



**A Spiritual Encouragement Message
December 15, 2020**

“In Loving Memory of Stan Curtis Stout”

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The following information I learned from Stan himself and from his book, “Stout’s History with The City Of Children.” I am honoring the memory of Stan Curtis Stout, he left us to go meet his Maker on Sunday, November 29, of this year 2020, after 81 years of a blessed long life. Stan leaves behind his beloved wife Carole, three biological children, nine biological grandchildren, and two biological great-grandchildren.

No matter what words I use today to honor our beloved brother Stan Stout, I know I will fall short, because of the great measure of a man of God that he was. Also, I am humbly trying to honor his memory, but ironically the honor is mine.

If today I were to write the 11th chapter of the epistle to the Hebrews with my own present experiences within the church, it would read something like the following.

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the people of old received their commendation. By faith, we understand that the universe was created by the word of God so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible. By faith, Stan obeyed when he was called to go out to a place in a foreign country, with a foreign language. And he went out not knowing what to expect, not knowing the language, not knowing anybody. By faith, Stan left his very successful job as President of a venture capital company, leaving behind a really substantial income, sold his comfortable home in Yorba Linda, California, and sold his 33-foot boat. By faith, he went to live in Mexico for a quarter of a century. For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God. By faith, Carole herself went with him and together they upgraded and built an Orphanage in Ensenada with a capacity for 125 kids, called The City of Children. They have been donors and supporters of that work since its beginning. Back in 1978, Stan was asked to serve as a member of the board of Trustees and that is when they started visiting the home regularly in the early eighties. By faith, they

received and raised about a thousand kids during their time there; they baptized about 620 of them from 1987 to 2009. By faith, Stan also started building buildings and planting churches throughout Baja, with the help of the churches of Christ so those kids would have a church to call home when their time came to leave the orphanage. That resulted in hundreds and hundreds of conversions for the Lord throughout Baja. By faith, Stan and Carole started what today is called Baja Missions, and they left the snowball rolling and growing, now they even have clinics in the most rural places run by their successors to assist the poorest of the poor with their medical needs. By faith, Stan and Carole received those orphans, raised them in love as their own, taught them the gospel, and gave them professional careers preparing them for life. Some were even sent to study in Universities of the church in the United States, like Lipscomb and Pepperdine to name a couple.

By faith, Stan and Carole turned many hundreds of lives around for Christ.

That is the Hebrews 11 I got to experience knowing Stan and Carole.

I met Stan and Carole back in 2001, through Arturo & Maguie, two of the kids they raised in Ensenada. I later invited Stan to Johnson Avenue Church of Christ and asked my best friend, Dillard Harwell, to help me invite him and make him feel welcome, to come worship with us. So I gave Stan's number to Dillard and they became the best of friends. The Lord later called Dillard a year earlier than Stan. Stan with his experience and wisdom served as an elder at Johnson Avenue for more than 3 years, then he stepped down to make time to visit the churches he and Carole planted years back. Stan was a tireless faithful worker for the Lord. In his early years, about 40 years ago, Stan was a very successful financial management consultant and as I said, he left his job, sold his house, his boat, and every possession he owned to go live out his favorite verse. "Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me" Mark 9:37.

What do you do with your "favorite verse"? Some people memorize it, others put it on their wall, others just highlight it in their Bibles. Our beloved brother Stan left a great legacy and a huge example of how to truly live the Christian life and walk as Jesus walked. The angels in Heaven must be in a line to take a selfie with Papa Gordo.

I want to thank The City of Children staff and Baja Missions staff for continuing his work for the Lord. We will miss Stan greatly, but he was ready to go receive his great reward.