



## Welcome!

Welcome to the second edition of our 2017 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](mailto:info@newlifeoutreach.us) or visit us at [www.newlifeoutreach.us](http://www.newlifeoutreach.us).

## Victory Beyond Comprehension

The definition of “comprehension” in the 1828 edition of Webster’s Dictionary is: “Capacity of the mind to understand; power of the understanding to receive and contain ideas; capacity of knowing;” with the usage example of, “The nature of spirit is not within our comprehension.”

This definition leads to the purpose for this article. The victory available to you through doing things God’s way is beyond “the capacity of the mind to understand,” because His ways are spiritual—“not within our comprehension.” Since His ways are infinitely higher than ours (Isaiah 55:9), we often struggle with obedience to that which is distasteful to us or does not ‘make sense.’ Jesus brought forth one such teaching in Matthew chapter 19.

*But Jesus said, “Let the children alone, and do not hinder them from coming to Me; for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.” —Matthew 19:14*

In order to understand the application of this verse for our lives, it is vital to have an accurate definition of the kingdom of God, which is synonymous with the kingdom of heaven. The Vine’s Expository Dictionary’s definition of “The Kingdom of God” is: “The sovereign rule of God, manifested in Christ to defeat His enemies,

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*Victory Beyond Comprehension, Continued...*

with a people over whom He reigns, and a realm in which the power of His reign is experienced.” In order to walk in victory, we need the power of Christ to defeat our enemies, both those that are within us, as well as those that surround us. In the context of Matthew 19:14, the key to experiencing the kingdom of heaven in the here and now, as well as a significant key to victorious Christian living, is childlikeness.

We don't have much of a problem understanding entering the kingdom of God like a child, but God wants you to know that in order to have a greater expression of the kingdom of God present in your life, you must walk “such as these.” The very thought of being childlike is a stumbling block to most adults. This is especially demeaning to those who consider themselves capable and responsible. If this is offensive to you, please read on. Remember, we are talking about that which “is not within our comprehension.” Seek the Lord as to what inside of you needs His healing and restoration, as well as to what strongholds in your mind need renewing in order to enable you to even see childlikeness as victorious living.

The gospel of Mark reiterates that written by Matthew:

*And they were bringing children to Him so that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked them. But when Jesus saw this, He was indignant and said to them, “Permit the children to come to Me; do not hinder them; for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. —Mark 10:13,14*

When you read the words of Jesus recorded in the bible, it is important to remember, especially when He was speaking to the Pharisees (which is the case in Mark chapter 10), that He spoke with the knowledge of the thoughts and intents of the hearts of the people before Him. The Pharisees were the extremely proud, highly educated, religious experts of the day, and Christ loved to bypass the obvious in order to speak to the real problems of the heart. From the context of the picture in Mark, of mothers pushing their children through the crowd to be touched by Jesus, and the children being rebuked by His disciples (who were probably a little unnerved by the questioning of the Pharisees), we hear the words of Jesus, “Permit the children to come to Me; do not hinder them; for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.”

Jesus looked at the proud, self-sufficient hearts of the Pharisees and in effect told them, ‘You are disgusted by the interruption of children trying to reach Me and I tell you, you yourselves are disqualified from My kingdom since my kingdom is made up of those like these.’

## A Short Course in Childlikeness

Looking at some common characteristics of very young children who have not yet developed a strong will of their own can give us a glimpse of what we, as adults, have lost in the journey we call life. Regretfully, the older we get the less we exhibit the attributes of kingdom life displayed in the very young. Since the flesh is the part of our soul—mind, will and, emotions—that was programmed by our old nature, the older a child gets, the more he or she has developed the characteristics of the “old man,” that must be “put off” (Colossians 3:9 KJV). Additionally, the more difficult our childhood was, the younger we were when we developed coping methods for life.

The following examples of childlikeness in very young children—in an ‘ideal world’—are meant to encourage us to consider how our busy ‘adult’ lives may be causing us to experience less than the victorious life Jesus died to give us.

- Very young children are naturally dependent on their parents. One of the most important attributes needed

to experience kingdom life is total dependence on our Heavenly Father through the indwelling power of His Son. Jesus, Himself, said He could do nothing apart from the Father (John 5:19), and we can do nothing apart from Him. Does total dependence on your Heavenly Father seem immature to you?

- A young child is secure in knowing they are wanted and loved; protected and provided for. There is no need for worry, for there is nothing to worry about. How successful are you in leaving the cares and concerns of this world in the Father's hands? The measure of peace you walk in is a barometer of spiritual maturity.
- Children are part of a family. They never earned the right to be part of their family and bad behavior doesn't change this fact. They are sons (or daughters), not slaves. Are you able to rest in the finished work of Jesus Christ for your continued acceptance in the family of God? Security is essential for victory.
- Think of how simple babies' needs are. Does your ever-increasing list of what you currently believe is necessary to be happy hinder your obedience to the revealed will of the Lord in your life?
- Children are honest about themselves, others and God. They have few layers of developed 'self-protection' to be freed from. Can you be honest with yourself about the content of much of your thought life? Christ came to set us completely free.
- Young children are carefree, having not yet developed fleshly agendas, which require manipulation and control to satisfy our desires and achieve our goals. Do you see behavior such as this as sin, causing you to fall short of the glory of God?
- A young child does not dwell on things suffered. When we allow offenses to be replayed in our minds, unforgiveness and bitterness can take root. Unforgiveness and bitterness are like poison to the soul and cancer to the body. No matter what your reasoning, are you harboring these deadly emotions in your heart?
- A child resembles their father and mother in appearance and behavior. All we need for life and godliness was given to us through Christ at new birth. Are you continually growing in your resemblance of your Heavenly Father in appearance and behavior since the day you received Christ?

## Beyond Comprehension

If you are struggling with any part of this article, it is possible the need for childlikeness is not within your comprehension. This concept could seem foolish to you, and we know an adult who walks with childlike attributes in this world is not highly esteemed. However, God uses the foolish things of this world to confound the wise. That is why this spiritual concept must be revealed to our hearts by the Holy Spirit. Listen again to the words of Jesus.

*At that time the disciples came to Jesus and said, "Who then is greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" And He called a child to Himself and set him before them, and said, "Truly I say to you, unless you are converted and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven." Whoever then humbles himself as this child, he is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. —Matthew 18:1-4*

## An Urgent Call to Prayer

We have an urgent request for prayer regarding the “drug war” that has escalated in Los Cabos since the first of the year. There has always been an undercurrent of illicit activity of every kind, but now it is out in the open. We do not have exact data, but the word on the streets is the execution-style murders in our area have increased from seven reports in all of 2016 to possibly over 200 murders since January of this year. This violence is starting to encroach upon the tourist areas, with the possibility of affecting innocent bystanders. We are asking for fervent prayer for this situation.

### **Current state of law enforcement:**

In December of 2016 and January of 2017 over 157 law enforcement personnel in Baja California Sur (our relatively small state) were fired for failing the federal government’s “lie detector test.” This test includes specific questions, such as asking for or receiving bribes or involvement in cartel activity, the drug trade, etc. This was fabulous news since the test has existed for several years, but up to now there had been no disciplinary action taken due to test results. This firing did leave our city and state with few law enforcement personnel. The local hotel association immediately responded with the promise to pay for 150 special police officers from the federal government for twelve months (which is also extraordinary). These special officers (who could be compared to US Federal Marshals) came to our rescue with “martial law” after the looting and anarchy following Hurricane Odile in September of 2014. They are called the “Gendarmería” and are reportedly honest and of good character. They are typically only left in one location less than six months to limit possible connections with local illicit activity. The Gendarmería, the army, and the marines have been present since December, but the war is intensifying.

### **What the Lord is saying and doing:**

- We know we are in Los Cabos, Mexico, for such a time as this. We have been working in the area for seven years. We know the history of the area, the government, and the culture. We have many friends and many contacts.
- The Lord alerted us to the entrance of a “new” cartel entering the Baja through La Paz immediately after Hurricane Odile, during the time of power loss and looting. Until now, the existing cartel had contained its activity to the “dark” but the “new” cartel only wants control of the area, at any cost.
- The Lord is now bringing that which has been hidden into the light. He is shaking all that can be shaken and delivering us from the strongholds of evil that have been “tolerated” in our municipality. This is a good thing. His plan for Los Cabos is to pour out His glory upon her. His purpose for Los Cabos is for her to be so transformed by His presence that His glory will flow from here to Mexico and the world as part of the last day harvest of souls.

### **How to pray:**

- Ask the Lord for His cleansing of our area to come with as little destruction as possible; that the “planting of the Lord” would be protected. God could deliver Los Cabos in a day, if He so chose.
- Please do not let what you know of the cartel devastation that has riddled mainland Mexico to hinder your prayers, but look to God for His mercy and grace over Los Cabos, according to His purpose.
- Pray specifically for strength, peace and safety of our Christian mayor (presidente), his family, and those in office who are loyal to him.
- Pray for the souls and freedom for the hundreds of men and women involved in cartel activity in Los Cabos.
- Pray for conviction of sin to grip the hearts of all who are not walking according to Christ.

We cannot thank-you enough. We know you are people of prayer who care about us as well as the Municipality of Los Cabos.

## Only God Could Know



The Lord just gave one of our intercessors a precious revelation in regards to the Carlos Annacondia Crusade held in Los Cabos in April of 2016. When he shared it with us, we were again amazed at our God!

When Richard and I started talking with the Annacondia events coordinator, he had projected the crusade would be the first part of March 2016—almost a year ahead of us at the time. We were very happy with that time period and knew it would work well for the Los Cabos area as it fit around the spring holidays and the weather at night would be perfect. With much disappointment, due to a series of events beyond our control, we found out the crusade would not be held until the last half of April.

When we first started making the arrangements for the event, we asked for six days so there would be time for a snowball effect from the testimonies of the people who were touched early in the crusade. Sometime later, again with much disappointment, we found out we were only going to have a three-day crusade.

There is one last, “When we first started.” Due to the work schedule of the Mexican people in the Los Cabos area and from living with the people for several years before the crusade, we knew if we only had three days, the best days for the crusade would be Thursday through Saturday. Again, with much disappointment, we were told the crusade would have to be Monday through Wednesday.

Despite all this, the crusade was a success! There were over 4,000 in attendance by the third night (in an area of approximately 280,000 people). Just under 900 people came forward for a first-time commitment to Christ and there were many amazing, documented healings.

This brings us to what the Lord shared with our intercessor. As our intercessor was watching the DVD of the Annacondia Crusade, the Lord brought to mind Luke 4:18:

*“THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME, BECAUSE HE HAS ANOINTED ME TO PREACH THE GOSPEL TO THE POOR; HE HAS SENT ME TO HEAL THE BROKENHEARTED, TO PROCLAIM LIBERTY TO THE CAPTIVES AND RECOVERY OF SIGHT TO THE BLIND, TO SET AT LIBERTY THOSE WHO ARE OPPRESSED; TO PROCLAIM THE ACCEPTABLE YEAR OF THE LORD.” Then He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. And He began to say to them, “Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.” - Luke 4:18-20*

Our friend told us, “The Lord new exactly which days He was choosing.” On April 18-20, 2016, the Lord launched the fulfillment of this scripture in Los Cabos. This is also the scripture we had printed on flyers, way back in 2010, which we handed out throughout Los Cabos. In addition, Luke 4:18 was the verse both Richard and I individually considered our ‘life verse’ before we were married.

After considering what our friend had told us, the Lord brought something to our attention: Cabo San Lucas translates as the Cape of Saint Luke. In fact, Saint Lucas is the patron saint of the city! God, in a way only He could do, just gave us precious confirmation that He is bringing to pass what He spoke to our hearts in 2010 in Los Cabos. We originally asked Carlos Annacondia’s ministry to come because he is known for bringing breakthrough for the spiritual climate. Nine months ago, God arranged for His seasoned general to come to Cabo San Lucas to challenge the power of the enemy – on 4/18-20, in the city of Saint Luke (Luke 4:18-20)!

So many times when it has seemed like things are going bad, the Lord is showing Himself mighty and I just don’t see what He sees. In this situation, He was carefully arranging the details of the crusade to confirm His fulfillment of the promise He had given us six years before. What a mighty God we serve! May we continue to pray for the spiritual eyes to see as He sees—that while we feel a moment of heart break, we may experience the joy of His fulfillment.

## Sharing Our Mission

For some time now, Richard has had the vision of putting together a short video to show the need here in Los Cabos, as well as explain the heart of our ministry—what we are called to do. While home in December, our long-time friend Scott Eikenberry of Relivit Media, agreed to take on the project.

We met one snowy afternoon at Maranatha. There, he interviewed us, asking questions and getting to the heart of what we do and why we do it. We then chose several pictures from the past six years here in Mexico, sending a variety of options to Scott. From there, he went to work, putting together a great presentation of our ministry here in Los Cabos.

If you haven't seen it, it is on our website at [www.newlifeoutreach.us](http://www.newlifeoutreach.us) or on youtube at <https://youtu.be/JNKaipbG18c>

Thank you, Scott! We truly appreciate your expertise putting this together.

## A Place to Worship



We were recently blessed to have Rick and Nancy Cramblet back in Los Cabos. The company Rick works for, Aerovision in Norton Shores, MI, donated the bulk of the funds for the Tierra y Libertad Church building project. We also had the pleasure during this visit of meeting their friends, Dave and Vonda Biona, for the first time. Dave and Vonda live in Kalamazoo, MI, only a couple hours away from our home base in Muskegon, MI. The Bionas have an amazing heart for missions and have been on many short-term mission trips. They are also very active in their local church, which has a huge heart for spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ around the world.



Rick's visit did have an official slant, as he took several photos of the project to share with Aerovision's benevolent committee upon his arrival back in Michigan. Many of the materials used in the church project were salvaged from our house that was destroyed by Hurricane Odile in September of 2014. Rick blessed our hearts while standing in what, according to North American standards, would be a very humble structure, by proudly exclaiming, "Look what \$10,000 and a hurricane can build." Rick is always very quick witted!

We send another big thank-you to Rick and Nancy Cramblet and Aerovision of Norton Shores, MI!



*In reference to Israel's 40 years of wilderness wandering: "We fear the wilderness because we fear the DROUGHT. We fear the place of NO WATER. The place of testing necessitates a miraculous provision...It is in the wilderness that the Lordship of Jesus lays siege to the strongholds of our carnality and the vain imaginations of our natural minds (II Corinthians 10:3-5)." -Kelley Varner, Prevail, page 139*

## God's Unfathomable Provision



This is the "God-did-it-again" story of Scary (pronounced Scotty) and Diana. Scary is originally from Mazatlán, Mexico. As is the case with many young men in Mexico, Scary was deeply involved in gang activity for many years. When Scary turned to the Lord, though, he started serving God as wholeheartedly as he had lived his previous way of life. He has been active in church for years now.

Around one year ago the Lord did something life changing for Scary and Diana...

Scary was working as a waiter at one of the nicer local resorts. He had a desire to be in full-time Christian work, but as is often the case in Mexico, he needed to work full time, as well as work with Pastor Carlos Maciel and the Cristo es el Camino churches. One day he shared a word of witness to a gentleman as he waited on the man's table. The tourist to Los Cabos, Leonard Pearson, picked up on the word and started a conversation with Scary about his relationship with the Lord. From that moment on, a friendship of Christian love developed. After hearing Scary rave about his pastor, Leonard wanted to meet Pastor Carlos. Leonard visited Pastor Carlos at his church and continued to be impressed with the Godly character and ministries of the two men.

The end to this marvelous story began with Leonard questioning Pastor Carlos as to what would help him the most with his many ministries. Pastor Carlos' answer was to have the salary for a full-time assistant pastor—the choice for this man being Scary. Shortly after that visit, Leonard arranged with Pastor Carlos to pay Scary a monthly salary sufficient to comfortably support him and Diana, in addition to blessing Pastor Carlos' ministries.

All of this led up to a recent, wonderful reunion with Leonard and Marcie Pearson of Washington State. Since Richard and I were also highly talked about (and have become the English speaking connection for phone conversations), we were also honored to join in on the festivities.

God continues to be amazing! Scary was faithful to be a discreet witness on the job, and Leonard was impressed. For several months already, Scary no longer has had to be bi-vocational, and God has fulfilled the desire of his heart. Pastor Carlos has the help he desperately needs, and Richard and I get to glory in another amazing testimony of God at work in the Los Cabos area!



# His Leading



## **New Life Transformation** **The Revival of the Heart...** **The Transformation of a Country**

As we look to the next step in the revival and transformation of Los Cabos, though, we find ourselves once again in need of ministry partners. We continue to seek on-going support for both ourselves, as well as for transformation efforts. That's where the New Life Transformation Fund comes in. The goal of this fund is to have Kingdom resources available to bring in ministries and speakers, as well as pay for transformation endeavors. Please consider...

- Supporting us monthly
- Donating to the New Life Transformation Fund – Making Transformation Possible in Los Cabos
- Supporting other on-going Los Cabos mission projects

Thank You again for your continued support and prayers. God is doing a mighty work in Los Cabos. We are blessed to be a part of what He is doing!



**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.