

# RESTORATION PROJECT COSTA RICA

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## Featured Picture



**Harvesting cacao pods from an Indigenous cacao farm**



**Video from an Inside look at Indigenous Cacao Farmers in Costa Rica**



**CRUCIFIED  
LIFE  
MINISTRIES**  
proclaiming restoration to the lost sheep

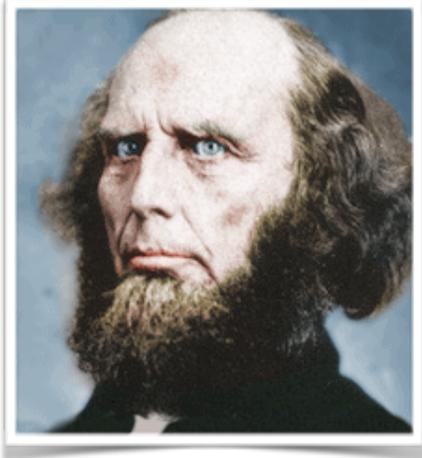
## Latest Happenings

After two months of friends visiting my family and I in Costa Rica, things have somewhat returned to normal. I'm not really sure if there is a such thing as normal in Costa Rica though. LOL I'm still doing lots of running here and there trying to get things nailed down with Captains Cocoa Co., before the end of the year, and it has been a very busy and frustrating task.

As of late, I've been visiting different Indigenous cacao farms sitting down with the owners to finalize plans on how we are going to move forward together with our cacao projects. At the same time, analyzing what needs these families have in order to see how I can help them. I'm very excited and so are the Indigenous. One Indigenous friend recently came to my house telling me that the company that buys cacao from them is paying a price that is even worse



## Quote of the Month



*“Prevailing prayer is that which secures an answer. Saying prayers is not offering prevailing prayer. The prevalence of prayer does not depend so much on quantity as on quality.”*

— Charles Grandison Finney

than before. It’s ridiculous and a slap in the face how much this company is oppressing the cacao farmers. This company realizes the Indigenous can’t do a thing about the low price. This is where Captains Cocoa Co. comes into play. This other company is an association set up to supposedly help Indigenous cacao farmers. Honestly its a joke, and I find it very offensive. They buy thousands and thousands of pounds of cacao for pennies on the dollar every few weeks and sell it to places like Sweden, Switzerland, and Belgium just to name a few, and make big bucks off it. Captains isn’t able to compete with that size of a company and that really isn’t our goal.

We are offering the Indigenous a price four times that of the other company. It isn’t about stealing their customers but hopefully it will cause the other company to raise their prices in order to give the Indigenous a price that they deserve. It’s a win win situation for the Indigenous. It’s about doing the Word through acts of justice and righteousness and everyone of you can be apart of that. Please follow us on Facebook and Instagram @captainscocoa to find out how you can play a part in what the Creator of the Universe is doing in the Costa Rican jungle through this project. As I always say, it’s a business doing ministry and not a ministry doing business!

We are very close to our international HRTWAM teen camp in January 17-27, 2019. We’ve confirmed everyone and are ready to go. This is one of the most unique camps out there for many reasons but as I mentioned earlier about the Indigenous, this camp also focuses on doing acts of justice and righteousness instead of sitting around and talking about justice and righteousness. Blessings.

*Joel Sanchez Director & Founder of C.L.M.*

## Featured Article of the Month

**If you make disciples, you will always get the church. But if you try to build the church, you will rarely get disciples.**

The word church there refers to the body or assembly of Y'shua and not brick and mortar. In many cases, things don't go wrong, they start out wrong. Seeds of failure and destruction are sown in the beginning. This is why it's very important to start out with the proper foundation and having Y'shua the Messiah as the chief cornerstone.

Many people who occupy seats in church buildings and living rooms of Hebrew Roots fellowships are feeling unsatisfied and unequipped to accomplish their purpose. There are many reasons as to why, but I believe it's very simple. Many leaders have focused more on converting people to their brand instead of discipling people to look like, act like, talk like, and walk like Y'shua the Messiah.

The other day I was reading megachurch Willow Creek's reveal study which is around ten years old now, and I wasn't surprised what it "revealed". They basically admit all their trendy fancy programs didn't fully work because many of their members were left feeling empty and lacking purpose. This church at one time was the Mercedes Benz of churchianity and pioneered the seeker sensitive mega church movement.

In other words numeric growth doesn't equal spiritual growth. Having the best programs or Parsha studies to put more people in the pews and on the couch doesn't equate to making disciples. We never see that kind of model in the Newer Testament, but it's what is being used today. I believe one of the biggest mistakes we've made in our religious circles is we aren't focused on relationship as it relates to Kingdom missional purpose. This is where discipleship comes into play. We've not been very good at making disciples because it's about how much knowledge we can gain and less about how deeper in our relationship we can go with others and Y'shua. The truth about discipleship is that it's never fashionable or trendy and it's never in style - it's the call to come and die; a long obedience in the same direction. That right there is a turn off for many believers. Part of the reason folks aren't fulfilling their mission is because mission is messy. Mission is work and very humbling without any glory attached to it. It's not temporary but for the long haul and it can't be sustained without discipleship. If we don't have a plan for disciple, then pretty much any missional work you try to do will be unsustainable.

Think about mission as sending people out into a war zone. Discipleship is the boot camp that trains us for the front lines but it's also a medical clinic when we get wounded where we can rest and recuperate for the next battle. If we don't disciple folks the way Y'shua did in the Newer Testament, we are practically sending them out to battle without training, armor, and weapons. This lack of true discipleship has caused folks to burn out, get offended, quit the church and Hebrew Roots movement, and most of all feel used and abused.



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## Donate to the Work

Crucified Life Ministries has been serving in Central America for over twelve years. C.L.M. is an independent ministry that is approximately 80-90% self funded. If you would like to make a tax deductible contribution to the work in Costa Rica or become a monthly supporter of the ministry, please [click here](#) for details. Your donations are greatly appreciated and go to serving and building the Kingdom of the God of Israel throughout Costa Rica. May the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob bless you, keep you, and make His face to shine upon you in all you do.

I'm not trying to be totally negative here, but the missional movement is going to fail if our discussion about mission is deprived of discipleship. We have to start making missionaries out of disciples and if we don't then the missional movement will stall and fade into the history books. Any discussions we have about mission must begin with discipleship. We must honestly answer the following questions. Am I a disciple? Do I know how to disciple people who can then disciple others who then disciple others, etc? In other words, is my discipleship plan working? Does our discipleship plan lead all disciple to become missionaries?

Disciples are people who learn to be like Y'shua and learn to do what He could do. Discipleship is the process of becoming who Y'shua would be if He were you. A disciple is someone who has a life and ministry that looks more and more like the life and ministry of Y'shua. Showing up to a church service, Torah study, having a quiet time, tithing, and volunteering don't automatically make you a disciple. These things are good but it wasn't the kind of "fruit" that Y'shua referred to in John 15 when He talked about being fruitful.

Here is the measuring stick of discipleship. Look at Y'shua's life, the life of the disciples, the life of the early assembly, and what they were able to produce with their fruit and then look at ours and compare. Are we a book of Acts assembly today? Does our lives compare to the lives and ministry of the first century assembly?

Most communities do have some kind of plan for discipleship but I'm not convinced that these plans are working. The fruit in our lives reveals the root of our lives, and if we are creating disciples who are different than the people in Scripture, we must ask why and how we can change that.

I can't give you a three step process to making disciples because many factors are at play. What I can tell you is if you truly want to grow, you must start to make disciples that can reproduce themselves. When this happens we can start to multiply and impact our society like the first century believers did when they spread the gospel literally taking over the Roman Empire. Blessings.