, Naydu Villamarin, Director of Family and Life for CEDECOL (Conference of Evangelical Churches of Colombia) in partnership with PasiónVida (PassionLife) organized a 4 Questions training for 206 pastors and leaders in Bogota, Medellin and Cali.

They committed to share the 4 Questions with their local pastors, as well as their own church within two weeks. Using a template used around the world to track rapidly reproducing movements, PasiónVida and the pastors set a goal to train 184,657 people by the end of October to stand for life in 4 direct ways:

-  **TREASURE** human life,
-  **REJECT** abortion,
-  **PROCLAIM** God's forgiveness in Christ, and
-  **RESCUE** the innocent, one mother at a time as neighbors helping neighbors.

The effort fell short of their goal but sparked a call for an even larger effort in 2022.

Pastors birth a movement in repentance and resolve.

A new campaign was organized by CEDECOL and PasiónVida for April 2022. It started in Cartagena and moved to Sincelejo, Barranquilla, Medellin, and finished in Bogota on April 30th—Children's Day—in Colombia. A total of 1080 pastors and leaders each the 4 Questions.

CEDECOL collected responses:

- *"It changed my life. I will now teach the value of life according to the Word."*
- *"I was moved to see the truth regarding abortion and bring God's forgiveness to those living locked up in guilt."*
- *"I was going to be aborted, but God chose to keep me. I will put this calling to rescue the innocent into practice wherever God takes me."*
- *"I have a desire now to create a place that helps mothers in a crisis pregnancy."*
- *"God led me to repentance for my indifference and passivity. I am responsible for ending abortion in Colombia."*



In Medellin, the tears flowed openly. Women first, and then men, stood to unburden themselves of their never-confessed, abortion-related guilt and regret that weighed on them.

Prominent leading pastors stood humbly before all, weeping and grieving their guilt for closing their eyes and saying nothing about the shedding of innocent blood.

“Can we train a million people this year in the Gospel of Life?”

In Colombia, the Children’s Day Campaign is well on the way to raising up one million people to stand for life this summer and fall. The story in numbers so far is

1,080 pastors trained by PasiónVida/CEDECOL.

8,646 pastors to be trained by the 1,080 pastors above.

357,757 estimated number of members in all the churches represented.



From this good start, it is possible to train a million people to stand for life, even more. Typically, members who learn the 4 Questions, eagerly share them with 4-5 family and friends within a week or two. The 4 Questions are 10 pages and free to download and copy. A 45-minute video presentation of the 4 Questions is also available to download, so that even those who do not see themselves as teachers, can still share it with family and friends.



What does it take to spark a movement?

The key to any movement is the ability for anyone to hear God’s Word, obey it, and share it with others. Such is the nature of the gospel. A person can trust in Christ one day and tell others the next. They may not know much, but they know enough. Likewise, the 4 Questions allows anyone to answer the crisis of abortion with the Gospel of Life and start rescuing mothers in a pregnancy related crisis.

To track this movement, join the conversation about it, or bring it to your neighborhood, contact us.

Website: passionlife.org | pasionvida.org

Facebook: [passionlifeministries](https://www.facebook.com/passionlifeministries) | [pasionvidamin](https://www.facebook.com/pasionvidamin)

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