

# Campus Chronicles

## Getting To Know Veronica Mason

By Robin Pepper

She was born in the city of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in one of the most violent, slums of that city. Veronica grew up in a semi-Christian family. Besides, her parents broken marriage, she had to deal with violence, crime, prostitution, and drug trafficking outside of her gate. "Every day was a new battle at school."

"Meanwhile, my family was still very dysfunctional, but God was working in my heart and I found people outside of my family to support me that helped me to make good decisions." After completing high school, Veronica went to Youth with a Mission (YWAM). God told her to go and she obeyed. Her desire to know God more was stronger than leaving her family behind. "God started to bring healing, acceptance, love and forgiveness inside of my broken heart."

Her first experience in missions was in 2000. She also spent time with YWAM working in an orphanage for children with HIV/AIDS. God started challenging Veronica more and she was invited to go to South Africa, where God opened the opportunity to do more community development, prison ministry and church planting.

While working with YWAM, Veronica met and married Ron Mason. In 2008,



Veronica followed her husband back to the States, where she was to meet her new family for the first time. Veronica and Ron both had the desire to study more and prepare effectively for the ministry God was calling them. They enrolled at EPIC Bible College ready to take this new challenge. Later in 2010, God blessed them with their first baby, Hadassah.

Veronica supports a ministry in Brazil called Vida Nova - New Life. It helps teenagers through their pregnancy and disciples them toward good choices for themselves and their unborn child. Veronica has completed her Associates degree and is working toward her Bachelor of Arts—pursuing God's best for her life.



Throughout May, Veronica is collecting new and gently used baby items (up to two years old) for Vida Nova (New Life) in Brazil. This program helps pregnant teens in at risk situations.

To donate, contact Veronica Mason at 916-271-9329. Monetary donations are also welcome. Visit the ministry website: [vidanovafortaleza.blogspot.com](http://vidanovafortaleza.blogspot.com)

## *Found Hope*

*By Alexandra Edith Renkvist*

There once was a girl. Little hope did she have. For her, the sun never came up, and the moon was always too shy to show. The stars she once knew were hidden by mountains, and the clouds hid the colored sky. The fields once green were brown and dead at sight--no light around, no life around.

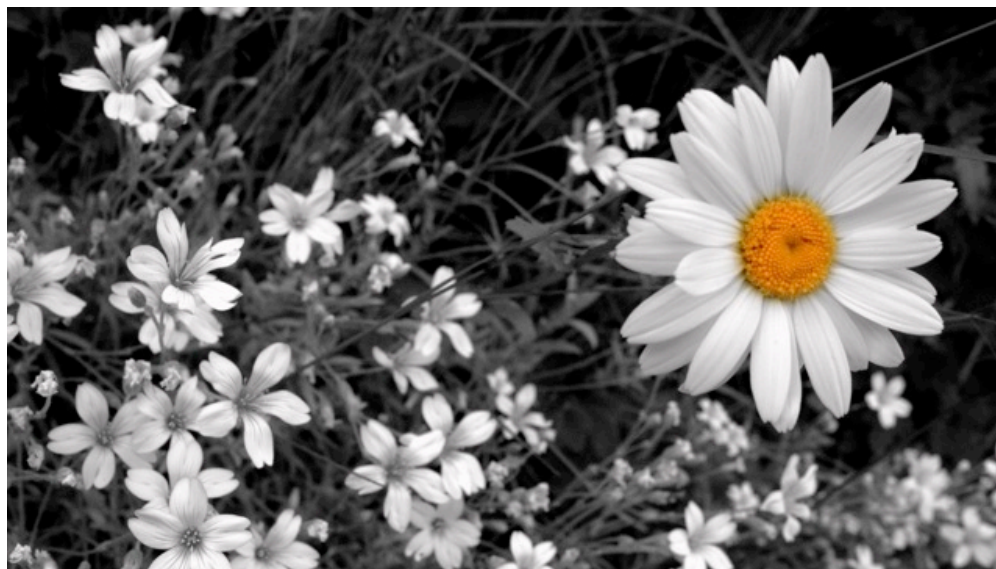
There once was a boy. Little hope did he hold on to. To him, the sun was always too bright, and the moon never stayed long enough. The mountains towered over the stars, and the rain fell too much. The grassy fields he used to walk in had been replaced by gravel: darkness encroached...life was gone.

There once was a girl and a boy. They both saw no light, and life was gone. Darkness existed, and everything was dead in sight. They had little hope to hold onto. What was it like? To have dreams? To have light and life? They forgot. Light was gone... life was gone...

There once was a girl who was all alone. There once was a boy as lonely as could be. No light and no life did they feel. No dreams did they hold. Light had left for darkness, and life had left for death. There was nothing more. All life was gone; all light was gone. Where had hope gone? Everything was still.

A little song started in her heart, and very quietly she started singing, "Give me hope, more hope" and the boy sang, "Give me hope, I need hope." All we need to do is ask: "Rebuild hope; bring us life, and light. Bring us dreams, and grant us life. "We need hope, we want hope- give us hope."

At the sound, the sunbeams shouted for joy, and the moon unencumbered glowed. The flowers sprang up, and the mountains shrank to sand. Hope was here... rebuilding light and life... reviving dreams. Hope was here... hope was sought... hope was answered... hope was found. Always there, it brings light to the darkest of situations... reviving our hearts in the saddest of moments, and encouraging the hardest of minds. This light, this life, this hope... God's hope... it's all we need.





## A LIVING HOPE

By Sonia Kotko

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 15:13 NIV)*

Hope is a depleting asset these days. Many of the institutions and foundations in which people have put their hope in throughout the years, are now failing. It appears that nothing can stand on its own. One such example is the United States government, which is standing on the edge of a shutdown, with millions of people thinking and wondering how their lives will be affected.

We are, however, a people of **GREAT HOPE** because our hope is not based on the foundations and patterns of this world.

The WORD tells of such a hope because our Heavenly Father is the God of Hope. This hope is an **ANTICIPATION** of the ultimate good in each and every circumstance. It is an **EXPECTATION** of a merciful God putting His power in the midst of our circumstance. Our hope is a **CONFIDENCE** that all things WILL work together for our good because we are His children that are called to His plan and purposes. We are here to do His will at all

times, even in times of despair or hardship.

So, let us all begin to demonstrate in our daily lives this great hope we confess. We should demonstrate this belief during these difficult times. With loving compassion and tenderness, join me as a messenger of the belief and trust that our God IS pure hope. Those who trust Him will most certainly overflow with hope that others will see and be drawn to.

So, as you walk in the world today remember, God **IS** Hope and that all things work out for His good. When you sit and watch the news and see all the hurt, pain, and sorrow of the world. Remember, God **IS** in control and these things happen to bring Him glory. He uses each and every circumstance to bring glory, honor and praise to Himself. Amen

So, will you stand and walk with me as living examples of God's Great Hope? All you need to do is put one foot in front of the other. Step! Step! Step! Step out in faith and grab a hold of this hope so that all will see God.

# Pastor Arrested for Reading Bible in Public,

By Lori Arnold

The Christian Examiner - HEMET, Calif.

An evangelism pastor from a Southern California church and two of its members have filed a federal civil rights suit against a California Highway Patrol officer after he arrested one of them for reading the Bible outside a DMV office. The two others were later arrested for trespassing. Mark Mackey, a member of Calvary Chapel Hemet, who was reading from Romans 1 when he was arrested Feb. 2, 2011. The other two plaintiffs, assistant Pastor Brett Coronado and Ed Flores Jr., were later arrested after asking what laws were broken to merit Mackey's arrest.

The entire incident was videotaped, and on April 21 it was posted on YouTube, and shows Mackey standing in the parking lot a few feet from the sidewalks surrounding the entrance to the Department of Motor Vehicles. The trio began sharing the gospel at 8:10 a.m. nearly an hour before the DMV opened.



Mackey read from the Bible for a moment or two when he was approached by a security guard, who told him, "You need to go somewhere else." Mackey said he was going to continue to read. The security guard walked away. At that point, the video is clearly edited for time, but resumes with Mackey still reading from the Bible as a CHP unit arrives in the background. According to the complaint, officer Damen Meyer arrived about 15 minutes after the guard confronted Mackey. In the distance, the officer can be seen talking briefly with the security guard before he approaches Mackey from across the parking lot. When he gets to Mackey he abruptly tells the street evangelist, "You give him the book," as the officer takes the Bible from his hand and gives it to Flores who was standing next to Mackey. "You're under arrest."

With Mackey's hands cuffed behind his back, Meyer begins removing personal property from his pockets. Laughter from the DMV clients can be heard in the background. When asked why he was being arrested, Meyer responded, "You've been asked to leave. You didn't." Later he told Mackey, "You're not allowed to preach here because this is a captive audience."

After placing Mackey in the back of the squad car, he turned to Flores and Coronado, who was taping

Continued on page 5

## Arrest, continued from page 4

part of the exchange. "I'm giving you the option, you can leave," the officer told them.

"Are we breaking the law?" Coronado asked.

"You are if you preach," Meyer responded, prompting Coronado to ask, "For preaching? What law is that?"

Ignoring the question, the officer says, "I'm going to ask you one more time," before turning to the guard and asking if the pair had been preaching. When the guard said no, he got in car, ignoring Coronado's repeated requests to find out which law was being violated. The YouTube posting ends, but off camera, Coronado and Flores are arrested a few minutes later by back-up officers.

All three were taken to the CHP offices where they were handcuffed to a table for about 90 minutes. They were cited for "impeding an open business," although the facility was not open and the men were never closer than 50 feet of any entrance. A spokesman for the Hemet office told a local newspaper that the church members had been warned in the past that they needed a permit to

preach on state property.

"This is an abuse of power on the part of the CHP," advocate Jennifer Monk said. "The arresting officer could find no appropriate penal code to use when arresting these men. The purpose of the arrests appears to have been to censor them."

In the video's introduction, Coronado, the church's evangelism pastor, said the entire episode was surreal. "Its almost seems like it's unreal, that it was staged, but it wasn't," he said. "It's unbelievable that something like this could happen in America today."

Coronado said church members routinely share the gospel in public places around Hemet, such as parks and the courthouse. The DMV, he said, seemed like another effective locale. "We've driven by there many times and [have] seen all the people that congregate there, waiting for the DMV to open every day of the week," Coronado said on the video. "We saw it as an opportunity to share the Scriptures with them."

The video may be viewed at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=FruQO8qaw9](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FruQO8qaw9)

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## *Job Openings*

Mercy Ministries has an opening for a Residential Assistant. The position is part time. Mercy Ministries of America is a Christian residential home for women. This immediate opening is in the Lincoln, California location.

Applicants must have good communication skills, and a valid driver's license. Mercy Ministries will only hire and employ individuals that live a life conducive to Christian principles. Qualified candidates should send: Resume, personal testimony and salary requirement to: Mercy Ministries of America, ATTN: Director of Human Resources, P.O. Box 111060, Nashville, TN 37222 (or) Fax to 615-760-1114 (or) Email to [HRStaffing@mercyminstires.com](mailto:HRStaffing@mercyminstires.com).

Further job requirements are posted on Campus in the student lounge, student mailboxes, library and reception desks.

# Announcements

## EPIC Graduation 2011

Mark your calendar now to attend the 2010 EPIC Bible College Graduation Ceremonies, Saturday, June 11, 2:00 PM at Trinity Life Church, 5225 Hillsdale Blvd, Sacramento, California. Reception following.

## Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to assist with the Graduation Banquet (Friday, June 10) and the Graduation Ceremonies (Saturday, June 11). Please sign up in the reception area to volunteer in the following areas: ushers, serving, set-up, tear-down, and more.

## Penryn Outreach

Penryn Faith Center Foursquare Church will be reaching out to their community on Saturday, June 18. This missionary outreach will include going door-to-door and asking people to share their needs. Plus, there will be lunch on the church grounds and a time of worship.

For more information, log on to [thehealingword.org](http://thehealingword.org) or contact Bubby Wallace at [916-420-2199](tel:916-420-2199).

## 2010-2011 EPIC Bible College Yearbooks

...will be arriving at the end of the Quarter. You can still buy YOUR book. For more information, and to pre-purchase a yearbook, check with the front reception desk.



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