



WINNING OUR WORLD

Bringing Hope to People in Need

JANUARY 2011

? NEW YEAR

Dear Friend,

Is there a question mark regarding your New Year? Are you wondering like so many people what kind of a New Year it will be? Will it be joyful, productive and blessed or will it be discouraging, defeating and distressful?

Many people are waiting to see what the economy does or the government or their job, friends, church or even the weather. All of these factors influence our lives but don't determine our lives.

The Bible tells us in 1 Timothy 6:17-20

“Don't put your hope in wealth which is uncertain, but put your hope in God, who richly provides us with everything for our lives. Be rich in good deeds and be generous and willing to share. In this way you will lay up treasures for yourselves as a firm foundation for the coming age, so that you may take hold of the life that is truly life.”

I am not saying that we won't go through difficult times. This past year was very challenging for us. Let me share with you how the last 48 days of 2010 went. Linda had major surgery on her shoulder besides having lost her voice for 3 months, our house was flooded three times, rain got into my car causing a short circuit and burned out the entire electrical system, WOW's income decreased by 37% and at 4am on Christmas Eve morning, my dear 84 year old mother was screaming as she was strapped to a stretcher and rolled down my driveway because dementia took a vicious turn for the worst.

All of this after ministering to 45,400 people that year, feeding 23,808 and seeing 3,175 accept Jesus. Hmmmm God are you on vacation?

I am learning that **it is not what happens to me that will determine the value and significance of my life but it is my response to those things that allow me to “take hold of the life that is truly life”.** Our response as a family was to fill little gift bags with candy and \$5 gift cards and drive around Christmas Eve and Christmas Day looking for people begging on the street corners. Sierra and Coco would jump out and say “Merry Christmas and God Bless you” as they handed them these bags of love. Needless to say, it was one of the best Christmas times as a family.

I have also learned that **how you end something will determine how you start the next thing.** It is little wonder why so many people's new year goes so bad when you see how they ended the previous year on New Year's Eve.

This year, we at WOW partnered with Pastor Ralph Torres and the Pasadena Foursquare church who have been doing a New Year's Eve outreach for 26 years on a Carl's Jr parking lot right on the Rose Parade route where thousands of people are on the street all night. We set up the WOW truck and some tents with free photos, face painting, hot chocolate and a live band doing Motown hits! I-pods were given away every 30 minutes along with singing and dance contests.

A little before midnight, Pastor Brita got on stage and gave the good news about the love of Jesus. People got saved that night and as the clock struck 12:00 we filled the air with thousands of pieces of confetti and the angels filled the heavens with joyful praise celebrating the salvation of people on that cold New Year's Eve night in a parking lot! Oh and by the way, Linda got her voice back and she 'tore it up' when she sang on the truck with a slamming live band!... and God wasn't on vacation, He was there all the time.

No matter how the year went, we ended the year with praising God and bringing the love of Jesus to people in the street and have now set our course as we enter into our 20th year of ministry for 2011. That is to bring the love of Jesus to hurting people whether it be 10,000 people in one day at a WOW JAM or packing little bags of love and driving around with my family blessing people on the street corners.

I am sure many of you experienced even tougher things this past year or perhaps your New Year's Eve wasn't so good, I want to encourage you to put your hope in God, be rich in good deeds, be generous and willing to share so that you will have a firm foundation and take hold of the life that is truly LIFE!

Would you help us reach people that still have a **?** in front of their new year wondering what kind of year it will be? Send in your gift, great or small, and together we can help thousands have a **GODLY NEW YEAR**. Thanks for all of you that support us and for those that we have not heard from for a while, please pray about supporting WOW.

Thank you and have a Godly and blessed New Year!

Stephen Tavani
President/Founder WOW International



P.S. Please note our NEW MAILING ADDRESS which is P.O. Box 6308, Altadena, CA 91003.
To donate, please make your check out to WOW Int'l or go to www.wowjam.com.

P.P.S: **WOW JAM NEW ORLEANS MISSION WEEK!!** It's not too late to sign up! March 18 - 27th 2011. Please visit our website at www.wowjam.com for more details.