



# ADVENTURE JOURNAL

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*Living the Adventure Ministries guides the way to a growing relationship with Jesus through mission experiences.*

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## Connect to Living the Adventure Ministries

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### Exciting News: Basecamp

Exciting News!! In January, the Lord placed in front of Living the Adventure Ministries a new ministry opportunity. In the past several months and year, we have been praying about the next steps and future development of our ministry. You may remember that we presented a new Mission Statement in 2025: [Living the Adventure Ministries guides the way to a growing relationship with Jesus through mission experiences.](#) In 2025, we placed our focus more on reinvigorating our mission opportunities. In 2026, our mission ministry is once again growing with our mission opportunities in Jamaica.

As we met for our annual meeting in January, I brought to the Board of Director's attention the first part of our mission statement: we are guiding the way to a growing relationship with Jesus. It is vitally important for us to not only introduce people to Jesus and be part of the new birth experience; we want to be part of the ongoing growth and maturity of disciples of Jesus Christ. We seek to support local churches in their ongoing discipleship ministries. We seek to support Christian ashram directors and camp directors to provide discipleship opportunities. Yet we sensed God had something more for us.

In January, a storefront on Main Street in Albion, Illinois was placed on the real estate market. In a recent experience of being near this building, I silently prayed, "Lord, if this building would ever come available for purchase—I would be tempted." Call it a strange prayer if you wish, but just a few weeks later it was on the market. Through prayer, a conversation with the Board of Directors and our bank, and the church that was selling the building, we sensed the Holy Spirit's leadership to purchase 20 West Main Street in Albion. On April 13, we closed on our new ministry building we will call [Basecamp!](#)

A Basecamp serves as a place to begin the adventure; retool during the adventure; and a place to build community. The Living the Adventure Ministries Basecamp will serve to prepare people spiritually, receive training, support one another, and be sent out into mission. It will also serve as my office and space to counsel and support our local community.

Over the next month, we will be planning Bible studies, prayer times, workshops, and community events for Fall 2026. We cannot see all God will do with this building, but we know as we are obedient each step of the way, God will use this building to proclaim the Gospel and see people growing in their relationship with Jesus.

### Basecamp Updates

The purchase of the Adventure Basecamp in Albion is an amazing opportunity that comes with a deeper level of faith for our ministry. As we look toward creating space for people to grow in relationship with Jesus, we will need additional resources. We will be providing a wish list in next month's Adventure Journal for items and needs we will have at Basecamp. Also, we will be posting updates on Facebook over the next few weeks as we give tours of the building.

We are grateful for your support and love for Living the Adventure Ministries. We are always amazed at how God works and look forward to Basecamp becoming Holy Ground for people to grow in relationship with Jesus.

### Mission Opportunities

We are excited that God is opening doors for our mission ministry in this new year. On July 20-28 we have another mission opportunity in Jamaica. We will be working at a local school, leading Vacation Bible School activities, doing minor construction and painting, and engaging with the youth who are in the area.

Then, on August 7-August 22 we will be traveling to Malawi, Africa, where we will lead a Christian Ashram for couples and families. We will also lead seminars on leadership and discipleship. Finally, we will check on our microcredit ministries.

If you would be interested in receiving more information, please contact me ([matt@livingtheadventure.net](mailto:matt@livingtheadventure.net) or 618-830-6670).

## *The Christ of Every Road:*

### **Courage**

*(This is part three in a series on the book [The Christ of Every Road](#) by E. Stanley Jones. To see the other parts of the series go to [livingtheadventure.net](#) and look under Updates at the bottom of the page. If you would like to receive the weekly devotion through our Guide Email, you can sign-up at the top of our homepage.)*

Changes in our lives, new opportunities, and invitations to move outside our comfort zones naturally bring some forms of anxiety and fear. We are people who like comfort and normal for our lives. Even if there is something we can experience that will be overall better for our lives, we tend to remain in comfort. When we feel we have some level of control in the situation, we may be willing to move toward the change or newness; whereas, when the situation is forced upon us, we tend to experience a greater level of discomfort.

In last week's devotion, we talked about the disciples seeking stability amid the death and resurrection of Jesus. They were out of sorts and could not see toward the future. They were thinking, "What do we do now?"

After the death of Moses, Joshua faced similar emotions as he was placed in leadership over the Israelite people who had been traveling for forty years to the Promised Land. Joshua knew the people were a stiff-necked people and he, as one of two spies who brought a compelling, positive message of being able to overcome the Canaanites and yet was ignored, knew most of the people were easily swayed when uncertainty was involved. As Joshua was placed in leadership, the Lord spoke to Joshua, "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go" (Joshua 1:9).

Courage is the key to overcoming fear. In a small group of youth, I was discussing courage with them. One of the young men defined the opposite of courage as "cowardice." I was caught off guard because I expected the youth's answer would be "fear." I asked for further conversation and one of the young ladies stated, "Fear is found in all situations. Courage overcomes the fear, while cowardice bends to the fear." It is true. We face fear either with courage to overcome the fear or we give into the fear, allowing it to control our lives.

In *The Christ of Every Road: A Study in Pentecost*, E. Stanley Jones writes, "Again and again I have said that if I had one gift to give to myself and to the church, I would give the gift of courage...I have come to believe that courage is a by-product of something deeper. The reason we fear is that we haven't sufficient inner resources to meet life. Life with its demands is too great for us. We lose our moral nerve. It is useless to try to get rid of that fear by saying there is nothing to be afraid of" (43).

Brother Stanley continues as he once again references the disciples behind closed doors: "There was only one way to get them out and that was to raise the tone of the inner life so that they were inwardly a match for outer circumstances. Pentecost gave them that inner adequacy" (44).

Courage is not conjured up from our own power. Courage is truly a gift of the Holy Spirit active in our lives. When we try to overcome our fear alone and in our own power, we will continue to battle the fear. When the Holy Spirit gives us the inner adequacy to defeat the outer circumstances, giving us a new worldview and perspective on the situation, the battle will be won, and the enemy of overwhelming fear will be defeated.

As we continue our journey toward Pentecost, I invite you to share with God in prayer your fears and those areas of your life where you need courage. Pray for the Holy Spirit to give you the inner adequacy to face the outer circumstances.

**Prayer: Lord, when I experience fear, I pray you will give me courage to face the fear. I no longer want to live in cowardice. I want to be strong and courageous. In Jesus' name. Amen.**

### **Book Recommendation**

During the time between Easter and Pentecost, the Guide weekly devotion is focused on E. Stanley Jones' book, *The Christ of Every Road: A Study in Pentecost*. In this book, Brother Stanley challenges the reader to consider how the Holy Spirit is at work in the life of the church and the people who make up the church.

*The Christ of Every Road*, originally published in 1930, was a book placed upon the heart of E. Stanley Jones during his quiet times when he was traveling in South America. When he returned to the United States, the publishers requested he write a book on Pentecost in celebration of the nineteenth hundredth anniversary of Pentecost. Brother Stanley writes in the Introduction: "When the gift of the quiet hours and the request of the publishers spoke the same thing the combination seemed a compulsion" (15).

Brother Stanley invites the reader to consider how Pentecost and the Holy Spirit invade each area of their life. Bishop Bruce R. Ough in his Foreword for the book, writes, "*The Christ of Every Road: A Study in Pentecost*, first published in 1930, was and remains E. Stanley Jones' cry from the back of the room that the Holy Spirit must be at the center of the Christian life if we are to experience and bear witness to the universality of God's love and grace in Jesus Christ" (9).

As we continue in this season leading up to Pentecost, I recommend this great book, though nearly 100 years old, to your reading because it is as pertinent to our lives today as it was when it was originally published. You can purchase this book on Amazon.

### **Upcoming Events**

May 18-June 2 India Trip  
June 13-17 Texas Christian Ashram  
June 28-July 3 Redwood Christian Ashram  
July 13-16 Bridgewater Christian Ashram  
July 20-28 Jamaica Mission Trip  
August 7-22 Malawi Mission Trip

### **Haitian Art**

We have new Haitian Art for sale including pottery and metal bowls. These items can be purchased at our office (652 Illinois Route 15, Albion, IL) during normal business hours. Or, you can contact Matt to set up a time to shop (618-830-6670).

Each purchase supports our ongoing mission work in Haiti and around the world.