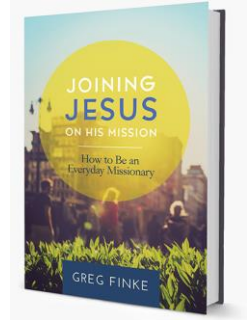




**June Newsletter 2014**  
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**June 2, 2014**

Before I get into sharing with you some exciting things, I have a recommendation for you that I think will change many of your lives. I would like to suggest that you get a copy of the book “Joining Jesus on His Mission” written by Rev. Greg Finke of Dwelling 1:14. You can get the book through Amazon. com.



Here are a few quotes I wanted to share with you from this book: “So wherever you go, whether to the ends of the earth or just to work, if there are people there, you can be sure Jesus is up to something redemptive. His purpose is to redeem. His goal is full restoration. This is what Jesus does. He doesn’t get distracted. He doesn’t veer off course. His timing is always precise because his redemptive mission is always what he’s up to. Different people. Different timing. Different stories and pathways. Sure. But this is what he is up to all the time. Think of it this way: every person you see around you has a length of life. You can imagine it like a timeline. They are born. They live their days. They die. And then there is eternity. Jesus intersects every person’s timeline at various points during their life in order to begin a process of redemption and restoration to the Kingdom of his Father. This is what Jesus is up to. This is his mission. Now imagine a point on a person’s timeline when they believe and receive the Father’s forgiveness and restored life. Some people are nearly at that point. Others are far from that point. And, of course, others are well past that point already living life with the Father. However, for those not yet at that point, every day Jesus is working out his plan to prepare them (ripen them) for the day on their timeline when they will receive the good news of redemption and restoration.

There is, of course, much mystery in how Jesus works out his plan in each person’s life. But this is what Jesus is up to every day with every person. This is what Jesus is up to in every one of our “neighborhoods.” Some people are resisting, some are ignoring, some are oblivious, and some are almost ready. But Jesus is in the redemptive process of uniquely preparing each of them to receive what the Father would freely give them: forgiveness of sins and a new life with him forever.

That is Jesus’ mission.

And he invites us to join him.”

*Finke, Greg (2014-01-26). Joining Jesus on His Mission: How to Be an Everyday Missionary (p. 29). Tenth Power Publishing. Kindle Edition.*

**So, Jesus is already out there preparing, planting the seed. Who is God moving to make sure that those boys and girls in Rio Bravo, Rio Rico, Matamoros, Veracruz, and Mexico City hear the Good News of their salvation?**

God works in His own mysterious ways! He sometimes touches hearts in ways that we do not understand. But, miracles still happen. Well, let me tell you an interesting story.

This story begins on May 10, 2014. It was a Saturday and we had been out with a few friends from church and had a delightful evening. As the evening ended one lady tapped me on the shoulder and said, “Pastor, here is a little something to help out with the mission of KIMA. I thanked her and thought I would open it later when I got home. When I opened the envelope and looked inside I saw a check made out for twenty-five



hundred dollars. After I regained my composure, I called this dear lady and thanked her for her generosity and love for the Lord’s work. I also told her that in the morning at church I was going to give her a big hug. (I never thought that I might have scared her off.) The next morning as I walked into church another man and his wife said that they wanted to help out Mesia Mission in Rio Bravo by making it possible for them to have running water and a sewer system. I want to tell you I was floating on “cloud 9.”

On May 11th, Mike Shaw, my wife, Marty, and I, went down to Austin to spend a few days at the Texas District Theological Convocation managing our KIMA display, and spending time with Rev. Isaac Garcia, president of the Lutheran Synod of Mexico, and his wife, Yolanda. After a long day at the Convocation, meeting a lot of good people, and attending the Monday worship service, we headed for Lois Wolf’s home and sat outside around the barbeque grill as we cooked some chicken. After supper and some delicious Schaum Torts we settled in the living room and Pastor Isaac asked if we were going to still help them out with Vacation Bible School material? Last year we did help them out with material for around five hundred children at a cost of around fifteen hundred dollars. So, I said yes we had intended to do that again. Yolanda got out a few pieces of paper and began to copy down names of churches, the names of the contact people for each church, and the amount of leaders’ packets and children’s packets they would need for each church. They had a list of fifteen churches/missions and 915 students. They said that they missed their goal of one thousand boys and girls for this year but hoped to meet that next year. I was delighted at the work they had been doing but I must admit that I was a little shocked at what the cost was going to be. All I could think of was over three thousand dollars! But as I sat there the Lord reminded me of that unexpected special gift that was given to me on that Saturday night. Wow!

When I got home I found out that the bill was going to be over thirty-five hundred dollars, woops, a thousand short. I placed the orders with Concordia Publishing House through Erin Mackenzie one of the representatives of Editorial Concordia, the Spanish division of Concordia Publishing House. She explained to me once again of their desire to also be in mission and their commitment to serve the Lord. Since we are a mission agency that is recognized by the Texas District of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod they gave us a discount that put the bill just under twenty-five hundred dollars. What was I worried about? God had it all under control all along. I immediately said, "Praise God!" and if I could sing better I would have come out with, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow!"



Now, isn't that a fantastic story? A true one too! No fairytale! The mission Mesias is going to find new ways to reach out, at least making life a little more comfortable, by getting running water and a sewage system, which means a kitchen and baños. And 915 children are going to hear the story of God's salvation being told to them by workers in fifteen to eighteen different sites all over Mexico, and they are going to go home and tell their parents and siblings, friends, aunts, uncles, and cousins. Do you see what's happening to the harvest? **Mark 4:20:<sup>20</sup> Others, like seed sown on good soil, hear the word, accept it, and produce a crop—some thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times what was sown.**

We pray: *Dearest heavenly Father you are the God of love. We thank you for sending your Son Jesus Christ to save us from our sins. We pray now that you would somehow enable us to feel your presence in our lives and the joy that we have as we provide the Good News to these young people of Mexico. Send your Holy Spirit to strengthen those who teach and open the hearts of those who hear. We pray this all in Jesus' name. Amen.*

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I have one other thought I would like to share with you today. It's not directly a KIMA project but it is dealing with the mission of KIMA and is part of Rev. Greg Finke's ministry who has been a Board member of KIMA since its inception. Here is an email we received from Rev. Greg Finke this morning.  
Good Morning!

Thank you for being leaders in prayers and financial support for Dwelling 1:14!

God has presented us with an exciting new opportunity. Rev. Eloy Gonzalez [pastor of Our Redeemer in Irving and vice-president of the Texas District Lutheran Church Missouri Synod] and a team of experienced translators are translating "Joining Jesus on His Mission" into Spanish. They are very excited about making the book available to the Spanish speaking community both in the U.S. and around the world.

The team is making excellent progress and should have the book ready for publication by the end of this month. They are graciously donating their translating services to Dwelling 1:14. The expense that will need to be covered is for publishing.



## Can you help?

The cost to publish "Joining Jesus" in Spanish is estimated to be \$8500. We have already had a couple sponsors step forward and offer a total of about \$5000. So our goal is now only \$3500.

You can help us hit this goal through the following:

1) Click the link to go to Dwelling 1:14's Donate Page <https://www.dwelling114.org/index.php/donate.html>. You can use your credit cards or debit cards to give a gift for this project.

2) Make out your check to Dwelling 1:14, note "Spanish" on the memo line and mail it to 409 Wickford Ct., League City, TX 77573.

I jokingly told Rev. Gonzalez I wish I could have written the book as fast as his team is translating it. He said that the translating team is so motivated because they strongly believe it is a message the Spanish community needs and will embrace.

You can help get the book into their hands. If we meet the financial goal by the end of this month, we could see the Spanish version of "Joining Jesus" available by early fall!

Thank you for your part in making this new opportunity a reality for our Spanish brothers and sisters!

Greg

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We do ask for your continual prayers and, if the Lord has blessed you, we ask that you might consider making a gift, small or large, towards this ministry. Besides those things mentioned above, we have our monthly commitments for the subsidy of workers in Mexico, expenses of providing computers for administration and theological classes, and the incidental activities that come along that only the Lord knows about.

May God bless you, your family, and your ministries,

Rev. Norman Finke  
President of KIMA

Gifts can be sent to:  
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**We can be seen on Facebook at: KIMA**

