

Shine the *Light* of Christ this Christmas!



Melvin and his mother Ruth both had their legs amputated. But God had a plan to shine the light of Christ in their family *through you!*

“The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness has not overcome it.”

JOHN 1:5

from the heart

“It is more blessed
to give than to receive.”

ACTS 20:35

Being a quadriplegic makes me feel exposed and vulnerable. It requires taking risky steps of faith every day. But I know I can trust God with my life. Deuteronomy 33, verse 27 says that God is my refuge, and underneath are His everlasting arms. He cannot drop me. He will take care of me. He will never fail me. And it is this happy confidence in God and His everlasting arms that makes me want to be like Him... generous, open-handed, and bighearted!

So, I'm happy to give whatever I can to Christ's kingdom-work. It fills me with joy. And when I give generously in light of my own financial needs, I hold onto Luke 6, verse 38. “Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.” If I give selflessly, God promises to bless me with more joy and satisfaction. His everlasting arms will catch me, so seek first His kingdom and righteousness, Jesus says in Matthew 6:33, and all these things—all the medical supplies, food and clothing, caregiving costs and insurance premiums—all these things will be added to me in time.

With such reassuring words from Jesus, I'm not going to worry about spending too much time or giving too much, because all of it (time, treasure, talent)... these are all gifts from God. We are people of John 3:16: “For God so loved the world that he *gave*...” It is God's character to give and give generously. We see this in Romans 8:32, “He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things?”

Now, if God had only given us his Son, Jesus, that would've been more than enough. But along with Jesus, God graciously gives us family and friends, sun and rain, and moon and stars, a home in heaven and a grand mission on earth—to generously give the Gospel that saves. Look, I am without a doubt, the most blessed quadriplegic in the world. I'm sitting up in a wheelchair while millions of disabled people worldwide wish they had one. I have a husband who stands by me (in developing nations, most women who become disabled are abandoned). I have a fulfilling job (sadly, most people like me will never land a job). And I'm blessed because I know Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior while most of the world's 1.3 billion people with disabilities have yet to hear His Name.



God has filled my life with Christ's light as I share His love with others. And, friend, He will do the same for you!

And so, I am more than willing to sacrifice my time and my treasure on behalf of people with disabilities—those who would give anything to have a caregiver, disabled people who have never heard the Gospel, and children with disabilities who crawl in the dirt for lack of a wheelchair. It's why I'm always asking my friends—friends like you—to join me in this glorious Gospel-cause. Be generous for the sake of the disabled, but more so... for *your* sake. I'm asking you to join me for *your benefit*. Because from God's point of view, generosity profits the giver more than the recipient.

When you give to Christ and His work, you are expressing your love for Him and it unites your heart to Him. *It changes you*. Our human nature is to be selfish, tightfisted, and fearful to give away anything we might need—but an unselfish giver has the character of Christ.

That's why I refuse to be tightfisted, selfish, and fearful about the future. I will trust in God's everlasting arms. Because generosity always results in a roomy soul that overflows with joy. And the confidence that it is God who has graciously given you all things, including His Son.

Jesus Shines

Light in the Darkness Through You

When Ruth lies awake at night, she prays... “Lord, help me put a meal on the table so my children won’t go to bed hungry. God, help me keep a roof over their heads.”

Ruth has always turned to Jesus when shame, rejection, and hardship press in. At age thirteen Ruth had both of her legs amputated due to a genetic condition affecting her hands and legs. But her determined spirit stayed strong. Ruth has always trusted God to see her through.

When her sons, Victor and Melvin, were born with the same disability as Ruth, new struggles emerged. But, as Ruth says, she is dedicated to raising her three children—including her daughter Diana, who does not have disabilities—in a loving Christian home.

Despite financial pressures, hectic days, and unsteady work opportunities, Ruth remains committed to Jesus and to her children, drawing strength from God.

“Being in a family with disabilities has not been easy at all,” says Ruth. “Sometimes I go without my diabetes medication so I can feed them. And I have gone into debt because I can’t afford to pay the rent. But I trust God. He gives me the strength to keep on going. I know He will not forsake us.”

Parenting has demanded deep sacrifices for Ruth. Melvin’s disabilities prevent him from attending their local school, so Ruth has had to pay for private school tuition and transportation. To afford this, she used a broken-down wheelchair for years, saving the money she could have used for a newer wheelchair to send her children to school.



For Ruth, receiving a new, properly fitted wheelchair from Joni and Friends means that life will improve greatly—for her and her children. But even more than renewed dignity, easier

workdays, and greater access to her community, Ruth overflows with joy and thanksgiving for the gift you sent Melvin.

“As a parent, you come to a point where you sacrifice yourself for your children,” Ruth says. “And being disabled with my kids has been the toughest moment in my life.”

Ruth and Melvin came to our *Wheels for the World*® distribution in hopes of receiving two wheelchairs—one for each of them. In addition to custom-fitted wheelchairs, they also received Gospel bracelets and Bibles!



When we first met Melvin, he didn't smile much—that is, until one of our team members brought out balls to play with. Noting how his face changed, one of our physical therapists asked Melvin if he liked sports. He quickly answered, "Yes!" Melvin loves volleyball, basketball, soccer, and karate.

We custom-fit Melvin with a specialized sports wheelchair. And when we showed him a video of paralympic volleyball, Melvin's eyes danced with delight—his whole face shining brightly. At nine years old, Melvin has the energy and coordination of an athlete. He moves with skill, as if he'd always had a special sports wheelchair.

Talking about Melvin, Ruth swells with pride.

"He's a good boy," Ruth says proudly. "Personally, he is supportive to me. When we are left at home alone, Melvin helps me. He brings me things and will come to my room and say, 'Mama, are you okay?' 'Mama, do you need something?' 'Why are you so quiet?' He's a jovial, happy kid. I am grateful to God that now Melvin has a good wheelchair that he can do sports with. I really love to see him happy."

Thank you for shining the light of Christ into places of darkness and pain—all for the glory of the Savior we celebrate!

"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

JOHN 8:12





Before saying goodbye to our *Wheels for the World* team, Melvin took command of his new wheelchair—playing catch with his seating therapist and flourishing in his newly found independence.

In a world that misunderstands disability as a curse, Ruth and her children shine the light of Jesus through their hope and trust in Christ.

“We have to prove society wrong,” says Ruth. “So many people laugh at us. People talk ill about us. We are cast out and people think it’s a misfortune to be the way we are. But I’m grateful to God and I never regret. I never complain. I know God loves us so much. And our disability has never been inability. I have taught my kids how to love each other and appreciate what we can do.”

“Melvin appreciates the way he is, just the way he is,” continues Ruth. “There is no time that boy has wished to be someone else. He has never experienced a life where he had legs. So, he’s comfortable. He’s okay.”

Ruth sends her heartfelt thanks to you for sending new hope to her family through two custom-fitted wheelchairs, delivered with the love of Jesus.

“Thank you, Joni and Friends, for coming through for this family,” says Ruth. “May God bless you so much!”

Thank you for shining the light of Christ to families struggling with disability this season and all year round! You are carrying out the call Jesus gives to His followers in Matthew 5:14–16:

“You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”



Like Melvin, Ruth enjoys increased independence because of the wheelchair you sent her. Truly, Jesus has shined His light into their lives through you!

How are you preparing for Christmas?

Are you planning a festive menu, writing cards, or shopping for friends and loved ones? Amid this season's preparations, take a moment with me to prepare your heart for the celebration of our Savior's birth by pondering the promise of John 1:5, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."

Oh friend, what a beautiful truth! Jesus, the Light of the World, entered our darkness to bring us life, hope, and salvation. And this Christmas, you have the opportunity to reflect that light into the lives of people living with disability. Because when you shop with Joni and Friends, every purchase and every donation delivers practical help and lasting hope in the name of Jesus.

Let's shine His light together this season!



Joni



Pediatric Wheelchair

For \$250, you can provide a wheelchair for a child in need.

Your donation sends a hand-delivered, custom-fitted pediatric wheelchair, a Bible, and Gospel hope to a child like Melvin! This is how you put the Gospel-lamp on its stand, giving Christ-light to people struggling with disability, all for the glory of God!

\$250



Advent Scripture Cards

Prepare your heart for the birth of our Savior Jesus.

These elegant Advent cards feature 25 pieces of artwork by Joni Eareckson Tada on one side and hand-selected Scriptures on the other. They are perfect to display in your home, tuck into a card, or deliver to a friend to share the true meaning of Christmas!

\$14.99

“Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.”

MATTHEW 6:33

In Search of the King Christmas Cards

Celebrate the birth of King Jesus.

Joni's stunning new "In Search of the King" Christmas cards feature her "Bethlehem Urn" artwork.

With rich symbology and royal tones of blue and gold, this festive card will encourage your friends and loved ones to seek after Jesus.

- Interior features Matthew 2:10: "When they saw the star, they were overjoyed."
- Interior greeting reads: "May the light of Christ's coming bring joy to you and your loved ones, this season and all year long!"

Each box contains 15 cards and 16 envelopes

\$14 per box



JONI'S 2026 PLANNER

Our 2026 Planner features Joni's radiant "Lighthouse" artwork on the cover, hand-picked Bible verses, and inspirational quotes that highlight God as our Lighthouse and the Light of the World, illuminating the path of every believer with His love.

As Joni says: "Many of my childhood summers were spent tent-camping among the sand dunes lining the Delaware shore. On any night, if we stood on the crest of the big barrier dune by the ocean, we could spot the old lighthouse on Fenwick Island. And then around the campfire, we'd sing 'Let the Lower Lights Keep Burning.'"

My daddy would explain that our Heavenly Father is our Lighthouse and we are His lower lights, marking the channels where it's safe to pass. When I painted the waves, I tried hard to capture the way white foam looks in the sunset when that strange light passes through the curl, giving it an iridescent glow. Every time I see a lighthouse, I think of my earthly daddy and my heavenly one, too."

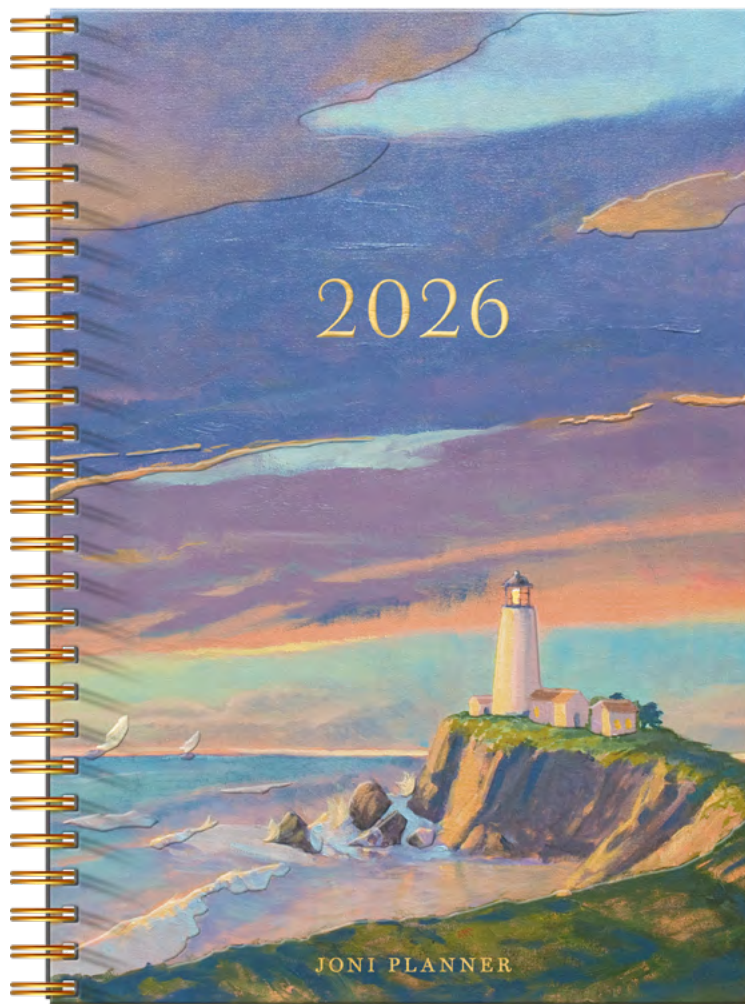
Filled with Joni's stunning artwork, curated Scriptures, and inspiring devotionals Joni's Planner will help you walk closely with Jesus throughout the year—and shine the light of Christ to those around you!

Product Details:

- Size: 6.5" x 9.25"
- 12-month agenda planner
- Chronological Bible Reading Plan
- Gold spiral binding
- Lay-flat design
- Interior 2 pocket pages
- Updated monthly & weekly sections
- High quality paper stock

\$19

*100% of proceeds directly advances
ministry to children and families living with disability.*



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