

# EQUIP NEVADA

## Breakout Speakers

### Mario Alsina

El Pr. Mario Alsina es un pastor con casi 30 años de experiencia, actualmente dirige la iglesia que plantó en Las Vegas, llamada Ministerios Vida. Posee un máster en Estudios Teológicos del Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (SWBTS) y actualmente cursa un Doctorado en Ministerio (DMin), dedicando su vida a la enseñanza y difusión de la fe. Casado y padre de dos hijos, su compromiso familiar es profundo como su vocación espiritual. Profesionalmente, funge como profesor en el Instituto Visión Misionera, es director del Global Harvest Theological Institute y miembro de la facultad de la Louisiana Baptist University en la cátedra de sociología.

Pr. Mario Alsina is a pastor with almost 30 years of experience, currently directs the church he planted in Las Vegas, called Vida Ministries. He has a master's degree in theological studies from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary (SWBTS) and is currently pursuing a Doctor of Ministry (DMin), dedicating his life to the teaching and dissemination of the faith. Married and father of two children, his family commitment is as deep as his spiritual vocation. Professionally, he serves as a professor at the Vision Missionary Institute, director of the Global Harvest Theological Institute, and a faculty member at Louisiana Baptist University in the chair of sociology.

### Fernando Argumedo

Fernando es originario de El Salvador residiendo en Norteamérica desde 1999. Tiene más de 30 años de experiencia en educación, plantación de iglesias y ministerio pastoral. Fue académico de distintos prestigiosos institutos bíblicos y seminarios en Guatemala, Estados Unidos y Zambia, África. Actualmente es profesor y mentor en el Silver State Bible Institute que es un programa del Seminario Gateway en California y director académico y miembro de la facultad de Global Harvest Theological Institute. Posee un doctorado en ministerio del Dallas Theological Seminary, una maestría y licenciatura en teología del Seminario Teológico Centroamericano (SETECA) en Guatemala. El pastor Argumedo reside en Las Vegas, NV. desde el 2012 junto con su esposa Telma con quien pastorean una iglesia multiétnica llamada Comunidad Cristiana Faro de Luz. Fernando is originally from El Salvador residing in North America since 1999. He has over 30 years of experience in education, church planting and pastoral ministry. He has been an academic at Bible institutes and seminaries in Guatemala, United States, Zambia, & Africa. He is a professor and mentor at the Silver State Bible Institute, a program of Gateway Seminary, and the academic director and a faculty member at Global Harvest Theological Institute. He holds a doctorate in ministry from Dallas Theological Seminary, a master's degree and a bachelor's degree in theology from the Central American Theological Seminary (SETECA) in Guatemala. He resides in Las Vegas, NV since 2012 with his wife Telma and pastors a multiethnic church called Comunidad Cristiana Faro de Luz.



### Jason Battjes

Jason serves as the community pastor at Life Baptist Church in Las Vegas. He has worked in youth ministry for over 20 years and has recently stepped into a new role of missions, groups, and community life. Jason has a passion for the church to live on mission and go on mission. He has been on over 20 short term missions around the world and loves to take others on mission with him. Jason is married to his wonderful wife Maylene. They have three children together and have lived in Las Vegas for over 17 years. A native of Seattle he is faithful to his Seahawks and Mariners, but sadly sold his soul to the Golden Knights over the Kraken. Go Knights!

### Ben Borgman

Ben Borgman serves as the Executive Director for discipleFIRST. Ben was called into full-time ministry in 2014 after 12 years in the business world. He has been a part of the discipleFIRST team since it was created. Ben's passion is to help people figure out how to be everyday disciple makers. Ben and his wife Kari, live in the Dallas-Ft. Worth area. They have two children Karson and Ally.

### Reba Bowman

Reba is the author of eight books, including Bible studies and devotionals. She travels and speaks regularly, encouraging and equipping her audiences to dare for more in all areas of their lives. She advocates for women and children in crisis worldwide and speaks at mission events, leadership conferences, and other gatherings. Her style is storytelling, motivational, and often humorous. She draws from her vast experience as a coach, professor, Bible teacher, and counselor to unpack Biblical concepts in an unforgettable way.

### Ken Braddy

Ken Braddy is the Director of Group Ministry at Lifeway Christian Resources. He's an author who has published 10 books on groups and discipleship, and he's an avid blogger, podcaster, trainer, and webinar leader. He has 25+ years experience in group ministry, and is a group leader at his church.

### James Caldwell

Upon graduation from the United States Air Force Academy, James Caldwell completed 12 years of active-duty service in Special Operations and continues as a National Guardsman with a Pararescue Team in California. James just completed three years as a Senior Staff Instructor with Progressive Force Concepts in Las Vegas, specializing in firearms, Use of Force, and countering active violence. He is the Team Leader for the Safety and Security Team at Life Baptist Church in Las Vegas, where he attends with his wife and three boys. James is currently branching out into the entrepreneurial and non-profit spaces and would love to connect with you further if his background interests you.



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### Tony Caniglia

Tony is the Lead Pastor of Next Gen at Hope Church and has over 13 years of experience leading ministries focusing on the Next Generation. Having grown up in the Vegas valley, he is passionate about reaching the Next Generation and equipping others to help change the city of Las Vegas. Tony has a Biblical Studies degree from Biola University and a Master's in Organizational Leadership from Gonzaga University. He and his wife Kaitlin have a 3 year old son and enjoy camping, hiking, and good cups of coffee.



### Brett Cargile

Brett is the Community Ministries & Student Pastor at Foothills Baptist Church. Brett and his wife Brenda have lived in Las Vegas for 7 years. Brett and his family served with the IMB reaching the Indigenous peoples of South America. Because evangelizing indigenous is considered illegal where they lived, Brett and his team relied heavily on sharing the Gospel and Bible truths through everyday life and situations. The Cargiles have worked in cities as small as 3,000 people to a megacity of over 28 million people.



### Josh Carter

Josh is a seasoned leader with over 20 years of ministry experience. He currently serves as the Director of Church Planting for Send Network Nevada at The North American Mission Board. Following a remarkable journey, including roles as lead pastor, youth pastor, family pastor and church planter, Josh's dedication to spreading the gospel is evident. Having planted Remedy City Church in Portland, Oregon, Josh's missionary efforts in the Northwest continue to bear fruit, reaching and nurturing disciples to this day. Now in Nevada, Josh seeks to inspire collaboration and mobilize churches as missionaries, harnessing the region's potential as "the doorway to the west." His vision and leadership illuminate the path for collective action in planting churches and spreading the gospel across the region.



### Leo Castro

Leo nació y se crió en Santiago, Chile. En los últimos 20 años ha sido parte de la creación de 3 iglesias en la ciudad de Reno. Hoy, además de pastorear Eternidad Centro Cristiano trabaja para la Convención Bautista de Nevada como director de Ministerios Hispánicos de Nevada. Durante 15 años tuvo diferentes cargos en América Corporativa y culminó su carrera como ejecutivo de maniobras. Leo es autor del libro titulado *Apokalypsis: Lo Mejor Está Por Venir!* y ahora está acabando su maestría en teología y consejería. Él, su esposa Alvina y sus dos hijos, Leonard y Jordán han vivido en Reno desde el 2001. Leo was born and raised in Santiago, Chile. Over the last 20 years he has been part of planting 3 churches in the city of Reno. Today, in addition to pastoring Eternidad



Centro Cristiano he works for the Nevada Baptist Convention as director of Nevada Hispanic Ministries. For 15 years he held different positions in Corporate America and ended his career as a management executive. Leo is the author of the book titled *Apokalypsis: The Best Is Yet to Come* and now he is finishing his master's degree in theology and counseling. He, his wife Alvina and his two sons, Leonard and Jordan have lived in Reno since 2001.

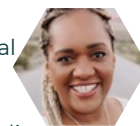
### Shauna Congelli

Shauna is currently a missionary serving the local refugee community with Love Your Neighbor ministry. This ministry uses ESL as a bridge to welcome, engage, and then walk alongside newly arriving refugees to America. She has a heart for unreached people groups and has spent her life serving them, from living with tribes in the deep jungles of Papua New Guinea, as an intentional sender, on various missions trips, and is now serving the 10-40 window internationals in a little apartment classroom near UNLV.



### Michelle Dickens

Dr. Michelle Dickens is a professional pastoral counselor at Rooted Life Counseling Center who helps men and women encounter a genuine faith in Jesus Christ by way of discipling through healing! Michelle founded and launched the LIFE Center at Hope Church Las Vegas, a biblical soul care ministry. She shares God's healing and great power in the local churches through Bible Studies, Retreats, GriefShare Groups, Women's Ministry, and at Women's Conferences.



### Adam Erlichman

Adam is a Pastor, Consultant, and 6-time Best-Selling Author with Build Groups, LLC. He has served on various church staffs in Executive, Life Groups, Discipleship, Young Adult, and Youth ministries. Adam's ministry focuses on Groups, Discipleship, Solving the Volunteer Crisis, and Leadership Development. He serves on the SBTC Discipleship Board and speaks at conferences. He's written for Outreach Magazine, CrossWalk.com, and Biblical Leadership.com. You'll hear Adam on podcasts like Vanderbloemen and Visionary Discipleship. Adam was saved and studied at Liberty University. He loves seeing Christians equipped and mobilized to multiply disciples. Stories of life transformation are his addiction.



### Lisa Foland

Lisa has served and worked in many different areas of Children's Ministry since 2003. Her most recent position was the Children's Ministry Director at Shadow Hills Church. She is currently working on her first book and is taking a break from full time ministry. She has a huge passion for kids and their families. Building safe spaces for our children to learn about Jesus and walking alongside parents in the process.



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### Lauren Garboski

Lauren has been on staff at Shadow Hills Church for the last five years and currently serves in the role of Assimilations Director. She practices counseling at Beyond Therapy, a private practice in the Northwest area of Las Vegas and has been doing so for the last two and a half years. Lauren received her Bachelors degree in Communications from the University of Memphis and her Masters degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling at Grand Canyon University.



### Josh Gillette

Josh is the Worship & Student Ministry Director at Reconciled Church. He has been leading worship for various church plants, churches, and ministries for over 12 years. Josh received his Bachelor's degree in Christian Studies with an Emphasis in Worship Leadership from Grand Canyon University. He is currently pursuing his Masters in Worship and Theology at Cedarville University. Josh is passionate about worship ministry and missions.



### Kat Halse

Kat Khal Halse has been serving vulnerable people in the city of Las Vegas for over five years now. She's a Vegas native, and studied social work at UNLV. Kat currently serves as the Director of The Hub: Las Vegas where she oversees the best team ever as they create pathways of restoration and recovery for victims of sex trafficking, those experiencing homelessness, children in foster care and their foster parents, our city's educators, and more. She and her husband Ed just got married last year, and are excited to serve the Lord in Las Vegas together!



### Tyson James

Tyson James is the Founder and President of Sound Faith Consulting, and is the Global Chapters Director for Dr. William Lane Craig's ministry, Reasonable Faith. He is a veteran of the United States Air Force and earned his M.A. in Christian Apologetics from Biola University. Tyson currently lives with his wife and children in Las Vegas, NV.



### Klover Kallas

Klover Kallas is a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and trained Biblical Counselor. Klover is a founder and owner of Rooted Life Counseling center and is clinically trained in many therapeutic modalities. She is passionate about the Gospel, God's word, and loves helping others through therapy, teaching, and leading worship.



### Kelley Lopez

Kelley Lopez is first and foremost a child of God. At 32, her life is joyfully spent building up her family of believers, making disciples, operating a custom home building company, and glorifying her Maker. She has been a Las Vegas resident for nearly 3 decades and has faithfully served in local Youth Ministries and Collegiate Ministries since 2010. With the support of her amazing husband, she continues to passionately make disciples and equip spiritual warriors for the kingdom of God. By God's exceedingly generous grace, they expect their firstborn child to join them this November. Kelley is overjoyed to participate in what God is doing in her community!



### Adam Mallette

Adam Mallette serves as the Lead Teaching Pastor of King's Church Las Vegas. He is married to Heather and they are proud parents to four children. He has served as the Director of Student Services at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and has pastored churches in Texas and Missouri. He is currently ABD in his PhD Studies in Pastoral Ministry and Preaching. Prior to answering the Lord's call to ministry, Adam served ten years as a commissioned officer in the United States Marine Corps including combat deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan.



### David Mariscal

David has been with Prison Fellowship since 2018, first as a Field Director overseeing in-prison Programs and Outreach events in the 9 California State Prisons in the Sacramento Valley, including California State Prison Solano, High Desert State Prison, and Folsom State Prison. David currently serves as the Church Mobilization Manager for the Pacific Northwest region including Northern California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming.



### Tom McCormick

Tom has been at Hope Church in Las Vegas for 13.5 years where he serves as the Lead Pastor of Cross-Cultural Mobilization. Tom has been married to Crystal for almost 32 years. They have five children, two daughters-in-law and one granddaughter. He is a graduate of Mid-America Baptist Theological Seminary in Memphis Tennessee with a Master of Divinity with an emphasis in International Missions.



### Zel Megistu

Zelalem (Zel) Mengistu served as evangelist in Ethiopia and pastored in Canada. False practices within churches, false and heretic teachings that attack the church from outside are areas he wrestles with. Zel has been working on a Bible Dictionary in Amharic language for several years which is completed and in process of publishing.



### Rafael Mundo

El pastor Rafael Mundo nació en México. En 1985, un año después de terminar la escuela secundaria, vino a recibir a Jesucristo como Señor y Salvador de su vida. En 1987 emigró a la ciudad de Santa Ana, California. Por razones laborales se mudó a Las Vegas en 1990. El pastor Mundo sirvió como pastor asociado durante 14 años en la Primera Iglesia Bautista, North Las Vegas. Actualmente pastorea una iglesia hispana en la Iglesia Shadow Hills. Tiene un diploma en Educación Cristiana del Seminario Bautista Golden Gate, una licenciatura en consejería de Biblical Life College & Seminary y una maestría de SWBTS. Está casado con Martha y tienen tres hijas (Karina, Emely y Priscilla) y un hijo (Timothy).

Pastor Rafael Mundo was born in Mexico. A year later after finishing high school (1985) he came to receive Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior of his life. In 1987 he immigrated to the city of Santa Ana, California. For work reasons he moved to Las Vegas in 1990. Pastor Mundo served as associate pastor for 14 years at First Baptist Church, North Las Vegas. He is currently pastoring a Hispanic church at Shadow Hills Church. He has a diploma in Christian Education from Golden Gate Baptist Seminary, a bachelor's degree in counseling from Biblical Life College & Seminary, and a master's degree from SWBTS. He is married to Martha and they have three daughters (Karina, Emely and Priscilla) and a son (Timothy).



### Fred Murray

Pastor Fred Murray is a Las Vegas native. Fred attended college at Pensacola Christian College and graduated with his Bachelor's degree and his Master's in Bible Exposition from Pensacola Theological Seminary. Fred earned an additional Master's degree in Management and Leadership from Liberty University. God brought Fred to Southern Hills Baptist Church 17 years where he serves as the Administrative & Stewardship Pastor. Fred and Kelly have two sons named Shepherd and Liam who are both hockey players and sports fanatics.



### Erin Phillips

Erin Phillips is the co-founder and president of the non-profit organization Power2Parent Union. She is passionate about empowering parents to advocate for their children and to amplify their parental voice. Under her leadership Power2Parent formed as the first parent union in Nevada with more than 10,000 members, and now has chapters



in 6 states across the USA. She is a regular guest on talk radio and has represented Power2Parent on local and national media outlets including Washington Post, Newsman, and Fox News. In 2023, she was appointed by the Governor of Nevada to serve on a Statewide Council. While she is passionate about defending parental rights, her biggest passion is her family. Erin can be found most days at the baseball field with her husband watching one of her five kids play their favorite sport.

### Matt Phillips

Matt was born and raised in Las Vegas and is the Worship Pastor at Life Baptist Church. He has been on staff for 18 years and in that time he also worked as a graphic designer, account manager and brand consultant in print, agency and freelance environments. He and his wife Erin have five children and are thrilled to invest in God's Kingdom at the Equip Conference.



### Anrew Reed

Andrew was born and raised in Las Vegas. He attended Bible college in California where he met his wife, Angela. After college, Andrew served on staff at a church in Morgan Hill, CA. He has also served as a Lead pastor in Colorado and Arizona. Andrew and Angela along with their 4 kids were recently led back to Las Vegas to become the Lead Pastor of Life Baptist Church.



### Chip Riggs

Chip is the Executive Pastor of Ministry at Hope Church. He has 33 years of experience in staff positions in growing and healthy churches and has been privileged to coach more than 40 pastors and church staff teams in ministry strategy. Chip and his wife, Allison, have been married for 32 years and have two godly sons and daughters-in-law, and 4 precious grandchildren.



### Austin Ryan

Austin Ryan is a church planter, worship leader, pastor and founder/director of Worship Catalyst, a ministry built to train worship leaders and their teams. His team spans from Portland to Miami, as well as in Philippines, Guatemala and West Africa. A former resident of Texas, Arizona, and Las Vegas, Austin and his wife Cami now lead Worship Catalyst from Fernandina Beach, Florida. With thousands of worship leaders impacted by Worship Catalyst, in churches of all sizes, the ultimate goal of reaching more people with the good news of Jesus is still their #1 focus!!



### Reesa Scott

Reesa is the Executive Assistant of the Nevada Baptist Convention and has been with the NBC for 13 years. She has worked and taught in children's ministry since 1998, teaching in Sunday School and VBS. Reesa was the associational VBS Director for the Southern Nevada Baptist Association for 3 years. Reesa enjoys teaching kids and helping them learn about God and is thankful to be able to share what she's learned through her years serving in this capacity.



### Josh Teis

Josh & Heather Teis planted Southern Hills Church in Las Vegas 20 years ago this August. The church has grown to over 1300 people in weekly attendance. They have one son, Jonathan David, and two daughters, Savannah Tyler and Scarlett Noel.



### Chuck Williams

Chuck Williams is one of the Pastors at Life Baptist Church in Las Vegas. He oversees Community Life which involves helping guests better connect, regular attendees fully engage and ensures members are equipped for the work of the ministry. Chuck graduated from Liberty University with a Masters of Divinity in Biblical Studies. He is married to his high school sweetheart, Jenai and they have two girls, Camryn and Charlotte. Chuck has a deep desire to help others come to know Jesus and walk alongside them in obedience to all that He commands.



### Steve Witt

Steve has been serving churches for over 28 years, beginning his ministry in the great state of Tennessee. He served there as an Evangelism and student pastor as well as a Senior pastor before moving out west. In 2015, Steve and his wife Nikki planted The Well Church, a growing community of Christ followers in Henderson, Nevada. Steve loves his church, loves to coach football, and loves to tell others about Jesus. He also serves currently as the President of the Nevada Baptist Convention.

