



**U-TURN  
FOR CHRIST**

**LIVES CHANGED  
FAMILIES RESTORED  
COMMUNITIES STRENGTHENED**

EDITION

**DEC  
2023**

### *PASTOR'S NOTES*

*And fixing his eyes on him (a lame man), with John, Peter said, "Look at us." So he gave them his attention, expecting to receive something from them. Then Peter said, "Silver and gold I do not have, but what I do have I give you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk." (Acts 3:4-6)*

Compassion is taking action to relieve the pain of others! Jesus spoke to us and left a very important message for us to understand and live by. Peter and John took very seriously their commitment to the Lord and the commandments that He left them. The question is, do we? Are we showing Thanksgiving by the way that we care for those that are around us?

You see Peter knew that the only one that could help this man in his present condition was Jesus and so Peter calls on the Name above all names for help! Then Peter does what I think a lot of people in the church don't do enough of, and that is he shows His faith in what he has just spoken. **(Acts 3:7) And he took him by the right hand and lifted him up, and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.** He is once again showing his thanksgiving, by demonstrating that He believes God and his promises.



*Pastor Gerry Brown*

### *TESTIMONY FOR JESUS*



*Leni Cerda*

I grew up in a non-Christian home with the best parents anyone could have. They had immigrated here from the Philippines and brought up my brother, my twin sister, and me in the Bay Area. They highly stressed the importance of education, which they equated to being able to have a better life, so I focused on doing just that. I strived and excelled in school. Though I earned a lot of degrees I ended up with a lot of emptiness, which I filled with alcohol and painkillers, to the point of having a nervous breakdown. I ended up at a hospital and rehab where the idea was for me to take more drugs to replace the drugs I was taking. Though my brain was filled with so much knowledge, the bottom line was that my heart didn't have Jesus. I graduated from medical school with my class and took a break to get well. After researching online where I could go to a rehab that didn't include taking medication, the Lord led me to U-Turn For Christ in November 2005, and I

committed to first phase. That was the first in a long time I hadn't been depressed on my birthday, Thanksgiving, Christmas, or New Year! I walked with Jesus at the Ranch and learned to have a relationship with Him through reading His Word and Prayer, and also that fellowship and accountability with like-minded Christians were just as important in my Christian walk. I met Alex while we were serving at an outreach in Mexico in February 2006. I also gained a new family at Calvary Chapel Romoland. I found confidence in the Lord and know that God was preparing me to be who I am today - a Pastor's wife with a husband who has such a servant's heart, and a mother of 3 children who love the Lord! I am blessed to have gone on several mission trips to serve with my husband and 3 children, even to the Philippines in the summer of 2023. Thank You Jesus for directing my steps! "There are many plans in a man's heart, Nevertheless the Lord's counsel—that will stand." Prov. 19:21



## GIVE THANKS



It was a wonderful morning as our family gathered together to celebrate Thanksgiving and praise God for all the blessings He has bestowed upon us. As scripture says, "Rejoice always," (1 Thessalonians 5:16). Let us continue to rejoice and honor the God of our Salvation for all the great and glorious things He has done for us. We are grateful for all those who helped put this event together so that families could come together and enjoy each other's company while giving thanks to our Lord, Jesus Christ.

As we approach this wonderful time of year, it's hard to fathom the incredible concept of God being born into this world. Yet, we know it to be true! It's what makes this time so wonderful. On behalf of U-Turn For Christ, we extend our warmest wishes to you and your loved ones wishing you a very Merry Christmas. We would also like to extend a formal invitation for you to join us for our Christmas Eve Service on December 24th at 9 am, which will be held at Calvary Chapel Romoland; 27912 Adams Ave., Romoland, CA 92585.

We also want to take this opportunity to express our gratitude for your continued support throughout the year. It is through your incredible generosity, and the mercy of our Lord, that our doors can stay open. We are truly honored to work alongside you in ministering to those who need Jesus. We hope that you will join us at Calvary Chapel Romoland, Dec 24th and we look forward to what God has in store for us in 2024.



## Opportunities to help us keep the ministry in motion...

- Our greatest need is prayer warriors. Men and women who diligently lift this ministry to the Lord.
- We are in constant need of hygiene products, toothpaste, soap and toilet paper.
- Shovels, rakes, tables, chairs, etc.
- Video cameras, cameras, audio equip.
- We are in need of new vehicles to transport the men and women.

## STAY CONNECTED

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