

## ROSALINA VEGA



Rosalina Vega was born in Panama City, Panama. Her first experience with singing goes back to her days at Juan Diaz elementary school, where it was evident that God had blessed her with a truly special voice. She moved to the United States at age 13 where she learned English by reading the Bible, much to the surprise of many teachers and peers. She was baptized at age 14 and, while she had stopped singing for a short time, began using her voice again to glorify God at a church in East Palo Alto, California. She later attended Oakwood College in Huntsville, Alabama, where she had formal vocal training and obtained an AA degree in nursing.

Rosalina's experience at Oakwood College represented the beginning of a journey in faith. Very poor and without the means to attend college, she prayed for the chance and the Lord opened the door for her. She did not want to rely on loans and had asked for another way. She told the Lord that she would do whatever He asked of her, if she could only be given the opportunity to attend college. It happened. Remembering the experience very well, she said that she was deeply moved by the fact that "God allowed a poor ghetto girl and a foreigner" to achieve her dreams by getting a degree. From that point forward, she says that she always seemed to have a twenty-dollar bill in her pocket and everything she needed was provided for her.

After she graduated Oakwood College, Rosalina did her nursing training at Huntsville Hospital. Then, one day, the Lord spoke to her and said, "this is not where I want you to be." She was not sure about what to do. She moved to California where she took her nursing exam. Many felt that she could not possibly pass the boards, but to their surprise she did. She worked for five years at hospitals in the Sacramento area, during which time she sang whenever it was possible. Then, just as she hoped to further her career, she suffered a back injury and was placed on disability. Once again, she heard the Lord's voice: "this is not where I want you to be." Disabled, she moved to Florida and took the opportunity to complete her B.S. in nursing through a Southern University extension program. She worked hard as a home health nurse, while using her singing voice to praise the Lord. During that time, she sang at events throughout the United States, Jamaica, and Panama.

With her ever-deepening interest in praising the Lord through song, Rosalina ultimately began to pull back from her nursing career. Inspired by the ability of music to open the hearts of many to the gospel message, she began to sing and share God's Word at churches everywhere, while dedicating countless hours to helping the underprivileged and the needy.

Today, Rosalina and her husband, Jose, and her two children, Angel and Angelina, live in the Gainesville, Florida area where they bless many with their music ministry and outreach to the poor. It is their sincere hope that, through its inspired and beautiful music, Rosalina's new album, *He is Here*, will help countless millions to find a true relationship with Jesus Christ. Proceeds from the sale of the album will go toward expanding outreach efforts to the homeless and needy, as well as to health education programs throughout the nation.

