

His Leading



Welcome! Welcome to the first 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 or visit us at www.newlifeoutreach.us.

A Body that Knows About Me, but is not Like Me

The last two years have revealed a professing Body of Christ proclaiming many things that are far outside the teachings of the Bible. Even the more dedicated within this category seem to be living in fear and confusion. During this time of darkness in which we have been living—and to some extent are still living in—the light of the Lord has not been nearly as bright as I would have expected.

We do know that this slide away from Christlikeness has been progressing for well over a generation. There are many valid observations that have been discussed and presented as to how we as the Body of Christ and the United States as a country have erred. This trend, which is far from the heart of our Father, has resulted in a mass exodus from Biblical Christianity. While we certainly have an accurate assessment as to how we arrived at this point, the question remains; what needs to be done to bring correction to the current condition of the Body of Christ in the United States?

Recently, while I was journaling, the Lord changed the subject we were on and made a simple but profound statement. What He shared opened my eyes to a truth that was in plain sight but that I hadn't seen succinctly. He said, "The problem with the church today is that My people are taught My word without being taught My ways. This gives them knowledge without character, which usually results in pride and/or contentment with where they are at. This has produced a Body that knows about Me, but is not like Me. This has led to a misrepresentation of Me in this earth and many disappointments in the lives of My people. All because they did not understand My ways."

continued...

New Life Outreach



A Body that Knows About Me, continued...

This misrepresentation of the Lord through a people who do not understand His ways has led to great confusion in the United States. Let's look at just three categories of those who profess to be Christians. There are

“The problem with the church today is that My people are taught My word without being taught My ways. This gives them knowledge without character, which usually results in pride and/or contentment with where they are at. This has produced a Body that knows about Me, but is not like Me...”

many who have deceived themselves by claiming the nametag of ‘Christian,’ but have no testimony of ever having received Jesus Christ as their Savior. There is another large group of born again believers who have strayed so far from Biblical truth that they have become a detriment to the cause of Christ because of the error of that which they proclaim. Lastly, there is a large group of true believers in Christ that know the scriptures, but routinely live contrary to them without conviction or much thought of repentance. These three groups are a perfect example of the dichotomy in professing Christians—the ability to feel comfortable wearing the nametag of ‘Christian’ without having any desire to be like Him.

Dichotomy in the Body of Christ

Dichotomy: a division involving apparently incompatible or opposite principles, a duality.

Dichotomy is defined as a sharp division of things or ideas into two contradictory parts.¹

There is a dichotomy in the mind of professing Christians that is destructive to spiritual growth and keeps them from being conformed to the image of Christ. They have a “form of godliness, although they have denied its power” (2 Timothy 3:5). They have allowed themselves to be deceived by the enemy.

“For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; for once he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was” (James 1:23-24).

Head knowledge of the Bible (without humility), a lifetime of attendance and/or faithful service at a Bible-believing church, being in Christian ministry (vocationally or as a volunteer), or any number of other very important and necessary activities for the Lord do not necessarily bring us to an understanding of His ways. Only complete, child-like abandonment² over a long-period of time can cultivate the faith-filled relationship that can rest³ in ways that are contrary to our way of thinking. This is a depth of relationship that few know. It is a place of being “hidden with Christ in God” (Colossians 3:4).

When we are born again, our old nature is crucified with Christ and we receive a new nature, the nature of Christ Jesus Himself, but we are left with the parts of our mind, will, and emotions that were trained by our old nature and still think, choose, and feel (our flesh) just as if we were never born again. This spiritual transaction produces an immediate dichotomy within us. Scripture clearly identifies the difference between the carnal man (the man walking after the flesh) with the spiritual man (the man walking after the spirit).

“For the mind set on the flesh is death, but the mind set on the Spirit is life and peace, because the mind set on the flesh is hostile toward God; for it does not subject itself to the law of God, for it is not even able to do so, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God” (Romans 8:6-8).

“For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please” (Galatians 5:17).

continued...

A Body that Knows About Me, continued...

“And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect” (Romans 12:2).

The process of spiritual growth (from the time we were born again) is the reprogramming of our mind, will, and emotions from the programming of our old nature—to think, choose, and feel like our new nature. Without this complete inner ‘makeover’ the dichotomy within us will not be renewed and we will not progressively be conformed to the image of Christ. The world in which we live desperately needs to see a ‘Body of Christ’ that looks like Him.

Are You Double-Minded?

If the Lord is challenging your heart today, will you surrender to His tender voice? The question is not whether you think you can change or not. The question is do you really want to change? When a heart sincerely cries out to the Lord, the One Who loves you most will heal your broken heart and pour His grace into your life, which is the power and desire to do God’s will. He will give you all you need, if you will give Him all of you. Today is the day!

The question is not whether you think you can change or not. The question is do you really want to change?

¹ *Dichotomy, www.fbscan.com*

² *Victory Beyond Comprehension, New Life Outreach 2nd Quarter Newsletter, 2018*

³ *Lack of Intimacy with Me, New Life Outreach 3rd Quarter Newsletter, 2019*

New Year’s Updates: 2022



Sometimes there is just not enough information for an individual blog, even though inquiring minds might want to know. Here are just a couple gems worth sharing:

- Our dear friends Rick and Nancy Cramblet made a special visit to Tierra y Libertad to show their daughter Bethany and her friend the Cristo es el Camino church building and Cabo Church’s feeding station. At the very beginning of the church’s humble construction beginnings, Rick Cramblet went home from Los Cabos and presented the project to the company he worked with. Their contribution funded the initial construction of the church. We will be forever grateful for that donation.

continued...

And just for a little history... Lupe Hernandez (who ran the feeding stations for Cabo Church at the time) asked Richard and me if Pastor Carlos would be interested in building a church at Tierra y Libertad in order to pastor, teach, and care for the spiritual training of the women and children who regularly attended the feeding station. Pastor Carlos prayed about it, New Life Outreach purchased the two lots the church buildings are built on, and the vision began!



■ I really don't know if any of you faithful followers and prayer warriors have followed Cristo es el Camino's annual anniversary celebration, but here's the bad news... Due to Covid-19 limitations at the time of the anniversary, there was no celebration this year. However, for those of you who might want to know, it was the 13th anniversary since Pastor Carlos' first church plant in the rented building overlooking the large arroyo (large gully) on Via Lactea. Pastor Carlos asked Richard to preach for the first time at that location in 2010. The power of God was there and we fell in love with Pastor Carlos and his family!



The Harvest is Coming!

And don't allow yourselves to be weary or disheartened in planting good seeds, for the season of reaping the wonderful harvest you've planted is coming! (Galatians 6:9, TPT)

Many of you who have labored in different ministries throughout your Christian experience can probably share similar stories... I began working for the Lord in my early teens and I faithfully served Him in whatever areas of need arose, but—looking back—I am only aware of just a handful of testimonies of lives that were touched through the years that followed. For this reason, we can be glad of the encouragement of the Lord in Galatians 6:9. For all of us, the size of the harvest from what we have planted throughout our lives in co-laboring with the Lord will not be known until eternity, but nonetheless, the harvest is coming!

This preamble brings us to the actual purpose of today's blog. In December 2020, we shared about a ministry Richard began by talking and bantering with the 'hawkers' (the aggressive salesmen scattered throughout Cabo) who flock to Cabo San Lucas during our busy tourist season. One of Richard's favorite lines is, "I don't have to think of a way to strike up a conversation; they come after me."



continued...

The Harvest is Coming, continued...

Richard first started by going along with any salesmen who happened to approach him until he could swing the conversation around to his spiritual condition. Now he goes weekly to the Cabo Marina area with similar clothing on, in order to be recognized. Since that time, they see him coming down the boardwalk, and start shouting, “Hi Pastor!”

The Harvest Has Begun!

Several months ago, a friend of ours, Ron Welch, went to the Marina with Richard. Ron has a real heart for people, and consequently he fell in love with this approach to ministry. Now when Ron is in town, he contacts Richard to see what day will be Richard’s next visit to the marina.

Just within the last several weeks, the first man who has ever come to Cabo English Church from Richard inviting them came to our Sunday morning service. It just happened that Ron was with Richard that day, and was still in Cabo to have the pleasure of seeing our first ‘invitee’ actually come to church, along with being visibly touched by the presence of God. Being an optimist, Ron’s response to this was, “I knew he was going to come to church!”

The very next week, a father and son whom Richard had invited came and again the father was deeply touched and his son loved Sunday School. The following week, a brother (whom Richard had previously talked to many times) came to our service and was deeply touched, as well. We never know how large the harvest will be in the lives of these four people, but we know that it is God’s desire for them to walk in His ways, and our God will release resources from heaven and on earth in order to bring them to living fruitful lives for the Kingdom of God.

For all of you who are reading, who have wondered when the harvest from your labors of love for the Lord will come, listen to the Apostle Paul, “Don’t allow yourselves to be weary or disheartened... the wonderful harvest you’ve planted is coming!”

Post Covid-19 Sunday School Resumes Samaritan’s Purse

Since 2014, when Cabo San Lucas was literally torn to pieces by Hurricane Odile, our Cristo es el Camino churches have been blessed at Christmastime with Operation Christmas Child Shoe Boxes. The program includes



professionally, well-done material that teaches children all they need to know to make a decision to receive Jesus Christ as their Savior by the end of the required lessons. They also receive their own Bible at the graduation celebration. Through the years, many of the family members of these participating children have received the Lord as a result of this program, as well.

This year was a dual blessing. The children were able to gather together again for Sunday School, so this year the

continued...

Sunday School/Samaritan's Purse, continued...

Samaritan's Purse material was used during their normal Sunday morning Sunday School time. As you can see, the children really enjoy this time of training each week.

For those of you who might not be familiar with Operation Christmas Child, look it up on the internet and enjoy reading about an amazing program with amazing results!



Thank you for supporting Operation Christmas Child!

For more information, check out <https://www.samaritanspurse.org/what-we-do/operation-christmas-child/>

A Baptismal Celebration on Tule Beach

Just a few weeks ago, Baja California Sur received the Covid designation 'green.' This designation opened up the ability to have large public gatherings—yes!

There was one person who was baptized during the eighteen months of strict Covid-19 restrictions, but just last Sunday, the Cristo es el Camino church family, pastored by Pastor Carlos Maciel, had the joy of baptizing sixteen people at Tule Beach, which is located between San Jose del Cabo and Cabo San Lucas.

This has been a church tradition for many years. The attendees arrived at the beach at 8:30 a.m. for Sunday School, followed by a magnificent baptismal service. They sang praise songs to the Lord, held their Sunday service on the beach, and shared a great 'family' picnic amid the ocean breezes. The whole day was a celebration of the



A Baptismal Celebration, continued...



freedom to be able to meet in a large group (and all of this on one of our gorgeous Cabo beaches). Pastor Carlos reported a head count of close to one-hundred!

We want to thank all of you who have been praying for Baja California Sur to go green. This is definitely a step in the right direction. Please continue to pray for other restrictions that are still being enforced—even with our green designation—to soon be lifted.



Post Covid-19 Patriotic Ceremony Resumes

Just before going home for Christmas, the 8:00 a.m. Patriotic Ceremony in the San Jose del Cabo town square in front of the Presidential Palace resumed (this is the name for the building the mayor's office is in).

We have blogged on different, notable events at this weekly ceremony before, but the significance of this particular program was the excitement of a bit of normalcy returning to our municipality! Please continue to pray for the Spirit of God to sweep over the Municipality of Los Cabos (which includes San Jose del Cabo, Cabo San Lucas, as well as several nearby, smaller cities).

Enjoy the pictures! This ceremony is always a patriotic inspiration.



continued...

Patriotic Ceremony, 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