

If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their evil ways; then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sins, and will heal their land.
2 Chronicles 7:14

40 DAYS OF

PRA

April 10 - May 19

YER

PRIOR
to the day of
Pentecost



MISSION

Promote prayer in the Mesoamerica Region to build our lives in accordance with God's purposes.

"This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. 15 And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him." 1 John 5:14-15

"if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land." 2 Chronicles 7:14

OBJECTIVES

- Challenge individuals, families and congregations to pray to build their lives and be guided to God's purposes.
- Establish places of prayer in homes and churches.
- Provide facilities for total involvement in prayer.
- Lead people to repentance on Pentecost Sunday..

PURPOSE OF THE PENTECOST DAY OF PRAYER IN LOCAL CHURCHES

Establish 24 hours of constant prayer for the care of people, families, towns, cities, communities, government leaders and for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on his people.

PRAYER GUIDE 2024

- **April 10 to 17:** WHAT IS OUR MISSION?
- **April 18 to 25:** RECEIVING THE MISSION
- **April 26 to May 3:** FULFILLING THE MISSION IN URBAN AREAS
- **May 4 to 11:** ARRANGING CHILDREN FOR THE MISSION
- **May 12 to 19:** YOUNG PEOPLE FULFILLING THE MISSION, IMPACTING THEIR GENERATION

"But I pray not only for these, but also for those who must believe in me because of their word." John 17:20

RECOMENDACIONES:

- Make reminders or share the prayer requests for each block to your friends, family and siblings via email.
- Do concerts of prayer and praise with the youth.
- Organize Prayer Breakfasts.
- Maintain a Prayer Room in your churches for those who wish to come and pray. Assign one person each day to attend to those who arrive.
- Organize Prayer Services and Thanksgiving for answered petitions.
- Make prayer chains for families.
- Make prayer chains for ministries.
- Organize Prayer Vigils.
- District leaders, organize prayer chains for churches.
- Fast, those who can, the 40 days.
- Make and distribute prayer commitment cards.
- Keep a record of the people who are taking this prayer time.

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WHAT IS OUR MISSION?

April 10 to 17



¿WHAT IS THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH?

Dr. Luis Carlos Sáenz



-All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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 obey everything I have commanded you. And I tell you the truth, I will be with you always, even to the end of the age. Matthew 28:19-20

All authority is given to me in heaven and on earth, therefore I commission you, I send you... the primary question is how do we respond?

1. Go: He does not send you alone but confers authority on you because he has all authority. One of the important things is to respond to this commission but to respond with the conviction that we are going on behalf of him who is Almighty. In the boarding school Jesus had already sent them before, he sent them two by two, so that, not only they would have the informative knowledge but also so that they would be trained because when they went they were going to face different situations. In Mark 6:7 the Bible teaches us that he called them, gave them authority and sent them out.

2. Do: First, He enables us. In Mark 16:17-18 it says: and these signs will follow those who have believed..., secondly it assures us of his presence with us. In Acts 1:8, and you shall receive power, that you may be my witnesses..... Now the do is specific, I want you to go and reproduce in those over whom you will have influence, and that they also go and do, because this power that I give you today will be repeated in them. How exciting this is! Christ is the same, the same one who commissioned yesterday, He is here today, not one iota of His power has changed. In John 20:22 it says, and he came to them and breathed on them and said to them, receive the Holy Spirit, this is the power we need to face different situations.

3. Disciple: Model lives that learn from Jesus. After more than 2000 years the Church continues its work, there have been different situations that have wanted to stop it but making disciples (the only business of the church) does not stop, as the Mission of the Church of the Nazarene says, making Christ-like disciples in the nations.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, I ask you to help me as your child to respond, and give me of your spirit, power and courage to fulfill your mission. Amen.

VISION AND MISSION OF JESUS CHRIST

Dr. Christian D. Sarmiento



The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor. Luke 4:18-19

Mission is always the result of vision. The vision of the Lord Jesus Christ is the establishment of the Kingdom of God in everyone. Vision is God's dream for his daughters and sons even before creation. Today God longs to establish his kingdom of love and justice in every heart. Jesus announces his vision as good news, saying: "... the kingdom is at hand" (Mark 1:15).

At the beginning of his ministry, Jesus was very clear about the mission that his Father entrusted to him:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me. He has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor; he has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives, to give sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor" (Luke 4:18-19).

His mission is to proclaim good news of freedom and restoration to all who are captive. Once we respond to his proclamation through repentance, Jesus sets us free, restores us, creating an intimate relationship, and invites us to participate in his vision, commissioning us to be his co-workers.

Jesus' mission invites us to action: "For I was hungry, and you gave me food, I was thirsty, and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me" (Matthew 25:35-36). Jesus' mission is the fruit of his love for all, being willing to give everything to fulfill it.

Jesus commands us to join Him in mission: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, and baptize them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Teach them to do all that I have commanded you. And I will be with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen."

Prayer: Thank you Oh God for sending Jesus to invite us to fulfill your vision and participate in your vision. We thank you for filling us with your Spirit and giving us your purpose for our lives.

MISSION FENCES?

Rev. David Ali



One Lord, one faith, one baptism: Eph.4:5

I was reminded this morning of my childhood neighbor Martin who was very physical as a small boy, and he would easily climb over the concrete 5ft fence between our homes without any sense of inhibition. In his innocence, our home was his home and all of the adults loved his free behavior.

When my wife and I became members of the San Fernando Church of the Nazarene in 1977, we entered with that same sense of innocence and enjoyed the acceptance of the pastor and his family and the members of the church. This acceptance was extended by the leaders and members of other churches as we became active on our district, and even the love we felt from Nazarenes around the world at our first attendance at the general assembly in 1989.

We give thanks through the years via the Nazarene family locally, regionally, and worldwide, for fences that were broken down. Racial fences, cultural fences, language fences, economic fences, denominational fences, doctrinal fences, and all other fences that mitigate against the commandment "love the lord thy God with all your heart and mind and thy neighbor as thyself."

As we continue the mission of our church – to make Christlike Disciples in our nations – community, country, and world with our love, prayers, and sacrificial giving for the limited time we have on this temporary earthly home, to do our utmost for Him, who has done so much for us.

Prayer: Father, as you gently called us to love you and neighbor, give us your divine grace to love others into the kingdom of heaven. For we know that all the fences that you have broken down will help us through the power of your Holy Spirit to proclaim the lordship of our lord and Savior Jesus Christ and unite us as one.

WHAT IS OUR MISSION?

Dr. Milton Gay Valencia



He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the good news to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved, but he who does not believe will be condemned. Mark 16:15-16

Have you ever been given a special mission to do? Something that only you can do or accomplish? How does it make you feel when you have a challenge to complete?

Today I want to share with you the personal mission God created me to have, and it is dual 1) it is upward: why I must depend on him and his grace to accomplish it and 2) it is outward. Why it has to do with people, who are important to God. This leads me to long for my first love with the passion of sharing the risen Christ and the importance of people.

One process is to seek them in their own realities to bring them to the highest level which is to know Christ and accompany them to know and join the mission. But how do I do this? Using my role as a disciple by being a catalyst of leaders who share their mission.

Second is to create a strategy that gives direction and vision to new believers.

Ten important points to make the mission known:

- 1.Transform the culture in which I live through my relationship with Jesus.
- 2.Equip and develop leaders in my faith community, with a vision to multiply and plant.
- 3.Reach many people for Jesus and motivate them to become multiplying disciples.
- 4.To see the needs of the world and try to provide hope in a holistic way.
- 5.To provide resources for disciples and to take the gospel to the farthest reaches of the region.
- 6.To live in missions constantly, preparing new generations.
- 7.Change the model of maintenance to multiplication.
- 8.To have committed disciples in each country as a motivator for the mission.
- 9.Generate a clear strategy for evangelism.
- 10.Work as a team with other ministries that are in mission.

Prayer: God our Father, thank you so much for giving us the privilege of being part of your disciples with a clear mission to reach the world through your word and work. Empower us to witness to your transforming work in each of us and help us to encourage all believers to mature and grow in your image and likeness. Amen.

WHAT IS OUR MISSION?

Rev. Carlos Cordero



Your attitude should be like that of Jesus Christ, who, being by nature God, did not consider being equal to God as something to cling to. On the contrary, he voluntarily lowered himself, taking the nature of a servant and becoming like human beings. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross! Philippians 2:5-8

Our Mission is to BE like JESUS, it must be the goal of every person.

It goes beyond a religious principle, cultural value, or denominational emphasis. It is not an escapist methodology from reality; it is rather a foundation of life and is not a destiny for some, but a possibility for all.

But how can we be like JESUS?

By having his same attitude, he did not cloister himself in his divinity, but in spite of it he stripped himself of those rights and benefits; he left his position of divinity and incarnated himself in fallen humanity in order to restore them. In our life we must practice the style of JESUS, how many times clinging to our benefits or comforts we fail to be/do like JESUS. Let us think of the difference it will make to practice this principle.

By becoming a servant, He ceased to be KING and became a servant. It was not the action of others that made him a servant, but HE Himself decided to be a servant. It is a model that breaks the structure of any group or society. We live in societies that oppress, where there are many bosses and few servants. What impact will be taking the form of a servant have on our lives? It is a decision that will bring transformation.

Be willing to die. Surrender your will for the benefit of others. To stop being the first, not seeking his own benefit. He accepted the cross and its painful meanings out of love, opening a way for his disciples. How necessary it is to have this style of putting our own plans before GOD's.

Our mission as disciples and church is to BE like JESUS, by doing so we will achieve a transformational impact in our life and environment.

Prayer: Thank you, Father, for giving me the possibility to be like JESUS, I recognize that it is my main mission, by doing so I will achieve more effectively my purpose in life.

WORKERS NEEDED!!

Rev. Donnamie Ali



He told them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.” Luke 10:2

Looking around today, both at home and abroad, one can understand the urgency in Jesus’ voice as he saw the vast numbers of people living outside of God’s salvation plan for their lives. The first century was characterized by the same despair and emotional squalor that we witness today. Masses of people are seeking thrills in sinful pursuits, and many are going through life with hopelessness in their hearts and even on their faces at times.

The same urgency to share the gospel is needed today, but as in Jesus’ day, the workers are still relatively few. Brothers and sisters, even though we are few, we must still do the work that God has called us to do. Indeed, we must do it with greater urgency.

And while we are working for the advancement of His Kingdom, we need to be praying constantly that many more workers would come on board. Without prayer our labour will be in vain. We will gain numbers but not fellow workers. All feet, all hands, all voices are needed. We need to be urgent about what we are doing—passionate, for many are dying in their sins while others live in moral degradation and emotional despondency. Pray without ceasing brothers and sisters. Let us continue to remember who the Lord of the harvest is and ask Him “to send out workers into his harvest field” so that the many who are spiritually perishing, can be rescued.

Prayer: Almighty God, we praise your matchless and holy name. We are thankful to have the privilege of service in your Kingdom. As we look around Lord, we are moved by the masses who are yet to receive your forgiveness and assurance of salvation. We are few, Lord, and asking that you send many more workers who would help in spreading the Gospel and making true disciples so that your bountiful harvest will be reaped. In Jesus’ name I pray. Amen!

THE THREE P'S FOR MISSION: PURIFICATION, POWER, AND PASSION

Rev. Nicolás Ríos



And one of the seraphim flew unto me, having in his hand a burning coal, taken with tongs from the altar; and he touched my mouth with it, and said, Behold, this hath touched thy lips, and thy guilt is taken away, and thy sin is cleansed. Isaiah 6:6-7

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me. Isaiah 6:8

The burning coal touched Isaiah's lips, took away his guilt and washed away his sin. We cannot carry out the Mission if our life has not been purified by the Holy Spirit. The personal experience in our lives of saving grace is the message with which we can carry out the mission. This reminds us of the words of the apostle Peter. Acts 3.6 – I have neither silver nor gold, but what I have I give you; in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, arise and walk.

Nor will we have the power to fulfill the mission, we struggle every day with the forces of evil that try to defocus us from our task of announcing the good news of salvation. Acts 1:8 – in this verse God promises to fill us with the Holy Spirit who will give us the power to be His witnesses.

When we have been purified and God's power is in our life, then we will have the passion to fulfill the mission and we can respond like Isaiah, "Here am I, send me." How easy it is to become discouraged when we do not see the desired response, but the Holy Spirit gives us the Passion not to give up.

Prayer: Lord, I ask you to purify my life, fill me with your power and give me passion to fulfill the Mission you have entrusted to me. Amen.

IT IS URGENT

Rev. Edin García



Then Philip opened his mouth and began at this scripture and preached to him the gospel of Jesus. Acts 8:35

It was early morning when the ringing of WhatsApp messages, I ring repeatedly the message received was short; I want to die, no one wants me; I want to meet Jesus. It was about a young man from the neighborhood his personal life was a mess with several suicide attempts, he didn't know his parents, no close family, he was alone. I looked at the clock and it was 2:18 am, the request was urgent; my task was to share with him the truths of the gospel; a reliable source that would respond to his need.

In Sacred Scripture we find a very critical moment, a story similar to the one described above the evangelist Philip showed the gospel in a simple and practical way, with urgency; when he met in the desert with the Ethiopian official, who was reading the book of the prophet Isaiah: do you understand what you read I ask Philip, Acts 8:30 the Ethiopian and how can I, and if there is someone to teach me, then Philip opening his mouth, began to share the good news, the message of hope capable of changing stories and solve critical moments.

That early morning this young man with a death wish, met Christ and his story changed, he recognized Jesus as his personal savior and Lord, he finally had peace within himself and felt loved.

What a joy I felt to see how this young man had made one of the most important decisions of his life, Christ received him not cast him out; like Philip you can also be an urgent means to witness for Christ, after reading this story what will you do, what are you willing to do for your friends, family, what answers can you offer to someone who needs Jesus?

Prayer: Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, show me simple and effective ways, empower me to share the message of salvation and eternal life; Jesus thank you for revealing your powerful and humble methods to you be the glory today forever and ever. Amen.

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RECEIVING the MISSION

April 18 to 25



NAZARENE
MISSIONS
INTERNATIONAL

RECEIVING THE MISSION

Rev. Ulises Solís



For the LORD your God dried up the waters of the Jordan before you ...that all the peoples of the earth may know that the hand of the LORD is mighty; that you may fear the LORD your God all your days. Joshua 4:23-24

God in His grace assigns a special mission to each subject for the purpose of fulfilling the mission received and leaving a legacy of God's power and faithfulness to family and a powerful testimony to the nations of His saving grace as we fulfill the ministry.

Joshua received a special mission to introduce the people of Israel to the Promised Land and after defeating the enemies he would proceed to distribute to each tribe their earthly inheritance so that they would have an identity as God's people.

A. preparatory process to carry out the mission received.

How was his process?

1. He was called by God and commanded by Moses to begin his work in support of his leadership, Numbers 27:18-19.
2. At the end of the training in the desert his mentor dies, but Joshua was filled with the Holy Spirit and wisdom fit to begin God's mission, Deuteronomy 34: 9.
3. He is notified by God and commanded to get up and cross the Jordan, together with the people to the land that God was giving them, Joshua 1:2. So far we can learn several lessons, if we want to serve in the diversity of missions in his Kingdom:

- You must hear his call and obey
- Serve in your own culture in the local church and its environment.
- Consecrate your life to the Lord and experience the sanctifying grace through the Power of the Holy Spirit
- Wait for your call to fulfill a mission that God in his grace assigns you in the right country.

RECEIVING THE MISSION

Rev. Ulises Solís



B. Steps to fulfill the mission received, Joshua 4: 15-24

What did he do to accomplish the mission? According to the biblical account he did the following:

1. He followed every instruction of the Lord and obeyed, vv. 15-16.
2. He crossed the Jordan with the people, and in obedience to the Lord he ordered the priests to go up and camp that night in Gilgal.
3. Instructed the leaders of the 12 families to leave a monument of 12 stones as a legacy of the grace and care of God, who miraculously opened the swollen river of the Jordan for His people to cross. Vr. 19-23
4. He took care that the family descendants remembered the power and grace of God so that they would live under the fear of the Lord always. Vr. 24

The Jordan River is mentioned more than 75 times in the Bible, it represents a challenge and a natural border that defines a here and a hereafter between the desert that represents conformity and the promised land. We must hear the voice of God and come out of conformism by crossing and overcoming the barriers of the Jordan of our life and in his name conquer the mission of God that we have received.

Prayer: Lord may your grace help us to cross the barriers of our life to do your will. Amen.

RECEIVING THE MISSION



Rev. Nancy Cordero

After this, the Lord chose seventy-two others to be sent two by two before him to every town and place where he intended to go. "The harvest is plentiful," he said to them, "but the laborers are few. Therefore, ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his field. 3 Go, you men! Behold, I am sending you out as lambs in the midst of wolves. vs 1-3 - Luke 10:1-9

Every disciple of the Lord receives the Mission to present Jesus Christ. The accomplishment of this task has the following principles:

Firstly, prayer to the Lord of the harvest who gave us the mission. This is a human task but also a spiritual one, because the struggle is not against flesh and blood, so it requires at all times the ingredient of prayer. Through it we can find the right direction, also the strength required to fulfill it and the understanding that we do not depend on our abilities or strategies, but on the intervention of the Lord.

Secondly, it requires organization, which implies managing resources, people and systems to accomplish the task. Our Lord demonstrated this in the sending of the 70 where he organized the team, sent them in pairs and gave them instructions of what they should and should not do in this mission. The importance of organization is that it enhances greater effectiveness by not being stuck acting on their own ideas, surely without the Lord's instructions, they would have spent a lot of time agreeing on how they would go out and what they would do.

Thirdly, they had to communicate. Communicate a message of hope: The Kingdom of Heaven has come near to you! This message contains a transforming power for the listeners and their environment. It is the message of the Kingdom whose King is JESUS and is operating in and through the disciples. They went and spoke in the name of JESUS and were an extension of His ministry.

Have you received the mission, are you praying and planning to fulfill it, are you communicating Jesus?

Prayer: Lord Jesus thank you for being your disciples, and for the mission you have given us, help us to fulfill it effectively.

NO PLAN B



Rev. Wilmer Alfonso Ac

Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. Mark 16:15

God has always needed people to carry out His plans. There have been young people, adults and even children who have been used to make a difference in their environment and be a blessing to their generation.

But there have also been others who have received the same invitation to serve God, but unfortunately, they have made excuses such as: I don't have time to serve, I am not the best person to serve and many others, to justify their denial; they are so busy in their own plans that they don't have the time to connect with others.

When Jesus chose the twelve, they did not seem to be the best people to carry out the plan of sharing the gospel to every creature. Some of them were uneducated, without influence and without control of their emotions. But if they were chosen it was because they would be able to accomplish what they were sent to do, even if they did not see within themselves the ability to do it.

The average Christian spends his entire life without leading anyone to Christ. And apparently there are so many, but we must make a choice: Either we are part of those who get involved in the plan, or we become mere spectators who just watch life go by. Some say they are too busy and others that they feel incapable, and that they are ready to execute plan B in their life. But in God's kingdom, there is no such thing as a plan B, we either determine for Christ and His purposes or... I think you know the answer.

The decision is yours, will you be part of God's move, or will you step aside and let others take care of what we should be active in? Don't miss the opportunity to be used by the Lord, trust that God will do through you. It is easy to say that great things God will do, but what will require great courage is that we say: "Great things God will do through me".

Prayer: Lord, I ask your forgiveness for resisting the call. Give me the courage, the courage and the passion to proclaim among men that you are God. In Jesus' name, amen.

OBLIGATORY CHURCH?

Ruins Fruits: Church as an obligation instead of a blessing

Dr. Jorge Córdova



See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Ephesians 6:15-16

What a time we live in, we live so busy, we live so busy in our daily activities. We always have a list of things to do, a long list of tasks to accomplish and always the, where? We have to be, is our preoccupation.

So, it is easy to understand that attending worship services at church, or attending House of Peace groups, or attending any other church event may seem like just another event, just another duty on a long list of obligations we have to fulfill. However, we must remember that these occasions are opportunities to not only spend time with our Heavenly Father, but they are opportunities to withdraw from the influence of this frenetic world in which we live and at the same time be renewed in our souls by the grace and work of the Holy Spirit.

It is very important that we must stop seeing the opportunities that God is giving us, as an obligation, and enjoy those opportunities as precious times of edification with Christ.

Scripture passage: Ephesians 5: 15-20

15 See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise,
16 making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. 17 Therefore do not be foolish, but understanding what the will of the Lord is. 18 Do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, 19 speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your hearts to the Lord, 20 giving thanks always for all things to God and the Father, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayer: Dear Heavenly Father, our life is so full of so many things, it is easy to see these times of being with you and your church as just another obligation. My God, help me to see them as opportunities to find relief from this troubled world, a moment of peace and restoration with you my Lord and God. May your Holy Spirit guide me at all times to long for and take advantage of these precious moments for the renewal of my soul! Help me to be a blessing to my brothers and sisters in CHRIST and to highly value the blessings they are to me. In Jesus' precious name. Amen.

RECEIVING THE MISSION



Rev. Carlos de la Cruz

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. Matthew 28:19.

The Great Commission is not just for some believers, but for all who have accepted Jesus as their Savior. Each one of us has the commitment to receive and share the mission, in this devotional let me share four steps that will help us to receive and share the mission with those around us and how we can receive and live our mission with joy and purpose.

First, we must be aware of the mission we receive. Before we can receive and carry out the mission, we must recognize that we are bearers of the good news of salvation. We are ambassadors for Christ in this fallen and needy world. God has not left us here just to live a comfortable and quiet life, but to be a light in the midst of darkness and to bring hope to the lost. As we understand who we are in Christ, we can welcome our mission with gratitude and commitment.

Secondly, we need to prepare ourselves to receive the mission, Luke 24:49. To carry out our mission, we need to be spiritually prepared. This involves having an intimate relationship with God through prayer and the study of His Word. The Holy Spirit empowers and guides us in our task of making disciples. In addition, we must be willing to put aside our fears and insecurities, trusting in God's strength and power at work within us.

Third, we need to live a permanently purposeful life. When we truly receive our mission, our lives take on an eternal purpose. Every day, we can look for opportunities to share the love of Christ and be a blessing to others. Our witness can open doors to speak of our faith and lead others to Jesus. No matter what our occupation or position in society, we can influence the lives of others and make a difference.

Fourth, we need to live trusting in God's promise. The mission we have received is not a heavy burden, but a blessing and a privilege. Jesus promised us that he would be with us always, until the end of time. We can rely on his guidance, support and provision to fulfill the task he has entrusted to us. We are not alone, but we are empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Prayer: May God help you to joyfully receive and embrace the mission, no matter what your age, background or abilities are; may he use you in the task you received to make Christ-like disciples.

RECEIVING THE MISSION

Dr. Jorge Baños



Go therefore and make disciples of all nations... Matthew 28:19

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth. Acts 1:8

The two biblical texts cited are an important basis for the Lord's Church, because they give us clarity to affirm that the church has a mission on this earth, "to make Christ-like disciples among the nations". This is the particular mission of the Church of the Nazarene.

I. Jesus the owner of the mission.

Whose mission, is it? The mission is not yours, nor mine, much less that of the Church. The mission is the Lord's, who has invited us to participate in this beautiful ministry of reconciliation, as the Apostle Paul rightly points out (2 Corinthians 5:18). We participate in the reconciliation and discipleship of all those who repent and take Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

It is for this reason that Jesus with all authority and power (Matthew 28:18) entrusts his Church to do this work. You and I are invited by the owner of the mission.

II. The place of the mission

Where do we go on mission? "...to all nations..." (Matthew 28:19). The mission is carried out in every place where it is found, or the church is sent, without geographical exceptions. The Church is in this world to fulfill its mission, that is why some people point out that the Church of the Lord by its nature is missionary and does its work in the whole world.

III. The presence of the Holy Spirit to fulfill the mission.

How do we do the mission? The interesting thing about this task is that we do not do it alone, Jesus promised the presence of the Holy Spirit, who gives us the power to be his witnesses and thus carry on the mission to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8).

Prayer: Lord, we thank you for calling your Church to do the task in this world. We gratefully receive this mission, knowing that the presence of your Holy Spirit empowers us to fulfill the mission. Amen.

GO

Rev. Monte Cyr



"So now, go, I am sending you..." Exodus 3:10a

How good are you at making excuses? Most of us are pretty good at it. We can come up with a million reasons why we can't or shouldn't do something we don't want, or feel capable, to do. Kind of like a guy we're all familiar with – Moses.

You know the story. Moses was a Hebrew who was raised in Pharaoh's palace. After killing an Egyptian who was beating a Hebrew, Moses escaped to the desert. He had been out there herding sheep for 40 years when God called to him from a burning bush with an incredible mission. "I am concerned about the Israelites' suffering ... So now, go, I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt." (Ex. 3:7-10)

What a great opportunity! He should have been excited and on the first bus to Egypt, but instead, he started giving excuses why he couldn't or shouldn't be the one to carry out God's mission. He questioned his abilities. He was worried that people wouldn't follow him. He struggled with his self-esteem. He even asked God to send someone else. (Do this sound familiar?) But after every excuse, God responded with answers/solutions to Moses' concerns.

It's not a question of IF God will call you to do something ... He will ... more than once. No, the real question is, What is your response to His call? Do you respond like Moses did initially with "But God...", or do you just trust Him as God and go? God prepared Moses, and you, for His mission. He knows your abilities and weaknesses, and He knows what He can accomplish through your obedience. Look what He did through Moses when he finally said yes!

So, when God calls you for your current or next mission, instead of looking for excuses, get moving. Go!!! After all, just like with Moses, He is sufficient for all you'll need to do what He's called you to do!

Prayer: Lord, thank you for trusting us with your mission. Please help us lay aside our excuses and fears ... and go. And just like with Moses, we know that you can do amazing miracles through our obedience. Amen.

RECEIVING THE MISSION

Rev. Maria Antonia Ponce E.



He who hears you hears me; and he who rejects you rejects me; and he who rejects me rejects him who sent me. Luke 10:16

When we read the complete text from verse 1 to 16 of Luke chapter 10, we find the mission that Jesus was giving to the seventy-two disciples, whom he was sending to make known what the kingdom of God consisted of; since then the mission has been taken up by many and the good news has brought a change of life for the good of the families of the earth.

Today more than ever human beings need to know the truths of God and all of us who have been born again are called not only to receive the mission, but to put it into practice.

When Jesus Christ commissioned his disciples, he spoke to them about the need to make more disciples; today there is so much need and there are many who receive the mission, but few who carry it out. The message they carried was a message of peace, to bless all those who would receive them. There was no provision for the road, and although they would face the detractors of the message of the Messiah, they had to tell the people that the kingdom of God was near. Today we are the ones called to tell the world that the kingdom of God is among us and available to all those who desire the gift of salvation that Jesus Christ continues to offer.

By receiving Jesus' mission, we are not only privileged, but part of the inheritance that the great I Am left us.

Prayer: Thank you, Lord Jesus, for giving us the example of a life in holiness, with a compassionate style and easy to transmit to new generations, so that your legacy continues to change lives and transform hearts. Give us wisdom and love so that your legacy will continue to transform lives and the message of love and compassion will be a way of life for your church.

40 DAYS OF

PRA
YER

April 10 - May 19

PRIOR
to the day of
Pentecost



FULFILLING
the **MISSION** in
URBAN areas
April 26 to May 3



FULFILLING THE MISSION IN URBAN AREAS

Rev. Scott Armstrong



Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper. – Jeremiah 29:7

Did you know that 4.4 billion people around the world live in cities? By 2050, the urban population will more than double, at which point 7 of 10 people will live in cities. Megacities like Tokyo, Sao Paolo, and London get a lot of the attention, but also think of cities in our region like Mexico City, Managua, Port-of-Prince, and Kingston.

It is increasingly vital that churches figure out how to minister creatively and effectively in urban areas.

The prophet Jeremiah finds himself right in the middle of a heart-wrenching time in Israel's history. They had been forcibly deported from Jerusalem to the epitome of evil: Babylon (v.4). Surely the Lord would want them to preserve their culture and stay far away from all the sinful Babylonians, right? And assuredly this would just be a short-term stay before they could get back to normal, right?

God's message to them is shocking. The Israelites should build houses, plant gardens, and settle down (v. 5). Their families would be there for generations (v. 6). Most importantly, they were not to view their new community as the enemy but intercede for it and seek its well-being!

Our tendency as a Church is to view the city around us as a den of poverty, crime, and violence. Those things exist, and we indeed should lament and seek to find solutions to them. However, God loves the city. God. LOVES. The City. And just as the Israelites in 586 B.C.E., we have been sent to the city where we live today with a purpose.

When was the last time you cried out to the Lord on behalf of your city?

Prayer: Father, I admit there are parts of my city I would much rather avoid. But I know you have me here for a reason. Bring peace to my city. And use me to make that happen.

THE NEXT CHAPTER: THE ETERNAL CITY

Rev. Emily Armstrong



I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. Revelation 21: 2-3

I have a confession to make. Fifteen years ago, I never thought about urban mission. All my life, God had put me in big cities, such as Indianapolis, Kansas City, Guatemala City, San Jose, Panama City, but I can't say that I made much effort to love the city. Sure, he complained a lot about the traffic, the hustle and bustle, the danger, the "run-around" of life. But I also enjoyed its arts like the theater and concerts, the proximity of a supermarket and a shopping mall, opportunities for education up to a master's degree. But to think of what God was doing in my city, through MY testimony? I doubt I spent a single moment contemplating it.

Perhaps you are reading, and saying to yourself, well, that's me too! or the opposite with a, Not my story - I'm from the country, and I will always be from the country. The truth is that no matter what your circumstance is, God wants us all to love, pray and work for the good of the city (Jeremiah 29:7).

I share with you, dear reader, the phrase that captured me 12 years ago, and which I have not been able to get out of my mind: God's story begins in a **GARDEN** and ends in **A CITY**.

God has always wanted to dwell with humanity - this is one of the most beautiful things about our God of Christianity. The story repeats time after time through Eden, the tabernacle, the temple, the incarnation of Jesus. And we come to Pentecost, where every person in the Church can be **FILLED WITH HIS HOLY SPIRIT** so that we live in communion with God every day, everywhere in the world! God's next chapter? We will live forever with God in the **ETERNAL CITY**.

We celebrate Pentecost this year, filling our cities with His holiness through acts of service, encouraging words, and unconditional love. We will begin to see a glimpse of what the eternal city looks like, here on earth.

Prayer: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Thy Kingdom comes. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

FULFILLING THE MISSION IN URBAN AREAS

Dr. Miguel Garita M.



And it came to pass...that he took Peter, John, and James, and went up into a mountain to pray. And while he was praying, the appearance of his countenance was altered, and his raiment became white and glittering... And Peter and those who were with him were drowsy; but as they lay awake, they saw the glory of Jesus... This is my beloved Son, hear ye him. Luke 9:28-36 ESV-1960 OTHER GOSPELS (Mt. 17:1-8; Mk. 9:2-8)

If we want to fulfill well the mission in the urban areas, it is necessary to understand the teaching of the Gospel of Luke about the transfiguration, which changed the vision of his disciples, God himself affirms that Jesus is the one we must present in the urban areas; he presents us the method to look for the lost in the big urban areas, the first thing is to withdraw to prayer; it is not the daily prayer that we do, but, a prayer directed towards the heart of God for these people, a prayer of power of faith, to face the different needs that this multitude has. A prayer that leads us to deeply know God, his Holy Spirit, to show a Savior, transformer, healer and liberator Christ.

But, we find groups, people, churches, that are thinking like Peter, that without knowing what he was saying, moved by fear to preach the Word of God, they seek to stay in the church, making bigger churches or applying very human techniques and do not want to come down from the mountain of transformation, to face the multitudes in need, prisoners of evil, of an enemy, that fills them with vices, destructive behaviors, poverty, misery, sickness, people that need the liberating, saving, healing power and the hope of eternal life with Jesus Christ, misery, diseases, people who need the liberating, saving, healing power and the hope of eternal life with Jesus Christ, verse 37 of this same chapter, shows us the reality of a multitude full of needs, tied to the manifestations of the enemy, that can only be liberated when a group of men and women, filled with the glory of God, of his Holy Spirit, are able to show them the power of Christ.

Although the passage is wonderful, it would not be just another reading, if not, we seek to experience in our own lives, through prayer: to see the glory of God and personally experience the power of His Holy Spirit, to go to the urban areas with a transforming message of Jesus, in the lives of these multitudes in need.

FULFILLING THE MISSION IN URBAN AREAS

Dr. Miguel Garita M.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, show us your glory and power to bring to so many people in urban areas, your transforming and liberating Word, to change, heal and save so many men, women and children who are being lost in the midst of miserable and hard lives without hope. Jesus fill us with your Spirit to change this suffering world, give us the compassion to serve you and the passion to speak your Word of power. Thank you we want to bring your glory to the suffering world. Amen.

FULFILLING THE MISSION IN URBAN AREAS

Rev. Sirlene Bustos



You are the Christ, the Son of the living God...on this rock I will build my church, and the gate of Hades shall not prevail against it. v 16 – Matthew 16: 13-20

Church growth is our responsibility, but it is something we cannot produce, no strategy or method in itself will produce it. This passage represents that great truth for us today, likewise we need to start in the same line in which Jesus established it. "Who do men say that the Son of Man is?...for the most important thing for all that was coming was when: ...He said to them, who do you say that I am?" vv.13,15. Jesus first inquired about the current speculation about His person, the disciples responded on the basis of what the people were saying, but Peter as spokesman for the others, dared to vocalize "You are the Christ..."

Sometimes we become indifferent as to the radical nature of Peter's confession, but Jesus immediately affirmed such testimony and declared that he had received a divine revelation, Peter's confession is the foundation upon which the Church is built. The redemption of the world, by the living God, as Peter declares, required him to send His Son, the Christ (Messiah) to die on the cross to pay the penalty for human sin. However, there was more, He came to build a community to which He would give the keys of the kingdom, this for evangelization, we are the ones He sent to open those church doors to those in need of redemption and love; furthermore a community in which decisions would be of such significance that they would be bound in heaven (God-honoring decisions) or unbound (non-God-honoring decisions) and that, consequently, would endure for all eternity.

It should be noted that, at the beginning of this passage, the writer indicates the place where this event takes place, vr.1 "...Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi..." a city located in the north of Israel, built by Philip, son of Herod the Great and called Caesarea in honor of the emperor Tiberius Caesar, and that at that time was the Seat of the Government of Judea. In the surroundings of this city there were large rocks in which there were still traces of the ancient cults of worship to the Baal and Pan, and for Jesus it would be the right place to confess his deity and his messianism.

FULFILLING THE MISSION IN URBAN AREAS

Rev. Sirlene Bustos



It was a critical moment for Jesus, since he would soon conclude his journey to the cross and what he wanted most was to bring his disciples closer to a more intimate relationship with him, because it was of utmost importance that the 12 had the confidence and the truth of Jesus' messianism, so that their faith would be strengthened for what was to come in the future for them and the church.

Jesus came to establish and build the church, a people called out from the masses to be His Body, His Temple, His Bride, a royal priesthood (1 Pet. 2:9). Authentic church growth is a divinely promised activity for the church when it is rightly related to its founder, and firm in its conviction of who Jesus is for the Church and for His disciples.

That is why we cannot forget that the true church is built in Christ, not in a person and this is essential to enter those crucial urban areas, we need to be simple people who seek nothing for themselves and that the glory be to the Lord. We need to be available and submitted to Jesus so that He can use us to build His church.

The early church was primarily an urban movement that won the people of the Roman cities to Christ, today our cities need to know this Living and Powerful Christ.

Prayer: Jesus, we need our conviction of you to be firm and clear so that you can use us with power to reach all those cities that today live in darkness.

FULFILLING THE MISSION IN URBAN AREAS

Dr. Milton Gay



The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few," he said to his disciples. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out laborers into his field. v 37 & 38 - Matthew 9:35-38

These verses give us a summary of Jesus' ministry and the three important things Jesus did when he passed through the cities: he preached, taught and healed the sick. When Jesus came to the cities and looked at the crowds, he had compassion on them because he saw them as sheep without a shepherd in the big cities. What is a city? Today, a city is defined almost exclusively by the number of its inhabitants. Urban centers with a large population are called "cities".

A city was what today we would call a walkable "multi-purpose" human settlement. Because of the density of the population, there were places to live and work, to buy and sell, to engage in and enjoy art, to worship and seek justice; and all in close proximity.

What makes a city a city is proximity. It brings together people and, therefore, residences, workplaces and cultural institutions. It creates markets and street life, resulting in more person-to-person interactions and exchanges in a day than any other place.

The Challenge of the Urban

The growth of the urban population in the world has been increasing, according to the United Nations in 1950 21% of the population was urban, by the year 2000 almost half of the world's population, 47%, lived in cities, in 2014 the world's urban population was 54% and it is estimated that by 2050 66% of people develop their lives in the city. Undoubtedly, we have a great opportunity and a great challenge.

FULLFILLING THE MISSION IN URBAN AREAS

Dr. Milton Gay



The challenges of the cities for the church today. How do we fulfill the mission?

1. To take advantage of multiculturalism and multigenerationality
2. Minister to the poor, dirty and dangerous cities.
3. They are a great migratory opportunity to equip leaders.
4. Many people in need.
5. Hopeless families migrating all over the world.
6. Create a biblical and contextual strategy to reach urban citizens.
7. e incarnational and not extractive, i.e. move the church to share the grace to evangelize the cities and impact them.
8. Shift from addition to multiplication.
9. Move from buildings to communities.
10. To preach and teach in a simple and practical way like Jesus.
11. Open small groups for development and growth.
12. Be relational.

Prayer: Lord, thank you very much that you are the Lord of the cities, and you are concerned about all people. We ask you to help us to be sensitive to the needs and challenges that big cities present to us. We pray for new laborers to reap the harvest. In Your name, amen.

FULLFILLING THE MISSION IN URBAN AREAS

Lic. Elba Isabel Duson



One night, the Lord spoke to Paul in a vision and told him: "Do not be afraid! Speak freely! Do not be silent! For I am with you, and no one will attack you or harm you, for many people in this city belong to me. Acts 17:9-10.

The apostle Paul was chosen to reach large cities carrying the gospel in a context where paganism and ignorance because of sin mowed down many people, he was constantly under persecution, he was accused of PERSUADING people to worship God in ways contrary to the law of those cities.

Bringing the good news to the cities is often challenging, their lifestyle leads them further and further away from the creator, the mixture of belief confuses hearts. The apostle experienced feelings of fear, pain and anguish on several occasions, even a feeling of passing through a city without stopping to preach. But one night while he was feeling challenged and somewhat fearful about some situations in the city of Corinthians the Lord came to him and reminded him "I AM WITH YOU".

Have you experienced these kinds of feelings while ministering in a city? Have you kept quiet for fear of being attacked or judged for your beliefs?

If you have or are experiencing something like this, I want to remind you that the Lord is with you and goes before you.

- Even though fear wants to intimidate you "stand firm".
- Si circumstances urge you to be silent "ask the Lord to show you some corner of the city where you can talk about Him freely".
- No give up, remember that many of those people in the city BELONG TO GOD.

Prayer: God thank you for making me part of your mission, thank you that you continue to prepare and provide the necessary tools for men and women to uniquely and strategically introduce your word in the cities and bring hope and freedom to a world consumed by paganism and vanity. Keep and give these words of strength to your servants who are seeking to fulfill your mission in urban areas. In Jesus, amen.

AT FULL SPEED

Rev. Erika Chaves



And will I not have mercy on Nineveh, that great city where there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who do not know how to discern between their right hand and their left hand, and many animals? Jonah 4:11

When I think of big cities, I don't feel so much like being there. I like more the secluded places, where there are cows, trees and crops. I'm from a small town and there wasn't a lot of traffic when I traveled to school or church. However, God has always taken me to cities. A common thing in cities is that everything moves faster. People know that traffic will be heavy at a certain time, and they rush to leave earlier. Others go fast because they left late, they run because they have to clock in at work. There is not much time to say hello or talk, except on Sundays or holidays. So how do we accomplish the mission at this speed?

Being a Christian in the city implies constancy and intentionality. Saying good morning to people who may be at the same bus stop every day or smiling at the homeless man who asks for money on the corner every morning at traffic time and asking what his story is. Greeting the same butcher every time or chatting a little with the cashiers at the supermarket or the waiters at the restaurant, are things that can open doors to make a difference and thus fulfill the Great Commission. The work of reaching the city is not tied to the temple nor is it achieved only when we go on Sundays to worship together or do a campaign. Effective discipleship requires smiles and extra minutes to give love at all times. Can you leave your house 5 minutes early this week with an attitude of serving your city, pray as you walk through it and let the Holy Spirit use you and surprise you?

Prayer: God thank you for my city or the city that is closest to where I am. We pray that in supernatural ways you may use us for your glory in the urban environment. Help us to go out each day with willing hearts, remembering that the work belongs to everyone and that a pause can make a difference. In Jesus' name, amen.

PREACH TO EVERY CREATURE, EVERYWHERE

Dr. Benjamín Soria



And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. Mark 16:15-16

Jesus, after his resurrection, appears to the disciples and gives them this commission to go and preach the gospel to every creature. As we can see, the imperative is quite broad.

From its origins the Church of the Nazarene has focused on working strongly in the fulfillment of the mission, taking into account the origin of the name of the denomination "Nazarene" as followers of Jesus the Nazarene, much emphasis has been placed on reaching the despised, marginalized, needy, groups or communities of unprotected or who do not have access to all the facilities and resources to live with dignity.

Therefore, we can realize that as a Church we have focused and directed our mission to rural areas for a long time.

Today we are refocusing our mission, since we see that the Lord's demand is not only directed to one sector, one culture, one ethnic group, etc.

The commission that we have read in these verses of Mark shows us that the Lord is thinking more broadly, He is thinking of every creature. In such a way that today as a church, and especially as a region of Mesoamerica, we are redirecting ourselves to be able to focus also on urban missions.

This demands a great effort and also innovation in methods and strategies. We must be very clear that our task is to preach the gospel to every creature. We must not be any kind of respecter of persons; we must have the passion to preach Christ wherever we are.

PREACH TO EVERY CREATURE, EVERYWHERE

Dr. Benjamín Soria



The cities demand other types of forms or resources, but the message of the gospel continues to be powerful and maintains its transforming effects.

The call is that wherever you are, do not remain silent, preach, speak of Christ, because only He can transform the destiny of people, as mentioned in Mark in verse 16, he who believes and is baptized will be saved, but he who does not will be condemned. Our good God does not want anyone to be lost, but that all may proceed to repentance and believe in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

Prayer: Beloved Lord, help us to fulfill what you have entrusted to us, that we may carry your word to every creature, that we may carry that powerful message of salvation. ¡Thank you for your love and mercy! Amen.

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ARRANGING CHILDREN for the MISSION

May 4 to 11



ON YOUR MARKS, GET SET... GO!

Ing. Sara Cetino de Díaz



And how will they preach if they are not sent? As it is written, How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, of those who preach the gospel of the good news! Romans 10:14-15

God is Sovereign. He uses children, youth, adults and elders, men and women. The Great Commission in Matthew 28 is a command to everyone including children. As adults (parents, uncles, aunts, uncles, grandparents, siblings, teachers, pastors, among others) we have the responsibility to dispose children for the mission.

A child must run the race of life. It is starting: On their marks! then they will be ready and go out to share with others the Gospel. How can we help them?

- By praying: In 1 Samuel 1:27 Hannah asked for a child and God granted it to her. She committed to dedicate it to Him. Let us pray for every child we know.
- Leading: 1 Samuel 3:10. Eli taught Samuel to recognize God's voice and to prepare his heart to obey Him.
- Being an example: Genesis 22. God asked Abraham to offer his son Isaac, he was obedient, Isaac saw how his father obeyed any order God gave.
- Discovering their talents: Involving children in activities such as: children's choir, service leadership, maximum mission, among others will help them develop and discover their talents.

In Romans 10:15 God invites us to send others to preach the gospel, let us prepare the children for the Mission by giving them the necessary tools to fulfill it and by being an example.

Prayer: Today we come to You believing in a God who loves His creation, thank You for the children who are close to us. We are willing to fulfill the Great Commission, we know it is our responsibility, but we also want the next generations to do it. We commit ourselves so that the children around us see in us the example and want to imitate us. We will dispose them to the missions knowing that you will accompany them. We love and bless you. In Jesus Christ, amen.

GOD'S CALL AT AN EARLY AGE

Misionera Damaris Kellogg



Speak, for your servant hears. I Samuel 3:10

Hannah praying at the altar promised God that if He would grant her a son she would take him into His service. God granted her heart's desire by giving her a son, Samuel.

At his young age, as Hannah had promised, Samuel was taken to the tabernacle and placed in God's service. There in the tabernacle, Samuel ministered to the Lord in the presence of Eli. This was a difficult time for the people of Israel because of their sin; God's voice was no longer often heard.

One night, while Samuel was sleeping, he heard a very clear voice calling him, Samuel! Samuel! Hearing the voice, he ran to Eli to ask him what it was calling him for. Eli denied the call and told him to go back to sleep. The Bible says that Samuel did not yet know God, His word had not yet been revealed; yet God was calling him for salvation and for His service.

Samuel heard once again the same voice, Samuel! Samuel! Once again, he ran to Eli, and this time Eli recognized that the one calling his name was Jehovah. Eli then directed him in the way he was to answer if he called him again: Speak, for your servant hears!

We know the rest of the story of how God had a purpose for Samuel's life at such a young age and how God used him and rewarded his faithfulness.

This story teaches us that God calls even at a young age, just as He did with Samuel. God gave Eli the opportunity to serve alongside young Samuel, likewise, God gives us the opportunity to serve in the Children and Adolescents Ministry. This is a very important phase where the heart of the children is docile and attentive.

GOD'S CALL AT AN EARLY AGE

Misionera Damaris Kellogg



It is said that a large percentage of preachers, missionaries and evangelists received their call when they were children or adolescents, therefore our duty as leaders is to disciple and accompany children and adolescents in their walk with God. Identify and know when God is working in their lives and provide them with support both in prayer and discipleship so that when they feel God's call, they know what their response should be in obedience to Him.

Prayer: Lord we thank you for giving us the opportunity to serve in the Children and Youth Ministry, help us to be intentional in our discipleship to them, that we may lead them in your ways so that when you call them to serve without question they may respond "Speak, LORD for your servant hears" and so in obedience to you, they may become your servants and fulfill your purpose in them. Amen.

ARRANGING THE CHILDREN IN THE MISSION

Misionera Marlen Soria



Then the King will say to those on his right, "Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world." v 34 - Matthew 25:31-46

Among the most special memories I have from my childhood is being part of a program called Little Missionaries. While my mother attended the weekly ladies' meeting, I took my missionary class and dreamed that "Little Missionaries" would one day be a real thing in my life. We had a book of missionary stories; my mind was transported to those places. But, it was in the Church of the Nazarene that I was able for the first time to go on a mission trip to the country of Ukraine. Our mission was to build a rehabilitation center; it all made sense, I was no longer just reading a story from another missionary, I was living for myself what it means to serve others.

I have always thought that the best way to learn is to practice; children need to learn about missions as they practice. In Matthew 25:31-46 the Word of God describes the day of judgment of the nations. Have you analyzed that this passage exposes us to a reality far removed from what we think the great final judgment will be? On that day, everything will be summed up in one thing: What and how much we did for others! Those whom God places at His right hand will be welcomed by Him saying: "Come, you blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry, and you gave me food, I was thirsty, and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, sick and you visited me, in prison and you came to me". But to those on His left hand He will say, You neither gave me to eat, nor to drink, nor lodged me, nor clothed me, nor visited me; and each one will ask, When did we do that to you? Then He will answer: "Inasmuch as you did it for one of the least of these to me you did it!"

Prayer: God help us to dispose and expose children to His mission, allowing them to have little experiences with it. Going to show the love of Christ to those more "little ones" than they are. Make them part of the plans and give them those first opportunities to serve, for they are always willing! Waiting for the "big ones" to give them the opportunity. Amen.

ARRANGING CHILDREN FOR THE MISSION

P.E.M. Sara Herrera de Cetino



And if it seems evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served, when they were beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but I and my house will serve the LORD. Joshua 24:15

For me, as a mother and grandmother, this verse has been a great challenge, because it showed the path to follow, the goal to aspire to, the seed to sow. Joshua confronted the people, reminded them of all their past experiences, the obstacles they had overcome, and above all, the greatness of God in their lives. He challenged them to choose whom to serve.

We too must choose whom to serve. Joshua as leader of the people and as head of his household was able to affirm with the certainty and firmness of one who knows what he has taught and practiced, his life conviction and what his family saw, heard and practiced with him, "I and my household..."

As parents, grandparents, uncles or simply neighbors or brothers in our church, we can and should stand in front and say like Joshua "I..." not with pride or out of arrogance, but as those who prepare those who come behind, those who witness our life and see our faithfulness to God, how we serve and honor Him in the first person.

This is the best way to dispose the children in the Mission, if we choose to serve Him and involve them in this service, encourage and support them in their own service, then we will confidently say: our house will "Serve the Lord" as Joshua said. Thus "We will be being and making disciples."

Prayer: Father, we decided to follow you and serve you, help us in this journey so that our children may know you and serve you through our example, we want, like Joshua, to be sure that they will continue with the mission you gave us and remain faithful, in Jesus Christ Amen.

PASSING THE BATON TO THE CHILDREN FOR THE MISSION!

Rosario Xuc



Behold, I command you to be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid or dismayed, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go. Joshua 1:9

When we project ourselves into missions, our minds regularly visualize young people and adults with the possibility of going on mission. Today, our picture is going to change. The great news is that God also includes children to go and make disciples of all nations. Let's see what one of the stories in the Bible tells us.

Moses was in charge of leading the people of Israel to the land of Canaan. All the people were confident that this would be the case. One day Moses shares the following news: "God has told me that I will not go over the Jordan"; this news shocked the people, Moses continued saying: "God has ordered that Joshua will be their new leader"; so Moses calls Joshua in front of the people and pronounces the following words: "be strong and courageous, you will lead this people to the land that God promised".

For Joshua this command represented a challenge, the task was not going to be easy, but in the power of God, it was going to be possible. Moses makes Joshua part of the mission, trusts that Joshua will be a good job, gives him the opportunity and sends him to continue this wonderful work.

After Moses' death, God confirms to Joshua: "it is up to you to lead the people, I will give them all the land... be strong and courageous". Joshua obediently carried out the assigned mission, God supported him, and they conquered the land.

Moses transfers the message to Joshua; Joshua is ready to receive it.

Let's disciple the children; thinking that they will be the ones who will continue God's mission. Let's pass the baton today!

Prayer: Thank you, Lord, for your call to children for your mission. Help us to include them all the time as we teach them. In Jesus' name, amen.

ARRANGING THE CHILDREN IN THE MISSION

Rev. Dhariana Balbuena



But Jesus called them, and said, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God. Luke 18:16

In the passage Luke 18:16, we see how Jesus shows a deep love and appreciation for children. He invites the little ones to come to Him, recognizing their purity of heart and their potential to understand and receive the kingdom of God. Jesus teaches us that children are not only the future of the church, but a vital part of the present, with an important role in God's mission.

In the life of every believer, mission is a fundamental calling. Jesus instructed us to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. The little ones are also part of his redemptive plan and, if we teach them from an early age, they can become powerful instruments in his hands.

As parents, leaders, and mentors, we have a responsibility to cultivate in children a missionary heart. We must teach them to love God above all things and to love their neighbor as themselves. We must instill in them the value of sharing the gospel and serving others with generosity and compassion.

Disposing children in mission involves equipping them to live out their faith in practical and relevant ways in their day-to-day lives. We can encourage them to participate in local mission activities, to pray for the unreached and to share their witness with their friends. We can also teach them to support missionaries with their prayers and offerings, and to be ambassadors for Christ in their school, neighborhood, and family.

Prayer: Lord Jesus, let us always remember that children are part of your body in the present, that you can and will use children to bring your light to a world that needs it so much. Please help us to equip, train and guide the children so that they too can joyfully fulfill your mission.

ARRANGING CHILDREN IN MISSION

M.L. Alma Hidalgo



Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house? Luke 2:49

The purpose of this devotional is to think that just as Jesus was to be in the house and participate in the mission of the Father in the same way, every child should be prepared for the mission.

Different biblical passages invite us to share the gospel and prepare disciples, children can be those disciples!

How can I prepare them?

- By showing children the example of Jesus that from an early age he desired to be involved and participate in heavenly affairs.
- Teaching them the tools needed to serve in mission, Prayer (Matthew 6:9) Sharing the word (Luke 5:1) Service (Luke 22:27)
- Taking them to share the gospel in places where they can experience with other children the experience of making Jesus known as Savior.

If we make a commitment to really prepare children from an early age in mission, we will never have a shortage of pastors, leaders, and missionaries.

Prayer: Our Father in heaven, we come to you in prayer to ask you to send the people who will prepare the children in your mission, that they may be believers, committed to children's ministry, that your Spirit may guide them in your will. We know that you hear us, and we praise you, in the name of Jesus we pray, Amen.

JONATHAN'S FRIENDS

Rev. Erika Chaves



"Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature" Mark 16:15

I'm a mom of 2 girls - it's a chaotically beautiful thing! Children have such a naive and willing spirit which is why I'm sure Jesus commanded us to be like them. One time I was teaching Sunday school while babysitting one of my daughters, we were talking about how to ask God for others and Jonathan, an 8-year-old boy told me that he didn't pray for his friends. I asked why and he said, "I don't know, I never thought I had to". He told me that he didn't have many friends, and that his few friends weren't very good and didn't talk to him much, so I told him that we were going to pray for new friends, but that God still loves everyone, and we should pray for those not so good friends....

After the class, I thought about this a lot. Jonathan had never thought before that he too is part of God's mission to the world and could pray for his friends, even if they are not good. The work is for everyone! That's why as a church we should encourage children to get involved from an early age. Experts even say that with so much access to technology and information, many children already have set goals and beliefs before the age of 9. Yes, that fast!

We have decided to continue to teach Jonathan and the other children that they too are called to pray for their friends and show the love of Jesus to everyone. We must look for ways to do evangelism with children and to intentionally as a church focus more on them in the way we do mission. Do the children in your church know that they are also part of the Great Commission?

Prayer: God thank you for the children, they are so special! We pray that as a church we can involve them in our work of reaching everyone. May it not be something in word, but indeed so that we may be a model in their lives. In Jesus' name, amen.

40 DAYS OF

PRA
YER

April 10 - May 19

PRIOR
to the day of
Pentecost



YOUNG PEOPLE

fulfilling the mission,

IMPACTING

their generation

May 12 to 19



NAZARENE
MISSIONS
INTERNATIONAL

GENERATION IMPACT

Joel Bermudez



Don't let anyone underestimate you because you are young. Instead, be an example to all believers, in what you say, in the way you live, in your love, your faith and your purity. 1 Timothy 4:12

Youth is a stage of life full of opportunities, challenges and decisions. Many young people wonder what the purpose of their existence is, what they want to do with their future, how they can contribute something positive to the world. The Bible teaches us that God has a plan for each of us, and that he has called us to fulfill a mission: to be his witnesses and impact our generation with the gospel.

As young Christians, we are called to be agents of change in our generation. God has given us unique gifts and talents to fulfill His mission in the world. We can impact others by living an authentic life filled with the love of Christ. This involves being courageous in our faith, sharing the gospel boldly and being a voice of hope and compassion in the midst of a world in need.

In addition, we can impact our generation by being leaders in our communities and in our churches. We can be mentors and role models for younger people, inspiring them to follow Christ and live a life of purpose and meaning. We can also be agents of change on social issues, fighting for justice and the welfare of others. Let us not forget that our generation is full of challenges and temptations, but with God's help and the power of the Holy Spirit, we can resist and be living testimonies of God's love and grace.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, we ask that you empower and guide us to fulfill your mission and be an impact on our generation. Help us to live according to your Word and to share your love with those around us. I want to be a purposeful young man, living for you and your glory, amen.

YOU ARE LIGHT AND YOU MUST SHINE

Dr. Benjamín Soria



You are the light of the world; a city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do men light a lamp and put it under a bushel basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. Matthew 5:14-16

We are living in a time where the current generations are getting used to being in darkness, everything that is done today presents us with the invitation to enter that world of darkness. These new generations are being created in an environment where it is difficult to distinguish light from darkness because everything has a light-dark tinge.

We observe that one of the characteristics of this time of postmodernity is relativism; absolutes have been lost sight of. If many agree to call something that is bad or contradicts the will of God, and give it the name of good, many accept it as such, because it is the opinion of many.

Our young people are struggling in this world, and the enemy works tirelessly so that his kingdom of darkness is manifested day by day in these generations.

The passage we have read confirms something very important and that is that if we have believed and recognized Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior by faith, among all the benefits received, the Bible confirms that we become a source of light.

We are light; and as such we must shine, we cannot hide, we cannot hide ourselves, but we must shine in the midst of this world and let our light shine to others to come out of the darkness where they are submerged.

Beloved young man, you are light, and wherever you are, you make the difference, do not feel bad because others point you out or criticize you for not participating in the practices of those who are in darkness, rather enlighten them with your light, so that they can get out of that situation where they are succumbed. Through your life, your testimony, your good works, many will come out of the darkness and glorify the name of your God.

YOU ARE LIGHT AND YOU MUST SHINE

Dr. Benjamín Soria



Remember, many young people in biblical history, made the difference, because they did not let their light dim, they shone and shone, and in this way, they managed to impact and transform their generation. This is your moment, where you must also shine and shine so that your generation is transformed.

Let us pray that this light will never stop shining.

Prayer: Dear God let our light remain shining, that through our life and testimony many young people may come out of the darkness and come to your feet. Give us of your presence, that we may with our life and witness transform our generation. Amen.

A FRUITFUL ENVIRONMENT

Leigh Hope



And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable people who will also be qualified to teach others. 2 Timothy 2:2 (NIV)

Throughout the Bible, we can find many examples of young people who fulfilled their mission and impacted generations such as Jeremiah, Daniel, Ruth, Esther, David, Timothy and others.

Timothy was a young man who was entrusted to lead churches in his time. We see that he was a faithful and diligent, stepping out of his comfort zone at a time when young persons were not valued in ministry. What made a difference in his life was the influence and mentorship of the Apostle Paul. Paul created the right environment for Timothy to be fruitful and fulfil the mission.

The best way we can help young people to fulfil the mission is to create the right environment for them to be fruitful.

Create an environment that

- 1.Helps them to understand the mission and their role in it – a space where trust and confidence is present and judgement is absent. Timothy’s relationship with Paul was characterized by mutual respect and trust, along with commitment and compassion. Our young people need to be mentored. Mentor them.
- 2.Prepare them for the mission. Like Paul did with Timothy, let them walk alongside you on your journey to witness how they ought to live and lead purposeful lives. Equip them.
- 3.Has avenues for them to serve – to display their faithfulness and diligence to a task in their unique way. Make room for mistakes and allow their growth to be a priority over traditions. Involve them.

When our young people fulfil the mission, impacting their generation, it follows to the next generation, just as God intended.

Prayer: Our Father, you are calling us as individuals and as a church to create the right environment for our young people to be fruitful and fulfil the mission. Help us to impact them so they can impact their generation and generations to follow. Amen.

YOUTH YOU CAN TRANSFORM YOUR GENERATION

Rev. Ana Zoila Díaz de Marciaga



Biblical Basis: 2 Kings 22-23:1-3 2 Chronicles 34:1-33

And Josiah removed all the abominations from all the land of the children of Israel, and caused all that were in Israel to serve the Lord their God. They did not depart from the LORD, the God of their fathers, all the time he lived. Verse: 2 Chronicles 34:33

King Josiah was 8 years old when he began to reign and at the age of 16, in his teen years, he began his encounter with God. Youth is a time of many changes and people usually associate it with a time of rebellion. But we see it wasn't like that for Josiah, it was at this stage that not only God transformed him, but he was an instrument of transformation for his people.

Josiah, in that search for the Lord, was motivated to eliminate from the people any type of idolatry, the cleansing of such sin was profound because he did not leave a single trace in the entire nation, from his house to all the people. The cleansing from sin began in his life and multiplied to all his near and beyond. That's impacting others.

At the age of 26, he organized the restoration of the temple, the center of the worship of God, and administered the entire process. economic and human resources involving the people in this mission.

During this process of restoration, Josiah is confronted by the Word of God, this encounter moves him in such a way that he humbles himself before God and makes a covenant of obedience to Him. This attitude causes God to have mercy on his people and his generation. God promised him that during his reign no evil would come as a result of the sin the people had incurred. This motivates Josiah to summon all the people to make a covenant with God. All the days that Josiah lived, the people did not turn away from seeking God and fulfilling that covenant. Josiah impacted his generation by being impacted by God.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, I come before you impacted by your Word, knowing that you can use my life to make transformations for your glory. Lord, help me to fulfill your purpose of impacting my family, my people, and my generation so that we may all seek your face and obey you. May my life be pleasing to you so that I can carry out all the divine plans you have for my life and to impact my generation for you. Amen.

YOUNG PEOPLE FULFILLING THEIR MISSION, AND IMPACTING THEIR GENERATION

PRIOR
to the day of
Pentecost



Rev. Wilfredo Marciaga

I have been reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also. For this reason, I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline. 2 Timothy 1:5-7

Being young people in this distorted era, far from all kinds of values and principles is quite difficult, for most it is an unlikely challenge to overcome, succumbing to philosophical currents and anti-biblical movements.

Understanding the identity and mission of the church should generate in us a great responsibility and commitment for what God has done in us; He made us part of His people, He chose us from the beginning and sanctifies us, and these are some of the things that the Lord has done with His church.

The church is composed of people of all ages, and depending on the age, it will be easier or more difficult to exercise certain functions, that is why we will treat the mission from the perspective of the treatment and function of young people.

Generally, at the youth stage, there is much more strength and encouragement to work, and this is beneficial for the mission when they really commit themselves to the Lord and to service. There is much that young people can do from an early age, both in the local church and for the world. From spiritual practices such as prayer and reading the Word of God, the service that can be rendered to other members of the church and the locality such as going out to preach the gospel to remote places or cities as God allows. All this with the purpose of perfecting the image of Christ in the young person.

There were young people who fulfilled the mission and impacted many, even to this day:

- The Young Joseph in Egypt (Genesis 39:9)
- Timothy (Timothy 4:12)
- David (1 Samuel 17:37)
- Josiah (2 Chronicles 34:1-2)

YOUNG PEOPLE FULFILLING THEIR MISSION, AND IMPACTING THEIR GENERATION

Rev. Wilfredo Marciaga

Now is the time, the moment to use all strength and energy in the service of the Lord and impact this generation as they did.

Prayer: Father, I ask you to use the new generations to be and make disciples of yours like those young people who fulfilled the mission and impacted many. I ask this in the name of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

YOUTH FULFILLING THE MISSION, IMPACTING THEIR GENERATION

Esteban Murillo Solano



I will not leave you, nor forsake you. Joshua 1:5

In a world full of challenges and adversity, young people have the incredible opportunity to make a significant difference in their generation. The power and influence that young people can have is often underestimated, but history shows us examples of young people who have defied expectations and changed the world for the better.

Joshua was a young man who faced the challenge of leading the people of Israel into the promised land after the death of Moses. Although he faced enormous obstacles and fears, God assured him that He would not abandon or forsake him. This same promise is available to young people today who seek to make a difference in their generation.

As young Christians, we have the responsibility and privilege to positively impact our generation with the love and truth of Christ. We can do so by modeling integrity, compassion and service. We can influence our families, friends, schools and communities by living lives that reflect the values of the Kingdom of God. In addition, we can impact our generation by sharing the gospel with courage and love. Often, young people have a special influence among their peers and can reach out to those who may be searching for spiritual answers. By sharing our faith with others and bringing the message of hope and salvation to those in need, we can be instruments of transformation in our generation.

No matter how young we are or how great the challenges we face may seem, we can rely on God's promise that He will not leave us or forsake us. With His help and direction, we can impact our generation in meaningful and lasting ways. Young people have enormous potential to impact their generation. They are passionate, creative and full of energy. When young people are passionate about God, they can do great things.

Prayer: Lord, please enable us to have the strength, passion, and love to reach out to a generation that is slowly being lost. May our young people be free to serve creatively, but also compassionately. May we all be one in this battle. In Your Name, Jesus, Amen!

YOUNG PEOPLE FULFILLING THE MISSION, IMPACTING THEIR GENERATION



Rev. Laura Campos

God made me come before you to save the lives of you and your families and to preserve the lives of many more. Genesis 41: 38

I have always enjoyed working with young people, because they are very special, when they are determined and discover their purpose in God, they can become extraordinary; they are passionate, audacious, unreachable and above all: Committed!

Joseph, Jacob's son, is an example of being a determined young man, he was sold into slavery by his own brothers, he was defamed, and even imprisoned, but still he kept his integrity, he remained faithful to his beliefs, but above all to God. In time he understood that God had given him a very special mission: to save his own people from a foreign nation, surely at first, he had to struggle with his own thoughts and feelings, but his obedience and God's favor led him to become the second in command after Pharaoh.

Joseph as well as many young people have the ability to become great leaders in the service of the kingdom, they only have to respond to the voice of God that empowers them and sends them to lead in different areas and ministries. Joseph's leadership not only saved the people of Israel from famine, but all the nations of the earth, he became a young ruler who impacted his entire generation. His wisdom and rule were praised and remembered even to this day.

Young man: Answering God's call and embodying his mission is not easy, but when you feel discouraged, think of Joseph and his conviction to serve God. This generation needs to be impacted! And what better if we do it: The children of the living God.

Prayer: It is my desire that every young person reading this, find the wonderful plan that God has prepared for your life, that you accept it and embody it with all the essence of your being. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

LIVING THE MISSION, IN ANY SCENARIO

Rev. David González



The Lord who rescued me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will rescue me from the hand of this Philistine. 1 Samuel 17:37

Imagine the scene. On one end of a valley, the Philistine army, and on the other extreme, the Israelite army. And as they were lined up for battle, Goliath stepped out from the formation to challenge and mock the Israelite soldiers. For 40 days, twice a day, this scene repeated itself!

And although the Israelite soldiers were busy - forming up and shouting - when Goliath's challenge came, they fled. This tells me that being busy is not synonymous with living and fulfilling God's mission.

Beyond how many activities we organize, it's about people having a personal encounter with God, experiencing transformation, joining the family of faith, and embracing the Lord's mission.

It's about lifting our hands to worship God and with those same hands embracing the needy.

God wants us to be part of His mission, here and now! Wherever we are! The mission is lived out every day. Sometimes it's facing giants, but most of the time it's in the task of caring for the sheep entrusted to us, just as David did. It's also seen when we obey and bring food to our brothers, just as David did when his father asked him to.

It's not about spotlights or platforms, but about being obedient in the place and moment to which God has called us.

We are on mission with God, and perhaps your battlefield or flock is different from others, but the God who calls you, equips you, and sustains you with His grace is the same, regardless of the circumstances or scenario.

Prayer: Lord, thank you for entrusting us and inviting us to be part of your mission. We know we are not alone, You are with us. This assurance—that the Lord who invites us also accompanies us—is our strength. Amen.

**THANK YOU
FOR JOINING THE
40 DAYS OF**

**PRA
YER**

PRIOR
to the day of
PENTECOST

*If my people,
who are called
by my name, will
humble
themselves, and
pray, and seek
my face, and
turn from their
evil ways; then I
will hear from
heaven, and will
forgive their sins,
and will heal
their land.*

2 Chronicles 7:14

