

# His Leading



**Welcome!** Welcome to the third edition of our 2022 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).

## Don't Waste Your Pain

*It's not what you go through. — It's how you go through it.*

If you have been around those whom I have mentored or taught throughout the years, they will tell you that they have definitely heard me say, “Don’t waste your pain.” Whether we suffer as a victim of circumstances that are out of our control, or as a result of reaping that which we have sown; the pain is still very real, and typically is not something we would choose to go through again. Nevertheless, no matter what the cause of the pain was, or is, the important thing is how we react, how we respond in the tragic, unforeseen—or even just undesirable—times of life. The Bible is full of answers and encouragement for these times.

Many of you have gone through seasons of great suffering in the last two and a half years. Whether from Covid-19 and its resulting effect on the U.S. economy or from the ‘unheard of’ domestic and foreign policies coming forth, the results have caused wide-spread devastation and pain in many of your lives. The purpose of this article is not to minimize anything that you or your loved ones have experienced, but to share from God’s word as to how God can take your pain and use it for your good. Pain is a powerful tool in the hands of a loving God.

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The Bible clearly states that “...we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose,” (Romans 8:28). This certainly does not mean that any pain you have ever experienced was ‘good,’ but that God can use the ‘hard’ places of life for our good, and for His ultimate plan for our lives. To further understand God’s desire for each of His children, let’s look at Romans 8:28-29 in the Amplified Version of the Bible.

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# New Life Outreach



Don't Waste Your Pain, continued...

<sup>28</sup> “And we know [with great confidence] that God [who is deeply concerned about us] causes all things to work together [as a plan] for good for those who love God, to those who are called according to His plan and purpose. <sup>29</sup>For those whom He foreknew [and loved and chose beforehand], He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son [and ultimately share in His complete sanctification], so that He would be the firstborn [the most beloved and honored] among many believers (the Greek word for “believers” is “adelphos,” which means “brother” or “a brother, as in a member of the same religious community, especially, a fellow Christian.”<sup>21</sup>) (Romans 8:28-29 AMP) [author's emphasis]

Verse 28 tells us we can have “great confidence” in knowing that our Heavenly Father is deeply concerned about us—and in ways that we cannot possibly understand. He uses the events in our lives for His plan and purpose. This is beyond our understanding. Actually, there are many things in the Bible we cannot understand, but we must walk by faith and not by sight. Verse 29 goes on to say that God “loved” us and “chose” us before we were ever conceived in our mother's womb [As a side note, I want to give a second witness to this truth with a very common section of scripture from the book of Psalms. The psalmist clearly states that God formed our inward parts and that we are fearfully and wonderfully made (Psalm 139:13-14). Then, in Psalm 139:16, we see “Your eyes have seen my unformed substance; And in Your book were all written The days that were ordained for me, When as yet there was there was not one of them.” He had a purpose and a plan for each of us even before conception]!

Continuing on with the second part of Romans 8:29, we see that God “...also predestined” us “to be conformed to the image of His Son [and ultimately share in His complete sanctification], so that He would be the firstborn [the most beloved and honored] among many believers.” The question is, how does He conform us into the image of Christ? The answer is, by allowing situations and circumstances into our lives that are so painful, that we cannot bear them in the natural. In the midst of the severity of these trials, our only hope for peace is to press into the literal life of Christ, which abides in every true believer of Jesus Christ.

*“Our difficulties are but God's challenges, and many times He makes them so hard that we must get above them or go under... We are pushed by the very emergency into God's best.”<sup>22</sup>*

## The Need for Pain

### –For Release of the Treasure Within Us–

<sup>7</sup>But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, so that the surpassing greatness of the power will be of God and not from ourselves; <sup>8</sup>we are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not despairing; <sup>9</sup>persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; <sup>10</sup>always carrying about in the body the dying of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. <sup>11</sup>For we who live are constantly being delivered over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. <sup>12</sup>So death works in us, but life in you. (II Corinthians 4:7-12)

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### –For Freedom From Our Flesh–

“Suffering is the process through which the ‘stench’ of the “old man” is removed from our reality.”<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? <sup>2</sup>Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it? <sup>3</sup>Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? <sup>4</sup>Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. <sup>5</sup>For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection, <sup>6</sup>knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. <sup>7</sup>For he who has died has been freed from sin. (Romans 6:1-7, NKJV)

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*Don't Waste Your Pain, continued...*

### **–To Obtain the Power to Overcome Adversity–**

“...when God wants to bring more power into our lives, He brings more pressure. He is generating spiritual force by friction. Some of us do not like it. Some of us do not understand. We try to run away from the pressure instead of getting the power and using it to rise above the painful cause.”<sup>4</sup>

<sup>9</sup>And He has said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness.” Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. <sup>10</sup>Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ’s sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong. (II Corinthians 12:9-10)

### **–To Be Able to Rest in our Father’s Arms, Despite our Circumstances–**

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, let us fear if, while a promise remains of entering His rest, any one of you may seem to have come short of it. <sup>2</sup>For indeed we have had good news preached to us, just as they also; but the word they heard did not profit them, because it was not united by faith in those who heard. (Hebrews 4:1-2)

“Those who love Your law have great peace, And nothing causes them to stumble.” (Psalm 119:165)

“The two deepest secrets of rest are to be in harmony with the will of God and to trust.”<sup>5</sup>

## **Please Don’t Waste Your Pain**

When we find ourselves in times of great emotional, mental or physical pain, we must face the fact that there may be no way out of the situation we are in, and there could possibly be no relief in sight. So what can we do? All we really can do is to cry out to God for His grace. Grace is the supernatural power and ability to do God’s will. Grace is His strength for our weakness. Grace is the ability to not just ‘get by,’ but to miraculously overcome the situations we face. Only the power of God can make these things happen in times of great pain.

On the other hand, if we choose to remain in anger, in jealousy, with suicidal thoughts, in hatred, in thoughts of revenge, in self-pity, or in any other place of self-destruction, we will begin to ‘shriveled up’ inside and hopelessness will set in. If we choose to remain in this place for any length of time, the thoughts and emotions that we have allowed to remain in our lives will continue to bring a decline in the quality of our lives. Remaining in this place will also cause a hardening of our hearts toward the Lord, which will then distance us from our only hope of recovery; which is running into the arms of our Heavenly Father.

I may not have experienced what you have gone through, but many years ago—in the pit of despair—I sincerely begged the Lord to take my life; since as a Christian, I believed I could not take my own. I really believed death was my only hope of relief. Fortunately, my pain was not wasted. My pastor sent me to a ministry called Life Center and there I learned how to address my pain through Biblical responses. If you seem to be unable to breakthrough your pain, to experience the fruit of the Spirit once again, please read my articles “Identity is Everything, Parts I & II” (go to [www.newlifeoutreach.us](http://www.newlifeoutreach.us), click on ‘Articles and Resources’ and click one last time on “Identity is Everything, Parts I & II.”).

Times of misery afford the best opportunity to experience the reality of God’s overcoming power in our lives. There is only one way to experience the strength of the Lord, and that is through weakness (II Corinthians 12:10). Please don’t waste your pain!

<sup>1</sup> Bible Hub App, Strong’s Concordance, #80, “adelphos”

<sup>2</sup> A.B. Simpson, *Days of Heaven on Earth*, January 30

<sup>3</sup> Rhonda J. Mead, *Journaling with the Father*, March 2, 2021

<sup>4</sup> A.B. Simpson, *Days of Heaven on Earth*, March 3

<sup>5</sup> A.B. Simpson, *Days of Heaven on Earth*, April 19



## Men's Discipleship



Richard has had the desire to start a men's discipleship group in our home for some time, but because of several factors—one being that we have not had an available space in our small condo complex—this had not come to pass. However, just recently, a space became available.

Richard's passion has not been for just any men's discipleship group, but for a well-trained group of men equipped with the fullness of the Spirit; men operating in the gifts of the Holy Spirit. He was so excited, he couldn't decide on one men's bible study, but used the material from two different men's studies. His passion is to train men to be spiritual warriors, with the knowledge and power of the Holy Spirit that they will be able to battle against an unseen enemy. For this reason, the first study is "Every Man a Warrior" by

Navigator Press and the second study is "Discipleship Evangelism" by Andrew Womack and Don Krow.

The men that turned out were not the "snow bird" or retirement population, but these men are men—many with families—who are working full time. Nonetheless, the men that came were extremely hungry and have worked hard on homework from the two bible studies. Not only were they hungry, but many of them were still present after two and a half hours of study and prayer! The first session is over, but Richard and the men are looking forward to session two.



We do have one sad note to report. One of the men—Tony Franklin—whom we have been friends with for several years and was passionately involved in the study went to be with the Lord on June 20th. Tony and his family were on a short vacation in Loreto, BCS, Mexico when Tony passed during the night from heart-failure at age 46. The family shared with us several special events that happened just before Tony went home. It was as if the Lord was highlighting the beauty of His creation just before He called Tony home.

Please continue to pray for his wife, Esha, and their four teenage children for the transition from this totally unexpected home going.



**“The Christian life is gloriously difficult, but the difficulty of it does not make us faint and cave in, it rouses us up to overcome.”**

—Oswald Chambers,

*My Utmost for His Highest, July 7*



## Kingdom Builders–Los Cabos The Beginning of a Long-Held Vision

From the time the Lord called us to Los Cabos in January of 2010 until now, Richard and I have prayed and sought for the beginning of a Christian Businessmen’s Association in Los Cabos. We envisioned an association whose goal was to change the spiritual climate of the city, as well as to help with humanitarian projects.

A group of like-minded Christian businessmen is especially important for Los Cabos, Mexico. A common phrase that is used in reference to Los Cabos is that it has a “revolving door.” In other words, people come and go, and friendships of any duration are hard to find and/or maintain. Ministry outside of the church walls is very difficult.

After much prayer and much effort, the beginning of the fulfillment of this vision has finally begun. Shortly before the beginning of the

Covid-19 restrictions in 2020, a friend of ours, Dave Limpert, and one of his close friends, Dereck Fullmer, approached Richard with an opportunity to be the ‘point man’ for a branch of Kingdom Builders–Convergence in the Municipality of Los Cabos. The two of them had been a part of a small group men’s ministry in the state of Colorado, from where the name originated. Derrick has a vision to spread groups similar to theirs in other parts of the world, as well as in other areas of the United States. They currently have group ‘plants’ in four other cities besides Los Cabos.

What makes Kingdom Builders distinct from what we would think a Christian Businessmen’s Association would be like, is that the groups are kept small (6 to 12 men) and are by ‘invitation only.’ The original core group of men recommend Christian friends or acquaintances of theirs who they feel would be a good fit for the group and invitations are given. The purpose of the group is to be a group of influential men in their city who are in a position to promote initiatives that will affect the spiritual climate of the city, as well as to finance programs intended to enhance the quality of life for the people there. They meet weekly for bible study and prayer in a completely confidential setting where they are able to share their hearts and/or prayer requests with other likeminded Christian men.

Just in case you are wondering where a missionary from rural Michigan fits into this program, Richard was chosen as the point man for Los Cabos because of his character, ‘pastoral care’ personality, and years of intense ministry in the Los Cabos area. Richard is taking this position very seriously. He has been praying fervently over the program and for the prayer needs of the men. He is passionate about the weekly bible studies and works hard to bring forth specifically what the men need. Richard’s motto for the group in Los Cabos is, “Manifesting God’s kingdom through convergence to Christian business leaders and influencers in Cabo San Lucas.”

This group is just the beginning of our vision for Los Cabos because of the makeup of this particular group of men. However, Richard can envision this group as the core group of leaders for an open-invitation Christian business association for our municipality.

Please pray for these men and their spouses (the current format includes “social” events with their spouses). Please pray for protection, continued bonding, and continued faithfulness to the bible study group. This may not seem to be on the top of the list of needs for Los Cabos, but after praying for the area for over ten years, as well as having presented this need for many years, I can tell you that the enemy of our souls does not want this to thrive.

May the Lord bless and care for each one of you who support us in any way!

**“...When God wants to bring more power into our lives, He brings more pressure. He is generating spiritual force by friction. Some of us do not like it. Some of us do not understand. We try to run away from the pressure instead of getting the power and using it to rise above the painful clause.”**

*–AB Simpson, Days of Heaven on Earth, March 3*



## Ministry Updates...

### Marina Evangelism

Richard's evangelistic ministry along the Cabo San Lucas Marina continues to bear fruit. The number of 'hawkers' fighting for the business of everyone who appears to be a tourist, or appears not to be a local resident, is down this time of year. Even though the numbers are way down, though, Richard is still having at least one good contact each week as he banters with the salesmen. By this time in the year, many of the salespeople are aware that he is a pastor, but because of the turnover in where these on-site salespeople are assigned, there is still the possibility of finding someone who has never talked with him, and because tourists are sparse this time of year, even those who are aware of his method of evangelism will strike up a conversation out of boredom.

We were able to provide bibles for several of his contacts this quarter, and were able to fulfil a request for a devotional one man specifically asked for. Even when there is not much conversation with some of the hawkers, Richard hands out one of our New Life Outreach tracts, "Jesus Took Me to the Cross with Him" (with Spanish and English versions). When all is said and done, we never know the impression that just contact with a Christian as winsome and straightforward as Richard might have on the population that gathers at the Cabo San Lucas Marina.



### Continued Ministry 2021 Christmas Family



We have shared before that the families of two of our daughters have donated the amount of money that Richard and I would normally spend on them for Christmas to the 'Christmas Family of the Year' (Due to the home going of my brother at the end of November of 2021, our Christmas Family for 2021 was not celebrated until the beginning of 2022).

The most recent family consists of a mother, Magdalena, who was abandoned by her husband just eight months ago. We know Magdalena and her family well, and they have been an integral part of the ministry of Cristo es el Camino Church for as long as we can remember. This abandonment by her husband has left Magdalena and her two children with no regular source of income, and only a

small room off the 'home' of her brother.

When another one of our daughters and her family heard about Magdalena's struggle, her family donated enough for Magdalena's family to receive enough money every month to provide food for the family.

We want to thank our daughters and their families for their concern for this family. We also want to thank every one of you who continually give to the ministry of New Life Outreach. We continue to pray for a spiritual outpouring for the Municipality of Los Cabos, and reach out with various programming and evangelical outreaches.

Our Heavenly Father loves the people of Los Cabos, as well as all of Mexico; and He has a plan for their spiritual freedom!

## Attacking the Darkness Second Las Palmas Crusade



Near the end of May, Pastor Carlos Maciel, senior pastor of the Cristo es el Camino churches, was able to get another 2-day permit for a crusade in the Colonia (neighborhood) of Las Palmas. A previous blog shared the excitement of being able to have our first, post-Covid-19 crusade at this same location. This crusade was not nearly as successful as the first. There were strong winds during the two nights that were planned for the crusade. Pastor Carlos decided not to take the risk of putting up the tent and take a chance it would come down on the people. This particular location is a wide open, flat field/bus parking lot, and isn't located close enough to the commercial areas to get the attention of the surrounding neighborhood without the presence of a tent.



Even with this disappointment, it was only the second time since Covid-19 that the 'missions' and churches that make up the Cristo es el Camino congregation could meet together. It was also the first time that communion was taken by the congregation since before Covid-19.



There was good music, worship, and preaching, and we never know who in the crowd, or standing in the outskirts, might have been touched in some way by the ministry of the Spirit of God in that flat field, on a chilly, windy night.

Please continue to pray for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Los Cabos, and please don't forget that all of you, who support us in any way, will share in the reward of what God is doing through New Life Outreach at the tip of the Baja Peninsula.





*Attacking the Darkness, 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](http://www.newlifeoutreach.us)

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