

**Welcome!** Welcome to the third 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](mailto:info@newlifeoutreach.us) or visit us at [www.newlifeoutreach.us](http://www.newlifeoutreach.us).

## The Mountain of the Lord

*And it will come about in the last days that the mountain of the house of the LORD will be established as the chief of the mountains. It will be raised above the hills, and the peoples will stream to it. (Micah 4:1)*

This verse is taught in several different ways, but for this article I am sharing the view of “the mountain... of the Lord” in regards to Jesus’ triumphant rule and reign upon His return as the risen Messiah. According to the Jamieson, Fausset and Brown Commentary in regards to the mountain of the Lord in Micah 4:1: “Under Messiah, its elevation is to be not that of situation, but of moral dignity, as the seat of God’s universal empire.”<sup>1</sup> As members of “the house of the LORD,” or the Kingdom of God, we are part of God’s universal empire.

Additionally, those who choose to overcome will rule and reign with Christ (Revelation 3:21). If this is our desire, we will need a lifestyle of the kind of ‘spiritual conditioning’ which will enable us to overcome. As we look at overcoming, we will be focusing on analogies comparing Christian maturity to climbing a mountain—the mountain of the Lord.

Christian maturity is pictured in Philippians as pressing “on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 3:14). We are well aware—even as is the case with the physical training and drive required for the successful climb of a mountain’s high peak—of the spiritual endurance needed to continually press on toward the upward call of God, until Christ is formed in us (Galatians 4:19).

In a trilogy of books written by Rick Joyner, founder of Morningstar Ministries, our spiritual journey is portrayed as an intense personal battle that must be undertaken to advance—from one level of the mountain of the Lord to the next. The analogies in this trilogy vividly portray the dangers and setbacks we experience as we ‘climb higher in the Lord,’ as well as provide helpful insights to help us overcome.

Another classic worth reading is, *Hinds Feet on High Places* by Hannah Hurnard. This work grips our hearts with the seriousness of the climb that every overcomer must face. *Hinds Feet on High Places* compares the Christian walk to a road winding around and around the mountain of the Lord. At the bottom of the mountain, where there is little incline, there is a paved, busy, four-lane highway. Eventually, however, as you go higher and

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*The Mountain of the Lord, continued...*

there are fewer travelers, the road narrows to a paved, two-lane road. Continuing up the mountain where there is even less traffic, the road changes to gravel and eventually to dirt. By the time you get close to the top of the mountain, there is only a well-worn path that gradually disappears. From that point on, all you can see are rocky outbreaks and heavy brush, where few will choose to travel. This is a picture of our walk with the Lord.

If you could see clearly to the top of the mountain, you would wonder how anyone could ever get through the dense brush and past the huge outcroppings that seemingly block any perceivable way to the top. This pathway represents the way of those who choose to overcome and to follow the Lord faithfully to the end.

Up in the high places where the mountain goats roam, each step we take in our Christian walk must be in total dependence on the leading and provision of the Lord. This doesn't mean that we choose to not make a move without a specific word from the Lord, but that our life will be completely dependent on Him, even as branches are dependent on the vine (John 15:5).

The Psalmist described such a walk as a person with such spiritual sensitivity that the Lord can guide him with only His eyes.

*"I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will guide you with My eye. Do not be like the horse or like the mule, which have no understanding, which must be harnessed with bit and bridle, else they will not come near you. (Psalm 32:8-9, NKJV)*

Sweet dependence on the Lord is a characteristic of the high places and is a fruit of a "life...hidden with Christ in God" (Colossians 3:3).

## Climbing the Mountain of the Lord Presents Many Curves

Highway 1 through the Baja Peninsula is a perfect example of the numerous curves on a mountainous road. As a relatively narrow peninsula with a 'spine' of mountains from top to bottom, there are many very dangerous curves along the way. I will spare you the tales from our trips down the Baja, but there are many "blind" curves where all you can do is pray as you go around them because you have no idea what is on the other side of the curve—on your side of the road.

Life is like an unfamiliar road with many curves. Some curves will be blind curves—the ones that seemingly come upon us from out of nowhere. Every curve, no matter how familiar the road is to us, though, can have an element of surprise. We are already facing conditions in the United States that many of us might never have expected. We can do our best to plan for the future, but there is no way to plan ahead for that which is unknown.

Due to the uncertainties of life, the only way to have true peace in the days and years ahead will be to unconditionally place our lives in the hands of the Lord, allowing Him to direct our steps. As we encounter the unexpected, along pathways we would not have chosen, the Lord Himself is the only One Who knows what is around every curve of our lives. This has always been true, but the peace and prosperity of the United States of America has led many to trust in the system rather than in God—the One Who holds our next breath in His hands, controls our next heartbeat, and determines our every step. Who—or what—is your trust truly placed in?

<sup>1</sup>*Jamieson, Fausset and Brown Commentary, e-sword*

**"The greatest thing about suffering is not knowing how great it will be or how long it will last." -Fenelon, *The Seeking Heart*, pg 4**

*After all...*

**"The true church is a supernatural body with a supernatural Head governed by supernatural principles and order." -Ivan Q. Spencer, *Seedings*, June 13**

## A Glorious Light in a Dark Place

On March 15—the Sunday morning at Cabo Church that turned out to be our last morning service for a season—Richard and I were greeting at the door. Near the end of the already small crowd (as a result of news of the coronavirus in North America) was our precious drummer, who is just one of a special group of younger adult overcomers that we are blessed to have at Cabo Church. As I said goodbye with the usual, traditional Mexican greeting of a hug and a kiss on the cheek, I looked right into his eyes and said, “The darker it gets, the brighter you will shine” (with reference to Daniel 12:3). The Holy Spirit used me to say something that was beyond my understanding at the time. In fact, I discussed why I had said such a thing with the Lord several times during the following week. Then, the fanning of the fear in the United States hit Los Cabos as our tourist industry shut down—from our most opulent resorts to the taco vender on the streets. Since this affected the majority of our population in the lower income brackets, the gloom quickly spread over our municipality.



### Never Fear the Dark

In response to the growing darkness in Los Cabos, on April 1, the Lord shared a mini-teaching with me for the Body of Christ—Never Fear the Dark.

There are no opportunities in life without darkness. Even in a time of peace and tranquility, if we launch out into something new or different, there is no guarantee of success. In this dispensation, we really never know what the future holds. Uncertainty, itself, is a form of darkness. However, we do have multiple scriptures which give us the assurance that God always goes before us, that He is always with us, and that we will always be given the strength to overcome whatever might stand in our way! We will never be left to our own resources. The life of the risen Christ abides in us, we are temples of the Holy Spirit, and nothing ever happens to us that our Heavenly Father has not allowed!

Our job on this earth is not to flee from darkness, but as ‘carriers of the light,’ we should rejoice in overcoming evil with good (Romans 12:21). We have been given “authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy,” (Luke 10:19). Where light is, darkness flees; it has to. When the light is turned on, there is no more darkness. It’s that easy.

Darkness does bring a feeling of oppression and the antidote to this sense of doom is the joy of the Lord. Pray for joy over your assigned area (you all have one even if you haven’t thought about it)! Wherever you go, share a big smile (possibly under a mask) so that at least they can see the light in your eyes. Whether those around us

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*A Glorious Light, continued...*

see our smiles or not, it does not negate the effect. When we release the joy of the Lord in this way, it helps dispel the gloom and doom over people's lives, whether they are aware of it or not. Joy cuts through darkness like shafts of light and touches hearts with a glimpse of a better day.

## One Glorious Light in Los Cabos

As I shared in my previous blog, Pastor Carlos immediately went into action to organize his churches as soon as the ability to meet together was suspended. They organized the entire church family of between 250 to 300 people by What's App (which is available in other countries, but given that it is free, it is a mainstay of Mexican communication). Pastor Carlos had already sent out ideas for how the head of the home could establish a 'family altar' in their home. You will notice in the photos that some even have a container of tithe envelopes on their altars and a box in which to place the envelopes with money in. These brothers and sisters are not doing this under compulsion; they love the work of the Lord. Pastor Carlos still consistently sends an outline of the message for each Sunday service, with instructions on how to lead their families in worship.

You will notice in some of the photos that there appears to be guests in the homes of the lay leaders. They are very careful to include single person households, along with the elderly or anyone else in need of special care. Thursday night is their mid-week service and, again, everyone is sent the teaching for that night's service in their homes, as well as a list of suggestions as to what to pray for on Friday night's prayer meeting. Pastor Carlos makes himself available to pray—by phone—to anyone who needs prayer or has a need of food or other items. He told us just this week that to date, there are now 120 homes represented on Cristo es el Camino's What's App chat. They have actually grown in confinement!

I wanted to send the photos to show you how serious these wonderful brothers and sisters are, even though most of them either have little to no money left and have no guarantee of quick return to employment when they are released to go back to whatever it was they previously lived off of. Their joy and lack of complaining is amazing, and most of them definitely are a glorious light to their surroundings.

One last thing—for all of you who prayed for Los Cabos to be protected from looting and crime, our police and military are doing a spectacular job. In fact, there are very few "street people" out in the open, and we have only heard one specific report of an attempted personal robbery, which failed! I'm sure there must be some, but the overall atmosphere is very peaceful. Thank-you so much for praying!



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A Glorious Light, continued...



## Continue to Shine



## Light in the Darkness!



## Work Project Relief

During the Great Depression, a voluntary public relief program, known as the CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps), was formed as a part of Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal. My father used to tell me stories about planting trees in mid-Michigan as a teenager during his time in the CCC. We have had a miniature version of the CCC operating in Los Cabos during the Covid-19 economic crunch. Since we have known him, Pastor Carlos has always come up with some kind of work for men whom he is led to minister to when needed. On the other side of the continent, Richard has always done the same thing. In fact, it was hard for us to even get a building project finished in Michigan because Richard was always hiring men from the City Rescue Mission (Muskegon, MI) or local men that he had known since high school. This is great for ministry but really rough if your previous house is already sold!

Although Pastor Carlos told us in April that around 90 percent of his flock were still employed, when work began to get sparse, especially for the less skilled, he started remodeling and redecorating the churches at Valle del Cabo and Lomas



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*Work Project Relief, continued...*

del Sol. On the other end of the city, Richard started putting men to work on his continued expansion and improving of the church at Tierra y Libertad.

As you look at the pictures, you may notice fresh Fleur-de-lis designs (swirls and flowers) along the walls of the freshly painted churches. Our brothers and sisters in Los Cabos are ecstatic and very proud of the new look for their churches.

Due to the increase in rent, the church at Lomas del Sol is no longer using the empty lot that Pastor Carlos has been renting for several years and there is now a fresh, clean wall separating the much smaller church and the empty lot.

Richard has been working on building a room over the kitchen at Tierra y Libertad for the person in charge of caring for the property at any given time. He designed it with a 'front porch' that overlooks the road in front of the church. It turned out quite spacious for where it is at (Richard spent quite a bit of time planning it). He and the men he 'hired' to work with him did some needed upgrades to the original bathroom and put stucco, paint and tile on several walls. Richard has a passion for vocational training for the men in Los Cabos and this project was no different. He even had boys learning to use a drill driver for screws and the older teens and men learning to use a skill saw—along with hours of wise teaching as they worked alongside him.

Please do not ever forget that what we are able to do in Los Cabos is because of your prayers and support. Enjoy the pictures and be blessed!



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Work Project Relief, continued...



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Work Project Relief, 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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