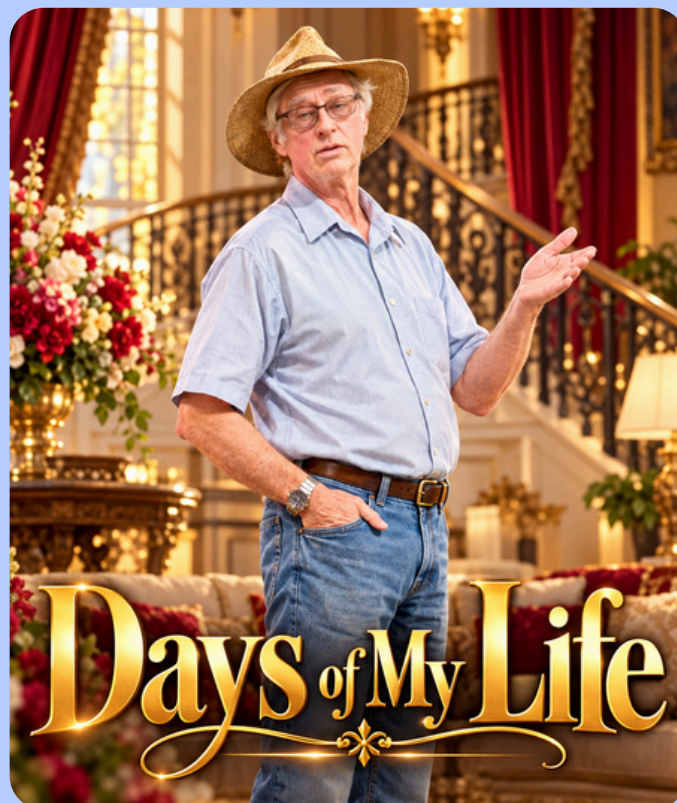


THIS IS MY LIFE!

The Days of My Life!

Once again this has been very busy month. I have had three primary activities going on this month here in the states along with the continuing ministry and work in Colombia. We continue to share the excitement and blessings of what God is doing through us, you, and this ministry! Let me share some of the news and events that have made this month extra special!

First of all, I spent one full week at my "hillbilly mansion" at family cemetery on a knob in West Virginia. While there I worked diligently trying to get the recording equipment to work. It is this equipment that I will be using to record classes and pod casts for the Bible college and for the ministry. After five days, I still could not get it to record correctly and so I loaded everything into my car and headed to Ironton, Ohio and a meeting with Dr. Dave Lucas and his workers there at Lucas Communication. To make the most of my trip, we also scheduled a meeting of the leadership of the International Restoration Bible College. We continue headlong into this great venture of faith!



THIS IS MY LIFE!

The International Restoration Bible College

That brings me to my second major activity. For all of this month we have been holding regular meetings of the staff of the Bible college as we work feverishly to organize and get everything in line to begin classes and courses in January of next year. So with my one hour drive to Ironton, we scheduled and in-person meeting where we discussed the way we would work and the initial classes that we would be offering. We have also held weekly virtual meetings as we strive to that same goal.



There is a general recognition that our Bible colleges have failed us and have ceased to train any significant number of new preachers and ministers. That is as they became accredited they were forced to drop the required Bible major for every student and as more of the students attended for degrees other than ministry the deep spiritual atmosphere was diluted. Along with this costs skyrocketed and so no ministerial student could graduate and preach at a small congregation because of high debt.

New training programs have begun to crop up, but many are simply local preachers training new ministers. While there is nothing wrong with that model, there is still the perceived need for a high standard academic training programs. That is where we stand out. We are offering top tier faculty, most of whom hold a doctorate and have taught at one of our Christian Bible colleges/universities. As a result, we can offer truly college level training along with certificate level studies. We are determined not to seek accreditation, not because we lack the quality, but so as to avoid having the government dictate what we must teach and what we cannot say and in order to keep costs as low as possible. So we will have no official accreditation but we will still offer an educational programs that goes from general certificate learning to college level diploma classes.

THIS IS MY LIFE!

And Back to Recording

Now, back to my recording. After our organizational meeting, I worked with Terryann Bizzard, one of Dave's technical people, to figure out what the issues restricted the process. After a bit of tinkering, she found and corrected the problem and we set everything up to record correctly. I hauled the equipment back over to the cemetery and set everything up there. The following day I recorded my five session "mini course in missions" for missing committees which will be offered for free and at the certificate level and will very soon be available.



THIS IS MY LIFE!

Visa! Visa! Visa!

One other job I had this month was finally securing approval of the visa paperwork and application for a resident visa for my wife. This has been a three-year ordeal as the paperwork is exhausting and massive in scale. First I had to get approved from the TSA and demonstrate Nohelly was no security risk and had no criminal record nor any police record. That took over a year. Then my application was passed on to the National Visa Service in Washington. There I had to prove I could afford a wife and that she would not become a ward of the government.



Once again, it was hundreds of pages of paperwork and documentation. I was ready to give up and then I contacted Senator Jon Husted's office. He assigned a caseworker to help me and to guide me through the process. He also advocated for me, first with the TSA and then with the visa service when they became excessively demanding. Finally, after two more years of work, the Visa Service has now finally approved my application. It has now been forwarded to the US embassy in Bogotá, Colombia. They will now go over the paperwork and then schedule the required medical exams and the visa interview. But finally, three full years of paperwork and help from Senator Husted has gotten me to the point we are now ready for the actual visa granting process in the embassy. Please pray with us that this goes well and there are no further holdups or road blocks so that Nohelly can travel with me whenever I come up to the States.

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Camp Continues

In Colombia my wife continues to run the church camp with events nearly every week. She also runs the Hasten International Medical Mission's medical and evangelism brigades in my absence. So as the work goes on, we praise the Lord and thank each of you for your prayers and support. This brings me to my closing, and as always, I give thanks to the Lord for those of you who have partnered with us in this amazing ministry of evangelism, church planting, and leadership training. If you or your church does not currently support us in this work, why not consider doing so and becoming a partner in the spectacular work the Lord is doing both in Colombia and here.





THIS IS MY LIFE!

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