

The Newsletter of Steps to Life Ministry

IN HIS STEPS

January - February 2024 | Volume 24 • Number 1

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



The Perfections of Christ

“Let This Mind Be in You”

It is customary at the beginning of the year to set some goals that we would like to reach. Having goals is a good thing because success in any line requires a definite aim. In January some people have set a goal to get out of debt that year or to lose a certain number of pounds to achieve better health or to achieve some other purpose academically or financially. But the most important goals for a Christian to set are spiritual goals, especially the absolutely necessary goal of becoming like Christ in character. The following paragraphs are drawn from the article “Let This Mind Be in You, Which Was Also in Christ Jesus,” *Review and Herald*, November 21, 1899. The article describes in practical terms the goal we need to reach as followers of Christ.

In taking humanity, Christ united himself to the human race by inseparable cords. By his life of self-denying ministry, by his suffering on the cross, in which he tasted death for every man, he bound himself to the heart of every member of the human family. Touched with the feeling of their infirmities, Christ wept with those that wept; and with those who rejoiced, he could rejoice. Those who educate their minds to dwell on the perfections of Christ will represent Him to the world.

We are to study how to give our sympathy and love to others. As we have received this priceless gift, so we are to impart it. We are to learn how to rule by love and kindness, rather than by severity and censure. When an erring person becomes conscious of his wrong, do not deal with him in a manner that will take away all his self-respect. Do not seek to tear to pieces, but to bind up and heal. You may see the errors of a brother. Yet he may not be able to discern his wrong; and it may be difficult to know how to act. But never pursue a course that will give him the impression that you regard yourself as his superior. You may think that your feelings, your pursuits, your organization, are superior to his, but do not seek to make this apparent, for such a course is altogether out of harmony with true refinement, true nobility



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Review and Herald,
November 21, 1899



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of character. We are not to bruise the souls of the erring, but to go to them armed with humility and prayer.

We are all sinners and should seek for true elevation of character through Christ. We are not to exalt ourselves, and then expect the sinner to climb to us.

How pitiful and courteous Jesus was! How tenderly He entered into the feelings of others! He desires to awaken in every heart an anxious longing to seek and save that which is lost. His servants are not to display their own superiority. They are to make no special reference to their own qualifications, for by this act they testify that they do not have the endowments they think they possess. If their eyes were fixed on Jesus, if they were contemplating His purity and excellence, they could not regard themselves as holy. They would see their weakness and poverty and defects as they are. They would see themselves lost and hopeless, clad in garments of self-righteousness, like every other sinner.

If we are saved, it will not be because of our superior intellect or our refinement, but because of the grace of God. We have no garment of our own that will give us a position of honor at the marriage supper of the Lamb. Christ's robe alone, the garment woven in the loom of heaven, will give to the guests a worthiness to sit down at the marriage feast. Each must accept this robe, and it is offered to the lowliest who will believe in Christ as his personal Saviour.

The fact that imperfection reigns everywhere should not cause us to look upon the unpleasant side of life. We are children of a

King, pilgrims and strangers who seek a better country, even a heavenly. As we see the exciting pleasures of the world, we must guard against a sour, hard, censorious spirit. Let us look away from the sin and the evil of the world to Jesus, who is the embodiment of purity. His love reigns supreme toward His enemies, and all who follow Him will keep themselves in subjection to the laws of His kingdom.

Those who feel it their prerogative to criticize their fellow men are doing the work of the enemy. The Lord has set none to correct the supposed errors of others, for by beholding these imperfections they themselves become harsh and self-centered. They compare themselves with themselves, and measure themselves among themselves. There are jealous and sensitive souls who foster their pride until, like an inflamed wound, it cannot bear the slightest touch. They fancy that they have been slighted when no slight exists until they create in themselves the very evils they imagine in others. No man is to regard himself as appointed by God to dwell upon these objectionable features. Christ has given none the grace to do this work, and those who attempt it will make serious mistakes.

When we are Christlike, we shall acknowledge no walls of partition. Christ died for all, and all who will believe may be cleansed from sin. It is the privilege of all to reach the perfection of Christian character. The true Christian educates himself to look away from self to Christ; and as he beholds his matchless mercy, his inexpressible love, every barrier between him and his brethren is broken down. The harshness of his nature is melted. He is refined and purified by the furnace fires, and can present an offering to God in righteousness. The law of kindness is upon his lips as the expression of the soul. Looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of his faith, he is changed into the same image.



Article by
John Grosboll
Director of Steps to Life

The Effects of Quality Care

“Ripples in a Pond”



Sabbath School.



Orphaned children in school uniforms.

We have previously reported on the establishment of the orphanage in central Nigeria under the guidance of Daniel and Ruby Terrence. The facility has now been officially registered with the authorities in Nigeria as “In His Steps Children’s Home.” It currently houses twelve young souls, who are being provided loving, quality care by Sisters Ruby and Mercy, who

have genuine concern for raising up children in the way they should go. In fact, the conduct of the children under their care is so reflective of their Christian instruction that people in the community have taken note and asked if their children can attend the school. “We know that you have no room to house additional children, but can our child attend your school?”

The ripple effect of what the non-orphaned children are learning has been reaching their homes to the extent that some of the parents are now attending the Adventist church services that Daniel conducts each week in the worship center that is adjacent to the orphanage.

If you have donated to the ministry during the month of November, you will receive Pastor John’s monthly letter that provides additional information on this inspiring story.

The Lord has ways that we can’t even imagine to bring the truth home to the heart!

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The strongest argument in favor of the gospel is a loving and lovable Christian.

The Ministry of Healing, 470

Foreign Mission Project Updates



Colombia

In Spite of Challenges...

A Great Work for the Gospel



Loading up the mule for a trip down the mountain.



Workroom where books are prepared.

Dear Brethren at Steps to Life:

It's been a very busy month: printing, gardening, building, outreach.

We are very happy in being able to print at the farm. We carry the paper up the mountain on horseback and the books down the mountain on the mule. But we can take time to go to work the soil, to continue in building the cabins and in printing.

We thank our dear Lord for all His blessings. Thank you for all your support for our ministry. May the Lord bless each one of you and your families.

In the Christian hope,
Benjamin and Rosana Cortes



Nigeria

Church Growth

Outreach Results in Baptisms



Baptism candidates are read the baptismal vows.

The outreach efforts from Igbor extended to another settlement of Tyoadu about 6 km away from Igbor. Makurdi church held a one day literature distribution there and this led to two persons who responded and began worshipping at the church at Igbor. We assisted them with funds to fix their motorbike so they can attend church. Praise God they were amongst the souls who were later baptized. Presently we have three people attending from Tyoadu.

A one-week prophecy and health seminar was conducted the last week of November, 2023. Please pray for us. In all nine people were baptized as a result.



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The Lord designs that the means entrusted to us shall be used in building up his kingdom. His goods are committed to his stewards, that they may be carefully traded upon, and bring back a revenue to him in the saving of souls unto eternal life.

Testimonies for the Church, vol. 6, 448



Mexico

La Verdad Presente

Radio Program in Guadalajara



The disciples of Jesus received a commission directly from Him just before His return to heaven. That directive included all who would become His disciples after them. “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; And behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen.” Matthew 28:19, 20

After opening our study with this scripture, we followed on with various texts to establish the responsibility every God fearing disciple has to not only obey this command of our Lord

and Savior, but to be guided by studying God’s word. Since the messages of the three angels in Revelation 14:6-12 is the continuation of the mission for this time, we expounded on these verses. The message of the first angel invites us to love our God and give Him glory: “Fear God, and give him honor; for the hour of his judgment is come; and worship him who made heaven and earth and the sea and the fountains of waters.”

We concluded the broadcast with an appeal to accept the invitation offered by our Lord Jesus and encouraged our listeners to call us for literature that would enable them to get to know Jesus more fully.

After the study, a listener by the name of Gerardo called to accept the free book offer and express his appreciation for the excellent study. When he received the books, he congratulated us for the excellent teaching he heard in that broadcast, which he said was a huge blessing to him and his family. All praise and glory go to God the Father.

Maranatha!

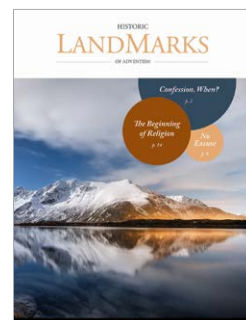
Your brother in Christ,
Jediael Rosales

To support this and similar outreach efforts, please mark your gifts *Missions*.

HISTORIC LANDMARKS

OF ADVENTISM

in January



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

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

How can I forgive someone who has done something terrible to me? The basic principle is that we must be willing to forgive. Is it hard? Perhaps it is, but Jesus left us an example to follow for what to do under such circumstances. Read the article “Confession. When?”

What about if the situation is reversed? Christ was obedient to every requirement of the law, so may we be. “The strongest temptation is no excuse for sin” because “it is not in the power of earth or hell to compel anyone to sin.” Read the article “No Excuse.”

How to understand the religious diversity around the world if there is only one truth? There is also one lie that nearly all the world religions share. The article “The Beginning of Religion” will open your eyes.

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

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Romania

Literature Success

Cornerstone Publishing



After recovering from Communist domination and the suppression of religion in any form, a wave of religious fervor spread through Romania like wildfire. Moreover, western protestant evangelism had tremendous success in the initial years following the aftermath of the 1989 revolution there. While many went back to their default Eastern Orthodox faith, others were converted to different protestant denominations, including Seventh-day Adventism. This is how the SDA church in Romania grew to become the largest and strongest in Europe, now numbering over 70,000 members. Starting with the conversion of one soul, then another, then another, there are now 15 workers who work tirelessly to spread the joy of salvation, the soon return of our Saviour, and the truth about the Sabbath.

Just like Christ's disciples, their worldly careers are not bright. Some are retired, some are carpenters, some work as day laborers in agriculture. They only work on their worldly careers when it is absolutely necessary to obtain bread for their families. Otherwise, they are engaged in spreading the gospel through the towns and villages of Romania.

So far, they have distributed 500,000 books, supplied by Cornerstone Publishing, which would not have been possible without support from your offerings. The workers cannot continue to sow the field without the necessary seed that your continued offerings supply.

To support this work and to help them print more "seed," please mark your donations *Cornerstone*.



Zambia

Great Progress

Mission Nearly Accomplished



Zambia ministry building nears completion.

Progress on the ministry building in Zambia has been most encouraging, with most of the work completed. Painting and landscaping—the final steps—will begin soon, and then the project will be about done. Henry Mwesa and his coworkers are excited about this project and are enthusiastic about the opportunity to be a part of this effort, which he has termed as a "massive project never seen before in this line of ministry in our country."

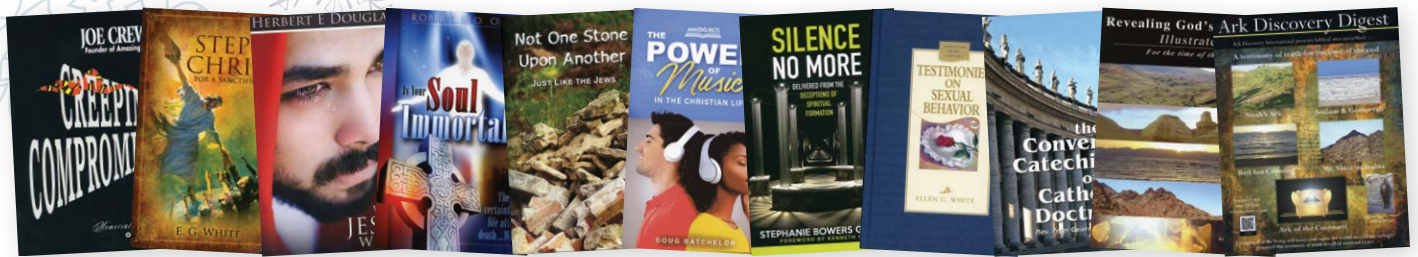
Henry is looking forward to its completion and the positive impact it will have on the gospel, not only in Zambia, but in Uganda and Malawi as well.

Said Henry, "We are grateful for the trust shown and the choice of our nation to house this project."

This "massive project" would not have been possible without the on-going support of our constituents. To aid in this and similar mission efforts, please mark your donations *Missions*.

END TIME ISSUES

Be informed and ready.



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Joe Crews (Founder of Amazing Facts)

Full of godly counsel, the principles and good 'common sense' presented in this book will encourage the reader to come up to a higher Christian standard. PB 127 pgs..... \$15.95



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