

June 13, 2017 Newsletter

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Food for thought!

A devotion by Dr. Bobby Hayne, my dentist, my friend, and director of 1Timothy2 Ministries

“...what God has prepared...”

OK, I'll admit it. I still dream about and think about a life of adventure and greatness. Sure, I did the normal boy stuff when I was a kid – wanted to be John Glenn and fly in outer space. I wanted to play professional football. Beat the Packers and win a Super Bowl.

Now, no kid ever dreams about being dull or living a meaningless life. But real life shows up and we see the reality that very few people actually get to do those things. It's a slap in the face.

So we settle for mediocrity. We do the best we can. Get a job. Settle for whatever “greatness” we can find. Give our lives to a business, social climbing, maybe even a leadership role at church. All in an attempt to fulfill a desire to do something or be someone GREAT!

Friends, I've said it before, that desire is created in us. We should want to be great! We should want to leave a mark on the world – that's normal and good!

The problem is, we look to the wrong things to satisfy that desire. And it will never be satisfied until we decide to surrender our concept of greatness to Scriptural truth.

So, what is it that will make us great? **“Whoever humbles himself...is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven”** Matthew 18:14. And Matthew 20:26, **“Whoever would be great among you must be your servant.”**

Wait a minute. That's not exactly slaying a dragon. Or making a zillion dollars. Or orbiting the earth. Humble? Servant?

Yep. Just the opposite of what the world calls great.

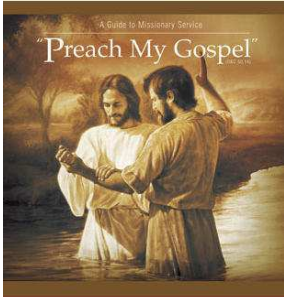
But you and I have a loving Father who craves greatness for you. He has a plan for your abundant life filled with eternal reward, lasting significance, and complete satisfaction.

And it will cost us everything that we have been told means greatness by the world. I have to stop seeking greatness in the eyes of the world (“do not conform any longer to...this world”) and accept the created reality of greatness being instead, loving and being loved by God and humbly serving others.

I know, that doesn't sound "great." But we can live a life so great that all eternity is changed because of it. We can absolutely bring heaven to earth by living a life devoted to God and His plan for us. We can change the eternal direction of souls.

"What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him." 1 Corinthians 2:9

We can't even imagine...



How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? Romans 10:14

When I read this devotion this morning and the above passage from Scriptures they accentuated a problem and proposed a partial solution to a situation that prevails in Mexico. The problem that exists is centered around their theological education program. Basically, it's not existent. It's not that there are not enough people who need to hear the Word. There are only about one hundred twenty-seven million people in Mexico. We have the Word but we do not have the trained leaders who are able to immerse those who are called into the Word so that they become well-grounded in the Word.

The Lutheran Synod of Mexico (SLMAR) is the only Lutheran body in Mexico that is in altar and pulpit fellowship with the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS). The Lutheran Synod of Mexico has:

- four preaching stations in the state of Tamaulipas: Betania (Bethany) in Rio Bravo served by Rev. Isaac Garcia, El Mesias (The Messiah) in Rio Bravo served by Lay-pastor Luis Moreno, Bethel in Río Rico which is served by Lay-pastor Samuel Garcia, and Santisima Trinidad (Holy Trinity) and Torre Fuerte (Strong Tower) served by Lay-pastor Omar Garza;
- one in the state of Nuevo Leon: El Sembrador (The Sower) in Monterrey served by Rev. Samuel Perez Gaona;
- in Mexico City there are three congregations: San Pablo (Saint Paul) served by Rev. Alvaro Lopez and Vicar Guillermo Leyva, El Buen Pastor (Good Shepherd) served by missionary Rev. Andrew Schlund and Vicar Neftali Garcia, and San Pedro (Saint Peter) served by missionary Rev. Daniel Conrad and Vicar Benjamin Quezada;
- in the state of Jalisco there is Todos Santos (All Saints) served by missionary Rev. Carlos Catalán;
- in the state of Sinaloa there is El Divino Emanuel (The Divine Emmanuel) in Guasave, Nueva Jerusalén (New Jerusalem) in San Pedro, and a mission at Las Moras all being served by Lay-pastor Jose Reyes;
- in the state of Baja California there is El Mesias (The Messiah) in Tijuana and San Juan (Saint John) in Mexicali both being served by Rev. Samuel Perez Herrera;
- and in the state of Sonora there is San Mateo (Saint Matthew) in San Luis Rio Colorado being served by Lay-pastor Saul Silva, and Santo Tomas Apóstol (Saint Thomas the Apostle) in Mesa Rica, San Lucas (Saint Luke) in Fronterizo, and Rey de Gloria (King of Glory) in Independencia all three being served by Lay-pastor Josafat Basto.

That makes nineteen preaching/teaching stations being served by four ordained pastors, three missionaries, three vicars, and six Lay-pastors. But the Lay-pastors are serving a total of eleven of the preaching/teaching stations. Are you starting to get the idea?

Four men were given the opportunity to study these last two years at Concordia Seminary in Buenos Aires, Argentina. One of them, Rev. Samuel Perez Herrera, an ordained pastor, is presently serving two

congregations in the state of Baja California. A second man, Benjamin Quezada, is serving his delayed vicarage at San Pedro in Mexico City and in likelihood will soon be ordained and continue serving there. The other two Guillermo Leyva and Neftali Garcia are serving their vicarage in Mexico City but still have one more year of theological education remaining.

The leadership of the LCMS has offered these two men full scholarships to attend The Reformer Lutheran Seminary in the Dominican Republic. These two men enjoy serving the church in Mexico but if they were to continue to take courses via long distance learning from Concordia Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana it will take several years before they can finish their studies and become ordained. If they would accept the scholarships and go to the Dominican Republic they would be ready in one year. The Lutheran Synod of Mexico (SLMAR) needs them as soon as possible to fill some pulpits and possibly help train some of the Lay-pastors so that they in turn can administer the Sacraments.

So here is the deal, the challenge, the opportunity to get involved and share the Love that God has placed in you, to share some of His blessings to you with others so that His Love will be spread at an increasing rate throughout Mexico.

We need to find a way to provide transportation to and from the Seminary in the Dominican Republic. They obviously need transportation to get there and back but I would like to include one other round trip for them, say around Christmas, so they can come home and spend a little time with their families and possibly start making plans as to how, when, and where they will serve after graduation. We would have to get two roundtrip tickets now and then another set in December. The total cost would be around thirty-six hundred dollars. I have seven hundred fifty-nine dollars on hand. So that means we will need approximately one thousand two hundred forty-one dollars in the next five or six weeks.



Can we do it?

If we have the Love of Jesus, we can! One hundred eighty people over the course of the years have included KIMA and its ministry in their tithes. That would be six dollars and ninety cents from each of these people who have been touched by God's Love. Unfortunately, only thirty-eight have given so far this year. That bumps the ante up a bit to thirty-two dollars and sixty-six cents. Last week I got seven hundred fifty-nine dollars from Christ the King in Waxahachie, Texas from their craft and garage sale.

I can't tell anyone to give or how much to give. God has to do that as He works in your life.

Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. ⁹ For we know in part and we prophesy in part, ¹⁰ but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. ¹¹ When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. ¹² For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.

13 So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love. 1 Corinthians 13:8-13

Let's see if we can do this together! Goal = \$4000

Please send your contributions, gifts that God has given to you, to enable these two men to finish their Seminary training next year and begin their ministry in Mexico to:

**KIMA
109 Noel Ave.
Waxahachie, Texas 75165**



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