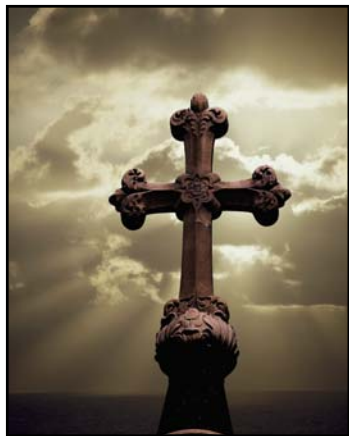


## Goldsby Zone Newsletter

April 2008

Issue 5



### MISSIONS AT HOME

By Bob Hoiberg

In 2006, the Lord began to challenge my wife and me concerning the poor of our city. We were House Church Pastors of a mature House Church and I began to look for a challenge. Pastor Mike Bashor asked us if we would like to help organize the Bagley Outreach with him in the summer. We spent all spring preparing for the four weeks in August. The team told Bible stories, organized games and gave away three cars and eight bikes.

and Diana and I said “YES” so fast that he had to ask the question again just to make sure he understood our answer. The next few weeks went fast in organizing the team that would go with us on this adventure. We contacted several families from the outreach registration, seventy people in all. We were excited to see what God would pull together.

Fort Vancouver House Church was birthed! We came together, setup the chairs and the music, and gathered for prayer. We waited

Pastor Bashor then asked if we would lead a House Church in the Bagley neighborhood

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“...effective House Church ministry must accomplish three goals:

1. Provide nurturing relationships in the presence and to the glory of Jesus Christ.
2. Invite others to faith in Jesus Christ.
3. Reproduce a new set of leaders so new groups can be formed.”

### THE INCONVENIENCE OF OBEYING GOD

By Marie Loudermilk

“How do you know but that you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?”

These words were sent from Uncle Mordecai to his niece Esther. They could not be ignored though they caused fear to course through Esther’s veins.

To obey God is sometimes inconvenient. It may go against the plans you have for a comfortable, stress-free life. When you step up to the plate to serve God’s people, you take on a part of the burdens or problems of those you serve. You are blessed to walk with them through hard times and rough waters, and then to see the victory on the other side. Oh what a joy and total blessing it is to see God’s little ones develop and grow because you stepped out of your comfort zone to help make them more comfortable.

For Esther, to obey could have meant her death but she said, “When this is done, I will go to the King, if I perish, I perish.” When God is calling you to do a work for Him, it will not always be convenient. It may mean laying down your life.

It will certainly mean some stress and work. Esther had to prepare the banquet. She then faced the stress of telling the King that she was a Jew

and that Haman planned to kill all of the Jews—including her.

Uncle Mordecai sent this word to her, “For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father’s family will perish” (Esther 4: 14). God will continue to look for someone who will answer the call. If you don’t answer it, though you think you are saving your life, you will lose it. You can only truly be happy if you are doing exactly what God wants you to do. By laying down her life in obedience to God, Esther saved her life and the lives of her people.

God is calling some of you to step up. In some ways, it means that He is calling you to “lay down your life”. God is calling all of us to missions. Some are called overseas. Some of you are being asked to host a House Church. Others are to be an Assistant or House Church Pastor. It will be difficult at times, stressful even. You may feel “if I do this, I will perish”. You may feel fear as Esther did.

But, the truth is, if you obey what God is calling you to do, in spite of the stress and fear, it will save your life and those of your (His) people, too.

Answer the call even if it is not convenient.

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## WELCOME TO NEW HOUSE CHURCHES

By Bob Goldsby

Our emphasis this month is on missions “at home and abroad”. This article addresses the question, “what are we doing with regard to missions here in Clark County?”

I’m excited and things are beginning to build. We are growing as a zone and are seeing awesome opportunities to serve God’s people and the community. We are in a mission!

We have new House Churches that are starting up in our zone. Flyers are available in the Foyer and on the City Harvest Church web site at [www.cityharvestchurch.com](http://www.cityharvestchurch.com).

Joe and Molly Harnett have started a **House Church** in their home North of Battle Ground. They meet on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m. each week. Joe and Molly multiplied out of John and Cindy LaMadrid’s House church. Their first meeting was attended by 17 adults and lots of children (I lost count!).

The Baker House Church also multiplied this month. On April 15th a portion of their **House Church**, under the leadership of Tim and Marie Loudermilk, began meeting in the home of George and April Golden. Their home is well suited for these gatherings including a room for children’s ministry.

A **Fellowship Group** for men will be starting the first Sunday in May. It is being led by Steve Leavell, with Mike Rankin and Tom Hazen assisting. It will be hosted by Glenn Ray at his home in the Brush Prairie area. This House Church will meet the first Sunday of each month and is a great opportunity for men to gather around issues important to them. It will provide a safe community for men to share and grow together.



**Sooooo whatcha doin'?**

Great Question! If we are to continue to touch the people around us we must each find our destiny and then begin to do what God has for us.

**Thanks for your service!**

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## THE CALL TO BE PERFECT [τέλειος]

By Bob Goldsby

Last month we examined Matthew 5:48 and some of the implications of what it means to “...*be perfect, even as your heavenly Father is perfect.*” In this article I want to continue tracing the use of this word, *teleios*, through the New Testament.

The next use of this word is in Mt 19:21 where Jesus is speaking to the “Rich Young Ruler.” In verse 6 the young ruler asks, “*Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may obtain eternal life?*” Jesus responded with “*Keep the commandments*” and gave a summary of the Ten Commandments. The young ruler responded, “*All these things I have kept from my youth; what am I still lacking?*”

That is a great question and one which we must all ask ourselves. After we have committed our lives to God and begun to serve Him as best we can there can still be a

sense of incompleteness. It was that which drove this young ruler to Jesus. As successful as he was in many areas there was something clearly lacking.

Jesus said to him, “*If you wish to be complete (teleios)....*” Jesus spoke into the area which, at that moment, hindered him from moving into what would enable him to be complete with regard to eternal life. For him, it was a covetousness and the need to surrender all to the Messiah. Jesus had to show him that he could not be good enough in himself.

What about you? Do you sense a lack of completeness or maturity in your life? You may be confident of your eternal destiny but is your conscience driving you to ask your Lord “What good thing must I do to be complete, mature and of full age as a Christian?”

We heard during the Prophetic Assembly that God wants His people to grow up. In Doug Lambert’s initial messages God reminded us that we must get past ourselves to a place where God is able to work through us to see others redeemed and to set free those who are in bondage.

It is also clear that we are not to leave it to others. Each of us is called by God to be fully prepared to touch the lives of those who need an answer from God. When we find ourselves wanting to be used to touch people for the Kingdom but can’t do it, we know there is an immaturity that God wants to touch.

*Lord, none of us is mature in every way. We will always need You to speak into us much as you did the young ruler. Help us to hear and respond that there may be a wholeness that brings life. In Jesus name. Amen!*

(Continued from page 1)

and waited and no one showed up, except our hostess and two children. The next few weeks we went door to door at the apartment complex, and in a short time, we had forty children and three adults.

The families have a rough time at the end of the month because they run out of food. I asked the leadership in February of 2007 to start a food bank for our zone. The church had a food drive during the Mission's Week and gathered 37 boxes of food and I received a phone call asking if I wanted the food bank at my house. What a blessing! The food bank helps about three families a month.

The team organizes a meal at the end of the month and invites the parents of the children to come and fellowship with us. Last month, we had a potato feed and had a total of 55 people show up from the complex.

Presently we have:

- A team of eight members.
- We average 20 children and 6 adults. The children have all prayed to have Jesus into their heart.
- There are 5 different ethnic groups that attend the House Church.
- This month, one high school student and one mother rededicated their lives to the Lord at City Harvest Church.

Pastor MacGregor shared in a recent service that he wanted to see 1,000 people come to the Lord and be established in church this year!

How can our zone be a part of that? We want to establish House Churches in apartment complexes throughout the Vancouver area.

Get involved and become a part of what God is doing right here at home!

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## **MEXABLE** (an adjective meaning "prepared for Mexico")

By Kristina Horn

**Mexable**—This is the word that David and I made up and have lived by from the time we got married until the present. This word defines the practical side of being ready to go on the mission field. What it means to us is keeping ourselves out of debt and not weighed down with material things or clutter. Basically, it is the ability to get up and go at anytime God opens the door. For us it was to Mexico, so, *Mexable*.

It sounds so easy when I say it, but to live it is another thing. I must say that we did pretty well until we set our minds to upgrade to a beautiful shiny black and chrome SUV that could seat eight. In our minds it was something that we "needed" because we had just had our second child, and we were always taking our neighbors to church, so we brought it home. This happened right before the gas prices started escalating and right before elders from the church started asking us if we had any debt we had to get rid of to get to Mexico. Talk about bad decisions.

Somehow our paperwork got lost in the system and we were able to walk away from the car that we were starting to feel was a very bad decision to buy. Praise the

Lord, He saved us from that huge mistake.

My first experience with anything to do with missions was not exactly inspiring. I heard my first missionary speak at an evening service at my dad's church. He was wearing all brown polyester and was not at all comfortable speaking in front of people. He showed his slideshow of happy people holding hands and a small building project. I envisioned his family at home dressed like the characters from Little House on the Prairie.

It never once crossed my mind that I would one day be a missionary too. God showed me much later that **I could be a missionary everyday in any land** if I wanted to be. On the other hand, David has known since the age of three that he was called to be a missionary. In his life he has never wandered away from that and it has driven him to educate himself in everyway he can about the mission field, church planting, and all the ins-and-outs of the ministry. This included attending PBC, reading books, taking classes, and getting pastoral advice.

I must say that even with all that knowledge, nothing prepared us for the mission field as much as becoming House Church

Pastors. It was a real "hands-on" experience. What a time of growth, spiritually and emotionally, for us and for all the people who attended. We were walking with our brothers and sisters through real problems and we were made to step out of our comfort zone and use our God-given gifts to minister to them. Even more exiting, were the times we helped people find and use their own giftings. Now that is Church, with all parts of the body working together. It is just an awesome thing to be a part of.

We are so excited to return to Mexico with everything that we have learned and start our church plant. The House Church model is something that David and I believe strongly in and it will be the base of our ministry. It can build relationships and get people involved, find God-given gifts, and train up leaders. That is the power of the House Church setting.

Please be praying for Mexico and the city of Leon where God is sending us. If you have any questions for us, you can contact us at [david@hisplanet.org](mailto:david@hisplanet.org).

As all of us are called to missions so stay *Mexable* and soak EVERYTHING in prayer.

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## THANK YOU JESUS! A TESTIMONY OF HIS LOVE

By Nick Bruns

When the disciples asked Jesus, "Who then can be saved?", Jesus replied, "The things which are impossible with men are possible with God" (Luke 18:27).

Although people had given up on me, the Lord did not. He gave me hope where there was none, grace and forgiveness when I did not deserve it, and He saved my life when I did not feel worth saving.

At about age 14, I suffered from headaches, my vision went from 20/50 to 20/200, my neck always hurt, I had vertigo and was constantly dizzy. I considered suicide but had been raised as a Christian and didn't want to go to hell.

My life went from bad to worse when I learned my brother had been killed in Iraq. After the funeral I came home angry, hateful, frustrated, and drunk. My life was going nowhere, and with no plans to work or go to college, I was outliving my welcome at home.

On September 15th, 2004 I had a severe seizure. Doctors found a tumor as big as a baseball growing around the brain stem. They didn't tell me that they did not expect me to survive the surgery they recommended. The doctors did their best but the damage to the brain from the surgery was serious. I had trouble breathing, could not swallow and was nearly blind.

But the Lord intervened. Some friends from a Four-Square Church came and prayed over me. I got baptized in the Holy Spirit and gave my life to God right then and there on my deathbed.

After that, things began to turn around. The pneumonia began to clear up enough for me to get off oxygen and the nebulizer.

My low blood pressure normalized, and after 51 days in the hospital, I went home. Later I had to return to have an operation to fix a side effect of the previous brain surgery. I nearly died twice more, but the Lord was watching over me, and I survived.

Through all this, I was still angry, frustrated, depressed, and taking it out on the people who loved me. I started smoking pot again, and my parents were ready to throw me out, disabilities or not.

That all changed when I started attending City Harvest Church in 2005. I got involved in a House Church, CPR, received tons of prayer, and made new friends. **I felt love** like I'd never felt before. **I believed and trusted God** that He would heal me. The Lord healed my swallowing on January 2nd, 2006 and **I ate for the first time since September 14th, 2004!**

I was walking, talking, eating, and living (to the surprise of the doctors). God even healed my vision enough to get my driver's license back! When a bowel obstruction developed (the enemy trying to take me out again) I was on the phone as I was wheeled into the operating room asking for prayer, and God saved me again!

What about the bills? People think I'm joking when I tell them my medical bills were over one million dollars, but it is true. Even greater is the fact that they're all paid in full. I owe nothing, thanks to God's grace.

It is amazing how the Lord can take a seemingly hopeless situation and turn it around as a means to make us better. Jesus is able to redeem everything, and I now know that for those who love Christ, trust Him and have faith, He turns it for good.

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## ZONE LADIES' BRUNCH

By Kathy Haught

Ladies, we are going to come together and enjoy a time of fellowship and an inspiring message from Gabby Warren on Saturday April 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:30-11:30 a.m. (after Women's Prayer). We will meet at the home of Kathy Haught (10414 NE 80<sup>th</sup> Street, Vancouver). This is a potluck, so please bring your favorite brunch food to share. Tableware and drinks will be provided.

I want to encourage you to take the time to be there. Life can be so busy at times that we overlook taking time for ourselves as women. Proverbs 10:21 says, "The lips of the righteous nourish many..." (NIV). This will be a valuable time of sisters nourishing, encouraging and supporting one another in the Lord.

Please RSVP Kathy Haught, Marie Loudermilk or Dianna Hoiberg by email or phone 360-256-4328.

### News & Events

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|-------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| 4/17/2008   | HC Pastors Meeting<br>(Quarterly) | CHC 7:00-8:30pm     |
| 4/19/2008   | Zone Ladies Brunch                | Call (360) 256-4328 |
| 4/30/2008   | Encouragers Luncheon              | Call (360) 882-3257 |
| 5/30 to 6/1 | Encounter Weekend                 |                     |
| June 6-8    | Missions Conference               |                     |