

The Invitation Newsletter

www.respondingrecoveryministries.org

January-March
2013

Romans 10:14-15

But how can they call on Him to save them unless they believe in Him? And how can they believe in Him if they have never heard about Him? And how can they hear about Him unless someone tells them? And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent?

NLT

Visit the Web for
additional info
concerning:

****Speaking Engagements**

****Television Outreach**

****Weekly Recovery Meetings**

****Available Products**

****Other Updates**

New Year/Expanded Vision

*Welcome to the first issue of **The Invitation Newsletter** for 2013. This newsletter will be longer than usual due to information that we need to share with all our partners in ministry. We would appreciate your time in reading completely through this publication. Since the inception of this ministry in 2003, it has been our posture to "respond" to what God is doing in our midst. Over the past 10 years we have watched how the Spirit of God has increased this preaching ministry to include published Bible based workbook and DVD material, weekly recovery Bible study groups in various areas of America, Television ministry, Motel ministries and major food distributions in the greater Orange County area that equated to over 27 tons of food in 2012. As God continues to lead in 2013, we have sensed an increased vision which has prompted us to meet with the Church of the Nazarene in which Jerry Liversage holds his credentials as a Commissioned Evangelist. In 2011, Jerry met with the Anaheim District of the Church of the Nazarene for the purpose of their approval to further operate as an expanded "non-Nazarene work." Jerry outlined a proposal and submitted it to the Anaheim District Advisory Board and received their approval in August 2011. Since that time, we have continued to wait on God for His timing and now feel as though this year holds another marked year for a step of faith towards the vision which was submitted in 2011. As a result, we felt it imperative to reveal the approved letter to all those who prayerfully and financially support this ministry. As you review this simple proposal on the following pages, please continue to pray as we desire to stay in a posture of responding. We thank you for your past prayer and financial support through the years. We also anticipate your future partnership with us as we take steps of faith as God opens doors in 2013.*

Responding Recovery Ministries

an outreach of Jerry Liversage Ministries, Inc.

August 10, 2011

Rev. Rollie Miller

District Superintendent/Anaheim District Church of the Nazarene

524 E. Chapman

Orange, CA 92866

To the Advisory Board

The purpose of this letter is to give a brief overview/vision of this ministry that continues to unfold, especially in the greater Orange County area. We are finding ourselves responding to what God has ordained and it is our hearts desire to remain in that yielding posture.

Our short version story begins 22 years ago with the movement of Jesus and His delivering power from sin to include a drug induced life from the age of 12. Also, at the beginning of this 22 year journey, we met Rev. Leon Skinner who was the pastor of Chino Church of the Nazarene, and Dr. Stephen Manley who was conducting revival services at Leon's church. These two individuals have remained long time friends and were both influential in the framework of ministry that we find ourselves today. Though my education has come through Nazarene Bible College and Anaheim Christian College, Stephen Manley has increasingly contributed to the overall revelation of Jesus through the expositional teaching/training of the Word down through the years. Ultimately, God receives all Glory for these and others, to include the Church of the Nazarene, who have been placed in our lives.

As the initial fulltime call of ministry on our lives began, we sensed evangelism as a thrusting endeavor. However, through prayer and two individuals, Rev. Keith Wiseman (Leon Skinner's father-in-law) and Dr. Maurice Hall (So. Cal. D.S), the offer to pastor Yucaipa Church of the Nazarene on the So. Cal. District became a reality. To be brief, while evangelism continued to birth in our vision while walking in the pastoral role at Yucaipa, we prayerfully resigned after the conclusion of a building addition (gymnasium) and 6 year tenure at Yucaipa Nazarene Church. We then formed a non-profit corporation with the assistance of attorney Ron Webb on the So. Cal. District, and co-partnered in a food ministry with a friend who owned a produce company. We also went on an evangelistic trail in our motor home where doors opened, while maintaining the overseeing of a food ministry that grew to 97 various churches in which we operated through. A small percentage of these churches were on the So. Cal. District.

After a 2 year venture of ministering in this capacity, and continuing to preach where doors opened, we accepted a call to pastor a small church in Lakeside on the So. Cal. District. The church (as well as the district who funded 10,000.00 towards our salary) allowed us to conduct 12 revival services.....

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...per year or up to 15 weeks per year if I included our 3 week vacation time (in which we did). While walking in this assignment at Lakeside Nazarene Church, we sensed somewhat of a strain on the church and board when we were away conducting revival services. One of the services we held was at Buena Park Church of the Nazarene. Our time with Pastor Dennis Holmes and the congregation was fruitful and led to another invitational call to partner together and establish a community recovery/food ministry at Buena Park Church of the Nazarene. After a 2 year stay at Lakeside Nazarene Church, we prayerfully resigned our position with Lakeside Nazarene Church and parked our motor home on the Buena Park Nazarene Church parking lot. This began a ministry relationship to follow God's leading in the establishment of community ministries. While at Buena Park, we not only conducted small group Bible studies and pulpit supply within the church, but also began Bible based recovery classes, 2 nights per week, which grew to about 30 to 40 in attendance each night. We also followed with the upstart of a soup kitchen to include the uniting with Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County (OC), Community Action Partnership of OC and Global Operations in Buena Park. This led to an extensive weekly food distribution program to the community as well as to both English and Spanish congregations at Buena Park Nazarene. Our relationship with Buena Park also included the leverage of maintaining a small speaking schedule to other churches where doors opened as well as serving on the board with Dr Manley and Cross Style International Ministries. We were privileged with our time at Buena Park, and witnessed many lives changed by the power of the Gospel and message of hope through Jesus Christ. Just prior to our 1 year and 3 month stay at Buena Park, the pastor and board became uncertain of the long-term financial agreement between our ministry and the church, while simultaneously, Dr. Manley had begun dialog with us concerning a possible position with Cross Style International Ministries based in Tennessee. As these two unrelated events occurred, we again viewed this as God's leading and prayerfully resigned to move to Tennessee, of which we parked our motor home on Stephen's property to begin another ministry relationship. During our approx. 1 year stay in TN., Cross Style went through a major organizational re-structure which included Stephen Manley coming off his 40 year fulltime schedule on the road, to begin a church and training center in Tennessee. While this was occurring, our own ministry and family were undergoing challenges which all led to our return to California and a relationship with Redlands Nazarene Church. In the process of all this, we were led to author and publish a Bible based, Christ Centered recovery workbook for small groups. This 48 week session workbook and DVD teaching companion is a systematic study in biblical recovery designed for chemical and emotional dysfunctions, but ultimately focuses on Jesus as the sole answer to any challenge of life. We also re-organized our own ministry in response to the movement of God in Orange County to include our television program through Time Warner Cable Stations, simply called Responding Recovery, and my position held on the steering committee of "The Anaheim Collaboration to assist Motel Families."

Though much more detail could be mentioned, we felt this brief overview was important in sharing the future of where we feel God leading in Orange County and on the Anaheim District. As you know, the mission field is wide open for harvest, but the laborers are few. However, we feel that our small part of being available for the Spirit of God to work through, is nothing short of His invitation to get involved in the next level area of ministry. As a result, we believe that a facility to minister to the physical, spiritual, mental, and social needs are imperative.

After a recent meeting with Rev. Rollie Miller concerning our participation in ministry in OC, and learning of a senior pastoral role not being available, we discussed the various options of ministerial work. Therefore, I am requesting this work continue and also to continue my role as a "Commissioned Nazarene Evangelist." This work would include a facility in which we would begin a **Responding Recovery Center**, in which we would minister, feed, and network with others in the social and mental needs of the community. This Center would include training/discipleship with hands on ministry being available through our outreach ministries, which we are currently conducting through the transitional living organizations (see our website for further details). The following is a snap shot view of what areas of ministry that would operate through this facility.

Physical—Meeting physical needs gives platform to outreach

- Soup Kitchen
- Weekly Food Distribution
- Transitional Shelter (off site)
- Sober Living Environment (off site)

Social

- Spanish/English language training
- Special needs/handicap assistance
- Networking with social organizations through the Anaheim Collaboration

Mental

- Educational (GED if needed) guidance
- Computer skills

Spiritual

- Bible based recovery classes for emotional and chemical needs
- Discipleship training
- Cross Style Global Ministries training center through live stream and recorded sessions
- Hands on ministry through Responding Recovery's current outreach events held at various transitional motels in OC

Closing Comments

We believe that our current position with the Anaheim Collaboration is crucial in the network of helps needed in the ***Social*** and ***Mental*** needs of our culture. We also feel as though a time of corporate ministering of the Word, singing, and fellowship through the week is an important part of linkage with others. This gives God the opportunity to establish His presence as well as creating a family setting with one another.

In addition, we cannot over emphasize the importance of establishing a ministry training center, deep rooted in the Word, in discipleship, and hands on ministry through the community and the body of Christ. It all comes down to our goal being the goal of Jesus, who said the greatest command is to love God and love others while communicating the Message of Hope which is Jesus Himself.

If you would like further info, please see the attached quarterly newsletter, visit our website, or call me personally. Above all, please pray for us as we continue to respond to what God is doing as He opens and closes doors.

Respectfully,

Rev. Jerry Liversage



Anaheim District Advisory Board

August 17, 2011

A motion was made and seconded to give Jerry Liversage permission to operate a nondenominational ministry and keep his ministerial status as a Nazarene Evangelist.

Motion carried unanimously.



an outreach of Jerry Liversage Ministries

We thank you for your financial support. We know you have other ministries in which you give. Please know that you are assisting this ministry distribute the powerful message of Jesus which is changing lives on the streets in which we live. May God extend His Blessings to you and your family.

- ***Please pray for this ministry and as you do, pray for:***
- *2013 Responding Recovery Center/Vision*
- *The preaching ministry in various churches/venues*
- *Responding Recovery National meeting locations*
- *Responding Recovery Television*



“Go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find.”

-Jesus

Jerry's personal update

On a personal level, we feel as though God has given favor in a few areas that will give us an overall continued platform to exalt Jesus as our only hope in this life and the life to come. In 2013, I was re-elected to serve as one of three co-chairs to the organization called “The Collaboration to assist Motel Families” of Orange County. This Collaboration of approx. 85 various organizations, exists to help meet the needs of motel families in Anaheim and surrounding cities by providing services and tools necessary for families to achieve self-sufficiency. We believe this is an opportunity to minister the Love and Gospel of Jesus.

Also, as I continue to complete my Masters Degree in Biblical counseling, I have completed two distinct certifications in the process which again gives platform to exalt Biblical recovery to the arena in which we minister. The first certification is called a “CDAAC” which is a **Certified Drug and Alcohol Addiction Counselor** and the second is called a “RAS” which is a **Registered Addiction Specialist**. Because this profession continues to require more educational expertise due to a growing epidemic, I believe God has opened the door to pursue this added educational exposure, to include scholarships that were awarded to me in 2012, from the College which I attend.

In addition, our relationship with Dr. Stephen Manley of Cross Style Global Ministries based in Tennessee continues to expand. Dr. Manley has an extensive recovery ministry lead by David and Tina Kornguth which has grown into a recovery facility, over 20 recovery homes, and an extensive jail ministry in two counties of Tennessee. Our Responding Recovery Workbook and DVD teaching series is used in all of their outreach endeavors. In 2013, I will be meeting with Dr. Manley and their leadership in a further discussion of partnership that would include a linkage of Live Streaming, and Skype. Dr Manley has been a large part of this ministry since the beginning of my conversion to Jesus Christ in 1989. As this linkage continues, we desire to be available to whatever God so leads. Thank you for taking the time to read this important publication of The Invitation Newsletter.