

Alejandro & Carmen De Francisco

Missionaries to Spain ♦ Project #42.10097



Ministry Focus

- The De Franciscos will serve in Spain, planting a network of Church of God congregations, beginning with a church plant in Madrid.
- The De Franciscos will identify and train up leaders for these churches.
- They will also serve as church plant consultants for the Three Worlds team.

Alejandro was born in Cuba, growing up as an atheist under Cuba's communist regime. Carmen, born into a devout Jehovah's Witness family, grew up as a Sandinista in Nicaragua. Their paths crossed in the 1980s when both received university scholarships to study in the Soviet Union, he for a degree in physics and mathematics and she for a degree in Russian language and literature. The couple eventually sought political asylum in Spain, where Alejandro's father was living, later immigrating to the United States in 1991.

Their personal lives were falling apart, the marriage foundering. Within weeks of arriving in Miami, on their first visit to a tiny Hispanic Church of God congregation, they both experienced the life-changing power of the Holy Spirit. Alejandro and Carmen will both tell you, "My faith in Christ had changed who I am in so many ways, in my marriage, my family, my dreams. I was accepted in his kingdom and transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit. Now I am a child of God, serving him with all my life."

For the next ten years they served in that church as lay leaders, growing in faith. Alejandro found enormous success as the art director of the Latin American edition of *PC Magazine* and later *PC World*. But in 2001, God brought a new calling, one that caused them to leave everything behind to plant a Hispanic church in Tampa, Florida, alongside Oak Grove Church of God. And so Alejandro and Carmen stepped out in faith into what has now been fifteen years of planting Hispanic churches throughout Florida.

They have three grown daughters and an expanding circle of grandchildren.

Alejandro and Carmen are excited to see a God-given dream come to fulfillment in Spain as they work with Global Strategy and the Three Worlds team.

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