

# UPDATE

## EXODUS INTERNATIONAL

Freedom from  
Homosexuality  
Through the  
Power of  
Jesus Christ

August 1997

### An Incredible Week in Kentucky!

*Over 800 delegates from around the world gather for the largest conference in Exodus's 22-year history*

PHOTO: MICHAEL RILEY



**TOP:** Delegates packed Estes Chapel at Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, KY, for daily general sessions during the July 5–10 conference. **RIGHT:** (l–r) Roger & Josephine Williamson (South Africa) and Jose Luis Maccarone (Argentina) were among the two dozen delegates from ex-gay ministries outside North America.



PHOTO: ANITA WORTHEN

WILMORE, KY—It was a scene reminiscent of the opening ceremonies at the Olympic Games. At this year's opening conference session, delegates from around the world marched into the crowded auditorium, each group lifting high a placard bearing the name of their home country. The capacity crowd leaped to its feet and erupted into thunderous applause.

"It was one of the most exciting opening sessions that I've ever attended," said executive director Bob Davies, veteran of 18 Exodus conferences. "I was moved to tears, and I saw other board members dabbing at their eyes, too. Seeing delegates from 16 foreign countries was a powerful reminder of how vast the Exodus movement has grown."

Later in the week, the conference theme, "Let the Whole World Know," was also highlighted by Esly Carvalho, coordinator of Exodus International Latin America. Esly gave an update on ex-gay ministries in Argentina, Peru, Ecuador, Mexico, Cuba and Brazil. Then she challenged the delegates, "Will you come to Latin America and help us?"

Afterward, Esly had this perspective: "I think this conference is a turning point for Latin American ministries. Many people are gaining a new understanding of Exodus missions work. God is raising up foreign ministries and missionaries."

Esly is inviting Exodus leaders to join her in January 1998 for a one-week guided tour of ministries in Brazil, to increase support and vision for ex-gay outreach in that world region. The country has 165 million people—and four small ministries. (The United States has 265 million people, and 85 Exodus ministries.)

Esly compared her work to a little boy flying a kite.