



December 5, 2013

Let the earth now praise the  
Lord,  
Who has truly kept His word  
And at last to us did send  
Christ, the sinner's help and  
friend.



I was reading a book written by Charles R. Swindoll entitled "A Man of Selfless Dedication - Moses". On page 162 he says, "Before we go any further, I'd like to underline a major truth in this world of ours that I don't pretend to understand. Here it is: The best framework for the Lord God to do His most ideal work is when things are absolutely impossible and we feel totally unqualified to handle it. That's His favorite circumstance. Those are His ideal working conditions."

How often do we have to hit bottom before we give up and stop fighting whatever brought us down? What does it take for us to finally turn it over to God and let Him take charge? I felt that way toward the end of last year and for a good part of this year. I wanted to be able to help the people in Rio Bravo, Rio Rico, Matamoros, Monterrey, Mexico City, Guasave, and San Luis Rio Colorado. I wanted to help them in their ministries reaching out to the people in their communities by sharing the love of God the Father through His Son Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit (our Advocate, Intercessor, and Comforter). I couldn't go down to Mexico because I was letting the drug cartel dictate to me, at least in my mind, that it was too dangerous to go across the border. I wanted to be there with them to see what was happening. Things were happening, but I didn't hear much about the ministries or the results of those ministries. At the end of October last year, KIMA had a total of \$845.13 in our checking account to cover the approximately \$3,500 a month that we needed to help meet some of the expenses of these ministries. That wasn't enough! Where was I going to get more? Who could I contact? Woe is me!

If we open our eyes and look around at the Scripture or the experiences of countless believers in Jesus Christ we see God taking charge over and over again. God rolls up His big sleeves and says, "Step back out of the way for a moment, and watch Me work."



And you know what? I found out it wasn't up to me to do it. The Lord had already rolled up His sleeves and gone to work. The Lord was already working and some of you have been touched by His calling. For most of us, He didn't send an angel down to us to whisper or shout into our ears. If He did I would be interested in hearing your story. But, for certain, God has asked us to get on board with Him. He has laid the foundation and, now just like Mary and Joseph, we step up and do our part. Mary and Joseph went off to Bethlehem to a lowly stable to be God's people who He chose to be the caretakers of God's gift to the world. That happened when the "fullness of time came." God sent His Son Jesus here to earth as true God and true man to make things right, to crush Satan and open the doors to eternal salvation for all who believe. We don't know when Jesus will come again to gather in all those who believe and shut the door on the lost of this world, but we know it is coming.

Time after time, God brings us to our absolute end and then proves Himself faithful. Moses would learn that lesson, too...eventually. Not too many days in advance of that discouraging day in Egypt, [when Pharaoh and the people rejected Moses' message] he would stand cornered at the edge of the Red Sea, Egyptian chariots thundering toward him in the distance, and say, "Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord, which He will accomplish for you today" (Exodus 14:13, NKJV). (Page 169). Moses kept turning back to God to find out what he was to do next. He met adversity head on by listening to God.

Unfortunately, I did not have anyone speaking to me out of a burning bush. But I did slowly but surely see the results of God working through KIMA and many of you during 2013.

- We had been trying for years to get our 501 C 3 status and God blessed us with that on September 26, 2013.
- We ended the year 2012 with \$5264 in our checking account and now, in December of 2013, we have enough to make it safely through the next 3 months.
- Samuel Perez Herrera will be ordained in February of 2014
- Magdiel Fajardo is in his final year at the seminary completing his Master of Divinity degree.
- Job Jimenez is now an associate pastor at San Mateo in San Luis Rio Colorado.
- Samuel Garcia now serves as a lay-pastor at Bethel in Rio Rico.
- Luis Moreno serves as a lay-pastor at Messiah Mission in Rio Bravo.
- Rev. Isaac Garcia conducted VBS and Evangelism services in three different cities in the state of Veracruz.
- The Lutheran Hour Ministries has opened a new site in Mexico City and will be conducting training classes for all the congregational leaders.
- Rev Isaac Garcia now serves as advisor to the KIMA Board.

I think the Lord has rolled up His sleeves and gone to work. I ask the Lord to gorgive my doubting and my excuses. So now what? What does He have in mind next?





**Well...** here are a few things that God seems to be working on. I have a tendency to think big, bigger, biggest. But God has His own plans and He knows which one is important, more important, and most important. We'll see which ones God moves some of you to get behind, put your shoulder to, and support.

- Samuel Perez Herrera will be ordained in February and become the full time pastor of Santisima Trinidad in Matamoros. The congregation has been providing a parsonage and some of the utilities but has only been only paying out around \$60 a week for other supplies. \$450 a month would go a long way in making it easier to concentrate on the ministry along with feeding his wife and two sons. He also does not have any transportation to get from the church to the mission sites and to members in need. He would like to have a car to get around. The cost of a car, a cheap used one, would be around \$2,000.
- The mission, Mesías, in Rio Bravo is a wood frame building. Right behind this structure a new cement block building that has a couple of classrooms, a kitchen, and bathrooms but no roof or ceiling and only a few walls is in the process of being added. The hope is to finish the building in such a way that a second story can be added on to it and it become a training center for future congregational leaders. This building has been in progress now for several years. Cost of finishing the building: Lots of prayer and approximately \$10,000.
- Josafat lives in the desert near San Luis Rio Colorado. He is a Christian who wants to be a Lutheran pastor. He has been studying Lutheran theology along with Job Jimenez. He has also been helping to lead worship in one or the other of three missions. He earns what money he can by driving a taxi. His cab is in bad shape so travel to the various missions is most difficult to impossible. If he could somehow receive a couple of hundred dollars a month subsidy, he could once again become a shepherd of these missions in the desert.
- VBS programs for 2014 -- \$2,000
- Spanish Portals of prayer for the people at Bethany in Rio Bravo -- \$120 per year
- The ongoing monthly subsidy of \$3,200 supporting six men and their families.
- Magdiel Fajardo is in need of \$6,000 to finish paying for his last quarter at the seminary in Fort Wayne.

**So...** there it is. That's the challenge that lies before us. We need your prayers! We need your financial gifts! We need your help in letting others know about these opportunities. These are not opportunities that are going to increase people's or churches' financial wealth, but they are opportunities that God is placing before us to extend and strengthen His Kingdom. They are opportunities that we may have to answer to when on the last day Jesus says:

<sup>34</sup> "Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. <sup>35</sup> For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, <sup>36</sup> I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'



All that glitters is not gold,  
except God's promises

<sup>37</sup> “Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? <sup>38</sup> When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? <sup>39</sup> When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’

<sup>40</sup> “The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’ Matthew 25:34-40 (NIV)

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**To learn more about KIMA, please feel free to contact one of the board members nearest you.**

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If you would like to be part of this ongoing outreach ministry, please, include the ministry in your prayers and send any questions or gifts to:

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