


# SHARING *Hope* THROUGH HARDSHIP

## *May* **Match** *Ministry Multiplied*



Your love and prayers sent two times the ministry, two times the smiles, and two times the praise to Jesus when these adorable twins each got a custom-fitted wheelchair!



# May Match

Ministry Multiplied



Four generations experienced a double miracle when Renatta and Melany's mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother saw the tangible love of Jesus alongside them at our *Wheels for the World* outreach!

It's one thing to endure life with a disability in a developing nation... it's quite another when there's "double the disability." Renatta and Melany are five-year-old twins who struggle with developmental delays, microcephaly, and hip dislocations. And just 15 days after their premature birth, they required heart surgery. Given the impoverished part of Mexico in which they live, scraping together enough money for all their medical expenses wasn't easy.

Over the past five years there have been countless follow-up visits to the hospital, and the only way the twins could be transported was in a double stroller designed for infants. But Renatta and Melany are no longer infants. Their bodies are growing and so is their need for independence. Yet while their parents labor to keep food on the table, their income would never be enough to afford even one wheelchair for their girls, let alone two!

Your love and ministry partnership brought Renatta, Melany, and their whole family out of darkness and despair, giving them a future full of hope. When the twins' mother, Paulina, heard that our *Wheels for the World* team would be holding a wheelchair distribution in Guadalajara, she packed up her girls in their worn-out infant stroller and headed our way.



Renatta and Melany had completely outgrown their infant stroller. With their feet dragging on the ground and hitting the wheels, it had become dangerous.



“Sometimes the burden is too big,” explains Paulina. “But I never lost hope. I prayed to God...” And Jesus answered Paulina’s brokenhearted pleas through *Wheels for the World* and your generosity.

Paulina brought her mother and grandmother with her when she brought the twins to our *Wheels for the World* outreach, and four generations experienced a double blessing when little Renatta and Melany received not just one wheelchair, but two! Each girl got her very own wheelchair! Double the disability became double the miracle that day—*through you!*

“My grandma cried a lot because she was so happy. And I was very, very happy, too,” says Paulina. “That’s why I was crying so hard.”

“Joni and Friends treated my girls with love and care,” says Paulina. “Now they can be like regular girls!”

God used your steadfast prayers and sacrificial gifts to send Renatta and Melany not just one wheelchair, but two! And best of all, you sent their whole family the Gospel and gave them Bibles in their own language! When Paulina talks about the blessings of Joni and Friends, she’s talking about *you!*



Our *Wheels for the World* team made sure these beautiful twins had all the posture support and safety features needed so they can thrive in their new wheelchairs!

“You made my dream come true! My girls have their own wheelchairs, and I am very grateful. God bless you all!”  
says Paulina.



Thanks to your love and generosity, Renatta and Melany can now fully interact with the world and experience greater independence!



# “Praise be to the Lord, to God our Savior, who daily bears our burdens. Our God is a God who saves.”

Psalm 68:19-20

Praise be to the Lord who daily bears the burdens of Renatta and Melany! It's in the nature of our *Wheels for the World* teams to be generous—just like you—and so two perfect little wheelchairs were provided to these adorable twins! Ministry is being multiplied in Renatta and Melany's lives, and it can happen for countless other families, too, through your generosity and faithfulness today!

In the month of May, you can lift the burdens of families struggling with disability all over the world and *double your impact* through our May Match Initiative! Today, right when we need it most, some dear friends who *love* children and families living with disability have offered to match every dollar you give to Joni and Friends this month. Now is the time, like never before, to reach out to the world's neediest population—people like Renatta and Melany in Mexico—and send them the hope of Jesus in the midst of their unimaginable hardships.

This month, every gift given will be matched. \$50 becomes \$100, and \$100 is doubled to \$200! That's right! Your gift will be doubled and your ministry reach will be multiplied exponentially...

sending practical help and the love of Jesus to disabled children and adults worldwide!

The glowing smiles on these precious five-year-olds make my day! Just look at them, sitting upright in their sturdy, well-fitted wheelchairs while their family beams over such an abundant gift! These girls received their wheelchairs in the nick of time—they had completely outgrown that infant stroller! You provided two times the ministry, two times the smiles, and two times the praise to our wonderful Savior, Jesus!

I am doubly grateful because you made this extraordinary gift possible. I'm asking God to continue to encourage your heart and fit you for kingdom service, to keep you healthy and spiritually strong. Join us in providing mobility, dignity, and the hope of eternity to those who have been neglected by their community and feel forgotten by God. *Let them know that they have not been forgotten and that nothing is impossible with Christ!* Thank you for being our prayer warriors, our faithful givers, and partners in times such as these.

Thank you for giving Renatta, Melany, and their parents new hope for a bright future!





# Children with Disabilities Need Jesus *And They Need You!*



Ministry is multiplied  
and hope is found at our  
*Retreats & Getaways!*

Today, through our May Match opportunity, your gift will send wheelchairs through *Wheels for the World*, medical supplies and therapies through *Joni's House*, and community in the body of Christ through our *Retreats & Getaways*. And it's all wrapped in the Gospel!

Whether it's across the ocean or right here at home, families living with disabilities share one primary need for the only true hope that can carry them into eternity. **They need Jesus, which is why the Gospel is at the heart of everything we do**—here in the United States and all over the world.

When you give to your local Joni and Friends ministry through our May Match opportunity, your gift will be doubled, bringing the love and hope of Jesus to twice as many children and adults struggling under the strain of disability.

Let God use your act of faithfulness today to multiply ministry in the lives of more and more families through all our Christ-centered programs here and abroad!

You have my joyful promise that your gift today will introduce thousands of poor and needy families to Jesus through *all* the ministry programs at Joni and Friends with this Matching Gift opportunity. Let me hear from you today, because we cannot reach more children and families living with disabilities without you. We need *you* to step out in faith and stand in the gap with us today!

For those who desperately need Jesus,