

The Newsletter of Steps to Life Ministry

# IN HIS STEPS

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

## Going Forth

**T**he end of all things is at hand. What we have done must not be allowed to place the period to our work. The Captain of our salvation says, ‘Advance. The night cometh, in which no man can work.’” *Sons and Daughters of God*, 335

“What a responsibility to go forth and proclaim the gospel everywhere!” *Sermons and Talks*, Vol. 2, 17

Indeed! God’s people have been given an extraordinary two-fold mission in this world. The first involves the spiritual journey—surrender, repentance, forgiveness, sanctification, character building, and transformation—we each must make in our individual lives. The success of the second mission depends on the success of the first.

“The fact that men are in the church does not prove them Christians.

“... Sinners who make a pretension of piety mingle for a time with the true followers of Christ, and the semblance of Christianity is calculated to deceive many; but in the harvest of the world there will be no likeness between good and evil. Then those who have joined the church, but who have not joined Christ, will be manifest. ...

“Christ Himself will decide who are worthy to dwell with the family of heaven. He will judge every man according to his words and his works. Profession is as nothing in the scale. It is character that decides destiny.” *Christ’s Object Lessons*, 74

“Jesus is the perfect pattern. Instead of trying to please self and have our own way, let us seek to reflect His image. He was kind and courteous, compassionate and tender. Are we like Him in these respects? ... What we need is the simplicity of Christ. ...

*“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations ... teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always ... .”*

Matthew 28:19, 20



It is the privilege of everyone to be ready and willing to help those in need of help.

“It is not enough that we merely profess the faith; something more than a nominal assent is wanted. There must be a real knowledge, a genuine experience in the principles of the truth as it is in Jesus. The Holy Spirit must work within, bringing these principles into the strong light of distinct consciousness, that we may know their power and make them a living reality. The mind must yield obedience to the royal law of liberty, the law which the Spirit of God impresses upon the heart, and makes plain to the understanding. The expulsion of sin must be the act of the soul itself, in calling into exercise its noblest powers. The only freedom a finite will can enjoy consists in coming into harmony with the will of God, complying with the conditions that make man a partaker of the divine nature . . . .

“The human character is depraved, deformed by sin, and terribly unlike that of the first man as he came from the hands of the Creator. Jesus proposes to take man’s deformity and sin, and to give him, in return, [the] beauty and excellence in his own character.” *Ye Shall Receive Power*, 57

As this miraculous change occurs in our lives, we are then able, in word and action, to share with our families, friends, and strangers we chance to meet, what God has done for us and waits only for their surrender to do for them. The closer our walk with Christ, the more His mercy and blessing can shine forth from our lives. People will look at us, but it will be the heart of Jesus that they will see and feel. We become His hands and feet, His voice to a world that desperately needs it knows not what. Every man, woman, and child who has lived on this earth has a God-sized hole in their heart. They try to fill it, but this world can offer nothing to fill the emptiness they feel nor provide the peace they crave. Even the worst sinner, can have an “almost” moment, some to live forever, others to die as if they had never lived.

#### **Opportunity Lost**

“Paul and Nero face to face! . . . the life of unbounded self-indulgence and the life of utter self-sacrifice. . . . the representatives of

two spiritual powers—the ambassador of Christ and the slave of Satan.

“Never had Nero heard the truth as he heard it upon that occasion. Never had the enormous guilt of his own life been revealed to him as it was revealed that day. . . .

“For a moment, heaven had been opened before him by the words of Paul, and its peace and purity had appeared desirable. That moment the invitation of mercy was extended even to the guilty and hardened Nero. But only for a moment. The command was issued for Paul to be taken back to his dungeon; and as the door closed upon the messenger of God, so the door of repentance was forever closed against the emperor of Rome.” *Sketches from the Life of Paul*, 312, 315, 316

#### **Grace and Mercy Recognized**

“The last dream which God gave to Nebuchadnezzar, and the experience of the king in connection with it, contain lessons of vital importance to all those who are connected with the work of God. . . . The faithful Daniel stood before the king, not to flatter, not to misinterpret in order to secure favor. A solemn duty rested upon him to tell the king of Babylon the truth. . . .

“Nebuchadnezzar did not heed the heaven-sent message. One year after he had been thus warned, as he walked in his palace, he said within himself, ‘Is not this great Babylon, that I have built . . .?’ The God of heaven read the heart of the king . . . . ‘There fell a voice from heaven, saying, . . . The kingdom is departed from thee. And they shall drive thee from men, and thy dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field . . . until thou know that the Most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will. The same hour was the thing fulfilled upon Nebuchadnezzar.’

“For seven years Nebuchadnezzar was an astonishment to all his subjects; for seven years he was humbled before all the world. Then his reason was restored and, looking up in humility to the God of heaven, he recognized the divine hand in his chastisement. In a public proclamation, he acknowledged his guilt and the great mercy of God in his restoration.” *Conflict and Courage*, 253

“I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my understanding returned to me; and I blessed the Most High and praised and honored Him who lives forever; for His dominion is an everlasting dominion, and His kingdom is from generation to generation. ... Now I, Nebruchadnezzar, praise and extol and honor the King of heaven, all of whose works are truth, and His way justice. And those who walk in pride He is able to put down.” Daniel 4:35, 37

As long as we live in this world, we must dedicate our lives to maintaining and strengthening our personal relationship with our God. We are to use our time and talents, whatever they may be, to spread the word of salvation, full and free, to all. Those who will receive it will grow by the grace and power of God into His children ever ready to sacrifice in this life so that by their witness they might bring others with them into the next.

“This is the course that God would have us pursue under all circumstances. He wants us to be minute men and women. He wants us to be ready always to give to every man that asketh us a reason of the hope that is within us with meekness and fear.

“We are to be ready and waiting for the orders of God. Nations will be stirred to their very center. Support will be withdrawn from those who proclaim God’s only standard of righteousness, the only sure test of character. ...” *Historical Sketches of the Foreign Missions of the Seventh-day Adventists*, 144

“The remnant that purify their souls by obeying the truth gather strength from the trying process, exhibiting the beauty of holiness amid the surrounding apostasy. All these, He says, ‘I have graven ... upon the palms of my hands’ (Isaiah 49:16). They are held in everlasting, imperishable remembrance. We want faith now, living faith. We want to have a living testimony that shall cut to the heart of the sinner. ... We need the spirit and fervor of the truth.



What a responsibility to go forth and proclaim the gospel everywhere.

“That which God required of Adam before his fall was perfect obedience to His law. God requires now what He required of Adam, perfect obedience, righteousness without a flaw, without shortcoming in His sight. God help us to render to Him all His law requires. We cannot do this without that faith that brings Christ’s righteousness into daily practice.” *Selected Messages*, Vol. 2, 380

“Declare with power and assurance that Christ came to live the law of Jehovah. God desires his people to be ready, with souls aglow with his love, to impart as fast as they receive. They are to show what the truth has done for them, that God may be glorified.” *The Review and Herald*, July 11, 1899

“It is the privilege of everyone to be ready and willing to help those in need of help. Meet together for prayer and mutual encouragement. Let your hearts

be bound together by one common interest—the saving of souls. ...

“You are to reflect the light of the Sun of Righteousness both upon those who know the truth and upon those who know it not. Do the good works that the Lord is pleased to have all his children do. ... Faithfully, earnestly strive to win souls to Christ. The winning of one soul to Him is of far more consequence in His estimation than is the acquirement of great earthly riches. Let every believer be the Master’s helping hand, working for the salvation of perishing souls.” *The Gospel Herald*, April 16, 1902



Article by  
Judy Rebarckek  
Contributing Editor

With input from  
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Director of Steps to Life



# Foreign Mission Project Updates

 Nigeria

## *The Sabbath Preached in a Sunday Church*

By Daniel Teryila



**Top Left:** Baptismal class students in Makurdi gifted Bibles in the Tiv language

**Top Right:** David (left), Pentecostal pastor (center), Daniel Teryila (right)

**Left:** MTC Session at ministry center in Makurdi.

As I was on my way to church in Thyoado one Sabbath morning in August 2024, I came upon a man standing, lost in thought near some buildings close to the church. I greeted him, handing him a copy of *Steps to Christ*. A few minutes later, the man walked into the church Bible in hand. The lesson study was on the need for obedience especially in keeping the Sabbath.

At the end of the service, the man introduced himself as having been a pastor of a Sunday-keeping church. He had been displaced by bandits and was new to the community. But more importantly, what he had heard about the Sabbath touched him. He attended our Tuesday Bible study with his wife, and the

following Sabbath, he came with two of his neighbors. They are all participating in our baptismal classes, and the man has enrolled in the training program for ministers and gospel workers.

Since beginning the training program, he has visited two of his former congregations in the Buruku Council area of Benue state to inform them of his new discovery. They invited us to come and speak to them, and by God's grace, we went in October. Please pray for the souls in these congregations who are excited to learn the Sabbath truth.

Brother Solomon does aluminum smelting work, which brought him into contact with a pastor of a Sunday

church in the Vandeikya Council area, 124 miles away from Makurdi. Through Brother Solomon, the pastor has introduced the Sabbath truth to his congregation of over 90 people. Sadly, many left, but those who remained are now worshipping on Sabbath. Every Tuesday, evangelist David visits with them for Bible studies. They have studied the three angels' messages for over three months.

Each Bible worker chose a new community where they would do outreach for one month. David chose Koti Yough, and has five people in a Bible study group.

There is a farmers/herders crisis that is lingering in Nigeria. As a consequence, many families have been displaced. We organized a prophecy and health seminar at Mbaikya settlement for a week. One of these displaced families attended the seminar. They accepted the Advent message, were baptized, and relocated to Mbaikya settlement. They have Sabbath worship in their home, and every Sabbath someone from the Makurdi church is sent to conduct Sabbath services with the family and their neighbors.

Evangelist Akase has a worship center in a town at the foot of the Cameroon Mountains. Sabbath services are conducted at the compound.

We are so thankful to God and remain grateful to you for your financial assistance. Please mark donations for the work in Nigeria as *Missions-Africa*.

May the Lord richly bless you.

 Guadalajara, Mexico

# La Verdad Presente *Radio*

By Jadiel Rosales



Nicolás Arana is a faithful listener of the radio program *La Verdad Presente*. This is his only channel to God's word as he's visually impaired.

**T**he Lord encourages us in His word to "Rejoice in the Lord always: Again I say, Rejoice." (Philippians 4:4). Our lives are unique, and we must enjoy every moment, growing in truth and the knowledge of our precious Redeemer. Despite the many trials and tribulations that come into everyone's life, we are still told to "rejoice in hope, to be patient in tribulation and to be fervent in prayer." Romans 12:12.

James 1:2-4 tells us, "My brethren, count it all joy when you are in various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing." We should take heed when God tells us to rejoice even in our trials because, in this way, we achieve patience, a necessary characteristic of God's last-day people.

Through the prophet John, we know that those who keep the commandments and have the faith of our Lord Jesus will have patience, and as sons and daughters of God, we can all have the strength and experience of keeping the law and placing our faith in Jesus Christ. "Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus." Revelation 14:12

We are told to "rejoice and be glad, for your reward in heaven is great." Matthew 5:12. We can take these words as encouragement in our daily lives, in the present, and in the future when Jesus returns for those who have loved and obeyed Him.

Mr. Nicolás Arana is a blind listener who faithfully tunes into *La Verdad Presente*. He lost his eyesight years ago due to an illness. He called us, and I had a lovely conversation with him about the gospel message. He expressed such appreciation for the topics we shared in the program, and I was greatly encouraged because, as with many listeners, he described how listening to the program strengthened his faith in God's word.

Mr. Arana asked if audio recordings on Bible themes, spiritual songs, and the books offered on the radio program were available. Sadly, we do not have books and materials for the visually impaired.

I thank God and you for the great privilege of serving as an instrument for sharing the love of Jesus with the many people here in Guadalajara and the surrounding area who desperately need to know Him.

Shalom!!!

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](http://www.stepstolife.org).

From the beginning, Satan has challenged Christ's sovereignty, and he continues to contest His sovereignty by manipulating God's people so that they will not recognize divine sovereignty. Read the article "Sovereignty" to find out more.

The enemy of salvation has also stolen something from humanity—eternal life. The dream of immortality has never died. From the day man was expelled from Eden, he has dreamed of life without end, the opportunity to create a utopian way of life on this earth. The tree of life has long been a symbol of this desire. People employ science to achieve this dream, or least to come close to it. Read more in the article "The Tree of Life."

Just as every month, the January issue of *LandMarks* includes something for every member of the family: the children, the homemaker, the health-conscious, etc.

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# In His Steps Orphanage



*“Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.”*

James 1:27

Our report comes from the *In His Steps* Orphanage. We continue with our regular activities, and although some scheduling adjustments have had to be made, we are seeing significant improvement in spirituality, academics, health, outdoor activities, and other areas.

Initially, each Sunday, the children participated in door-to-door evangelistic activities. However, due to the number of activities each Sunday, this evangelistic outreach has been reduced to the second and last Sundays of each month. These activities have greatly helped the children and the adults who guide them. After the children’s visits, we are excited to receive the reports from the individual groups and the neighborhoods. We pray for more strength to push forward.

In the skill acquisition classes, the children learn valuable skills such as sewing from scratch, using a sewing machine, and other household skills. Although the smaller children have difficulty reaching the sewing machine pedal, they are all willing to learn and quickly develop these skills.

The Lord has blessed us with the ability to provide a nourishing and healthy

vegetarian diet. Tofu and cashew nuts provide the protein they require. We praise the Lord that the children’s health has improved now that they receive a more nourishing diet. However, keeping the children’s diet healthy can be difficult. The prices for certain items have tripled for the same quantity as before. We are grateful for the provisions made and are trying to stay within budget with the hope that prices will fall soon.

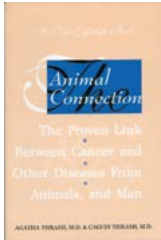
With the resumption of the rains, we have vegetable gardens and other crops that supplement the food we purchase. Appreciation gifts of food items have often been received from grateful families and well-wishers, and this is always used judiciously.

We are so grateful to our Almighty Father for His grace and mercy in taking hold of the work and bringing us this far. We also thank you for donating to help with this work in Nigeria. We are training a new generation of spiritual soldiers to help spread the gospel of Jesus Christ in the areas around the orphanage. Your donations and prayers are greatly appreciated.

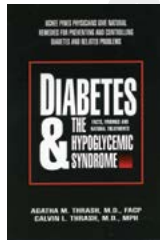
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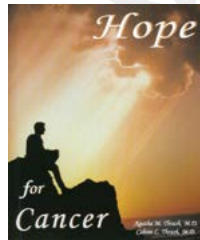
# New Year Resolutions for a Healthier You



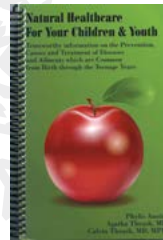
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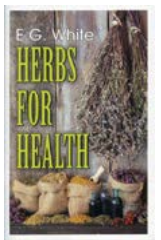
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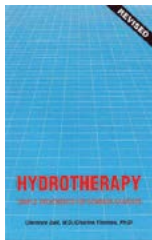
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