

Welcome! Welcome to the fourth edition of our 2019 New Life Outreach newsletter. It is our goal to produce this newsletter quarterly, aiming to keep our friends, family and supporters up-to-date as far as what God is doing through New Life Outreach. We are planning on e-mail and on-line distribution for each edition. As we continue producing this newsletter, we may play with the format and change some things up, so if you have any comments or suggestions, please let us know. In the meantime, if you or someone you know would like to be added to our e-mail list, please send us a note at info@newlifeoutreach.us or visit us at www.newlifeoutreach.us.

The Power of Rejection

As I was praying over the topic for this quarter's newsletter, the Lord made it clear that I was to teach on the power of rejection. As we continue, you will see how circumstances—ranging from seemingly harmless to traumatic—can leave us with a stronghold of rejection. Whether or not you personally attribute rejection in your life as having had a negative effect on you or whether you would consider its effect barely noticeable, co-existing with rejection is never the will of God for our lives. Passively accepting what the enemy means for evil in our lives, rather than cooperating with the Lord to free us from its grip, is contrary to abundant life. Part of the path to Christian maturity is “hating even the garment spotted by the flesh” (Jude 1:23 KJV), and allowing rejection to remain in our lives is walking after the flesh. Becoming free from rejection is a vital part of our spiritual growth.

Before moving on to scenarios as to how rejection can enter our lives and the power it has, let's examine God's answer to a stronghold of rejection. The truth that counteracts the lie of rejection is our position of being “accepted in the Beloved” through the grace of God.

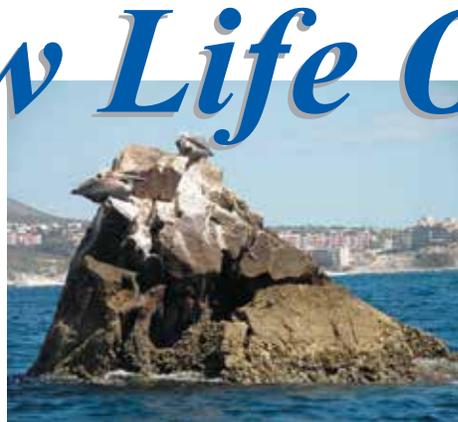
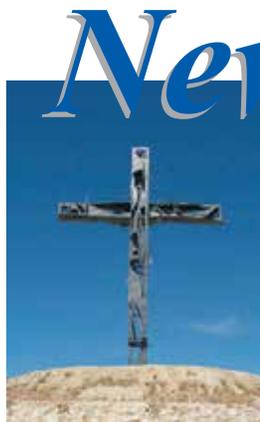
Always Accepted—Never Rejected

To the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved. —Ephesians 1:6 (NKJV)

If we do not understand the heart of our Heavenly Father, we can live under a constant cloud of ‘not measuring up,’ even though Ephesians 1:6 clearly tells us we are “accepted in the Beloved.” We are born again by grace, through faith, and that same spiritual transaction made us acceptable to God. We were not only redeemed from the penalty of sin, but from performance-based rejection. When God the Father—Who is Spirit—looks at us, He sees Jesus, Who is His “beloved Son, in Whom” He is “well-pleased” (Matthew 3:17).

When we think of the salvation experience, most of us would teach there is nothing anyone could ever do to earn their salvation.

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The Power of Rejection, Continued...

He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit. - Titus 3:5

Often, though, like the “foolish Galatians” (Galatians 3:1), we try to keep our salvation, obtain blessings from God, or please Him through our own efforts. When we embrace an inaccurate concept of God as One Who is not pleased with us when our performance misses the mark of Christlikeness, the tendency is to revert to a system of works in an attempt to feel accepted by God. When we remake God according to how we feel or think, we make Him into Someone He is not.

The Problem

The defeat in our lives—from allowing rejection to revert us from grace back to self-effort—is two-fold. First of all, no matter how well intentioned we may be, self-effort is flesh and “the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption” (Galatians 6:8). Since corruption is a decline in our quality of life, self-effort will rob us of abundant life.

The second problem is that trying to please God in our own strength is impossible. One of the results from the futile act of trying to achieve the impossible is to fortify an inner sense of never being good enough. Following this path can only lead to exchanging the excitement and freedom of a life of grace and mercy for one of bondage. This direction then leads to becoming tired, bored and disillusioned with the Christian life. We still tell our friends and family that a relationship with Jesus is the way to experience abundant life, but the truth is our own experience is far from it. If we continue on in denial of our own reality, our nagging sense of not being acceptable to God could cause even well-meaning Christians to fall away from following Him.

The Cure

Our Heavenly Father’s standard of perfection has not changed. Long before any of us were born, the problem with our inability to make ourselves acceptable before God had already been taken care of. When Jesus took us to the cross with Him, He took all that we were to the cross and gave us all that He is! “He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him” (II Corinthians 5:21).

God is not the least surprised when we fail. He is the One who formed us from dust and understands our weaknesses better than we do. Scripture resounds with the amazement that the God Who created the universe, would even be mindful of us, let alone come to dwell within us. Our Heavenly Father is like a whirlwind, of which—in comparison—we are but ants; Yet, He has numbered the hairs on our heads and holds our tears in a bottle. We can’t begin to imagine His love for us.

There is absolutely nothing we could ever do to make ourselves worthy of the even smallest blessing of God, let alone maintain our salvation. Not only is our righteousness a free gift, but we were only able to come to the Father because of the drawing of the Spirit of God.

But by His doing you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption. -I Corinthians 1:30

We qualify for the acceptance, love and blessings of God, not by anything we do or don’t do, but by what Jesus did. “Man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart” (I Samuel 16:7).

Back to Rejection

Scripture is clear that—in Christ—we are totally accepted and never rejected. Although this is true, based on my experience from many years of ministering to brokenhearted people, a stronghold of rejection exists in the

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The Power of Rejection, Continued...

lives of a large amount of Christians; even those who are seasoned and mature.

Whether the rejection in our lives is a result of a demonic spirit or is a flesh pattern that developed in our souls from circumstances in our lives, it will cause us to experience less than abundant life. Rejection is a stronghold that cannot be taken lightly and—when identified—must be dealt with directly.

For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ. -II Corinthians 10:3-5 (NKJV)

I like this definition of a stronghold, which is also translated as fortress in several different bible translations: “The Greek word for stronghold, taken literally, means a fortress. It is used in the Bible also as a metaphor to represent things that are based only on human confidence or pride, as opposed to those that rely on God’s input and guidance. Strongholds are walls or fortresses around beliefs and emotions to protect us from further pain. An important part of healing and transforming the deep wounds requires divinely pulling down the strongholds.”¹

As we forge ahead, the rule of thumb in spiritual freedom is: **‘Any wounding in our soul or human spirit, or flesh pattern from which we fail to repent from, can become demonized if the finished work of Jesus Christ (Luke 4:18) is not applied through prayer and/or repentance.’**

The Nature of Strongholds

Since this is just an introductory article, I am going to briefly mention several of the most common ‘life experiences’ that can leave the presence of ‘rejection’ in the ‘inner man.’ Before we look at the most common ways rejection lodges itself in the inner man, though, I need to share what can easily happen after rejection enters.

The first problem we need to be aware of is that a ‘fortress’ can easily be built around rejection. As we can see from our stronghold definition above, strongholds are “fortresses around beliefs and emotions to protect us from further pain.” In other words, they are defense mechanisms to keep us from ever having to experience anything like the cause of the original rejection again. The problem is a fortress is a structure of self-protection and control (either of which are from the flesh), rather than a reliance on God for His solution to the problem. Since the fortress is a product of the flesh, there is a danger the stronghold will become demonized if it is not dealt with. If this is allowed, the fortress will be even harder to dismantle. When praying and seeking the Lord for the solution to the presence of rejection in yourself or someone else, be aware that the outlying ‘conditions’ or demonic spirits that makeup the fortress will manifest in an attempt to hide the source of the original rejection. Nonetheless, do not be discouraged. As you dismantle the fortress, eventually the nature of the stronghold will be revealed and deliverance and inner healing can take place.

The second situation you may encounter after a spirit of rejection has entered the inner man is that other demonic spirits are drawn to the stronghold, like a shark is drawn to the scent of blood. For example, a person with a fortress ‘built’ around a spirit of rejection could attract additional problems such as behavior stemming from ‘shame,’ ‘self-hatred,’ ‘depression,’ or ‘wanting to die.’

Causes and Effects of Rejection

A Cause: Conception as a result of an unwanted pregnancy. Since we are human beings as of conception, the embryo or fetus embodies the emotions of any mother who did not want the pregnancy. The baby may also feel all of the emotions of the mother from the negative circumstances she experienced prior to and during conception.

Some Possible Effects: No matter how loving of an environment this baby is born into, the child will usually be crippled by the sense of rejection from not being wanted. This rejection can cause us, in adolescence, to be drawn to youth from much rougher backgrounds than how we were raised. It can cause us to not make the

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The Power of Rejection, Continued...

basketball team, or to interview well for college scholarships. It can even keep us from getting the job we are highly qualified for because it puts a force of rejection between us and the job. In other words, this spirit, if not dealt with, can cause others to reject us for no apparent reason.

A Cause: Rejection received from young childhood on—from any physical characteristic other than the ‘norm.’ These characteristics include such things as obesity, being ‘skinny,’ clothing, overall appearance from extreme poverty, not being physically attractive, or any type of physical deformity.

Some Possible Effects: This example is so broad, rejection due to any of these reasons can lead to hatred for those who rejected you, extreme anger (possibly acted out towards others), anti-social behavior, attraction to the same sex due to rejection from the opposite sex, addiction to drugs or alcohol to numb the pain, reactionary conditions such as anorexia, ‘cutting’ or other forms of masochism, and a number of other responses to ‘hating yourself’ and ‘hating life itself.’

A Cause: Any other reason that allowed rejection to enter and remain.

A Possible Effect: Hindering Physical Healing. The Lord just introduced this possibility to me within the last several years. The Lord allowed me to pray for a few ladies with strongholds of rejection (ladies with whom I had no knowledge of their history), for physical healing. Each of these ladies had a physical problem where it would be apparent if God had healed them. In each case, the Lord led me through the necessary prayer for them to be healed. Obviously, not everyone I pray for is healed, but in each of these cases, I felt there was resistance to the breakthrough. I’ll never forget the first time it happened. After much prayer with no sign of the lady being healed, the Lord identified the problem to me as ‘rejection.’ This lady had had ‘an issue of blood’ for over six months and the doctors had no answer for her. When I rebuked the spirit of ‘rejection,’ the lady immediately stood up strong and, upon checking for the problem, found the flow of blood had stopped. Since that time, the Lord has continued to repeat this ‘teaching’ experience for me.

These three possibilities are just examples to demonstrate the destructive power of rejection in a person’s life; including the power of rejection to resist physical healing—whether by natural or supernatural means.

Please Pray

If you remember from the beginning of this article, the Lord specifically directed me to write on the destructive power of rejection in our lives. It has been said that, “God gives information on a need-to-know basis,” and I believe this to be true. This means that someone reading this article needed to know something contained in this article; whether for themselves, their loved ones, friends, or those they minister to.

**Rejection stands as a wall, a resisting force,
between where we are now and the best God has for us.**

Since God does give information on a need-to-know basis, I believe at least one of you reading this article now has an assignment from God to be a faithful steward and act on the information He has revealed to you. Please be in prayer as to how you could apply this to your life or the lives of those around you and please never waste a gift from God!

¹ *What is the Biblical definition of a stronghold? Answers.com*

“A deep relationship with Me is the basic training for My Last Day Army. My people must trust Me when things don’t make sense, in order to move from their ways to My ways (Isaiah 55:8-9). The ‘super’ natural is a total different realm.”

-Journaling with the Father

Lomas del Sol Crusade

Pastor Carlos from Cristo es el Camino recently held a community outreach crusade in the Lomas del Sol area—at the community playground. The crusade didn't happen as early as expected, but it would seem the Lord may have allowed all of the circumstances—seemingly interferences—to delay the outreach for a reason. I'll share this reason a little further on.



The postponed crusade was finally scheduled for Saturday, August 10 at 7:00 p.m. at the Playground in Lomas del Sol, within a mile of Pastor Carlos' original church. The city only issued a permit for one day, rather than two, and ended up doing neither the maintenance on the park or an outreach of their own, but read on...

This crusade was the inauguration of the portable stage Richard and Pastor Carlos have been designing for quite some time. Pastor Carlos' crew actually did all the work—including the welding of the frame and legs (his crew has been working alongside Richard for several years and countless projects now and have acquired many new skills since that first project)! Cristo es el Camino now has a portable stage large enough for any larger crusade we might put on in the future. Artemio, who did the backdrop for the Carlos Annacondia crusade back in 2016, also painted the backdrop and skirt for the new stage.

Prior to the crusade with Gamaliel Sosa two years ago (at the Quinta Real property), New Life Outreach paid half of the cost of new sound equipment—purchased with crusades in mind. Apart from the lighting and supporting frame

work, we are now ready to continue having evangelical crusades throughout the area!

At the beginning of the evening's activities, the church handed out frozen treats and the children enjoyed the playground. You also might notice in the pictures a lady doing face painting. This is Claudia Cardenas (with her husband Mauricio helping in the background). This is the couple from Ensenada who helped us with the Annacondia Crusade and who we were blessed to minister with again, just this last April, with Sam and Karen Knapp.

The modest-sized park was full of excitement and people, and some of the neighbors who didn't come in sat in lawn chairs in front of their homes. As a result of just this one evening meeting, Pastor Carlos reported they have welcomed six new families to his Sunday service, and presently we know of one seventeen-year-old teen who received Christ at the crusade itself. This is part of the story that has to do with the timing of the crusade—God's timing...

Seven years ago a woman attended the Cristo es el Camino Church in Lomas del Sol. She only came that one time and came for the purpose of having her one-year-old baby girl prayed for. Pastor Carlos doesn't remember the diagnoses, but at that time the doctor had told the mother there was nothing they could do to save the baby. They never saw the woman or her child again until the night of the crusade.

That night, she told her story. Her baby was totally healed and is now seven-years-old. Right after she visited Cristo el Camino Church, her family moved away from the Los Cabos area. As of the night of the crusade (approximately six weeks later than first scheduled), she had been back in the area for only two weeks and had no idea how to find Pastor Carlos' church. She now lives within a couple of blocks from where the Lomas del Sol

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Lomas del Sol Crusade, Continued...

playground is. When the faithful army from Cristo es el Camino handed out flyers for the crusade, she received a flyer at her new home. As soon as she saw the flyer, she knew this was the church that prayed for her baby six years before.

She arrived towards the end of the meeting and literally ran to the crusade to give the testimony of her daughter's healing. Two of her older daughters followed her to the crusade. Her seventeen-year-old daughter gave the testimony that for some unknown reason she felt compelled to go with her mother to the meeting and ran along with her. By the time they arrived at the park, the teen was crying for no reason she knew of. Arriving, near the end, the seventeen-year-old gave her life to the Lord. She was compelled in tears, to run to a meeting, for a reason she didn't know. This is exciting and is the kind of report you hear from areas experiencing a move of the Holy Spirit!

God is always on time, and will go to all length to pursue us. Have you pursued Him today in such a way? I challenge you to passionately pursue. Don't delay—not one more day.

Also, please continue to pray for the Cristo es el Camino churches and for God's plan for Los Cabos, MX.



The First Day of School With Education Director Juan Mesa

The first day of the 2019-2020 school year in Los Cabos was August 26. Juan Mesa, the Director of Education of the municipality, asked if we wanted to be his guests at the Monday morning patriotic ceremony at the school where he taught before being appointed as Director of Education.

The excitement for the first day of elementary (primaria) school was intense. Parents were crowded in the entranceway of the school to see how their children would respond to the new environment and the equivalent to our Board of Education was there with Director Juan to present new drums and bugles to the school's drum and bugle corps. Although we were actively involved in the Monday morning patriotic ceremony during our first year in Los Cabos, experiencing this special event at the school where Juan Mesa previously taught is one event we will remember.

The school itself is the Escuela Primaria Francisco Javier Mina (Francisco Javier Mina Elementary School). While our experience is limited, this school was by far one of the finest public schools we have ever seen. The entire facility is clean and well-maintained, with very nice buildings. There is a covered basketball court, a small lawn, and an area where snack or lunch items may be purchased. This kitchen/snack space is significant! The majority of our schools (while wealth abounds in our tourist areas), have no lunch facilities and only a handful have sponsors providing free lunches. Regretfully, few mothers make the effort to send even a light lunch with their children.

We want to thank our friend, Director Mesa, for his invitation to this first day of the school. It was an honor to see where he used to teach and to be a part of this experience!

We would like to ask everyone to continue to pray for the implementation of the Avanza sin Tranza (Thrive without Bribes) program in our area schools. Director Mesa is behind the program and



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The First Day of School, Continued...

we have the funds to implement the program, but it doesn't seem to be a priority in our current city government. We have been told that in Mexico that you can 'save face' to say you are "working with a program" that you know is desperately needed in your city, even is that program is never implemented. Please pray that the offer for the Avanza sin Tranza program—without implementation—will not be sufficient in Los Cabos.



Update on the San Jose Marketplace–Flag Day

For those of you who may not come to Los Cabos every year, I try to give you an occasional updated as far what is happening in the San Jose del Cabo Plaza. On the Monday morning when I brought our 'big camera' for some extra photos of the courtyard and surrounding area, we were blessed with a very special day: The Municipality of Los Cabos presented new flags to the area schools.

La Presidente Armida Castro led the way, with help from other staff. As always, the students are well-groomed. With their uniforms on, you would never know how they might live! They carry themselves in the patriotic presentations like future honor guards. It is always a delight to see them. There were many schools present for this particular ceremony.

In the slide show, you might also notice a white tent just outside the main entrance to the Municipal Palace. A former supporter of La Presidente Armida claimed that she is not keeping her campaign promises. He, along with some help, erected the tent (complete with enlarged photos of him being drug away from the mayor by security). Despite being drug away at the time, the tent is allowed to stay, along with a rotating group of dissenters. Mexico is never boring!

I took some extra photos so you could see the most recent work on the courtyard. Enjoy the photos and, as always, please keep praying for the power of God to change Los Cabos, Mexico!

Los Cabos every year, I try to give you an occasional updated



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Flag Day, Continued...



Our Passion - Jesus Christ!
Our Mission - Bringing the Body of Christ together
for the transformation of Los Cabos, MX!



New Life Outreach is a Christian, non-profit organization based out of Holton, MI (USA), with current operations in Los Cabos, MX. Co-directors Richard and Rhonda Mead are ordained ministers with Bethany Bible Training Center (formerly Pinecrest Bible Training Center of Salisbury Center, N.Y.). You may know Rhonda from the TCT Network, where she has appeared on "Ask the Pastor" for more than 19 years. Along with being seasoned ministers and Bible teachers, Richard and Rhonda have great confidence in the power of God for healing, deliverance and total transformation in the lives of believers.

www.newlifeoutreach.us
4379 Holton-Whitehall Rd. - Holton, MI 49425