

Welcome! Welcome to the second edition of our 2020 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.

Where is the God of Elijah? *(II Kings 2:14)*

The Lord is shaking all that can be shaken (Hebrews 12:27-29), and peoples' hearts are full of fear. What is the answer in the midst of all of this? We know that ultimately, it is a personal relationship with Jesus Christ; but if they believed it was possible, their felt needs would lead them to ask for relief from the circumstances in their lives that seem so hopeless. We now have a large population of people that need a miracle above all else. Many are crying out to a God they may not know, for answers that seem impossible. The side notes for John 20:30 in my New American Standard Bible states the meaning for the word "signs"—in reference to what Jesus performed—as "attesting miracles." The unchurched in post-modern America needs to see "attesting miracles" to help point them to Jesus.

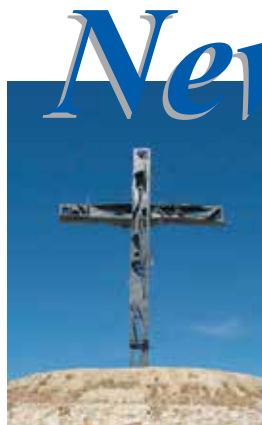
The existing problems and the tremendous needs we see around us are challenges to our faith. Are we going to live like those who have no hope of divine intervention in this life, or are we going to step out into uncharted territory and trust God for miracles? An example of such confidence in God is seen in Psalm 27:13.

*I would have despaired unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the LORD
In the land of the living. —Psalm 27:13*

King David expressed unshakeable faith in the deliverance of God from his enemies; Not just confidence that he would "dwell in the house of the LORD forever" (Psalm 23:6), but he knew with absolute certainty that God was his defender in the 'here and now.' David's constant, child-like trust in God worked an unwavering faith in his heart; even without the life of Christ or the Holy Spirit living inside him. In fact, God Himself spoke of David as "A man after My heart, who will do all My will" (Acts 13:22). You and I are without excuse.

Our God is a God of the miraculous and the bible is full of accounts—in both the Old and New Testaments—of His divine intervention in the lives of those who believed He would do what He said He would do. We could defend our lack of trusting God for the supernatural by saying that God had to show Himself as a powerful God in the Old Testament so people would believe He was real; But isn't that what we desperately need today? Or perhaps we could say that miracles ceased after the time of Jesus and His disciples, whereas Hebrews 13:8 clearly

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God of Elijah, continued...

states, “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever,” and we are His body—the body He designed and equipped to move in supernatural power. It has been said that God does not need the help of mankind, but He chose to use us—earthen vessels with the life of Christ within us (II Corinthians 4:7) as the answer to the immense needs of the world around us. What are we waiting for?

Preparation for the Miraculous

God knows us better than we know ourselves. He isn’t looking for perfection but for willing vessels crying out to the Lord to be included as a part of His miraculous intervention during the days of harvest ahead of us. In the days ahead, miracles will be seen in everyday life as a result of the prayers of people of all ages—both lay people and clergy. Even if you have never thought of yielding yourself to the Lord to be used in signs and wonders, now is the time to begin preparation.

Step 1. We must have a firm conviction that—by ourselves (as humans)—we are unable to bring about the miraculous. Another way of saying this is “apart from” Christ we “can do nothing” (John 15:5).

Step 2. The next step is to walk closely with the Lord. We will need to feel His heart and hear His voice in order to participate with Him in the days ahead. In times of trouble, it is easy to do many things besides getting alone with God. It is time to seek the Lord!

Step 3. The third step is unwavering obedience to the direction of the Lord. If we want to be used by God to bring miraculous relief into our own lives or into the lives of others, we will have to be obedient to the word of the Lord. It is possible to disqualify ourselves by hesitating to do what the Lord is telling us to do, doing what He has told us to do but with only partial obedience (such as doing the parts we are comfortable in doing), or not doing all the Lord has directed us to do—down to the last detail—because it doesn’t make sense to us. God is a God of details and He is looking for those “He may strongly support” because their “heart is completely His” (II Chronicles 16:9).

Step 4. Fourthly, we must have a deep burden for the relief of the need at hand and/or our hearts must be full of compassion for the person or people who desperately need the miracle. The burden connects us with the provision of God.

According to His Word

“All God has done has been done on the basis of faith in His Word. He spoke, and it was. That is the way He works, not only in creation but in everything. The Word of God has power to bring to pass what He says.”¹ In this limited space we do not have time to study the many scriptures that show the power of the word of God—whether spoken directly by Himself or from His servants speaking forth His word by inspiration of the Holy Spirit—but let’s look at one of my favorites.

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there without watering the earth and making it bear and sprout, and furnishing seed to the sower and bread to the eater; So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; It will not return to Me empty, without accomplishing what I desire, and without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it. –Isaiah 55:10-11

The four steps above will also start you on the pathway to hearing the voice of the Lord, so that you may pray His words and not just your own. This takes time, but the word of God is clear. If we are faithful in little things, He will give us more. Don’t look at this time of preparation as being hard work, but rejoice that you have embarked on the pathway of being a “friend of God” (James 2:23).

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God of Elijah, continued...

Mustard Seed Faith

Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, “Why could we not drive it out?” And He said to them, “Because of the littleness of your faith; for truly I say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you. –Matthew 17:19-20

There is much that has been taught through the years on this parable, but for this article I want to concentrate on “faith the size of a mustard seed.” Jesus used the mustard seed in contrast to a mountain because it was well-known at the time of Jesus that a mustard seed is “smaller than all other seeds” (Matthew 13:32). Because it was common knowledge, the Lord purposely used a mustard seed as the best possible contrast to what tiny faith could have the power to do—it could even move a mountain—mountains, at the time, being a proverbial type that spoke of difficulties that seemed insurmountable.

This brings us to those of you reading this article. You don’t have to have large faith to see God remove difficult situations that everyone would think impossible; you just have to start. All God is asking of you is a chance to show Himself strong. If you have enough faith to “squeak” out the quietest little prayer, God will do the rest, and the next time around it will be a little easier for you to offer to pray for a person—right then and on site (rather than just adding them to your prayer list; there is nothing wrong with that, but we’re looking for attesting miracles while you are still there to lead them to the Lord).

Remember, there always has to be a first for everything we do. Just do it, and remember that your little faith can be used by God to remove seemingly insurmountable difficulties from the lives of the people in your sphere of influence. Is this not what you would desire for those you come in contact with each and every day?

¹ *Daily Seedings: A Devotional Classic for the Spirit-Filled Life, Ivan Q. Spencer, p. 84.*

“Divine order brings divine peace.”

-Journaling with the Father

Los Cabos – Covid-19 Update

I want to thank those of you who have expressed concern over our well-being in Los Cabos. We are doing excellent. Mexico has a tendency not to react until our reputation is at stake and then we tend to over-react, so the strict sanctions which closed down much of the city didn’t hit until April 8; with the lesser sanctions starting less than a week earlier. Our city is blessed by being relatively small and isolated from most of Mexico.

The sanctions on public meetings—which affected our ability to meet for church services—didn’t officially start until March 29, at which time meetings were immediately limited to 20 in attendance. Cabo Church made the switch to taped services on March 22. After the 20 person sanction, Pastor Carlos quickly started a What’s App chat for his churches, and carefully divided his flock of 250-300 people among his three churches, missions, and home churches. We still somehow ended up with over 200 people at Tierra y Libertad that Sunday at our 6:00 p.m. service. They had had 40 first-time visitors just the week before!

Due to the crowd at Tierra y Libertad—by April 5—Pastor Carlos sent instructions to his people on preparing “home altars.” They prepared altars in their homes and posted photos of themselves on the church chat. They did the same for the Thursday night mid-week services, as well as the Friday night prayer meetings.

Pastor Carlos and his people have still been carefully providing for the needs of others; especially with the closing of Cabos Church’s feeding station at Tierra y Libertad. As a ministry, we have also supplied Pastor Carlos with funds for outreach, which we will continue to do as we are able. The mandate to “stay at home except for essentials and only one person in a car” didn’t come out until April 8. However—with so many in need—ministering to others in the barrios will not likely be suspended apart from a direct order from the governor of Baja California Sur.

So far, we have not had any major shortages of food and staples in Los Cabos. Fortunately, most of the North American population headed for the United States and Canada as soon as the news of Covid-19 broke out.

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Covid-19, continued...

What we do have is a large percentage of our population with no jobs and little to no money saved (due to the closing of all non-essential work, all tourist activities, many of our hotels, and finally all of our sit-down restaurants). The poorest of our poor usually buy food one day at a time and even one meal at a time. This would include the “day-workers” who are picked up by businesses or locals to work at an extremely low wage, one day at a time. Many of the members of this group are addicted to drugs and alcohol and were roaming around looking for what they could find (legally or illegally) within a week of the economic slowdown.

The largest problem we will face—apart from a miracle—will be crime and/or looting (many of our businesses have already placed plywood over their glass and pulled down their metal safety shades. The looting after Hurricane Odile in September of 2014 did help prepare us for this). There will be no government checks issued from our troubled, Mexican government, and our major ‘industry’ is tourism, which was just devastated with the early return of our ‘snow birds’ to North America and the loss of revenue we typically receive from Spring Break.

Please Pray

As you continue to pray for your countries and the world to conquer the Covid-19 threat, please pray exceptionally hard for the people of Los Cabos, most of whom do not know the Lord and are not ready to enter eternity.

We have been waiting for the start of the promised harvest of souls to come in for more than nine years. Please pray for the ability of our churches and various ministries to minister to the spiritual needs of large numbers of new converts. The Lord has been assuring my heart for quite a long time that He has an amazing plan for handling the outpouring of His glory and the resulting harvest in Los Cabos, but it will take a God-sized plan to do it!

Also, please pray for jobs and financial provision for the people of Los Cabos—especially for our brothers and sisters in Christ, many who have now been without work and/or income for several weeks. Finally, please pray the safety of our city from increased criminal activity or looting.

Thank-you for your faithfulness to what God is doing in Los Cabos and may peace and God’s blessings surround you!

“There is a deep-seated desire to feel secure, but there is no real security without control and only I control—even the smallest detail—of all that is happening in the universe at any given time.”

-Journaling with the Father

Avanza sin Tranza – Pressing On



Originally, we hadn’t planned to share our newest Avanza sin Tranza update (the values program we have been working with for over three years) until after the training that was scheduled for March 30-31, but the coronavirus burst onto the scene and our dates for the training for 80 teachers and educators in the Municipality of Los Cabos has been postponed. Nevertheless, it was officially scheduled!

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Avanza sin Tranza, continued...

Almost a year and a half ago, Captain Zamorano expressed the need for a mandatory values training program for his police officers, and thanks to the investment of one of our faithful supporters, we were able to offer the initial training for the area’s police officers—free of charge to the city (Avanza sin Tranza has been embraced by multiple municipalities in Mexico, but someone must pay the cost of the program and that is a problem in Mexico). After that initial conversation with the Captain about Avanza sin Tranza, we had a complete change of government, his responsibilities on Monday mornings changed, and nothing more was said for more than a year.

But God Once Again Intervened

On the Monday morning when the new police vehicles were handed over to Captain Zamorano, Richard and I arrived just in time for the ceremony; most of the participants were already in place and we ended up standing at the far end of the plaza. When the Captain saw us he stepped out of the crowd to tell us how excited he was with the new vehicles. When he finished, I asked him if he still had a need for values training for his officers and he immediately answered, “Yes.” Then, Richard asked what would be the best way for us to help him make this happen and his answer was for Daniel Valles to make an appointment with his assistant. We were able to make immediate contact with Daniel. Daniel was able to immediately secure an appointment with the Captain, and a visit to our area the following week was scheduled.

On the following Monday morning, Richard and I had already finished “prayer walking” the area and were on our way out of the plaza when, much to our surprise, Captain Juan was still standing in the plaza. We were able to have a wonderful talk with him; including having the time to ask about the topics he had asked us to pray for when we first talked to him. One of those prayer requests had been answered and he said our prayers must have worked. We told him that Daniel had an appointment with him two days later and that the Director of Education, Juan Mesa, was working with us to get the program for the school system. The Captain smiled sweetly and said, “We’ll see what we can do.”

We said goodbye to Captain Juan, and as we turned around to go, Director Juan Mesa was right in front of us (remember, there were only a few people in the entire plaza by then). We told Director Juan that Daniel was flying in to talk to Captain Juan and asked Director Juan if he would like to see Daniel again since he would be in town the following Wednesday. Director Juan had us call his assistant and both of these precious men were scheduled within a couple hours of each other with Daniel Valles.

The Happy Almost Ending

Richard, Daniel, and I were excited when we headed to San Jose del Cabo the following Wednesday. Our appointment with Captain Juan was first. Daniel told him that our ministry was paying for fifteen people to be trained as trainers. The Captain smiled and said he wanted fifty law enforcement officers trained and



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Avanza sin Tranza, continued...

that he was going to pay for the other 35. Now that was exceedingly, abundantly above all we could have asked for or thought! We rushed over to the office in charge of making Daniel an official ‘vendor’ of the Municipality of Los Cabos and, within a week, Daniel had shipped all of the necessary paperwork to us to bring back to the city. He was instantly approved.

After all that, we still had our appointment with Director Juan. We were greeted at the door to his office with one of the Avanza sin Tranza decals we had given him. It was proudly displayed on the front door of the Department of Education. Director Juan sat down across from us and questioned Daniel about several things, but we soon found out that he already knew he was ready to schedule the training when he sat down that day. The training was scheduled for March 30-31, but you already know the rest of the story—we are postponed for the time being.

Both of these directors are ready for action when we are cleared of COVID-19. Please pray for protection and wisdom for both of them, as well as for their families, and—of course—keep praying for the implementation of Avanza sin Tranza.

“Only those who know Me intimately and hear the throb of My heartbeat will know what I am about to do. Only those with a listening ear for a present word will co-labor with Me as My plan unfolds like the waves of the sea at ebb tide.”

-Journaling with the Father

Change Has Come!

Tierra y Libertad – Now Pastor Carlos Maciels’ Main Church



For those of you who have followed our blogs for any length of time, you have seen many photos of the Lomas del Sol Church (Iglesia Lomas del Sol). Nonetheless, you may not have realized the church had spread from the original foundations we poured, blocked, and filled in during the spring of 2014, to the lot next to the church. Pastor Carlos has been renting the lot for just a little under eight years now. During this time, there has been talk of purchasing the lot, but the owner wanted top dollar and—just in case you don’t know—land is a very limited commodity on our narrow peninsula and many times the property prices seem terribly unreasonable for very humble pieces of property. Each year, Pastor Carlos would contemplate whether or not he should

move the church to a different location or stay at Lomas del Sol. During this time, however, nothing opened up and many times—even with the lot next to the original church—there has not been enough room and people have been overflowing into the street.

Finally, just last month, the “mother church” was moved from this original location to the Tierra y Libertad location. Lomas del Sol gave up the lot next to the original building, and Lomas del Sol became what Pastor Carlos calls a “mission church.” Tierra y Libertad has continued to be added to and improved on since its original construction and is now Pastor Carlos’ only church that can fit 200 to 300 people when all of the “missions” are together. Since we purposely did not build walls around the sanctuary area so there would be more available room, I must share with you that nighttime services from December to March are quite chilly. I often had so many layers on I could hardly move. With this new arrangement, I might actually have to break down and bring a lightweight

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Tierra y Libertad, continued...



winter coat to Cabo San Lucas—I know, if you come in the tourist season, it is hard to imagine.



When there is a special service with all of the churches and missions together, we can just barely fit. We are still praying and negotiating over the Quinta Real property, and Pastor Carlos was recently given the use of a large tent in great condition, which can seat 500. Watch this story closely, it is guaranteed to reveal God's working as far as the land at Quinta Real!



Shane & Tracey Crowley 2020

Shane and Tracey Crowley of Fremont, Michigan have faithfully labored in Los Cabos during the winter season since 2014. Shane is a cement contractor and his wife Tracey is his faithful assistant. The two of them have made a significant difference in the homes and churches/missions under Pastor Carlos Maciel and his team from Iglesias Cristo es el Camino (Jesus is the Way Church). I've said it before, but it's worth repeating, they are helping to transform Los Cabos—one project at a time.



We also cannot thank Tom Sturris of High Grade Concrete of Spring Lake, MI, enough. Three years ago, Tom offered to donate 50 cents for every bag of cement Shane bought from him to the charity of his choice—and we are blessed beyond measure that Shane chose New Life Outreach!

Before you look at the pictures, let me give you a description of what was done in just four weeks:

- The Church at Tierra y Libertad—The church was first built with a large vented roof in order to be more hurricane resistant. The church also had a cement auditorium area and, eventually, a cement platform. The wall area was purposely left open so there would be room for all of the missions and churches (mainly smaller in size) to meet in one place. This year, Shane and Pastor Carlos' crew of faithful men were able to cement in the remaining 'floor' areas around the main auditorium. This was a lot of cement and a lot of work, but the results are amazing (and easier on everyone's dress shoes).

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Crowley, continued...



- The Church at Valle del Cabo—Last year, Shane and company put an entirely new front on this small church and this year they were able to block up the side walls, giving greater security to the church property. They dug foundations for the two parallel side walls, blocked the walls up, and poured cement on the remaining parts of the floor, which were still dirt. This year’s work gave a significant boost to the usefulness of the church!

- Pastor Carlos’ house in Las Palmas—Pastor Carlos originally bought a partially built home with the intent of finishing it as his family of five lived in it. Last year, Shane and company were able to move

them far beyond their building or financial ability; with Richard coming alongside for the finishing after the annual building frenzy. Janet (Pastor Carlos’ wife) was still in need of some material to use as a counter top in her kitchen and Shane just happened to want to start pouring colored cement countertops as part of his business in West Michigan. You’d have to ask Shane or Richard for the details, but Shane was pleased to bless her, as well as to be able to polish his skills in pouring cement counter tops.

Enjoy the pictures and please pray for the continued prospering of High Grade Concrete of Spring Lake, MI and Shane Crowley Masonry of Fremont, MI.



San Jose—Monday Morning Winter Highlights

New Police Trucks and More!

We never know what to expect at 8:00 a.m. on Monday mornings in front of the Municipal Palace in San Jose del Cabo where we go for the weekly patriotic ceremony, which is held in the plaza in front of the Municipal Palace (main building of our municipal government).

We were recently in for an extra special surprise since it honored our security forces in the area, along with our dear friend, Captain Juan Jose Zamorano, who is the head of all security in the area. He is a man of great character, and the Municipality of Los Cabos is blessed to have him here. As a ministry, we have promised to pray for the continuation of Captain Zamorano's assignment to the Municipality of Los Cabos, for his safety and that of his family, along with exceptional blessing and well-being. We invite you to join us in praying for Captain Zamorano. As you look at the photos, he is the gentlemen receiving the symbolic 'large key' to nine new police trucks and two new police motorcycles. The lovely lady handing him the key is "la Presidente" (mayor) Armida Castro.



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Monday Morning Highlights, continued...



Women Awareness Month

Women's Awareness Month is always a special event at the Patriotic Ceremony, as well. One of the biggest highlights this year was a large, very impressive, traveling display; giving a pictorial account of the evolution of the rights of women in Mexico. The reason I'm sharing this with you is because I love antique photos that show the history of an area. These particular photos are not from the Los Cabos area, but they do show a part of Mexico's past that we had never seen. I did try to include the date and explanation in Spanish for most of the photos. You may not be able to read the captions but the date of caption will help you put things into perspective.

An awareness of the physical and sexual abuse of women in Mexico is also highlighted every year. This is definitely a problem in the United States as well, but in many parts of Mexico, such activity is considered an unspoken right of the men in the home. Captain Zamorano once told us that the largest demand on law enforcement in Los Cabos is domestic violence, and from the Mexico Daily News on the mainland of Mexico, there are still areas that embrace horrific practices with their women and children. We have no idea of how blessed we have been in the United States because of our godly foundation and biblical beginnings.



Monday Morning Highlights, continued...

Annual Flag Day Ceremony

This day is always one of our favorite days at the Patriotic Ceremony. Several schools are always given the honor of participating and the flag corps and the drum and bugle corps arrives in full parade dress. It is a sight to behold! Patriotism is a wonderful thing! This particular year was special because—as far as we could tell—the participants appeared to be university age, which is a grade level we had never seen participate in the annual ceremony before. Los Cabos actually has several universities (which is the word translated for what we would call colleges; the Spanish version of ‘college’ is usually just attached to a trade or specialty school).

The annual ceremony also includes certificates of merit for a handful of outstanding students. Pride just radiates from each of them. Mexico is excellent at giving honor to whom honor is due.



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.

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