

The Newsletter of Steps to Life Ministry

IN HIS STEPS

November - December 2023 | Volume 23 • Number 6



Son, go work today in my vineyard... Matthew 21:28

Was Known For ...

Serving fearlessly

Without a living faith in Christ as a personal Saviour it is impossible to make our influence felt in a skeptical world. We cannot give to others that which we do not ourselves possess. It is in proportion to our own devotion and consecration to Christ that we exert an influence for the blessing and uplifting of mankind. If there is no actual service, no genuine love, no reality of experience, there is no power to help, no connection with heaven, no savor of Christ in the life. Unless the Holy Spirit can use us as agents through whom to communicate to the world the truth as it is in Jesus, we are as salt that has lost its savor and is entirely worthless. By our lack of the grace of Christ we testify to the world that the truth which we claim to believe has no sanctifying power; and thus, so far as our influence goes, we make of no effect the word of God." *Thoughts from the Mount of Blessing*, 38

After the death of their beloved teacher, Jesus Christ, the disciples obeyed the commission to proclaim the gospel. Peter and John bravely went to the temple and preached the gospel.

"In Jerusalem, where the deepest prejudice existed, and where the most confused ideas prevailed in regard to Him who had been crucified as a malefactor, the disciples continued to speak with boldness the words of life. ... Filled with indignation, the priests laid violent hands on Peter and John, and put them in the common prison.



Without a living faith, it is impossible to make our influence felt in a skeptical world.

*Today, the gospel can be
given to the world at
lightning speed.*



“

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*Thoughts from the Mount of
Blessing, 38*

“The disciples were not intimidated or cast down by this treatment. The Holy Spirit brought to their minds the words spoken by Christ: ‘The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted Me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept My saying, they will keep yours also. But all these things will they do unto you for My name’s sake, because they know not Him that sent Me.’ ‘They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service.’ ‘These things have I told you, that when the time shall come, ye may remember that I told you of them.’ John 15:20, 21; 16:2, 4.” *Acts of the Apostles*, 78, 79

The personal witness of Christ’s disciples was limited to the times in which they lived. Now, in this modern age of radio and television, the gospel has been given to the world at lightning speed. The history of religious broadcasting which started on AM radio around 1921 and its evolution to television and internet websites is very interesting and can be easily researched on the internet.

[The origins of religious broadcasting reach back into the early days of radio in the United States. The first station to receive a radio license from the U.S. Department of Commerce, KDKA Pittsburgh, broadcast the Sunday evening vespers service of the Calvary Episcopal Church choir on January 2, 1921.]

A major change in radio evangelism occurred in the 1970s, when 75 percent of

the listening audience shifted to FM stations. This left older, less affluent listeners with AM radio evangelists like those documented by Howard Dorgan in his book, *The Airwaves of Zion: Radio and Religion in Appalachia*. These ministries are run largely by independent Holiness-Pentecostals who have little formal theological training. Their style of preaching is highly emotional, unstructured, and reliant on the inspiration of the moment. They attack everything from lottery sales to roadhouses and from homosexuality to alcohol sales. Some ministries include in their programs recitations of long lists of people in need of prayer. These AM radio preachers can be heard on Sundays and weekdays throughout the United States, but especially in the Southeast. Although these ministries have difficulties attracting advertisers because of their elderly audience profile, they have survived into the twenty-first century on freewill offerings and constitute one of the most durable formats in the history of religious broadcasting in America.

The most significant development in the United States between 1960 and 1990 was the creation of religious broadcasting networks such as Christian Broadcasting Network (CBN), Trinity Broadcasting Network (TBN), Praise the Lord Network (PTL), the Roman Catholic Eternal Word Television Network, LeSea Broadcasting, and Pax TV. These enterprises allowed for the development of diverse programming formats, nonstop religious television and



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radio coverage, and an expansion around the globe using satellite technology. <https://www.encyclopedia.com/environment/encyclopedias-almanacs-transcripts-and-maps/religious-broadcasting>

One of the forerunners of Christian broadcasters was Pat Robertson's Christian Broadcasting Network. The network began with Robertson's purchase in 1959 of a UHF station in Portsmouth, Virginia. During the 1960s, CBN's programming was limited to a daily schedule airing between 7 and 10 p.m. The core program was "The 700 Club," a talk show during which Robertson invited a host of evangelical authors and musical performers to discuss contemporary social, political, and religious issues.

Marion Gordon "Pat" Robertson died at the age of 93 on June 8, 2023. In the Wikipedia website he is described as an American religious broadcaster and a Southern Baptist minister.

What influence are we having in this world? Pat Robertson dedicated his life to the gospel commission through Christian broadcasting. His ministry lasted for over 60 years. The internet press releases commenting on his death mentioned his successful television broadcast as "one of the world's largest evangelistic ministries," and that "His heart's desire was

that all people come to know Jesus." At the end of the release, the website allowed readers to leave comments. Because Robertson was well known for his clear teaching of Romans 1, starting with verse 18, which speaks about God's wrath on all unrighteousness, and his plain statements of Romans 1:27, many comments like this were posted: "I hope he is enjoying the temperature in hell." Many comments of this type were posted by folks from all over the nation.

This type of opposition and hatred towards those who uphold their faith and obey the Master in preaching His word to the world is nothing new. We have the history of prophets and the apostles themselves as examples of loyalty to God. Christ's witnesses have endured the worst treatment that has been inspired by the "accuser" himself. This is why the record left by the apostles Peter and John in proclaiming the gospel is one of the most heroic. After the death of the Master, Peter and John, being full of courage and the Holy Spirit, went to the temple and spoke plainly of the great sin of the Jews in rejecting the Messiah.

As Christ's representatives, the apostles were to make a decided impression on the world. The fact that they were humble men would not diminish their influence, but increase it, for the minds of their hearers

would be carried from them to the Saviour, who, though unseen, was still working with them.

"All who in that evil day would fearlessly serve God according to the dictates of conscience, will need courage, firmness, and a knowledge of God and His word; for those who are true to God will be persecuted, their motives will be impugned, their best efforts misinterpreted, and their names cast out as evil. Satan will work with all his deceptive power to influence the heart and becloud the understanding, to make evil appear good, and good evil. The stronger and purer the faith of God's people, and the firmer their determination to obey Him, the more fiercely will Satan strive to stir up against them the rage of those who, while claiming to be righteous, trample upon the law of God. It will require the firmest trust, the most heroic purpose, to hold fast the faith once delivered to the saints." *Acts of the Apostles*, 431

"Ye are the light of the world."
Matthew 5:14.



Article by
Hilde Nunez
Contributing Editor

Foreign Mission Project Updates



Bolivia: A new church building and mission headquarters for South America.



Mexico: A radio station, publishing house, and mission headquarters for the whole country.



Kenya: Steps to Life evangelism and Free SDA ministries office.



Nigeria: Central office for mission work serving the most populous country in Africa.



Zambia: A building under construction which will house the Zambian mission office.

Pastor Domingo Nunez, the Steps to Life Director of Outreach, has really been “reaching out” this year.

Several major mission field projects have seen significant progress as he has traveled all over the world to implement and oversee the construction of “light houses” in foreign lands. An outline of his travels, below, shows that he has been hard at work, organizing worshipers and worship centers in several countries and on several continents.

January – Guerrero, Mexico, and Nigeria (Central)

February – Nigeria (East) and Panama

March – Guadalajara, Mexico, and Ghana

April – Bolivia

June – Guerrero and Guadalajara

July – Ghana and Guadalajara

August – Kenya, Guadalajara, and Bolivia

September – Bolivia (continued) and Philippines

Reviewing the above list, you would rightly assume that something major is happening in Guadalajara, and you would be right. The November, 2021, issue of *LandMarks* provided the introduction to the project there. As renovation progressed, it became apparent that the existing structure was unable to provide the infrastructure that the proposed operation in Guadalajara

required. So, now, two years later, a newly constructed, three-story building is nearing completion. Watch for an update in an upcoming *LandMarks* that will provide a more thorough report.

In addition to projects in the locations that Pr. Domingo has visited, there is also a project in Zambia getting underway for construction of a ministry center. Pr. Domingo simply hasn’t had time so far this year to travel there and is depending on Henry Mwesa, our lead for Zambia, Mozambique, and Malawi, to spearhead.

As you might gather, our Mission fund is getting a lot of activity. To support these efforts to establish outposts in the mission field, please mark your donations *Missions*.

Continuing Responses

Guadalajara, Mexico



Mrs. Ángel listens to the La verdad presente radio broadcasts with her husband in Guadalajara, Mexico.

We have reported previously about the ongoing success of *La Verdad Presente*, the radio program in Guadalajara, Mexico, that is supported entirely with your donations to our Mission Fund. Souls hungering and thirsting for the truth continue to providentially find these broadcasts. Here is a report from the results of a recent program:

A listener by the name Miguel Ángel from Retiro called in to request the books offered on the program. He wanted to learn more about Jesus, about making better decisions in his life, and most importantly, about being obedient by faith to Christ Jesus, our Saviour. He learned from the study that one of the biggest blessings, peace with God, is obtained through obedience. When we went to his home to deliver the book offers, Miguel was not home, but his wife received us kindly and informed us that she also listens to the program along with her husband. She said the studies are a huge blessing in their lives. There are no other radio broadcasts that teach the Word of God so plainly and with such thorough guidance from the scriptures.

Dear friends of Steps to Life, we pray that this testimony encourages you. Thank you for your support in advancing the good news of the Gospel here in Guadalajara that enables folks like Miguel Ángel and his wife to tune into present truth messages.

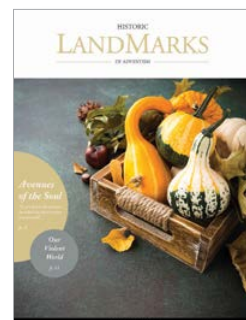


Guadalajara is the second largest Mexican city with the population of 5.4 million people, including its metro area.

HISTORIC LANDMARKS

—OF ADVENTISM—

in November



If you're a *LandMarks* subscriber, you should have the November issue in your hands already. If you're not a subscriber,

you can access the magazine online at www.stepstolife.org.

We must always be on guard—what we permit ourselves to see, hear and taste. There are many ways the devil can reach the sinful desires of our hearts. The article "Avenues of the Soul" will shed light on the access points for Satan. There are many.

God wants everyone in the world to be one of His children, but most of the world has no interest in His offer of kinship. What about us? Read the article "The Adoption of God."

Only by adopting God we can find refuge in this unsafe world. As we witness the latest world news, Bible prophecies unfold in front of my eyes. What must we do to be ready to stand firm and wholly trust in God? You'll find out more in the article "Our Violent World." This article talks not only about violence on the world stage, but violence in our country and our homes.

You can receive a complimentary subscription of this spiritually uplifting magazine.

Haven't gotten a subscription yet? Call us today to subscribe!

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Kansas State Fair

29 years and counting ...

When one thinks of a state fair, quite often the mind turns to food and fun: deep fried foods, midway rides, games of “skill,” and seemingly endless livestock and commercial exhibits. But for the members of Prairie Meadows Church, the church affiliated with Steps to Life, the Kansas State Fair presents an opportunity to share the truth with about 350,000 fairgoers from all over the world.

This past September, church members staffed a booth at the Kansas State Fair for the 29th year in a row (except for the skipped “Covid year,” when the fair was cancelled).

It is always an interesting experience for those who volunteer to share the truth with fair-goers. Experiences range from

sometimes unpleasant encounters with doubters, to uplifting conversations with professed Christians who seem to take genuine joy in receiving copies of *The Great Controversy*, *Steps to Christ*, *The Desire of Ages*, *The Ministry of Healing*, *Christ’s Object Lessons* and other inspired and inspiring books and pamphlets. We pray that they will “read and heed.”

There are always repeat “customers” who have stopped by the booth in previous years and want another copy of something because they gave their other copy away. It seems that every year someone says that they are taking literature to use for teaching their Sunday school class. Hopefully, they will learn the truth as they study the truth.

It is sometimes a challenge to faithfully represent Christ when someone wants to engage in a debate, offering the arguments that we’ve all heard more than once. “Sunday honors the day of Christ’s resurrection.” “The calendar was changed; so now we don’t really know which day is the seventh day.” “I can worship any day.” “Saturday is the Jewish sabbath.” Very often, we humbly “dart a prayer to heaven” as we listen to those who are more interested in “preaching” than in learning.

Please join us as we pray earnestly that those who accepted literature will be moved by the Holy Spirit to read what they have taken and that the Holy Spirit will give them understanding and acceptance of what they read.

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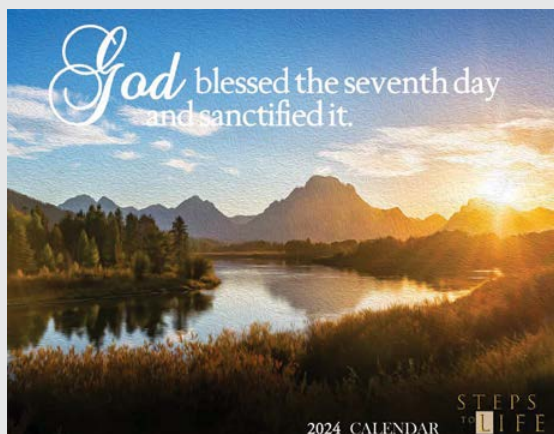
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