



## **RAUL & KIM SOLIS**

**Directors of the Distance Learning Program, ILEB**

***Toluca, Mexico***

Who is the Solis Family? Good question.

Well, it all started back in 1992 when Kim Kershaw from Portland, Oregon and Raul Solis from Puebla, Mexico met at a church picnic in Toluca. We were married in 1994 and the adventure began. All marriages have their special situations and we entered ours fully aware that the blending of two cultures and languages would not be easy. However, with Christ as priority, we have enjoyed the blending and find that it is fun to pick and choose from both traditions to form our own. We have three children (Diego, Isaac, and Angie) who have been raised with one foot in the US and one in Mexico and are fully bilingual.

We have also been immensely blessed to have been able to work full time with the church here in Toluca since December of 1993. Raul is an avid fisherman and evangelist, with a passion for teaching the lost. When he is not having individual Bible studies, he spends his time teaching class in the Bible Institute and preaching about once a month in Toluca or San Pedro Zictepec.

Kim works as the online administrator for the Institute and spends her mornings working on the online learning platform that ILEB uses to reach students as far away as Nevada and

Ecuador. She also teaches women's classes in the Institute and is active in women's ministry with the church.

Right now, the women are preparing for the second National Women's Conference being hosted in Toluca where Kim will be one of the keynote speakers. She's also an aspiring author having just won a writing contest this past August. The adventure of a bicultural marriage has been a good one, but having roots in two countries has its pros and cons. Now that we are entering a new phase of our lives, the empty-nest syndrome, two of our kids have been drawn north. Diego, the oldest, is working in Springdale, Arkansas and Isaac, the middle son, is a sophomore in college at Portland State University in Oregon. Angie, our youngest is still at home and is a junior in high school, but she is contemplating a study abroad program in Germany for next semester!

Either way, with a house half-full or half-empty, we are honored to have been blessed by God with such a wonderful family.

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