

## **Baja (BCM) Vision Casting and Prayer Letter 4/17/04**

Dear Prayer Partner,

Thanks to God's wonderful grace, kindness, and blessing we are in the most exciting times of our ministry. Over the years, God has empowered many groups through this ministry to plow heart fields in His love through house building and to prayerfully plant and water through various forms of evangelism outreach... but now more than ever, it appears to be Harvest Time! And Yes...the Harvest is Indeed Ripe in Baja, Mexico. Our King is mobilizing the troops and bringing in the harvesters. Though the spiritual battle and resistance is always there... it's starting to get really fun!

God is linking us up with many new churches and teams to add to and reinforce the many wonderful veteran teams that have faithfully served with us through the years. In partnership with our King Jesus, the Lord of the Net, we are linking up and weaving a stronger net to sweep this peninsula of Baja for Him as He divinely orchestrates, arranges, unifies and links us together as a Working Net to become more effective to reach the poor, unsaved multitudes. Many have heard that the fishing is great in Baja, yes, but the spiritual fishing is even better!

You might say, our Ministry is made up of many visions within a vision. One of these visions would be the employment of Christian Networking; that is - linking up with other effective ministries to become that Working Net to sweep many into His Kingdom. One such network ministry is the Purpose Driven Life Ministry and its tools; Purpose Driven Life and Purpose Driven Church books in Spanish and the training they provide. In this arrangement the phrase "no need to recreate the wheel" applies and fits well, as linking up with them and their good tools helps to enlarge the harvest. These books have the ability to lay a solid biblical foundation underneath a believer. We are beginning this ministry in a number of partnering Churches with exciting feedback already. But also, we are beginning to penetrate the education system and law enforcement with the same.

Let me give you an example of this networking in action. The junior high school team from Saddleback Church built 2 classrooms next to the library that Irvine Presbyterian Church built at the public school in Vista del Valle. The principal of the school read the Purpose Driven Life book that was given to him. His excitement about the book opens the door to give the book to other teachers in the school. He is already incorporating the ideas from the Purpose Driven Church book into his school administration. Meantime, the Crossing Church has built a Police Department and just over the hill, in Vista Hermosa, Mariners Church, Tehachapi Nazarene Church, Neighborhood Church, Irvine Presbyterian Church, Mt. Zion Assembly of God and 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church of Hayward have built houses for a number of families of poor police officers, security guards and others. Captain Jose, who oversees 24 police officers is a flaming Christian and is excited to read the Purpose Driven Life and Purpose Driven Church books and will share the 24 books with his officers. While there, the Chief of Police, who oversees 2500

officers in Tijuana drove up and we were introduced. Divine arrangements are in the working there. Meantime, another networking partner has come into the picture. The Director of Peace Officers for Christ International and his team will be coming down to train these officers in Tijuana in different ways, including bringing the Gospel to them starting with the 24 officers through Captain Jose. I believe, this is an example of linking up our cords to create a net to influence and sweep a Nation for Christ.

One team member says, “this Ministry builds more than houses... it also builds lives.” These books coupled with the Holy Scriptures are life builders and agents of change. They work well together. God’s Life building process through salvation, reconciliation, discipleship, faith building, fellowship, prayer and the like is coupled with house building and food distribution to form a vanguard of word and deed in Jesus to cut into the hearts of many and break the yokes in these communities.

After a home is built, we often have opportunity to lead the family into relationship with Jesus Christ, declaring with joy that since they are now in God’s family, He has promised to prepare a place in heaven for them stating, “This day you have received a new house on earth and also a new house in heaven--two houses in one day—indeed this is a very good day for you!” Often we see a tear and a smile, as our Father in Heaven also smiles and His angels rejoice over each new child that comes into His family. Thanks for sharing significantly in this ministry. Your prayers are greatly appreciated!

**Please lift the following requests in prayer:**

Pastor Bill Staffierri and his team from First Baptist of Fountain Valley are serving with us now building a house and reaching out with Christ’s love in various ways-- 4/14-17.

Abe Hanes and his team from Mt Zion Assembly of God Church of Pine Grove, CA are serving with us now building a house and reaching out-- 4/14-18.

Pastor Bob Rice and his team from Irvine Presbyterian Church. Irvine, CA are serving with us now building a house and reaching out in His Love.-- 4/15-8

Pastor Rob Covell and a team from Flipside Church of Alta Loma are doing house to house evangelism, preaching in a service and distributing food today-- 4/17.

Pastor Larry Thorson, Rich Berger and Al Day are bringing a team from Grace Presbyterian Church of Plano, Texas to build a Church and reach out with many Bibles and other tools-- 4/22-25.

David Gonzales of New Hope Community Church of Chino, CA is bringing a team to do projects and outreach-- 4/23-25.

Jon Hall and his teams from Canyon Hills Church of Lake Forest, CA is building 5 houses and 5 latrines and reaching out in His love-- 4/30—5/2.

Michael Coelho is bringing a team from Yorba Linda Friends Church, Yorba Linda, CA to build 1 or 2 houses and shine the love of Jesus—5/1-2.

Tim Stafford is bringing a team from Tigers for Christ, Memphis Tenn to build a house and do outreach in His love—5/8-12.

Pastor Don & Susie Steffler are bringing a team from Yorba Linda Friends Church, Yorba Linda, CA to build 2 houses and extend God's love—5/14-16

Pastor Anthony Walton is bringing a team from Wellington, New Zealand, to build 1 house and extend the love of God through outreach 5/15-16

Please pray for all of these groups for God's protection and blessing and fullness of joy. Pray that all the logistic ends meet and that all that are meant to come do and that the funds are sent to our office in time to expedite the logistics in timely manner. Please cover all these leaders, our leaders and our families, asking for God's refreshment, peace, love and joy to well up in us abundantly.

This Tuesday 4/20—5/4...the dear brothers, Anthony Walton, Senior Pastor of the Rock Church in New Zealand and Paul Bowen, are flying Janet, my wife, and I to their beautiful country to be with them and the precious saints there. What a blessing this is to us! Pray that we would learn many wonderful things from the church there and bring back their new zeal and refreshment with us. Pray that Holy Spirit would fill us with inspiration and empowerment to bring the Baja vision to God's people there. This church and others in New Zealand, through them, have shown an amazing commitment and shared a major role in this ministry and the harvest of souls and blessing in Baja. Please pray special blessings upon them.

Anthony Walton has written several books; two of them—The Future Church and Think Outside the Box. Though the contents are somewhat different, the later book influenced the initiation of the enclosed poem I wrote by the same name, "Think Outside the Box", which I dedicated to this dear brother and his brother Paul and all those who desire to think outside the box. It's been rewritten, overhauled and finished this morning.

Thank you for your loving prayers! With Gratitude, Bob Sanders---Poem follows→

## **Think Outside the Box**

(Isa 32:15-20, Acts 1:8, Rev 3:7-13, 1Cor 3:11-15, Isa 32:8-NIV)

Standing Upon Jesus Christ the Solid Rock  
Who Teaches us to Think Outside the Box  
He Faithfully Breaks the Chains  
Unlocks the Locks,

Turns the Key and Sets us Free  
His Revelation Releases us to Rise  
Above the entrapment of the devils lies  
He Liberates us from Mediocrity  
and rescues us from sinking  
into boxed in, mediocre thinking  
And down-spiraling herd mentality  
Which promises comfort and luxury  
Yet squeezes us into fear-entrenched boundaries  
Of apathy and complacency  
Deceptive fear caves designed to enslave  
padded comfort zones  
often world system clones  
that box in His Light from being shone  
which appears  
to insulate from stress  
But instead dulls the ear to hear  
The still small voice crying in the wilderness  
Make straight the Way of the Lord  
Beckoning to us... it's not too late  
to make the crooked ways straight  
To redeem the time...

To Rise Above  
In His Wings of Love  
Garrisoned in His full Armor  
to bravely go  
beyond the walls of status quo  
focusing on His Eternal Reward  
Seeing outside that temporal box  
With renewed heavenly vision  
leaving behind the chains and locks  
and godless tradition  
sending off the excuse  
that it's no use  
for we can't make a difference anyway  
since the need is so great  
therefore it's best to play it safe and insulate

Seeing now that it's time to die to this lie  
and cut through demonic accusation and abuse  
let us rise in one accord  
as advocates, ambassadors, and liberators  
taking up shield and sword  
to reach the lost and serve the poor  
Spiritual farmers  
planting, watering and anticipating an abundant yield

watching the arid desert become a fruitful field

Out on the limb with Him  
because that's where the fruit is  
Knowing the importance of assembling together and being fed  
Yet not content to merely look at the back of each other's head  
In faith and deed becoming pro-active instead  
Joyfully fellowshiping to grow and know  
how to be equipped to effectively go  
For though the ship is safe on shore  
And fearless in harbor,  
We know that's not what ships were built for  
We must not fail to set sail

We are saved to serve  
And from this purpose we don't swerve  
Purpose Driven for the noble use of our Lord  
Drawing near at His Feet  
Learning to drink in His love and intimately grow  
And from this overflow we go  
Peculiar people zealous for good deeds  
Philadelphian Brethren with an open door  
Moving Beyond Fear's Crumbling Wall  
We Passionately Obey His Heavenly Call  
As Soldiers with marching orders  
Realizing His Love that has no Borders  
No colors, no race, Just Jesus' beautiful Face

As a Joseph Company, we move in Harmony  
With compassion and vision  
We follow His call  
poured out beyond Egypt's walls  
breaking through apathy and greed  
Not just reformed, but joyfully freed  
from hundreds of years of dead tradition  
We now plow in the Holy Spirit's lead  
We learn to multiply the rich man's crumbs  
Into whole loaves of spiritual and material bread  
so that multitudes of hungry souls may be fed

As Knights of the King we seek first His Kingdom  
Occupying till He comes  
To faithfully execute His vision  
of fulfilling His Great Commission.  
We joyfully count the cost  
to feed the poor and reach the lost

being eager to go and practically sow  
the knowledge of God we already know.

Not in the half-measure bubble  
Of building with wood, hay and stubble  
Rather with gold, silver, and precious stones  
so that His Radiant Glory may be brilliantly shone  
And His New Testament Church fully known  
In His Bride's Glorious Face  
to the least of the brethren in the market place

With passion and discipline we run this race  
No longer tripped  
by the lie that we aren't well enough equipped.  
or by the spiritual snare of status quo  
...Rather, we rise up to gladly go...  
Standing high upon Christ the Rock  
so we can see and think outside the box  
We make noble plans  
and by them we stand  
Father...cross pollinate Your New Zeal into our Land  
As Your Bride is beautified by Your Love deep inside  
May the beauty of Your Early Church  
Emerge gloriously in Your Future Church

Nourished and fed as sheep in the pews  
Good Shepherd we look to You  
To be equipped and built up to spread Your Good News  
Eating spiritual food to exercise good deeds  
And strengthened to help those in need .  
Never to become mere pew potatoes  
... but rather equipped and eager to go...  
Glad to leave comfortable seats  
To Go into Highways and Byways and Nameless Streets.

Great Physician, we trust You to heal us and make us whole  
Ignite Passion in us for the Salvation of Souls!  
Cause us to overcome our fears  
So the multitudes will hear  
We know Your Bugle has sounded...and the Call is clear...  
---To Go—  
Not Stay—let us Redeem the Time, and Seize the Day!

Like a River of Love and Compassion that Flows---  
Like a Torrential Power Surge

Mighty Holy Spirit Emerge  
Within us and move us to go

Uncap Your Well and cistern within that's being filled and restored  
To bring Your Fresh Living Water to every heart's door  
With eagerness to give, love and serve the poor  
Through Joint Efforts, Networking, and Cross-Pollination  
Unite us as a Mended Net to Reach Every Nation  
Father, May Wisdom, Strategies, and Resources be Unlocked  
For Those willing to Think Outside the Box.

By Bob Sanders—4/17/04

Dedicated to Anthony Walton, our friends from New Zealand, and all desiring to Think Outside the Box

[www.bajachristian.org](http://www.bajachristian.org)