

We're back with a devotional and our latest news.



ReIGNITE HOPE™

turning lives around

*Not by bread alone...*

A circular portrait of a man with short grey hair and glasses, wearing a dark blue button-down shirt, set against a light background.

The other day a song came on the radio by the country music super-group Alabama. It is called “The Song of the South” and speaks of the hard economic times that many people living in the south have faced in the past. Now I think I’ve heard that song a few times in the past, but this time there were a couple of lines in particular that kind of stuck with me

*“Somebody told us Wall Street fell, but we were so poor that we couldn’t tell. Mama got sick and daddy got down. The county got the farm and they moved to town.”*

And though that song is about hard times in the south, I couldn’t help but think that there are people everywhere that can relate to what is being said there. For instance, many of our students at Reignite Hope could quite easily sing along with it because the lyrics would very much resonate with their life.

When your economic situation is about as low as it can get, Wall St. is a world away from you and you can’t even tell whether it’s up or down. Much like gasoline prices going up or down doesn’t affect you at all when you don’t even own a car.

And while material poverty is definitely challenging for many of our students, we always keep in mind that there is another kind of poverty that’s even worse--spiritual poverty. The Bible teaches us that spiritual poverty is worse because it alone has eternal consequences. In **Luke 16** Jesus was teaching the people and some of the hypocritical religious leaders, who it says “loved money”, were sneering at Him. So, Jesus told a story of a rich man and a poor man who both

died. The poor man, named Lazarus, had been a beggar lying on the ground at the gate of the rich man's house *"longing to eat what fell from the rich man's table."* Not only were their stations in life quite different, but the places they ended up after dying were also quite different. Jesus said that the rich man ended up in a place of eternal torment and the poor man ended up in eternal paradise. Death had completely reversed their positions.

And the deciding factor had nothing to do with poverty or wealth. It wasn't poverty or wealth that controlled their destiny, it was where they had placed their faith. Lazarus must have had a genuine saving relationship with God, for the Bible teaches that there is no other way to be forgiven from our sins and be saved from judgment.

One had everything except God and the other had nothing except God. And all of us are represented by one of these two men. Some of us will end up where Lazarus is and some of us will end up where the rich man is.

Interestingly, Lazarus' name means "God is my help" and he ended up being the rich one and the rich man ended up being the beggar. However, it is important to understand that the rich man wasn't lost because of his wealth, but because he was more devoted to it than to God. That's why Jesus warns us in **Luke 12:21** —*"This is how it will be for anyone who stores up treasure for himself but is not rich toward God."*

Thankfully, our ultimate destination isn't linked at all to our net worth. Some of the wealthiest people I know are also very rich toward God. And though many of our students are as bad off as the beggar, Lazarus, we strive every day to help them to end up rich toward God. True wealth is found in Jesus. Both types of poverty are significant, but one is temporal and the other lasts forever.

So, as time marches on, Wall St. may rise or fall, but either way there is safety in Christ and Him alone. Remember, Wall St. doesn't control your destiny. Christ does. Don't look at your circumstances. Look at Christ.

*"Therefore do not be anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear? For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you."* **Matthew 6:31-33**

**Impact Lives! Donate Now.**

# ReIGNITE Hope Brazil Up and Running



## Classes Resume in Brazil

Pictured above is the latest group of students learning to weld at ReIGNITE Hope Brazil.

In 2020, ReIGNITE Hope Brazil opened its doors in Campinas, Brazil. ReIGNITE Hope Brazil is operated by Hope Unlimited, a non-profit that provides residential care, education and vocational training for homeless children living on Brazil's city streets.

More than 500 children have found sanctuary and job training since its founding 16 years ago by the son of an American missionary, Philip Smith. "We want to tell these kids; we believe in you; we believe in you so that you can believe in yourself," says Philip. But what Hope Unlimited has learned is that the combination of shelter and job training only goes so far. Without God, most are just not going to change their behavior, make better choices nor experience real life change.

We are thrilled to partner with Hope Unlimited and know that real life change is happening there. The welding instructor in Brazil also has the gift of evangelism and is currently going to Seminary. As always, in Brazil as in the U.S., our goal is to lead people vocationally toward a career and spiritually toward Christ.



## Mobile Classes Resume

Our Second Mobile class will wrap up in the next few weeks. Volunteers, Dan and Jan Charlin, have faithfully taught, mentored and spiritually fed the students.



Rolling Hills Covenant Church pledges Funds for Second Mobile Training Center

The demand for the mobile training is so great, we were thrilled to hear RHCC would pledge funds for a second trailer, truck and generator. What an answer to prayer. The generosity of RHCC has no bounds!



Pulse Magazine features an article about ReIGNITE Hope, "Sparking Transformation".

We were thrilled to be featured in last month's magazine. To view the full article, click [Pulse](#).

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Thank you for all your faithful prayers and support. Please pray our students realize that true wealth is found in Jesus Christ.

I'll keep you all updated and if you would like to contact me I can be reached by email at [steve@reignitehope.com](mailto:steve@reignitehope.com) or by phone at (310) [847-0593](tel:847-0593). Please let me know if there is any way that I can be praying for you during these challenging days in which we are living.

Love you All,



**ReIGNITE Hope**

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