

PROCLAIM!

Pursue God.
Pursue People.



Tell Your
Story

Pursuing God's heart always leads us to people He loves—from the Andes to Albania, Zimbabwe to the Dominican Republic, and online—millions are hearing the Good News.

Let Andrew and Pat inspire you to lead a life overflowing with God's generous love. Your life is a Gospel story you can learn to tell, with redemption shining through every season.

06

Four Innovative Gospel Approaches

Spreading the Gospel throughout Zimbabwe—Over 729,000 people reached in person!

BY DESMOND HENRY



PROCLAIM! Fall 2025

A publication of Palau, focused on informing, encouraging, and blessing friends and partners in ministry.
PO Box 50 • Portland, OR 97207 • 503.614.1500 • info@palau.org
www.palau.org

COVER PHOTO by Ryan Hoppes: Andrew preaching in Peru earlier this year. Although it rained heavily, the Spirit moved and many came to know Jesus in spite of the downpour.

CHIEF COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER: Charlotte Sanchez

ART DIRECTOR: Kevin Nordyke

GRAPHIC DESIGNER: Katie Bredemeier

COPY EDITORS: Joy Bongiorno, Shana Furjanic

PROJECT MANAGER: Melissa Woods

WRITERS: Eva Beckwith, Justin Bloomfield, Dr. Desmond Henry, Ryan Hoppes, Alyssa James, Karla Osorno, Andrew Palau, Kevin Palau, Pat Palau, Charlotte Sanchez and Jorge Scopazzo

PHOTOGRAPHERS: Katie Bredemeier, Ryan Hoppes, Jacob Lamb, and Fraser Marchbank

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PRESIDENT: Kevin Palau

EVANGELISTS: Andrew and Wendy Palau

CHIEF DEVELOPMENT OFFICER: Zack Aspegren

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“Go out and invite
everyone you see, so that
my house will be full.”

INSPIRED BY LUKE 14:23

Pursue God. Pursue People.

Dear Friends,

This fall, a lot of us will find ourselves gathered around tables with the people we love. Thanksgiving meals. Christmas celebrations. Food, laughter, music, stories. Some of the sweetest moments God gives us.

But imagine this: a beautiful feast, a long table full of food and joy... and yet some seats are still empty.

So the host says, *"Go out and invite everyone you see, so that my house will be full."* That's what Jesus describes in Luke 14. And that host? That's God Himself.

This is His heart: *there's still room. Room for the overlooked. The hurting. The doubting.* Room for you.

The Good News about Jesus isn't just for a few. It's for everyone. God is always reaching out, inviting people home. As 2 Peter 3:9 reminds us, He doesn't want anyone left out.

That's why at Palau we keep coming back to this simple call: **Pursue God. Pursue People.** When we pursue God first, He fills us with strength and hope. And when we pursue people, we're stepping into the most loving thing we can do—pointing them to the One who can change a life forever.

As you read the stories in this issue of *Proclaim!*, I hope you're encouraged to see how God is moving through ordinary people like you who simply said "Yes." We could not do this without you! And I pray you'll be inspired to share your own story of redemption with the people around you.

So as you gather this holiday season, remember God's greater table. There's still room. And maybe someone near you is longing for that invitation. Together, let's pursue God with all our hearts and pursue people with His love. There's nothing more important than sharing the hope we've found in Jesus.

Be Blessed,



Kevin Palau

After the servant had done this, he reported, 'There is still room for more.'

—Luke 14:22 NLT

During the Reno-Tahoe Festival in August this year the crowd gathered around a young man and prayed for him in the middle of the show. His life was changed **because his friend invited him.**

Four Innovative Gospel Approaches in Zimbabwe



By Dr. Desmond Henry

Director of the Global
Network of Evangelists

Palau's Global Network of Evangelists exists to create communities of evangelists who are committed to completing the Great Commission together.

Through this global network we identify, affirm, connect, equip, and mobilize evangelists to boldly proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ across every sphere of society in word and deed.

That vision is coming alive in Zimbabwe.

In the lead-up to the Love Zimbabwe Festival in Harare, hundreds of evangelists joined the movement—embracing our core philosophy of “one message, many expressions” in towns and cities in five regions throughout the nation.

From home-based evangelism to school outreach, business leaders to street bashes, women’s gatherings to youth festivals, the Gospel is advancing in fresh and creative ways. The message remains the same, but the methods must adapt. As Hudson Taylor declared, “The Great Commission is not an option to be considered; it is a command to be obeyed.” And Charles Spurgeon reminded us, “Methods are many, principles are few; methods may change, but principles never do.”

We are committed to Spirit-led innovation in evangelism—because God’s love is as multifaceted as the people of Zimbabwe themselves.

Zimbabwe is becoming a launchpad for Gospel innovation and greater unity among churches, leaders, and evangelists. **What’s unfolding is a Spirit-empowered movement—evangelists who aren’t just proclaiming the Gospel, but reimagining how it reaches every corner of society.**

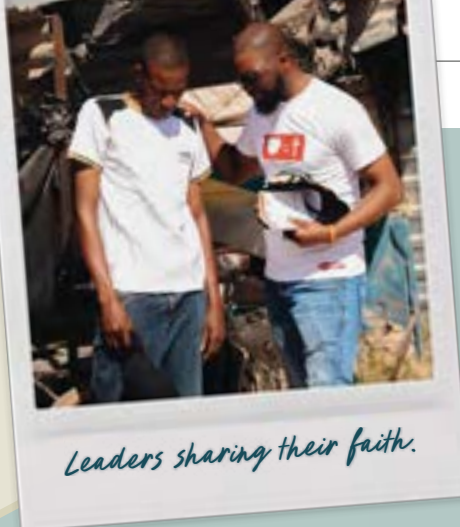
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action in real
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Scan QR Code ↗



Botswana

**Impact
Highlights
"Simuka"**



Approach #1: Simuka: Arise and Influence

Raising a Generation of Gospel Witnesses

In a nation where the majority is under 25, reaching the next generation isn't optional—it's essential. That's why, as part of our nationwide Love Zimbabwe campaign, we launched Simuka—a bold movement mobilizing Gen Z to share the Gospel, disciple their peers, and lead in mission.

"Simuka" means "Arise" in Shona—and that's what's happening. During the past three months, this has grown from a spark into a multiplying network of young evangelists.

We've divided Zimbabwe into five strategic regions, each with a plan to identify, equip, and mobilize youth evangelists in 30+ towns ahead of a National Youth Day of Outreach on August 12, 2025.

These leaders didn't just share the Gospel—they multiplied the impact. Armed with Proclaim Packs (GNE-created youth-focused evangelism kits), they led:

- Street evangelism
- Digital outreach
- School and campus witness
- Creative missions through art, music, and media

This is just the beginning. Please continue to pray for the churches, leaders, and waves of youth-led outreaches rising across Zimbabwe.

"Before Simuka, I was quiet about my faith. Now, I've led two of my friends to Jesus."

continued on page 8

1,964
youth leaders
trained from...

573
churches—who
then trained...

45,185
young people—who
shared the Gospel with

214,290
people during the
training phase.

50,683 decisions for Christ
across five regions in Zimbabwe!

Approach #2: Borderline Revival

Evangelism on the Margins

Later this year, we're launching an innovative outreach on a border-town as part of the Love Zimbabwe campaign—focused on the bustling Beitbridge-Musina crossing between Zimbabwe and South Africa, where more than 800 trucks cross each way per day. This is more than a border—it's a place of tension, migration, and hidden need. And it's where we believe the Gospel must go.

Together with local pastors, GNE evangelists, and partner ministries, we'll engage truck drivers, migrants, sex workers, vendors, prisoners, and even detainees in immigration holding cells. Our strategy? To meet people in the chaos of transit with the unchanging hope of Jesus.

Evangelists will hand out solar-powered audio devices loaded with the Gospel and Scripture, thousands of Challenge Gospel newspapers, and offer personal prayer and conversation along the route. We'll also train local believers to follow up—ensuring this isn't just a moment, but the beginning of a movement.

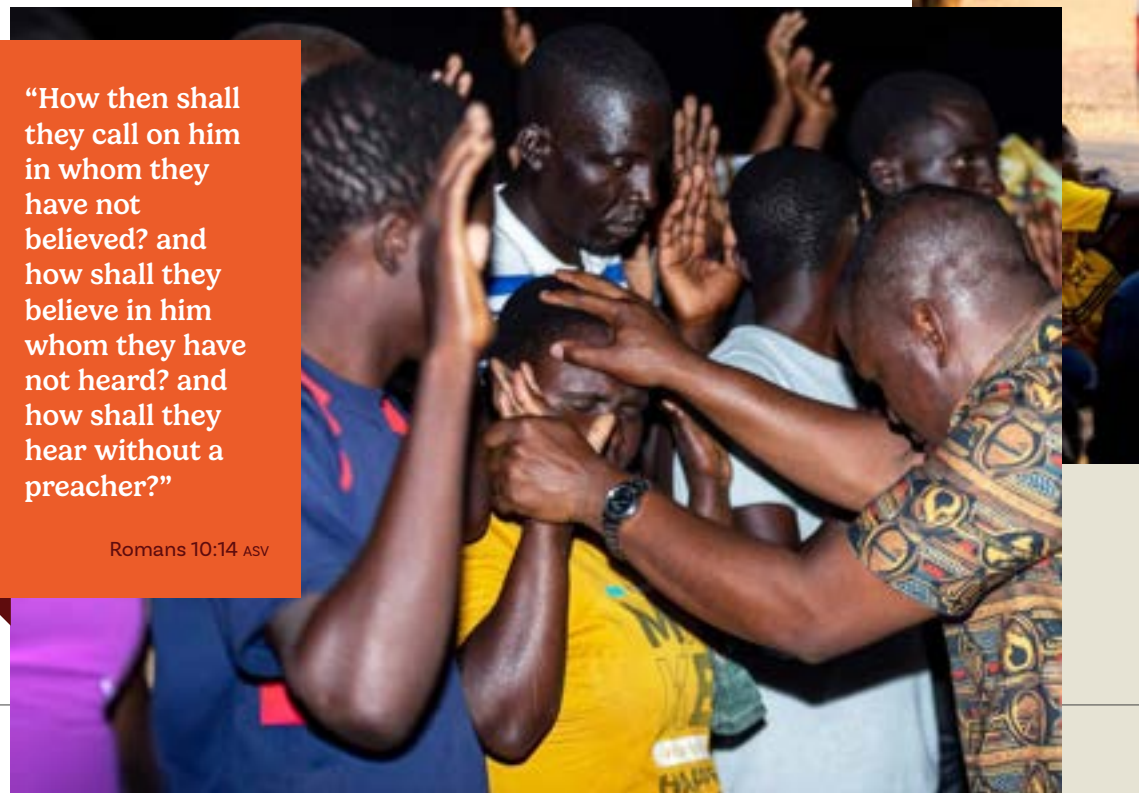
One leader put it simply:

*"If we don't reach them here,
who will?"*

This initiative shifts the center of mission to the margins—bringing the Gospel to people in motion, often overlooked by traditional outreach. We don't wait for people to come to us. We go to them because sharing Jesus is the most loving thing we can do.

"How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?"

Romans 10:14 ASV





Approach #3: **The Binga Frontier Mission**

Light in Forgotten Places

In September 2025, our Frontier outreach took place in one of Zimbabwe's most overlooked regions: Binga, home to the Tonga people along the Zambezi River. For decades, Binga had remained spiritually isolated—physically hard to access and deeply entrenched in fear, traditionalism, cultism, and witchcraft. It's a hard place.

But that began to change.

GNE partners moved into the region for a month to advance the Gospel into the district's most remote corners. This wasn't just one event—it was a full-scale mission:

- 100+ schools reached through youth outreaches
- Sports outreaches on the weekends
- Community and regional outreaches across 8 zones
- Medical outreaches and clothing drives for the vulnerable

The vision? To reach thousands of precious people in Binga with the Gospel—and to empower the small, often fearful local Church to rise with courage and Gospel clarity. In a place where cult-related murders have become tragically normal, this campaign brings more than a message. It brings hope. It brings healing. It brings light.

As Jesus said in Mark 1:38 NKJV,

***“Let us go to the next towns...
because for this purpose I have come.”***

That's what this is: a Spirit-led move to the margins, for the sake of the Gospel.

continued on page 10

Approach #4: Banquet of Hope

A Simple Meal, a Sacred Invitation

This October, as part of our BorderLight outreach in Musina, we will host a Banquet of Hope for women in prostitution, street women, and those unemployed—many of whom survive at the fringes of one of Africa's busiest truck border towns.

With more than 43% of South Africans unemployed, economic desperation has pushed countless women into vulnerable and exploitative situations. This dinner is a different kind of response: one marked by dignity, compassion, and Gospel hope.

Each woman will be welcomed as an honored guest—offered a warm meal, a listening ear, prayer, and an introduction to the Jesus who restores. Alongside this, our teams will:

- Distribute care packages donated by South African churches to women
- Share the Gospel of John and *Made New* discipleship resources
- Offer ongoing pastoral and relational support in partnership with local churches

Crucially, we are not working alone. This outreach supports and strengthens the ongoing ministry of local churches and frontline organizations already serving faithfully in the area.

This is the Gospel—served with grace, anchored in community, and extending real hope to the overlooked.

What's happening in Zimbabwe is more than strategy—it's a glimpse of what's possible when evangelists work together with creativity and unity. Rooted in a timeless Gospel and led by the Spirit, they're reimagining mission as God moves.

*May this movement
stir churches everywhere
to boldly share Christ—
everywhere, with everyone,
by every means.*



"This isn't about a single event. It's about joining what God is already doing—and lifting the arms of those who've been here all along."

Team member





Love Zimbabwe Impact Snapshot

Spring-Fall 2025

5,406
Partnering Churches

67,291
Trained in Evangelism

729,892
Presented with the
Gospel in Person

53,263
Presented with the
Gospel Online

245,790
**Indicated
Decisions**
for Christ

Watch the wrap up video
and read more about the
Festival in Harare

Scan QR Code →



September 20 – 28

More than just a festival— a week of united outreach across Harare. In partnership with local churches and believers, we served the city, met practical needs, and joyfully proclaimed the Good News of Jesus to every generation.



The Unfolding Gospel Story... of Your Life

There's redemption
in every chapter,
and your story isn't over.

By Andrew Palau



Jamaica 1993

*yep that's me
in Jamaica,
finally
surrendering
to God, and
beside me,
my future
wife, Wendy.*

In the Beginning...

For believers, our salvation story often centers on the moment we first met Jesus—when God flooded into our lives and offered a fresh start. You might know where my relationship with God began, when He captured my heart at the “Say Yes Jamaica” festival. As Dad shared the Good News, I knew God was changing me. That divine encounter was just the beginning. God quickly led me to another moment of transformation in the Blue Mountains of Jamaica where He showed up powerfully. The Lord met me deeply—personally. It was as if Heaven had opened. I saw my sin and His holiness—and I crumpled under it. That was my Isaiah 6 moment. A burning coal of mercy touched me. I cried out, “Here am I. Send me.” Those few days were the beginning of my new life.

But my story was far from over! God has continued to reshape me, just like He’s shaping you—reclaiming our choices, redirecting our paths, redeeming even our resistance. All of that becomes beautiful when it testifies of God’s mercy...when it points the way to Life.

In the early chapters of my new life in Christ, saying yes to God felt natural:

- ☒ “Work with your dad in ministry?” *Yes, of course.*
- ☒ “Marry Wendy?” *Wow, yes!*
- ☒ “Serve together?” *An obvious yes.*

There was a freshness in the joy of healing. I had a wonderful new life that made my past look gray by comparison. Every puzzle piece seemed to fit perfectly in the story God was writing.

Then came the plot twist . .

continued on page 16



2014 Alaska

*photos below: Wendy serving
school kids during our outreaches
in Jamaica in 2012. And Dad
preaching at Portland Festival '99 -
our first city using the festival model.*





Together in Eugene, OR - 2018



3 Truths I Learned About Calling

- 1 It's not about what I bring—it's about Who sends me. Most people God used in the Bible didn't feel ready.
- 2 God can use weak vessels to carry strong messages. Your weakness may be the very thing God uses to show His power.
- 3 The call of God often feels terrifying before it transforms us. Your story isn't finished yet. Today's resistance can become tomorrow's testimony.

My family was saying it. My wife was saying it. My colleagues were all saying the same thing. And I thought they were crazy. It took me a while to admit that in reality, God was saying it:

"Now you're going to be a preaching evangelist."

Me? Preach? I hated speaking in public. I dreaded preparing sermons. In high school, I gave one speech that wrecked me: sweat, stumbles, shame. On that night long ago, I had vowed I would never speak in front of a crowd again.

So, for years I resisted. I pushed back, argued with friends and family—"Can't you see I'm not cut out for this?" But deep inside, I had begun to realize: I wasn't just resisting them. I was resisting God.

In the midst of reading the story of Gideon, one verse hit me like lightning:

Judges 6:12 — "The Angel of the Lord appeared to Gideon and said, 'The Lord is with you, mighty warrior.'"

Gideon was hiding in fear. He hadn't fought battles. Yet God addressed him as "mighty warrior," and I realized: God wasn't speaking about Gideon's past or Gideon's ability—God was declaring His presence and His power for Gideon's future.

God doesn't just call the equipped—He equips the called. He doesn't ask for perfection—He asks for humility and willingness.

The Shift to Surrender

I knew God was breaking down my resistance, but I kept telling Him, "I can't do this. I won't do this! I'm not a great speaker!" But God was saying, "That's not the point. I'm not saying you're a great speaker. Are you going to serve in this role as I have asked you to, or not?"

At last, my resistance broke. I repented, got on my knees, and wept. "God, I'll do whatever you ask me. Just show me what to do next." He showed me it was time to apologize to everyone I'd been pushing back against, and humble myself. To ask people for help getting started. It wasn't grand, but it was freeing.

Preaching at Beachfest Myrtle Beach in 2008. My first solo domestic festival. →



Myrtle Beach 2008

YOUR Story Is Still Being Written

I guessed my story wrong. The “I will never speak again” vow I made to myself...that’s what I really planned on. But it was not how God wrote it. Instead, He redirected my story. He transformed my resistance into surrender, my hesitation into confidence in the Lord’s strength. He has now taken someone who never planned to preach and used him to share the Gospel thousands of times across the globe.

But here’s the most beautiful part: the story isn’t over yet. God continues to write chapters in my life, and I know He could surprise me again. I know He’s still writing your story, too.

When you look back, I hope you don’t just see one moment of salvation. I hope you see chapters:

The moment
Jesus met you.

chapters...

The times He
shaped your
choices.

The places He redeemed
your resistance and
redirected your path.

Maybe He’s calling you to do something unexpected. Something that scares you. Something you’ve said “no” to, believing you’re unqualified. That’s a familiar page in God’s story—because He loves to take unlikely people and weave something beautiful through diligent obedience.

Don’t wait until you feel perfect. Don’t wait until you’re fearless. Just be willing. Say, “Here am I. Send me.” Then step forward in faith, knowing:

“The Lord is with you, mighty warrior.”
Not because of your power, but because of His.

Giving my testimony
in Peru this year. →



3 Steps to Owning Your Evangelism Identity

1. Be Honest About Your Fear
Denial delays growth. I had to admit I was afraid of what God was asking me to do.
2. Surrender the Outcome
When I repented and said, "I'll do whatever you ask," the pressure lifted. It was no longer about my performance.
3. Go in the Strength You Have
Weak or not, skilled or not, willing is enough. When God is with you, He makes your "yes" powerful.

Reno, Nevada

August 2025

Twenty Years Later: Reno-Tahoe CityFest



By Karla Osorno

*Karla has become a dear friend. Two years ago, she sent an email to one of our team members—an email that surprised us, moved us, and left us in tears. In it, she shared how 20 years earlier she had said yes to Christ at a Palau event. And now, with hope stirring for our return, she wanted us to know. **This is her story.***

An Unexpected Yes

It seems like yesterday...

My colleague Fred walked into my office with twenty tickets to a leaders' luncheon for the 2004 Luis Palau Festival and asked if he could hand them out. Surprising even myself, I said yes—with one condition. One ticket would be mine.

At the time, life was heavy. My heart, mind, and body were worn down. My “independence” was unraveling into chaos. My best efforts weren’t enough—not for my stress, not for my marriage, not for the child I so longed for. I was devouring books, desperate to find control, but none of it slowed my anxiety. I kept moving so fast...I had little time to stop and admit the truth: I was failing.

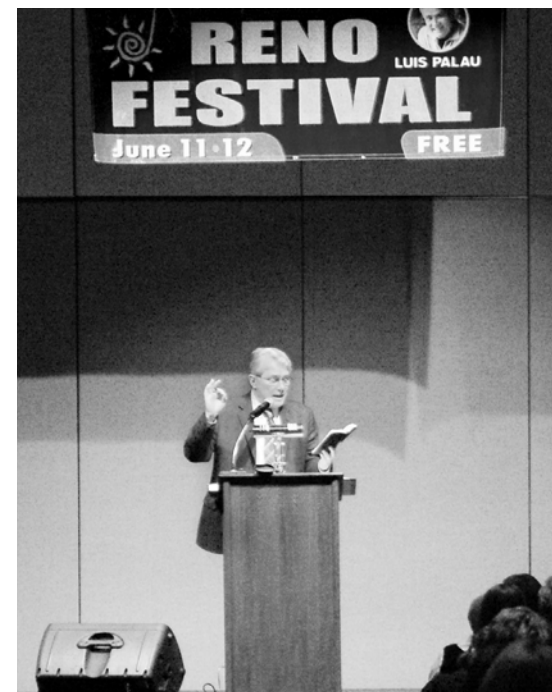
The day of the luncheon arrived. Luis Palau, in his warm and characteristic way, told stories, made us laugh, and preached the truth. I heard the Gospel.

To my surprise, I believed it. My heart said yes, and my body followed—I stood to my feet.

I’ve never been the same. I still have a contrarian streak, but now I am a daughter of the King. I follow Christ. When I stumble, I cry out and return to God. My husband and daughter follow Jesus too, and for more than 21 years I’ve had the privilege of encouraging women to love God, love people, and use their gifts.

A City in Need of Revival

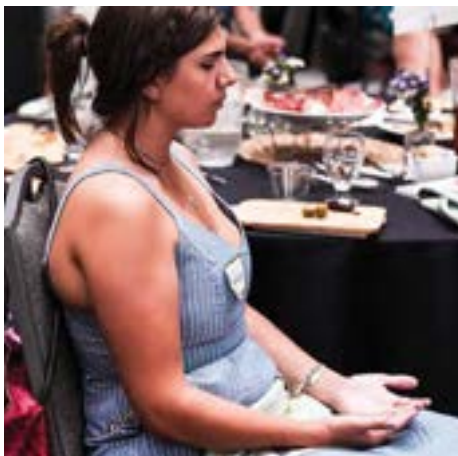
When I learned Palau was coming back to Reno, my spirit leapt. My energy was renewed remembering my own story. **Reno—my city—is the second most unchurched in the nation.** We need hope. We need change that comes only through a personal relationship with Jesus.



↑
Above: Luis speaking at the womens event in 2004 and Wendy speaking at the same event 20 years later.



During the festival week, the Gospel went out to every sector of society through a Men's BBQ, Stories of Hope Women's Outreach, Prison Ministry, and Festival of Hope (Native American Festival). People responded to the Good News at each of the outreaches.



Those early conversations, those prayers, those first glimpses of churches uniting—they ignited a fire. I got involved with CityFest, helping plan the women's event. We believe women are the heart of families, and stronger families mean stronger communities with Jesus at the center. I also attended prayer meetings, fundraising events, and committed to being a Festival Friend.

CityFest is helping Reno rally around its greatest vulnerabilities—human trafficking, homelessness, addiction, domestic abuse, violence, and mental health. In every place of need, the hope of the gospel has power to heal. And when churches work together, it isn't just people making a difference—it's Jesus people see. That's what excites me most.

Every prayer and every conversation matters. God wants Reno healed. And I am praying many will believe, spirits will be renewed, and this city will be known for revival.

A Full-Circle Moment

Festival week arrived, and all the planning and prayer came together. The Gospel was proclaimed to crowds across Northern Nevada. At the women's event, hundreds gathered to share stories of hope. We created a beautiful space together, and at my table—just as I had experienced 21 years before—my neighbor and friend said yes to Jesus.

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For more stories from
Reno-Tahoe CityFest

Scan QR Code →



At the festival, I saw worship rise from thousands. I wept as the invitation to follow Jesus was given after the action sports events. As a Festival Friend, I prayed with many, listening as they recommitted their lives to Christ.

My husband Chad attended the Men's BBQ, where neighbors and friends shared great conversation, enjoyed music, and heard Andrew Palau speak beneath a stunning sunset. At least one man at his table recommitted his life to Jesus.

For me, being at CityFest 21 years after my own "yes" was profoundly emotional. It was a full-circle moment. My life is marked by faith, trust, and a growing dependence on God. He is good, and He continues to work in me and in Northern Nevada.

The festival revealed a unity among churches, a love for the community, and a hope that cannot be contained. **This is only the beginning. We will keep building. Keep praying. Keep longing for revival in Reno-Tahoe.**



Even with a lightning delay, rain, and high winds the crowds remained at Rancho San Rafael Park for action sports, kids' activities, and music—and on the second day a rainbow, lit by an amazing sunset, reminded us all of God's promises!





Impact Highlights

16,250+
people reached in person
with the Good News

655
face-to-face responses
to the Gospel during
the week

1,854
people presented with
the Gospel online

139
online responses to the
Gospel through the digital
evangelism campaign

**In total,
794 people
responded
to the
Gospel!**



Where we're headed in 2026



Following Jesus *to the ends of the earth.*

"...Won't he leave the ninety-nine others in the wilderness and go to search for the one that is lost until he finds it?"

LUKE 15:4 NLT



2026 GOALS:

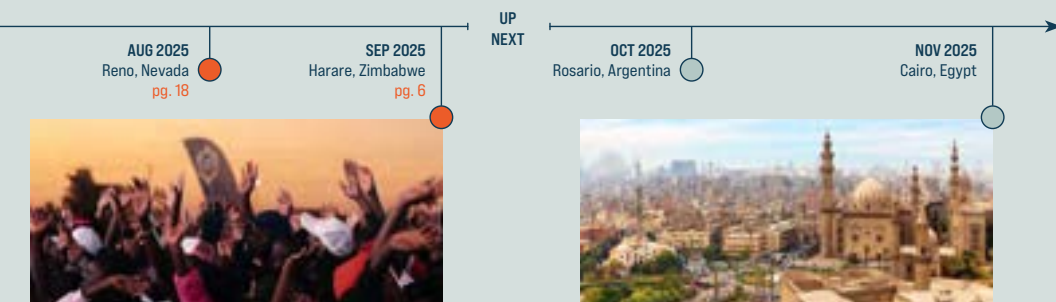
God continues to open tremendous doors for ministry all around the world. Your generous support can make these larger-than-life goals a reality.

FESTIVALS & OUTREACHES
1,000,000+ people presented with the Gospel in person

CITY GOSPEL MOVEMENTS
100 Cities with Evangelism Teams

GLOBAL NETWORK OF EVANGELISTS
6,000+ member evangelists equipped and empowered

DIGITAL EVANGELISM
18 Million people presented with the Gospel online



Scan the code to see the latest praise reports.



“Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone.”

—Mark 16:15 NLT

Keeping Evangelism First In the Final Chapter.



By Pat Palau

"For Luis and me, it was always about the Gospel. Good news. Peace with God."

In the early days with Luis now my world is somewhat smaller, but I still have a part to play.

I've traveled all over the world, and lately my world has become somewhat smaller. But it's no less important to the Lord. I live in a lovely retirement community. But let's be honest—this is the last stop before facing eternity for most of us. Ambulances come and go, and quietly, people leave this world. I used to joke that I didn't belong here—but I do. And while I might not love the reality that these are my final years on earth, the comforting thing is, I know what I'm here for.

I've been thinking a lot lately about **Acts 13**, where it says, *"David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell asleep."* What a phrase: served his own generation. That line gripped me in my younger years, and it grips me still. If I'm not off the scene yet, then I still have a part to play. You do, too.

Looking Back

For Luis and me, it was always about the Gospel. Good news. Peace with God. We didn't start with big stages or stadiums. We started small—often unappreciated, often unnoticed—but we were convinced that the **most loving thing we could ever do was to share Christ.**

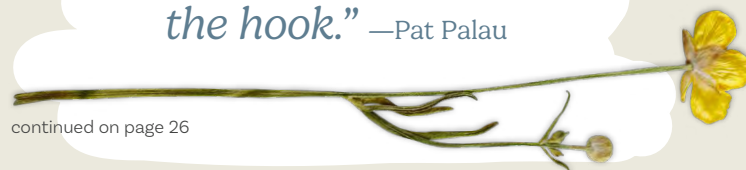
Now I spend most of my days surrounded by people in the final chapters of their lives. I attend a Bible study here with a wonderfully eclectic group. I remember when we were in the first seven chapters of Romans—it's all bad news, or so it seems to them. It's all about God's wrath, our sin, and our need for a savior. But then we got to Romans 8: *"There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus."*

Forgiveness? Acceptance? It's all found in Him. And it's never too late.

And that's it, isn't it? That's the message. Still the first and best thing. Still the only thing that gives hope when the ambulances come and the rooms go empty.

"I don't have an evangelistic gift, but that does not let me off the hook." —Pat Palau

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“I see God’s hand in
the *small beginnings*.
The open doors.”

PAT PALAU

Reinventing Myself

You might think that after decades of ministry, I would've "arrived"—that sharing Jesus would come naturally by now. But I'll tell you the truth: I never thought of myself as an evangelist. For years, I just walked two steps behind Luis, agreeing with everything he said, happy to be there. I loved that role.

But when Luis passed away, I had to reinvent myself. Not just emotionally, but spiritually. I had to figure out how to do evangelism on my own two feet. And I'll be honest—it hasn't been easy. The world has changed so much since what I think of as "the good old days."

But the mission hasn't changed. It's still about the Gospel. And while the tools may be different, the message is the same and it's as powerful as ever. The people are still lost. The need is still great.

So I show up. I pray. I write notes. I invite friends and neighbors to outreach events (no one brings more guests than me!). I stir things up a little bit around here. And every now and then, I get to see someone lean in to Jesus, open up their heart, and find hope.



Looking Forward

There's a strange clarity that comes with age. I'm not great with the modern stuff—social media, passwords, anything that updates itself without permission. But I remember the past clearly. Every detail. Names, places, the faces of those whose lives were transformed by Jesus right before my eyes. I see God's hand in the small beginnings. The open doors. The late nights. The times we felt alone or exhausted or discouraged.

“...it was never about our strength or strategy. It was about our obedience.

We kept saying yes. That's it.”

Looking back, it's obvious: **it was never about our strength or strategy. It was about our obedience. We kept saying yes. That's it.**

And now? I get to witness God using my sons and my daughter-in-law to carry the mission forward in ways I never even imagined. I couldn't have hoped for a better legacy...that the next generation of Palaus are exponentially spreading the Gospel...what a wonderful blessing! And for my part—I want to finish well. I want the last chapter to still be about Jesus—the first thing. I don't want to spend these years just being “comfortable” as some consider it to be the purpose of retirement. I'd rather be faithful. To serve my generation. To carry on as long as possible with joy.

*The next generation...
me with my great-grandson.*





A Word for You

I want to leave you with this final nudge.

You don't have to have an evangelistic gift. You don't need a microphone or a platform. You just need a willing heart. There are people around you right now who need to know Jesus. You don't have to be polished—you just have to be present (and maybe persistent).

Let's not let the final chapters be about ease. Let's make them count.

It's still the first thing.
It's still the best thing.
It's still the most loving
thing we can do.

And there's still time.



 Tirana, Albania

 January – June 2025

From Forbidden to Flourishing: Launching Gospel Movements in Albania



By Justin Bloomfield

Head of City Impact
UK/Europe

Not long ago, Albania was a nation where public expressions of Christianity were illegal. Today, the Gospel is being proclaimed—and we're seeing it ourselves!

Europe is often described as a secular continent, home to approximately 750 million people, but with only around 2% identifying as evangelical Christians. Yet, God is on the move. Across Europe, church planting is increasing, diaspora churches are multiplying, and young leaders are rising up to reach their generation. Albania is one glimpse of this greater story.

A Legacy of Partnership

TiranaFest 2025 was not the first connection for Palau with the Church in Albania. In 2012, Luis Palau shared the Gospel at a Palau festival in Tirana.

Fast forward more than a decade, and an invitation came from the General Secretary of the Albanian Evangelical Alliance (VUSH) for the Church to come together and unite once again with a heart for

evangelism—to go again and proclaim the Gospel not only in Tirana but for an impact across all of Albania.

"It's many years that I am praying to have meetings like this. It's a dream fulfilled. We [are] excited to see what God can do." – Albanian church leader

In January, the Palau team traveled across Albania, visiting church leaders in six cities. We shared the vision of TiranaFest and our heart to continue serving the Church in the coming years through Evangelism Teams—to strengthen the culture of evangelism and be a catalyst for evangelistic momentum following the festival. Leaders were receptive and excited by the prospect of our commitment to serve the Church. They shared how they sensed a moment for unified evangelism across Albania—**now was the time.**

Prayer, Unity, Momentum

When we accepted the invitation, we knew the scale of what was being asked. Yet from the first conversations to the final moments in Skanderbeg Square, the entire journey was carried by prayer, marked by unity, and sustained by a deep reliance on God. What began as a simple "yes," became a nationwide outreach that shared the hope of the Gospel with thousands. There was a growing excitement among leaders as we shared our desire

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↑
Luis speaking at
Tirana Festival—2012

RE:NEW →

After we accepted the invitation—we launched our efforts at a RE:NEW event. People were so eager to attend this night of worship and teaching they lined up in anticipation.





More than 2,000 people
attended that night



What is an *Evangelism Team?*

Think of an Evangelism Team (E-Team) as a **diverse group of strategic local leaders who are passionate about raising the temperature of evangelism in their city.** They dream about what would happen if the Church in their city were encouraged and equipped to share their faith with confidence and love.

When churches are unified and strategic in evangelism, cities are transformed. When believers are inspired and supported, the Gospel spreads in everyday life.

Discover more about
E-Teams or find one
in your area

Scan QR Code ↗



Why Evangelism Teams *Matter* in Europe

In a continent often labeled ‘secular,’ Evangelism Teams matter because they create ongoing, strategic, and unified efforts to share the Good News.

Europe may seem closed, **but the tide seems to be turning.** New churches are taking root, migrant congregations are bringing fresh life, and a new generation is stepping forward with boldness to share their faith.

NOW IS THE MOMENT to fan the flames of evangelism in Europe—not only through one-off events, but through sustained, citywide movements.

for Palau to continue the journey with the Church across Albania—not only for a moment but as the beginning of a movement of evangelism in the coming years.

“...the prayer of our Lord is that if they are one, then the people will know God’s love for them.” – Albanian church leader

Our first church launch event at RE:NEW earlier this year was held in the Palace of Congress—an iconic venue that hadn’t hosted a Christian gathering in more than a decade. At the request of local leaders, we opened this prayer and worship night to believers from every region of Albania. With more than 2,000 people in attendance, the night was filled with anticipation and heartfelt worship. This powerful beginning was followed by a week-long Friendship Evangelism training tour in May. In six cities across Albania, believers gathered for sessions that equipped them with practical tools, boldness, and a clear call to step into Gospel conversations.

Before the Friendship Evangelism trainings, we explored—alongside the General Secretary of VUSH—the idea of strategically starting an Evangelism Team in the different Alliances across Albania. At the trainings, we met with key leaders to build relationships and discern the future Evangelism Team leaders for each of these city regions.

The Gospel in the Square

By the time our team landed in Tirana on June 24th, the momentum was undeniable. In the week leading up to the festival weekend, we held outreach events, including 280 women packed into the International Hotel for a five-course dinner hosted by Wendy. Civic and business leaders gathered for a beautifully hosted dinner, creating space for honest conversations about faith and life, followed by our team visiting a men’s prison. Thirty of the forty men present responded to Jesus, and resources were left behind to keep the conversation going.

The week culminated in a music festival with public proclamation in the heart of the nation, where thousands of local people gathered, heard, and responded to the Gospel. Against the everyday backdrop of city life—friends gathered on terraces, laughter rising with the warm evening air, and teenagers weaving through the square on scooters—songs of worship and prayers of blessing were lifted over the capital. In a city once closed to faith, the invitation of Jesus was boldly proclaimed—and many responded. Each response was recorded and shared with local church leaders across the nation, who later reached out personally. This marked the beginning of the discipleship journey.





The Beginning of a Movement

Since the festival, local churches across Albania have continued to fan the flame of evangelism, holding outreaches in city squares and reaching thousands with the Gospel. The festival itself was powerful, but what's unfolding now may be even more impactful. From the start, it was clear that local leaders were already deeply committed to mobilizing the Church. We were grateful to serve alongside them—the festival added momentum to a movement already in motion. Today, we're witnessing a growing culture of evangelism that's beginning to ripple through the entire nation.

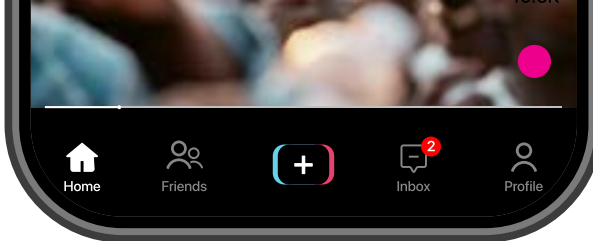
The conversations and strategic planning continue to grow as we look toward building lasting momentum for evangelism across Albania. Later this year, we hope to support the formation of Evangelism Teams in various city regions—a model that has served other nations well, and which we're excited to adapt alongside local churches. The trusted relationships formed through TiranaFest have opened doors to explore future opportunities, including an evangelism stream at a national leaders gathering in 2027.

TiranaFest wasn't the
finish line—*it was just
the beginning.*

Experience the festival—
watch this powerful video

Scan QR Code →





We live in the age of information overload...Everywhere we scroll, stream, and swipe we're met with a flood of urgent headlines, strong opinions, and essential updates. The digital landscape is often volatile, contentious. And it's constantly changing. With this history-making access to unlimited knowledge, many people are experiencing information fatigue. Everything blends together into an endless stream of input that becomes static, meaningless, empty.

And...we're tired of noise. Aren't you? Something is stirring in the collective heart of the current generations. A longing for something real. A disenchantment with the flashy, polished, 30-second entertainment that provides quick dopamine with no effort. People are ready for something more. Something that leads to genuine change.

An Effective Tool

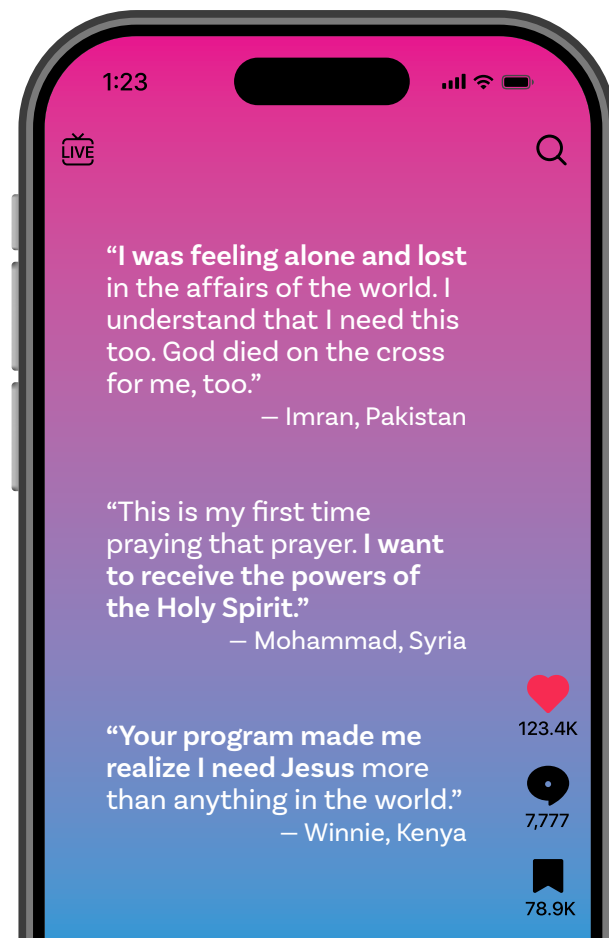
Every year, millions of people around the world encounter the Gospel online through our *Hope with God* ministry. We are sending it out constantly. And every single day, we see 12,000 people on the internet, on social media, in the public square of the digital landscape, make the life-changing decision to follow Jesus. This is a mission field unlike any other—one that God has uniquely prepared us to reach.

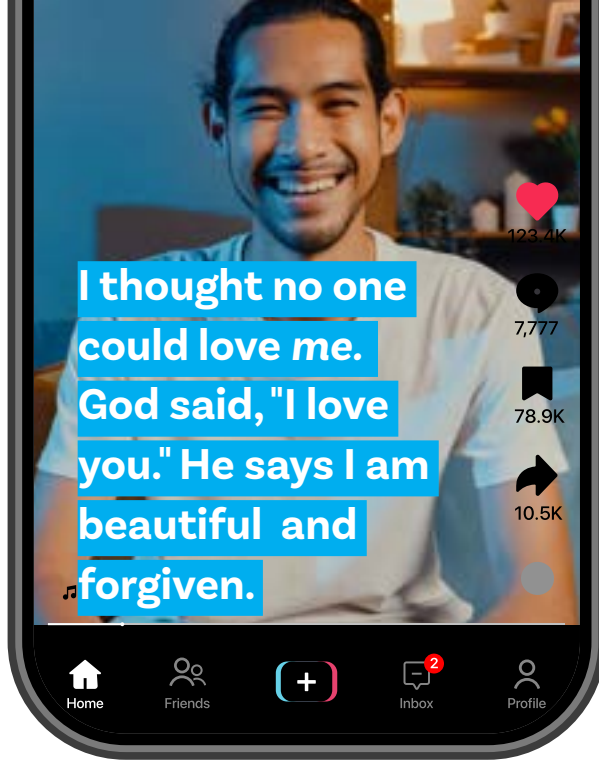
Here are some of the actual responses we got from people who made decisions to follow Jesus through our online Gospel presentation (we get these every day):

And we are always innovating to be even more effective for the Gospel, staying at the cutting edge as new technology emerges. But it turns out, one of the most powerful ways to share the Gospel isn't new at all. In fact, it's ancient!

An Ancient Method

The key to breaking through the mind-numbing scroll is older than the internet itself. It's the method Jesus used to connect with hearts and minds: **STORY.**



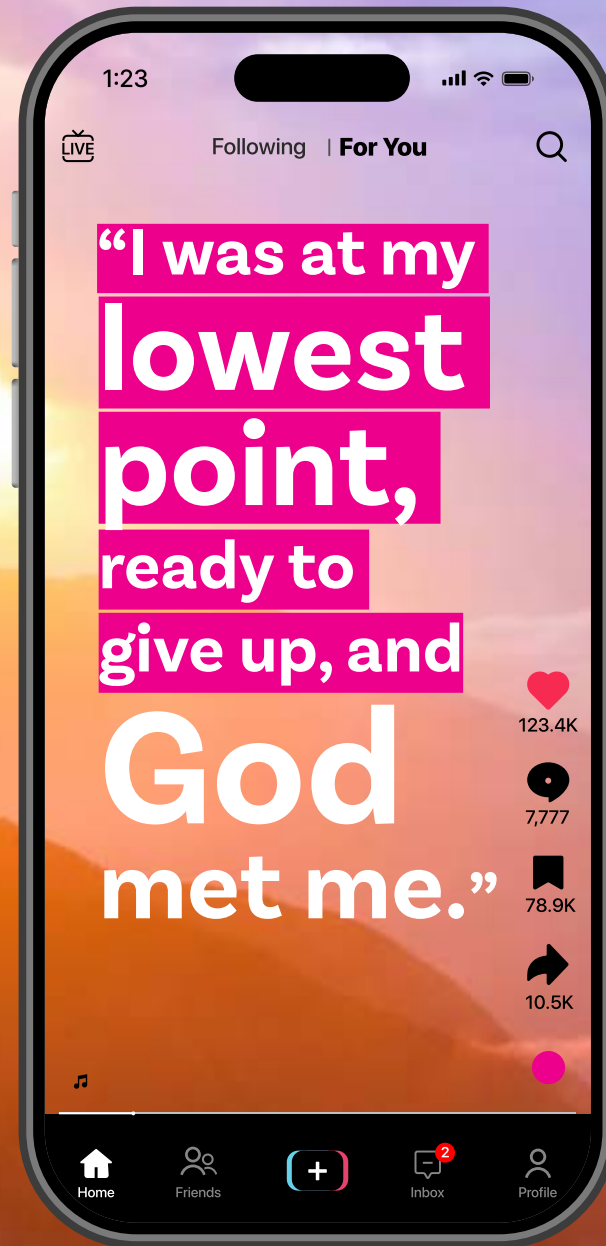


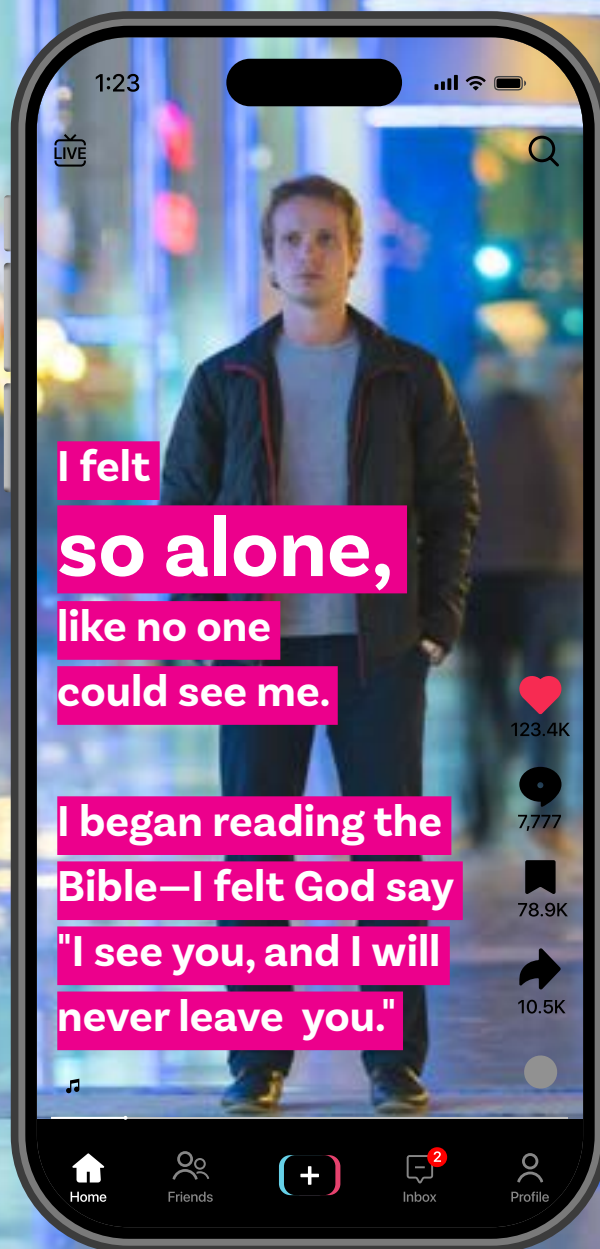
Stories cut through the noise. They bypass defenses. They use empathy to build bridges. They're how our brains are designed by God to understand truth. The Bible itself is one long story of redemption, and the firsthand testimony of a believer has the power to pierce even the hardest of hearts.

Unlike artificial intelligence, which can generate convincing words and powerfully synthesize information, we can share **personal stories of transformation**—moments when the living God met us in our real struggles and changed us from the inside out. We have the power to say, “Let me tell you what Jesus did for me.” We figured it out, and now we want to do it more!

We're seizing opportunities to use AI wisely, but there's one thing AI will never be able to do. *It can't testify about its own changed heart—but we can.*

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Many Voices for Many Hearts

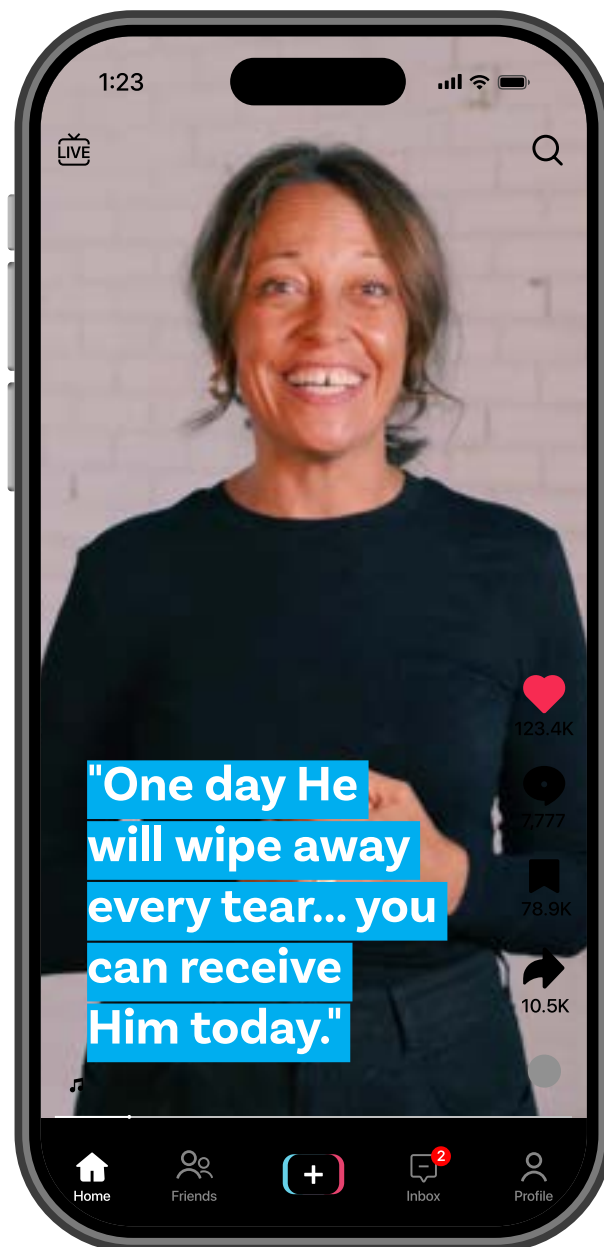
No two people are exactly alike. Our needs, our past, our heartaches, and our blessings all shape how we hear the Gospel. That's why we're planning to share the stories of many faces and voices—not just one.

This is where technology becomes our ally. The same algorithms that advertisers use to target products can now be used to connect someone with just the right Gospel story for their situation. God knows us so well. He made us so intricately unique. There is a Gospel message that's just right for every person—shared in just the way they need to hear it. A way that will help them open their heart so God can enter in and speak to them personally.

When someone searches for “infertility,” “depression,” or “how to find hope,” we can meet them with a real story from someone who's been there—and a message of Jesus' love for them.

What One Story Can Do

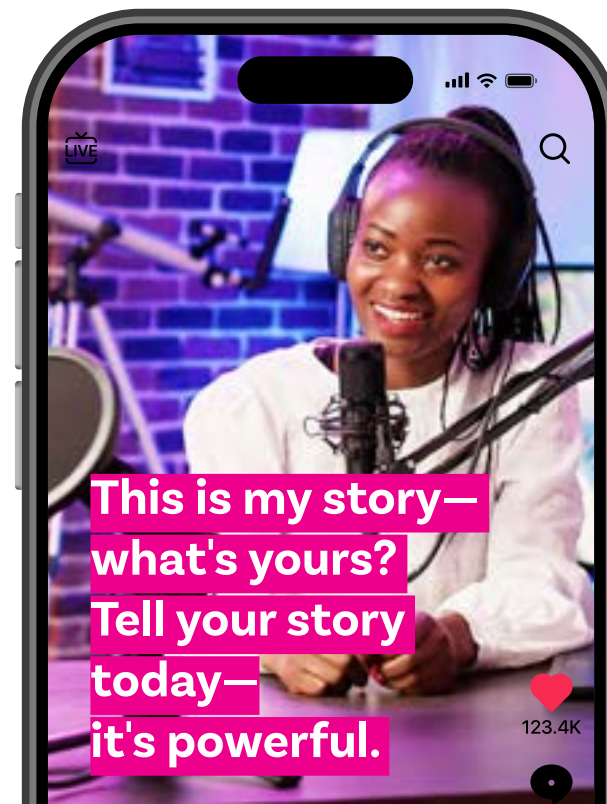
Here's a look at how we've implemented storytelling to impact the kingdom: When Wendy shared her “worst day” story online, she never imagined it would be seen by hundreds of thousands. But that single video helped more than **65,000 people begin to follow Jesus in the first six months after its release!** One honest story can have a ripple effect that only eternity will measure.



A Critical Opportunity

Here's where things get really exciting. When we combine the power of story, the power of the Gospel, and the power of technology, there's no limit to who we can reach. The noise of the internet isn't going away—but we can make sure the hope of Jesus is heard above it. Now more than ever before, stories are breaking through. Not stories of perfect, polished lives. Not airbrushed ads for self-improvement in three easy steps. But real-life stories that don't shy away from the pain and the grit. And they don't hold back on sharing the amazing power of Christ, either!

Let's keep telling the stories of lives radically changed by the hope of Jesus. Let's keep guiding the whole digital world to the One who changed everything.



Scan QR Code →

To hear the story that
touched so many hearts





“That’s when I know to
hold my breath and click
the shutter.”

RYAN HOPPES

The People Behind the Mission

Meet Ryan Hoppes

Entrepreneur, Donor, and the Artist Behind the Camera

By Ryan Hoppes

You may feel the impact of your support most when you see the beautiful photos from around the world. We're transported into those moments because, again and again, Ryan donates his time and artistry to tell what God's is doing around the world. This is his story.

Festivals can be overwhelming. 100,000 people packed together, the air thick with anticipation, energy crackling through the crowd. It's loud, it's massive, it's...a lot. But here's what I've learned after sixteen events and hundreds of thousands of photos—the real magic happens when that enormous crowd of thousands suddenly becomes just one person having a conversation with Jesus.

That's when I know to hold my breath and click the shutter.

My first Palau festival was in Tyler, Texas, back in 2019. I'd been supporting the association for years, writing checks and believing in the work, but I'd never actually seen it happen. As someone who loves photography, I reached out on a whim—could I maybe document the event? They said yes!

Looking back now, that simple "yes" changed everything. Since then, I've traveled to nearly every corner of the globe with Andrew and Wendy Palau and their incredible team. From the prisons of Malawi to community churches outside Buenos Aires, from migrant detention camps in Panama to the slums of Kenya—my camera has been there, capturing moments that still take my breath away.

Before I started traveling with the team—I'll be honest—I struggled with something. I knew Palau was doing important work, but I couldn't quite grasp how my support directly impacted lives. Sometimes I wondered if my resources might create more immediate change supporting food banks or homeless shelters—you know, meeting those tangible, physical needs we can see and measure.

But then I witnessed what actually happens at these events.

When someone encounters Jesus—really encounters Him—something shifts at the deepest level. I've photographed it thousands of times now: that moment when spiritual hunger gets satisfied, when purpose replaces emptiness, when hope floods in where despair used to live. **This isn't just feel-good inspiration; it's transformation that radiates outward, touching families, communities, entire regions.**

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I realized that helping people come to know Jesus isn't just one good option among many—it's the foundation that makes everything else matter. When someone finds their identity in Christ, they become unstoppable forces for good in their communities. They're the ones starting the food banks, caring for the homeless, fighting injustice. The Gospel doesn't compete with meeting physical needs; it creates the people who dedicate their lives to meeting those needs.

That's why I keep my camera focused not on the massive crowds, but on the intimate details that tell the real story. Through my lens, I'm hunting for those quiet, profound moments when the enormity of the gathering becomes intensely personal. A hand lifted in surrender. Tears streaming down a weathered face. Eyes suddenly bright with hope. An embrace full of compassion between strangers who just became family.

These moments—these are what the Palau Association is really about. Not the impressive logistics of gathering 100,000 people (though that's remarkable), **but the fact that within that crowd, 100,000 individuals are having authentic, life-changing conversations with their Creator.**



I've found myself in tears behind the camera more times than I can count. There's something about witnessing these raw, vulnerable encounters between people and God that cuts straight to your heart. Whether it's a successful entrepreneur in Austin attending SXSW who decided to come into Stubb's BBQ to see what all the commotion was about, or someone who walked miles from the slums in Kenya to the festival grounds to hear the Good News, the hunger is the same. The response is the same. The transformation is equally profound.

These are the images that matter. These are the stories that capture what's really happening when the Palau team shares the Good News around the world. Thousands of individuals walking away renewed from the inside out, ready to impact their families, their communities, their cities, their countries—and yes, God willing, the entire world.

Don't get me wrong—practical needs like food, clothing, and shelter will always be essential. But without the hope and spiritual foundation that comes from knowing Jesus, without the sense of purpose and identity that transforms someone at their core, I believe we're just putting Band-Aids on symptoms instead of healing the disease.

The Palau team understands this. They've dedicated their lives to sharing the one thing that changes everything else. And I'm incredibly blessed to help document their work, to capture these moments of transformation, to tell these stories that matter eternally.

As I pack my camera gear for the next event, I'm already anticipating what God will do. Because I know that somewhere in that crowd of thousands, there will be quiet moments of profound encounter. And I'll be there, ready to capture the heart of God at work, one frame at a time.







Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic



March 2025

A Moment to Remember



By Jorge Scopazzo

Director of Communications
for Latin America

Palau Festival Santo Domingo 2025 became a powerful display of faith and unity, drawing thousands to the heart of the Dominican capital.

However, it was the final night, marked by pouring rain, that left a lasting spiritual imprint.

As the sky opened and rain poured down, many would have expected the crowd to scatter. Instead, they stood firm. Soaked, unmoved, and waiting. In the midst of it, the production team brought out a piano. Under the rain, Ingrid Rosario led worship, her voice rising through the storm in a moment that felt heaven-sent.

Then, Andrew Palau stepped forward. With water running down his face, he delivered a message not dampened by weather:

“You were never created to be alone. And when you receive Jesus, God makes you His child, and you will never be alone again.”

He shared how God rescued him from a life of darkness, one filled with addiction and shame, and called the crowd to surrender their lives to Jesus. Despite the

storm, people stayed. Hands lifted. Eyes closed. Hearts open. Many responded to the invitation and prayed the prayer of faith, choosing hope over despair, life over death.

Even the mayor of Santo Domingo Este, Dio Astacio, came forward, handing Andrew the symbolic key to the city, declaring it “a city of God.”

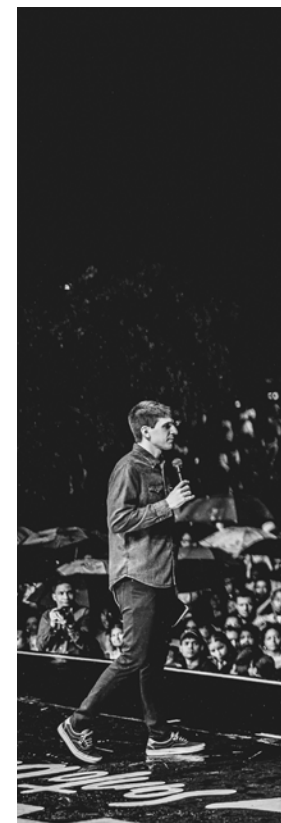
The night ended with music from DJPV, Kike Pavón, and Redimi2, but the true highlight wasn’t a performance. It was a downpour of grace, a holy moment in the rain, where heaven rejoiced over every soul that said yes to Jesus.

Watch the video of
this powerful moment

Scan QR Code →



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Impact Highlights

1,000+
Partnering
Churches

50,000+
Presented with
the Gospel

8
Affinity Events

7,900+
Indicated
Decisions for
Christ

See more
photos from
this event
on Flickr

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Prison Outreach

This is Luz. Her life has been marked by pain—abuse, loss, and heartbreak. She longed to know Jesus but wondered if He heard her cries. But hope broke through. *“There is hope in her story. Though the world brought her so much pain, every tear has been wiped away by Jesus.”* – Wendy



Cadet Outreach

In a meaningful gathering at the National Police Auditorium, 221 cadets came together for a night of encouragement and inspiration.



↘ Sunset at the Festival

More than 50,000 people gathered over two days for live music, action sports, and multiple Gospel presentations. Renowned artists like Redimi2, Ingrid Rosario, and Kike Pavón led the crowd in powerful praise, preparing hearts to hear the message Andrew shared each night.

Something for everyone

The festival included a family fun zone packed with kid-friendly activities. There were also medical services and haircut clinics on site.



The Harvest

By the end of the week of activities, more than 7,900 people said YES to Jesus! Those who raised their hands at the festival received *Made New*, a devotional book written for new believers.

"Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples."

Psalm 96:3



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