



# **Final Frontiers** Foundation

### Through the funding of national and native preachers, we endeavor to effectively advance the Gospel where it has never been preached before.

The Progress Report is a free, quarterly publication of the Final Frontiers Foundations, Inc. Currently we are ministering in over eighty countries; many of which are closed to foreign missionaries. In other countries, work among the various tribal groups is restricted to national preachers only; thus they are open to us because of our unique method of missions.

We believe that the training and subsidizing of national preachers is the most efficient and effective method of global evangelism. We seek to raise prayer and financial support from believers in the West, for God's servants abroad, who are actively involved in church planting and discipleship.

Selection of those we sponsor is dependent upon their doctrinal beliefs, need, reputation and ministry experience. We support only those who are serving by faith, never those who are waiting for a salary in order to serve. Worldwide, the average preacher in a third-world country needs as little as \$25.00 -\$350.00 each month to support his family and ministry.

All those subsidized through this foundation are involved in church planting. Their various outreach ministries include: Bible translation and distribution, radio and television broadcasting, camps, Bible schools, outdoor and film evangelism, educational and health programs, handicap and leper ministries, orphan and children's ministries, etc. The Foundation receives its funding from individuals, churches, businesses, etc. who choose to support our preachers, projects, or desperate children under the Foundation's oversight; or give general donations allowing the funds to be used where needed.

#### **CURRENT MINISTRIES**

The Progress Report contains articles dedicated to their purposes and providing accountability for those who support those causes are listed on page 23.

#### **EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Final Frontiers**<sup>®</sup> is a non-profit, religious corporation, founded by Jon Nelms in 1987, and is governed by those serving on the Executive Board of Directors: Rev. Jon Nelms (Chairman), Rev. Daniel Nelms (President), Rev. Michael Horne (Secretary/Treasurer), Rev. Tim Schelling, Rev. Don Prosser, Rev. Steve Ware, Rev. Anthony Lamb, and Mrs. Suzanne Raper. Further council is provided by those serving on the National Boards of Advisors.

#### INTERNATIONAL OFFICES/DIRECTORS

International offices are maintained in every country of service for accountability purposes and are staffed by national and regional coordinators. Parallel oversight is provided by our Directors of Expansion. These Directors are staff missionaries who are particularly knowledgeable of their region of the world and are responsible for finding and approving the national preachers who meet our qualifications and are in need of support. Missionaries from various boards often fill these positions for us based upon their knowledge, experience and location on site.

Cover

**Location:** Kherson region of Ukraine Subject: Delivering bread to needy families

The Story: Final Frontiers missionaries in Ukraine, partnering with like-minded churches in the country, take humanitarian aid into bombed-out villages and cities where people are trying to rebuild their lives.

**CONTACT INFORMATION** 

For further information concerning this ministry and its various programs, or to schedule a speaker for your church or mission conference, please contact our home office: Final Frontiers Foundation, 1200 Peachtree St. Louisville, GA 30434 USA, 706-955-4916 or 800-522-4324, webmaster@finalfrontiers.org

#### **LEGAL**

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# **Updates and Encouragement ...**

A few thoughts from Jon Nelms

#### Greetings to all:

Nolin and I have been in Honduras for several months, hosting Visionary Trips, and each week, we see more and more people receive Christ as Savior. Seeing their families attend church and become active members is such a blessing. I have also been blessed beyond words as we are greeted on the street by more and more young adults who "grew up" in our feeding centers and are now rais-



The teacher is on the right in a blue shirt. She came with the children to meet our group and have their meal at our Touch a Life center in Bartolo. We have about 84 children eating here five days a week.

ing their own families and following Christ. Some now work for us on our staff, while others are taxi drivers, bankers, chefs, and store clerks. We just learned that the teacher in the village of Bartolo grew up in our feeding center in Cantarranas, just a few doors down from her home.

"Fruit that remains" is what missions is all about, and we are delighted to see, in our lifetime, the fruit of our labor. And as Paul told his supporters, the fruit we produce "abounds" to our Heavenly account – and yours. We are doing our best to honor Christ and lay up treasures in Heaven for ourselves and for you. Thank you for helping us do so.

We still have another month or so here, and it will be time well spent as I finish another construction project and purchase a power generator for our entire facility. But most important is the witness we leave and the souls that accept Christ. Today is the last day for one group, and they ended it by delivering food bags to fifty malnourished and undernourished youths. We are leaving a witness and making friends every day that will blossom into more fruit for the gardens of Heaven. Keep us in your prayers.

By the way, we have had constant vehicle problems this summer. Multiple flat tires, bumpers falling off cars, brakes going out completely, radiator problems, etc. We have a 16-year-old Mitsubishi truck and a Ford 350 van left over from either World War I or II. (Or maybe it was the Civil War, it's hard to say.) So, if you have any cash burning a hole in your pocket and don't mind, please send it in as an offering to help me get more reliable equipment. We keep getting stranded at the most out-of-the-way, inhospitable places. But hey, it's a mission trip, so we praise God for it – and for you.

Jon and Nolin Nelms

### **More News from Final Frontiers**



#### **Uganda Blessings**

Our director in Kenya traveled to Uganda in April to visit with preachers there who are supported by our Great Commission Fund. Scan this code to read this very indepth article, which includes many photos and videos, posted on our news site, www.missions.world.



····· www.missions.world





## In the Aftermath of an Earthquake

# An Islamic Man Asks to Read a Bible and Comes to Christ

**Editor's Note:** This account comes from one of our preachers in the Middle East.

Greetings to all of you in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, who saved us and called us to proclaim the gospel message to everyone seeking the truth and trying to find answers.

Thank you all for standing with us in all the trials and tribulations we have gone through in the past years. Our life circumstances were not easy, and they will never be easy, but God's call didn't change despite our circumstances and conditions. Therefore, I would like to give thanks to God for Final Frontiers Foundation for making every possible sacrifice so that we could continue our mission and ministry despite all the circumstances surrounding us.

About two months ago, we were exposed to a natural disaster, a devastating earthquake that caused death for thousands of lives and destroyed tens of thousands of homes. After the end of the Sunday evening service, I said goodbye to our beloved church members, not knowing that it would be my last farewell to some families. Early Monday morning, I woke up to strong tremors hitting our house. Then I heard the sounds of falling buildings near us. At first, I thought they were explosions from the war that was going on in our country. Still, when I opened the window and heard people screaming the word "earthquake" as they were running away from their houses, I thanked God for saving me. As I began to realize what had happened, at that exact moment, my phone started ringing. Brother Abo Rahma was checking on each of us and giving us instructions to go to every building in which there is a person from our churches and check on them because the phone lines were no longer working in many areas.

I went to one of the damaged areas and stood at one of the buildings in which four families from our church lived. The building had utterly collapsed on its occupants. After many long hours of waiting, we would call the names of the people we knew and listen to hear if any voices responded. Then we started digging with any available tools to remove the rubble. We could only find two children alive from the four families. One of these two

children was in his father's arms; his father had used his body to protect him from the building falling on his son.

There was a man with us, about forty years old, who was helping us dig and extract the bodies of our people. At the same time, he was calling for his three children who were in the same building, but he did not hear any answer from them. As we pulled bodies from under the rubble, hope was fading that there would be survivors. He cried and called Allah to perform a miracle by finding his children alive. After I arranged for the two living children and the bodies of the four families to be taken away, we decided to stay with him and help him dig until he found the bodies of his children. It was a catastrophe—he had lost everything—his family, his home; he was left with nothing and he was crying so bitterly. We watched as they put his deceased children into a big hole with the rest of the bodies, and a bulldozer covered them with dirt.

This poor man had no home to return to and no family waiting to welcome him, so I called Brother Abo Rahma, explained to him his situation and how he helped us for long hours, and asked if there was any possibility of giving him any help. He told me, by faith, "Bring him with you; we will try as much as we can."

We had an immediate and ongoing shortage of everything—places for people to sleep, mattresses, blankets, food, clean water, etc. But we were able to find a place for him to sleep and provided him with one meal a day. We also had a daily service to preach and explain the position of the Bible on the concept of natural disasters. Despite his Islamic background, he began to attend our meetings, was amazed at the biblical teachings, and asked about God in Christianity.

He asked if he could read a Bible, and we were able to find a Bible for him (because of the earthquake, many families lost their only Bibles, as they lost everything). He began to read, ask questions, and attend every meeting in the church. After a short time, he came to the knowledge of salvation and accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as his Savior. God made a huge difference in his life, filling him with joy, and his spirit of service to the church body was amazing. He gave himself to serve God.



By Daniel Nelms

As I am sure most of you know, the Modi regime has been ratcheting up persecution against religious freedom in India. A government that had at one time been generally tolerant of religious freedoms in the interests of democracy and international goodwill has been overrun by fanatics who decry any faith other than Hinduism. Now they aim to stamp it out, first by legislation, and most recently, by mob rule. The social and political climate in India, where fervent, religious xenophobia abounds unchecked, results in the persecution of Christians, Muslims, Buddhists, Jains, and others. The persecution may soon approach the level of genocide where nationally elected Hindu extremists call on their supporters to kill non-Hindus and "protect" their country.

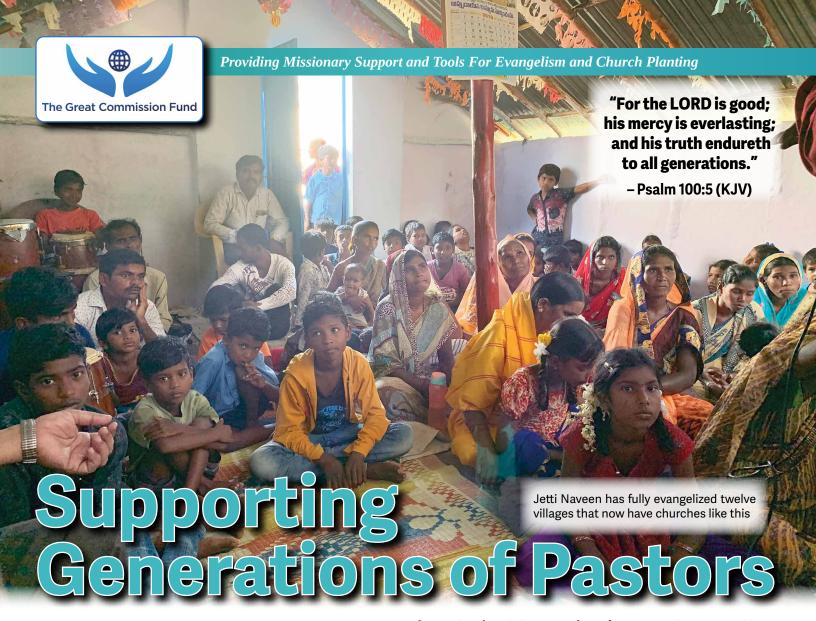
The only good news I have to share in this regard is that we haven't quite gotten to that point yet, so there is still hope for positive change, which brings me to the point of my letter to you.

I want to introduce to you Pastor Suresh. He and his church members are under attack, but the good news is that with your support we have been able to help.

The church has been meeting and holding services in a rented house because none of the church members own their homes. However, because of India's recent anti-conversion laws, they have been shut down. Police and militant Hindu extremists are placing social, economic, and legal pressure on landlords who are favorable to, or at least tolerant of, Christians. Quite simply, it has become too much trouble to keep them as tenants, so they kick the church out.

The church had already registered with the government as a legally operating entity, much like many churches in the United States. This means the church as a corporation can legally own property, and according to the Indian legal council (at least for now), a legally recognized church cannot be kicked off its own property.

This news prompted Pastor Suresh and his members to search for a property for sale, and they found one. The sale price of the land was \$13,500, but they were able to negotiate a price of \$12,500. And with that, his people began to raise funds and collected an impressive \$8,750! This still left them \$3,750 short of their goal. The great news is that you stepped forward and closed the gap and provided the additional funds needed to purchase the property. **Thank you for your giving hearts!** 



The focus of the Great Commission Fund in this issue is to highlight how it can change a preacher's life, ministry, and effectiveness over several generations. While introducing our ministry in Thailand to some American pastors around 2009, we

visited the area where our work began in northern Thailand among the Akha, Lahu, and Lisu tribes. We were blessed in that when we arrived, they were having a pastor's conference, and I was able to have my picture taken with three generations of preachers from those three tribes we had evangelized. Three generations! And soon, there will be a fourth.

Today, some fourteen years later, we no longer assist any of those men because they no longer need our help. Their economies have grown, and their converts have long

since learned to tithe, give offerings, and alms. We don't give money away to say we support a preacher; we do it to make a difference in his life and work, and no progress is more glaring or spectacular

than seeing the ministry pass down from generation to generation.

Seeing a son follow in his father's footsteps is always a blessing. Sometimes, as in the case of my son Daniel, it seems to be determined from an early age as they display the nature to accept the trials of

ministry life and the virtual poverty that

sometimes accompanies it. However, at other times, young boys become teenagers and set their affections on things below, not above. They see trials as embarrassing difficulties, and abuse, insults, and poverty seem to be insurmountable obstacles. As a result, they despise God's service and seek to run away from the example of their father's life.

The following story is about a young man, twenty-seven years of age, named Jetti Naveen Babu, who, like the prodigal son, eventually repented, came home, found

forgiveness and restoration, then picked up his ministry destiny and now thrives. I will share his testimony in his own words, as dictated to our National Director in Andhra Pradesh, India.

#### The Great Commission Fund

is at work in India, a land of 1.4 billion people where foreign missionaries are forbidden. Churches in America can help by funding their national preachers, or we can ignore that the country and its people exist.

Which would honor Christ more? Which would acquire more treasures in Heaven? Which will you do?

# TESTIMONY OF JETTI NAVEEN

"Greetings to you from Rajapudi, India. I am so thankful for the opportunity that you've given me to share my testimony. Though I was born and raised in a Christian family, I had doubts and fights with the Faith that my family believed in, but since then, God has orchestrated my life into this testimony that I'm sharing with you. I have received some support from you through Pastor Ananda Kumar. (Ananda passed away on May 18, 2021, but his ministry continues under his son, Kishore.) At that time, I had started serving the Lord and needed something to support myself. Pastor Ananda allowed me to join your ministry, and I received your gift through the Timothy Project. (We merged this branch of our ministry with the Great Commission Fund several years ago.)

I was born and raised in a Christian family, and my father is Pastor Jetti Sagar, who is part of your ministry. He always wanted us to grow in the Lord and work with him while serving in the ministry. We were so poor, and though my

uncles and other relatives did well financially, we suffered from hunger and torn clothes and had only one book for all the school subjects. I hated my

childhood. I had to walk miles to school and miles back while every other kid had their parents drop them at the door. I was always scared as I walked. I had a stick in my hand to scare off the aggressive dogs along the way. I completed my schooling with lower marks because I was limited to working with the little I was given. So, I started despising the job that my dad was doing. I grew more and more ashamed to be the son of a pastor.

After school each day, I had to travel fifteen miles to my home, so I would often ask my dad for a bicycle, and he would say, "Pray about it because I don't have the money to buy one." (Over the years, we have bought more than 400 bicycles for our preachers in India, one by one. Now, large numbers of bicycles and motorcycles are being purchased by the Great Commission Fund.) I prayed, but I didn't get a bike, so I stopped praying, I stopped going to church, and I had nothing to do with God. My lifestyle broke the hearts of my mother and father. I used to hear my mom praying and crying about the destruction of our family and ministry that I was causing. I would go into her room, shout at her, and tell her that sleeping is better than praying. I started hanging out with worldly people. I



ABOVE: Pastor Jetti Naveen's parents – Jetti is a secondgeneration Final Frontiers pastor, the son of Pastor Jetti Sagar.

> **RIGHT:** Pastor Ananda Kumar

Supporting

## National Church Planters

- Since 1986 -

The purpose of **The Great Commission Fund** is to have finances perpetually available to subsidize, support, and enhance the ministries of qualified and competent national preachers who have experience in starting house churches and in training men as local pastors.

While projects are approved based on their need, and strategic value to the expansion of the Gospel in that particular town or region, the national church planters are approved for a subsidy based on their ministry experience and the recommendation of another national with whom we have a long-standing relationship or by a missionary from an acceptable board. Such team leaders apply for the support of their men (Timothys), who receive not a salary but a stipend for their living needs and support for their ministry. This support could provide ministry tools such as transportation, institute curriculum, fuel, Bibles, clean water, etc. Whereas the stipends assist them with daily necessities such as food for their family, medicines, school expenses, etc.

So, whether stipend or support, your giving to the Great Commission Fund equips those who are already serving, not those waiting for support to serve. Our quarterly articles in the Progress Report illustrate their needs and the results of your giving.

We encourage you to initiate a monthly auto-debit of any amount if you can and are so inclined. Follow the QR code to donate.

What Is
The Great
Commission?





liked being around them because they would buy me food and play pranks on people and throw rocks at people from far away. I thought this was fun and did other things that I now regret. I neglected my college studies, which got me into trouble so badly that they finally kicked me out.

In desperation, my father took me to a pastor he knew and had great respect for, Pastor Ananda Kumar Sir (He uses the term Sir at the end as a mark of respect. This is a cultural custom left from the era of British colonial rule). He talked to me and encouraged me to spend as much time as possible in prayer, even if I didn't feel like it, even if I had issues or doubts. He said, just pray and ask God, and after that, I prayed like I never had before. When I woke up, I talked to the Lord. When I walked, I prayed to the Lord; whatever I did, I prayed to God. When I was hungry, I prayed to the Lord. Whether alert or tired, happy or sad, confused or confident, I prayed to the Lord. Then one day, I returned to Ananda Sir, and he said he would send me to the college he had graduated from. He said there I would know more about God and learn to discern and follow His guidance. I remember asking him if God called me into the ministry after I got married, would my children have to go to bed hungry as I did? He said, "Son, I don't



know how, where, or when, but He will feed you -- bread was sent from Heaven, oil filled the widow's pot that never went dry, and our Lord Jesus fed 5000 men with a child's meal. You do the Lord's work, and He will care for your needs".

So, I went to seminary and graduated with a bachelor's degree in theology, then came back home and started giving out tracks and talking to people about the Lord. My prayer was answered two years later when Pastor Ananda arranged for the Final Frontiers Great Commission Fund to give me a bicycle to enlarge my evangelism circumference. I wanted it three years back for ease and pleasure, but I needed it now (2017) for the ministry, and I rode that bicycle everywhere. It had a carriage (basket) in the back, and I filled it with tracks each day and didn't come home until that carriage was empty.

God has been using me ever since I started leaning on the Lord. I want to spend every day of my life serving the Lord and bringing people to the Lord. During the time of Covid, it was tough to go out to preach because the Hindu Government started giving us a hard time. Still, I continued my service for the Lord, and in these years, I have fully evangelized twelve villages that now have churches. I don't have a job or a church building, but I am ready to do whatever it takes to share the Gospel of Christ.

Thank you, sirs. Pray for me and the ministry I'm doing now. I will be praying for you and your great works for the Lord. I hope to work under your leadership for my entire life.

#### YOUR SUPPORT HELPS MEET MANY NEEDS

Jetti, though still single at the age of ## is so because he cannot afford a wife. Our Lord told us in His Word that it is good for a man

to be married, and Jetti would love to be, but even more, he wants to make a magnificent impact for the glory of His Christ in his native land. India abounds with others like him, teenage boys learning to serve, young men making solid advances for the Gospel, and older men using their wisdom and experience to serve and train others to serve. In each case, there is usually something they need, something beyond personal support. It may be an occasional case of Bibles for the members of a new church they started or to institute curriculum to strengthen the resolve of babes growing in Christ. It may be a bore well for a community of believers who are not permitted to draw water from the village well simply because they are Christians. Or it may be surgery, rebuilding a pastor's house or church burned by a mob, or financing a trip for a team of preachers to discover, locate, and invade an unreached village and plant a church there. Their needs are legion though they pale compared to their zeal and our ability to help fulfill them.

When I started this work in 1986, I thought personal monthly support was the only way to help such preachers, and I gave my life to raise those funds. Now, with almost forty years of experience behind me, I see that tools are often far more needed and appreciated than a monthly stipend. So, this is the purpose of the Great Commission Fund, to no longer limit you to the support of one man or one field (unless that is what you want) but to expand your influence by providing whatever their need is, long-term or short, for as many worthy men as we can. If you are not already helping to fund this program, please consider doing so, even if it is as little as \$5 a month. You won't believe the difference it will make.



# **ISIONARY TRIPS**

#### "Lift Up Your Eyes and Look"

Our customized one week, missions exposure/adventure trips are for families, youth groups, school and churches.

So far this summer, we have had to replace the van brakes and two tires. There's nothing like trying to change a tire in the jungle and finding out your jack is missing, the lug wrench is the wrong size, and the tool to release the spare tire is broken. (It felt like another Ernest Livingstone episode.)

Still, it's been a great summer filled with adventures! We have seen over 100 souls come to Christ and blessed over 800 families with food bags.

**BE ADVISED:** We are almost entirely booked for next summer. We have only three weeks available, so contact me soon to experience what next summer holds for us.



For more information call 800-552-4324

#### October:

Kenya Nigeria Uganda

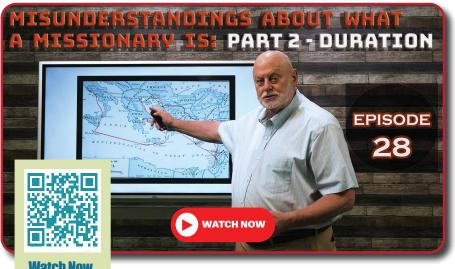
November:

Pakistan

**December:** Middle East **Egypt** 



The Great Commission Fund



### **Increase Your Understanding**

Because so many of you are interested in learning more about missions, we developed this into a free course consisting of 54 lessons, each lasting about five minutes. As you go through the lessons, you have the opportunity to receive a free copy of the course book, Understanding the Great Commission, and to receive a Final Frontiers Certificate of Completion



if you take and pass the tests. These tests do not follow each lesson but cover a dozen or so classes. Sign up, free, to enhance your understanding of the Global Commission.

# Misunderstandings About

# What a Missionary

rom childhood, I was taught (by their example) that missionaries go to a single foreign field and stay there forever. I've heard of missionaries who lost their support because they moved from one country to another. Some pastors feel that a missionary's moving from one place to another demonstrates that he does not know God's will. Yet many pastors move from church to church, following God's will.

The book of Acts reveals that Paul didn't go to only one place; he went to many. He stayed in Thessalonica for only three weeks, and Corinth, his most prolonged stay in any one place, hosted him for several years.

It is not how long you stay that makes you a missionary. At least three biblical criteria make that determination

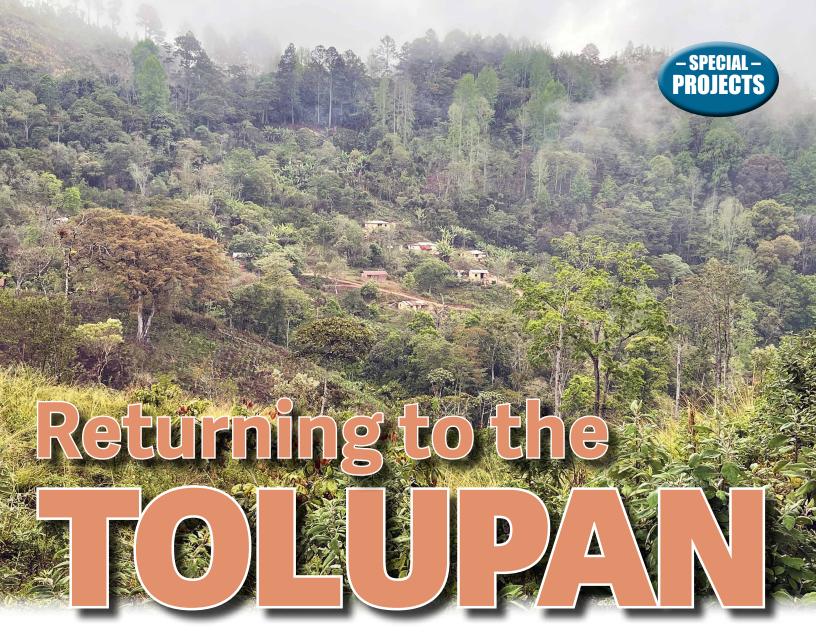
- **1. Where you go** (Who are the people you go to reach?)
- **2. What you do** (Do you plant churches and train church planters or pastor a single congregation?)
- **3. Why you leave** (Is it to go elsewhere and repeat the process or to abandon your calling for another?)

It all comes down to one simple question: What is the difference between a missionary and a traveling preacher or pastor? Here's the answer: missions is the intentional relocating of your ministry from the regions informed about the gospel to another uninformed region. It is about exposing the unexposed to the gospel—nothing more, nothing less, nothing else. Pastoring is about maturing the converts. The traveling preacher (prophet) is an exhorter, assisting pastors with their teachings. An evangelist evangelizes outside the church facility—not inside where believers gather.

Paul once announced that he was moving from Corinth to Spain. His stated reason was that where he and his disciples had been serving in the regions of Galatia and Achaia, there was no place left for him to preach. Surely, some towns and churches would have been eager and honored to host Paul. What he meant was that since he was not a pastor but a missionary ordained by God to take the gospel to those regions without exposure to it, he had no choice but to relocate to find another uninformed, unevangelized region and start again. Thus, he was moving to Spain. Biblically, pastors move to an established area to feed the sheep, while missionaries move on and plant new churches.

#### **Points to Ponder**

- Considering the biblical example of Paul, do you feel a missionary must go to one town or country and stay there his entire life?
- Do you see how God's ministerial gifts to the church are strategically designed to enter an unreached place and birth, mature, multiply, perpetuate and expand the church there and beyond?
- · How has the modern-day relocation of these gifts affected His plan?





Jason Dover and Joshua Martyn

#### By Joshua Martyn

It has been over four years since the original PowerPack expedition to the Tolupan tribe in Honduras. This year, in the month of March, two of the original team were able to return: me and Jason Dover, missionary to the unreached.

Throughout the first trip, there were four of us giving audio New Testaments (PowerPack Dynamo's) and a gospel presentation to every family in every village across the mountains. In this short follow-up expedition, we wanted to see the fruit of that endeavor.

At first, we had no leads, no names of pastors, and no direction as to what villages to visit. So, we immediately began bathing every decision and every path that lay ahead of us in prayer. Faithfully, God led us to the village of Monte Rey at the very end of the steep dirt roads that lead up into the mountains. Here, at the very edge of the village, at the same mud home where our team had stayed on our first journey, we felt a strong sense of peace, as if we were not yet supposed to go any further. Sure enough, within the next ten minutes, one of the men who had helped us years before was passing through—the chief of Guaruma.



village. Nearly all of them had accepted Christ, and now they had a church there! He went on to say to us that the very place where we were stopped was the exact yard where yet another church was now meeting. There was another pastor right there in Monte Rey as well! Soon after the chief of Guaruma left, the local pastor of Monte Rey found us and explained that a great deal had changed since the audio Bibles had been delivered. A bar had shut down, heavy drug trade had dwindled, and nearly half the village had accepted Christ! He told us that he also meets with another group of believers in the village of Loma Linda as well. So, within the

With both the president of Monte Rey and the chief of Guaruma being Christians now, we found a wide-open door of invitation. Soon, we were staying in a schoolhouse, which became our home base for travel. Multiple preaching services were held there because the teacher himself had also become a believer, with an incredible testimony of a thoroughly changed life. Every time the gospel was shared, he encouraged the children to ask questions.

We believe there are other villages with Christians meeting together, but on this trip, we were only able to visit a few places in the vast territory. We did, however, visit with the believers in Gauruma, and I personally traveled to the third church in Loma Linda, where I found real stability among the Christians there.



Monte Rey school

Please pray for these Tolupan believers as they witness to their

families. All these churches are asking for whole Spanish Bibles, and you can give to that need by visiting our website.

Overall, what we discovered was truly an incredible testimony of how the Lord has been working since Final Frontiers flooded this entire people-group with the Gospel. There is certainly a wide-open opportunity

for more preaching and more churches to be started.

To hear more of the story, you can watch the video documentary of this return trip on our YouTube channel. Please pray for the Tolupan!



**VIDEO:** Joshua Martyn recaps highlights of the recent missions trip to the Tolupan.



**Watch Video** 



We work with a missionary family in Ukraine whose church has a Touch A Life Ministry.

Here's a glimpse of what your support has done for children and families in a war-torn country that resists the gospel.

#### **The Enskyys**

Oleg and Lori Enskyy and their teenage children, Abigail and Simon, are a missionary family based in Mukachevo, Ukraine.

Lori is an American whose parents live now in Greenville, South Carolina. When her family lived in Raleigh, North Carolina, she attended Friendship Christian School, where the Lord called her to the mission field through her love of history, particularly Russian history, when she was 16 years old. After college, she went for two years for a short-term mission trip to Russia, where the Lord cemented her call.

When Lori returned to the States, she studied to be a Christian counselor at Bob Jones University. While there, she met the daughter of a pastor of a church in Ukraine. After graduating, Lori, who is also a big sports fan, went to that church and worked in their drug rehab ministry and sports outreach. This is where she met her soon-to-be husband, Oleg, a native Ukrainian, in 2003.

Oleg got saved when he was 28 years old. He grew up in Mukachevo, an area where churches were very religious and strict. He felt that many of the churches in the region were not very approachable to nonbelievers, and the Lord put on his heart to start a church where people could come as they are (but not stay that way).

Lori's sending church was and still is Friendship Baptist Church in Raleigh, North Carolina, the place where she was saved, baptized, and called to the mission field. When she came to Ukraine in 2003, it was with the support of a small Baptist mission board.

When Oleg and Lori became engaged, it was against the bylaws of the mission board to support a national pastor. One of Lori's supporting pastors, Gene Carpenter, of Palmetto Land Baptist in Summerville, S.C., told her about Final Frontiers. The couple met with Jon, and everyone felt like they were a perfect fit. Final Frontiers took the Enskyys on as missionaries after they were married and has been managing their support from American churches and individuals since 2004.

The couple settled in Oleg's hometown, and where he planted the church the Lord put on his heart, Holy Trinity Baptist Church. Mukachevo is a small town 15 miles from the Hungarian border in the far west corner of the country. The Enskyy family grew along with the congregation. They welcomed a daughter, Abigail, into their home in 2007 and a son, Simon, three years later.



Through seminary partners, we were able to take wood burning stoves to internally displaced people who recently escaped Russian occupation in the Kherson region. They have lost everything and are living in very primitive, abandoned houses near a water source where they hand-draw water daily. These families are very open to the Gospel and have many questions about what a personal relationship with Jesus really looks like. There is no church near them.



Oleg delivers Bibles for service men.





Kiril is a young man who grew up in the Ukraine Touch a Life ministry. He got saved and has a beautiful testimony. Now he does Bible lessons each day for refugee children at the feeding center.

The rest of this story is in the words of Lori, taken from email updates and an interview in June.

#### **Ukraine Touch A Life**

In 2014, when the war first started with Russia, it was localized in the eastern part of Ukraine. It really affected our economy, though, and we had a

lot of refugees from that part of the country come to Mukachevo. One of our church members was a teacher, and in a prayer meeting in 2014, she started praying about the church being able to reach out to hungry kids. As an elementary school teacher, she saw many kids who couldn't concentrate because they were hungry. Their parents didn't have money to feed them.

So, we all started praying that the Lord would help us figure out how to organize and fund something like that with their small congregation.

About a week later, Michael Horne (secretary and treasurer of Final Frontiers) sent an email asking me if we had ever thought about starting a feeding ministry. He said that Touch a Life would like to help us if we were so inclined. That was an answer to our prayer.

In 2014, our church started a feeding ministry for at-risk, troubled children in the community. It has been a tremendous bridge from outreach to church attendance, sincere repentance, and a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Table tennis is very popular in Europe. Before the war expanded, we had a competitive table tennis ministry, and the kids we ministered to would play. The city financed all of our travel because we were taking at-risk kids and helping them to turn their lives around. We had a professional coach, and it was exciting.

Our church also had a huge kids ministry as well as a veterans' ministry where we held camps.

#### **Refugee Ministry**

Just before the war began in January 2022, we went to Hungary so that Oleg could go to a hospital that specialized in a treatment he needed. After his treatment, when he saw that war was imminent, he left us in Hungary and went back to our church in Mukachevo. When the war broke out, he stayed and turned the

church and feeding ministry into a refugee center where people who were fleeing could come and live and receive help, food, and transportation to the border during the first six months of the war.

More than 2,000 refugees came through the church from March to October. The church also purchased older model 4x4 trucks and large SUVs to help evacuate wounded soldiers, civilians, and children and get them to safety.

Last October, men of fighting age from 16 to 60 were not allowed to leave the country. Oleg has dual citizenship, but every time he would come back and forth to visit us, he would have problems on the border. Our sending pastor helped us make the decision for him to come out of the country to be with us and keep our family intact. Everything we did would be, not virtual, but long distance. And then, when anything needed to be done, I went back because I had no problem crossing the border.

Now, all but two of the 35 people in our church have left the country. The two people who have stayed behind continue to feed needy children, help refugees, and distribute aid in demolished villages through partnering ministries in Southern and Eastern Ukraine.



ABOVE: Simon Enskyy (middle) with Hungarian table tennis players in Budapest.

LEFT: Whatever's happening outside these walls, the Touch a Life ministry in Mukachevo offers a few hours of fun and normalcy to kids at the feeding center.

One is a young lady who is a Christian psychologist. She's able to help the refugees who are coming through with lots of trauma. Another is a young man who grew up in our Touch a Life ministry. He got saved and has become a beautiful testimony. He does the Bible lessons each day.

We have probably 40 to 50 kids that come every week, Monday through Friday. During the school year, they come after school for a hot meal, a Bible lesson, and playtime, including table tennis, board games, coloring, and other activities depending on the kids that come that day. In the summer, they come at lunchtime for three hours.

Our ministry has completely changed from having the same kids from kindergarten until they finished technical school. Now, Many of them are in the army, and we support those boys.

One little boy, Victor, grew up in our ministry. He is from a really bad home, and he came to

church every day to eat. He never got saved, but when the war started and he was drafted. Oleg was the first person he called.

"Will you please pray for me? I need your help," he said.

He and Oleg have been talking regularly and the Lord has allowed Oleg to really minister to this young man. His ears were never open to the gospel, but they are now when he is under enemy fire every day.

Another boy, Maxim, started attending the feeding ministry after our church helped his mother get back on her feet and remove Maxim from foster care in 2015. He came to know Jesus as his Savior in 2018, was baptized, and has attended church regularly since that time. He has been a great help to the church's refugee ministry.



Support

We work closely with city officials, who maintain a refugee register and know that they can send families who fit the prerequisites for their children to come and eat at church. They don't usually stay very long.

On a trip back to Mukachevo, I had the opportunity to minister to a refugee who came through our dormitory. Her family evacuated from a city that was being bombed by the Russians, who were targeting civilian evacuation convoys. Her car was hit by Russian fire. She got out with her ten-year-old daughter, but her five-year-old daughter was killed. Ministering to her and her daughter at that time and having the opportunity to show compassion and the love of Jesus to her when she was at her very lowest was a tremendous blessing to our church and to our family. She went on to Europe with her surviving daughter.

Our church continues to feed needy children, help refugees, and distribute aid in demolished villages through our partners in Southern and Eastern Ukraine. Oleg continues to counsel active servicemen and is sort of a "tele-chaplain" at present.

#### Sounds of War

Though war has not come to our region of the Ukraine, we still hear warnings three or four times a day when long-range ballistic missiles launch. The screech of the air raid warning is especially eerie at night when it wakes you up from a sound sleep.

When I was a little girl, my father gave me a little square that lights up at night with a beloved scripture:

> "What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee." - Psalm 56:3 (KJV)

I have recited this to myself often, especially when I was taking aid into the country by myself. Or when Oleg was there by himself, and we didn't know what was going to happen or if we'd ever see each other again.

When you don't know what's in the future or what the next step is, what's been very steadying for our family is seeing how the Lord has brought us to where we are. When you look back, especially at in uncertain times like this, it's amazing to see how we've received unexpected blessings and how he has directed us. When we are afraid, it helps us to trust in what he has done in the past, to know that he will continue to do for our family and for our church and all of our church members what he has done in the past.

#### Seeds of Salvation

What I want people to know about this war is that it's so unjust. I know there's suffering everywhere in the world, but the pressure cooker is palpable when you cross the border into Ukraine. People are living in that every day, and they don't have the Lord.

Because of the Soviet Union and the propaganda from that time, people have been told that evangelical Christians are a cult and they're to be avoided at all costs.

But the church has really activated and is out in the community ministering to people in Ukraine. We never know the seeds that we plant during this horrible time. The Lord put us there and gave us the wherewithal to trust in Him, even when we were afraid to help people who didn't have Jesus and that foundation.

If you can help us continue to do that, you are helping us till up the heart soil of people with compassionate aid before we can plant the seeds of the gospel. Helping churches, especially strong evangelical churches that teach the truth and are providing help at a time like this, breaks down the stereotypes and the stumbling blocks for people to really have a true relationship with Jesus Christ.

#### **How You Can Help**

We came home to the United States in June on our first furlough in almost nine years. We were supposed to come back in 2020, but Covid messed up our plans, and then the war started. We are going to be here for the school year, so at least until next summer (2024).

We'll be visiting our supporting churches and welcome invitations to speak to other congregations as well. If you would like to hear more about what God is doing in Ukraine, email us at enskyys@gmail.com.

As the war drags on and the news cycle moves on to other International and domestic matters, we understand that people

sometimes forget what is happening on the other side the world. We humbly ask that you continue to help us make a difference in Ukraine for Kingdom purposes. We cannot do that we are doing without your prayer and financial gifts!

Thank you for your support, prayers, and encouragement. We are humbled by God's gracious care of our family and ministry through you!



#### Ukrainian Fellowships

Please pray for the numerous Ukrainian Fellowships in the European Union that we help to support. This is a particularly difficult time for Ukrainians living abroad as refugees. Many important decisions are being made about the future as most are living on "pause" and that cannot go on indefinitely.

Please pray for the leadership of these Fellowships to have wisdom

as they counsel and help families make life-altering decisions.

#### **Brave Believers**

Please continue to pray for the Lord's protection over the brave believers who make humanitarian aid trips into bombed-out villages and cities where people are trying to rebuild their lives.

They are always eagerly greeted, and the Gospel message is preached to hearts that once upon a time would have never listened. We have great faith that the seeds that are being planted in sorrow will bring forth a great harvest for God's glory!

#### **Open Hearts**

Thank you for being a part of feeding and providing for so many people whose livelihoods have been destroyed by this war.

Please pray that through the giving of compassionate aid, hearts will be more open to hearing the Gospel, and Kingdom relationships will be started. Ukraine is a very religious country. People believe in God, follow traditions, but very few have a personal, saving relationship with Jesus Christ. The cultural and historical barriers to people "really hearing and understanding" the Gospel are steep. In times of peace, the average time for someone to actually come to repentance after hearing a Gospel message and much discipleship is 4-9 years. Our deep desire is for the savagery of this war contrasted by the compassionate witness of true believers to be used to bring about real revival. The danger of blaming God and hating Him for allowing this to happen is real. We see this in many.

#### **Partners in Aid**

Please pray for our partners who take aid into hard places, who evacuate civilians, treat and evacuate wounded soldiers, who preach the Gospel, and risk their lives to serve Ukraine. Pray for a righteous and just end to this war as soon as possible.

# Charitable Gift Annuities

# and Their Potential Tax Benefits

By Scott Vignere

When it comes to making a generous and meaningful gift, charitable gift annuities can bring many desirable benefits. Not only are gift annuities tax-deductible, they also offer a steady and reliable income stream to help meet the longterm financial needs of donors. Charitable gift annuities are agreements between a donor and a charitable organization or institution. The donor transfers property or assets to the charity in exchange for a fixed income stream for the donor, or a designated beneficiary, over a certain period of time. For example, a donor who purchases a charitable gift annuity for \$50,000 would receive an annual payment of about \$3,000 for a set term. In addition to the guaranteed income, charitable gift annuities also offer donors valuable tax benefits. Because they are tax-deductible, donors can take a charitable deduction for the entire amount they give to the nonprofit organization in the year of purchase. The deduction is based on the donor's tax bracket and a charitable annuity rate established by the IRS.

#### **Different Types of Assets Can be Used**

Charitable gift annuities can also be a great way for individuals to make a robust tax-advantaged donation by transferring stocks and other appreciated assets to charity. In exchange, the donor receives both a charitable tax deduction and fixed-income payments for the term. The amount of the payments may even exceed the rate offered by other sources, such as certificates of deposit. In addition to providing a reliable stream of income, the charity also benefits from the full market value of the assets, which can be used in their programs and other charitable activities. This charitable giving strategy is a powerful and elegant way to support a charity's mission and provide yourself with financial security simultaneously.

#### **Charitable Gift Annuities and Real Estate**

A charitable gift annuity can be used to donate real estate while also obtaining a number of tax and financial benefits. It is also a great way to make a lasting contribution to a charity or other nonprofit organization. A charitable gift annuity involves an agreement between a donor and a nonprofit organization. The donor agrees to donate an interest in real estate or other real property to the nonprofit. In return, the donor will receive a fixed-income stream for a fixed term. The income is usually a fixed percentage of the property's market value and is paid out in monthly, quarterly, or annual installments to the donor. The nonprofit retains the right to use or sell the real estate. By donating real estate through a charitable gift annuity, a donor can gain a variety of financial benefits. These include tax savings, the ability to allocate capital gains on the real estate and keep existing capital gains on cash investments, reduced probate costs, asset protection, and a potential increase in income. In terms of taxes, donating real estate through a charitable gift annuity can offer some major advantages. Donors are typically able to write off the full value of the property on their annual tax return.

#### Let's Meet Fred and Ethel

Fred and Ethel own some income property they bought years ago. The original purchase price was \$40,000, and it's now worth \$180,000 and gives them about \$9,000 in income. They're weary of the upkeep and would like to sell, but the possible tax implications have them concerned. They learned about a charitable gift annuity and decided to set one up and help their church and missions in the process. This is how it worked:

- **1.** Fred and Ethel signed an option agreement allowing the gift annuity sponsor to find an interested buyer. When a price was agreed upon and the sale completed, the sponsor absorbed the realtor fees and closing costs.
- 2.. At closing, the sponsor issued Fred and Ethel a charitable gift annuity based on the full sales price.
- **3.** Fred and Ethel received an immediate income tax deduction which will save them money on their taxes this year, with a potential 5-year carry-forward.
- **4.** A portion of the capital gains taxes were completely eliminated, and none were due at the time of sale.
- **5.** The plan will provide income for them as well as a structured inheritance for their children.
- **6.** Their church and missions will also benefit.

Cost Basis of Property Amount Subject to Capital Gains Tax Initial Value of Charitable Gift Annuity Tax Deduction with Charitable Gift Annuity Tax Savings at 25% Tax Bracket  \$40,000 \$180,000 \$61,792	7		
Amount Subject to Capital Gains Tax Initial Value of Charitable Gift Annuity Tax Deduction with Charitable Gift Annuity Tax Savings at 25% Tax Bracket Capital Gains Tax Saving Immediate Annual Payments  \$140,000 \$180,000 \$61,792 \$61,792 \$7,209		Current Market Value of Real Estate	\$180,000
Initial Value of Charitable Gift Annuity  Tax Deduction with Charitable Gift Annuity  Tax Savings at 25% Tax Bracket  Capital Gains Tax Saving  Immediate Annual Payments  *180,000  *61,792  *15,448  *7,209		Cost Basis of Property	\$ <b>40,000</b>
Tax Deduction with Charitable Gift Annuity Tax Savings at 25% Tax Bracket Capital Gains Tax Saving Immediate Annual Payments  *61,792 *15,448 *7,209		Amount Subject to Capital Gains Tax	\$140,000
Tax Savings at 25% Tax Bracket  Capital Gains Tax Saving  Immediate Annual Payments  \$15,448		Initial Value of Charitable Gift Annuity	\$180,000
Capital Gains Tax Saving \$7,209 Immediate Annual Payments		Tax Deduction with Charitable Gift Annuity	\$ <b>61,792</b>
Immediate Annual Payments		Tax Savings at 25% Tax Bracket	\$15,448
•		Capital Gains Tax Saving	\$ <b>7,209</b>
for 20-Year Term Certain \$9,600		•	
		for 20-Year Term Certain	\$9,600

A charitable gift annuity can be a powerful tool in the right situation. To be able to benefit from the tax advantages, the certain income and benefit to a worthy cause such as missions make a charitable gift annuity worthy of consideration.

**Please note:** *All charts and numbers are for illustration* purposes only. Accuracy is neither warrantied nor implied. We are not attorneys or tax advisors. This information is educational only. Not to be considered as advice or recommendations. It is imperative that you consult with a tax advisor and/or attorney when considering any of these concepts. In addition, it is critical that the attorney, tax advisor, and financial advisor are knowledgeable and practiced in these areas.

If you would like help finding such an advisor, we will be glad to introduce you to an experienced planner with your best interest in mind. Please give us a call at 1-800-522-4324.

Scott Vignere is a friend to Financial Frontiers and president of Vigntana Advisors. More than 40 years ago, on the advice of his pastor, Scott pursued a career in financial planning. A member of the Planned Giving Design Center, he helps clients partner with God to make an impact on the world through charitable planning. You can reach Scott at scott@vigntana.com.



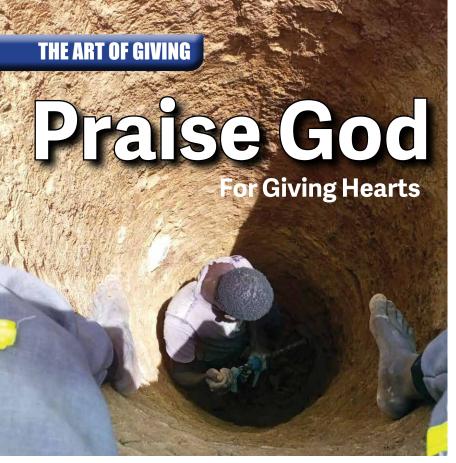




#### **Pakistan**

In Pakistan, which is 96.5% Muslim, one of our many churches in Lahore operates a Touch a Life feeding center every Sunday. We hope to extend it to seven days a week and open other centers in all our churches both in the city and scattered throughout the desert areas. We are grateful for this center, which we believe will be the first of many.

You can help us feed children and provide them with a daily Bible story, songs, and crafts by supporting our Touch a Life program. You can choose the country that your support benefits. We currently serve the children of India, Pakistan, Cambodia, Kenya, Ukraine, Egypt, an unnamed Middle Eastern country, and Honduras. Depending on the country, \$10 can provide a culturally acceptable meal for up to 100 children. Why not make a recurring monthly payment and change some lives?





TOP LEFT: The church members had already begun working on a new well by digging out a new borehole on the property. However, the cost of all the materials and equipment needed was beyond what they can manage. ABOVE: Food being cooked and served outside of the church LEFT: This child was abandoned by her mother but now receives food through our feeding program at Outspan Baptist Church. BELOW: Junior Sunday school being led by one of the church youths.

In May, we shared a critical need for **⊥**help at two of our feeding centers in Kenya. We urgently needed to build a kitchen at one location to continue serving nutritious meals to the children out of the local church, and we also needed a new well to provide fresh, clean water. The center serves, on average, about 60 children in the local community who are facing food insecurity.

We also needed a new well for our feeding center at Outspan Baptist Church. An average of 70, sometimes 80, children are served in the program there.

We asked for help to raise funds to build a new kitchen and drill a new well for these centers.

We are so grateful for the giving heart of one of our supporters in Texas who celebrated their birthday by meeting the entire need! In addition to meeting this critical need, they gave enough to start an additional kitchen feeding center at a new location in Kenya!

Thank God for the giving hearts which help churches provide for the needs of their local communities!







# **Choose a Ministry You Can Help With**

#### NATIONAL CHURCH PLANTERS SUPPORT



#### The Great Commission Fund

The Great Commission Fund is a fund whereby the offerings of everyone are pooled to support as many national preachers as possible. This is our preferred and most

effective method of supporting national preachers. You will receive 4-8 updates annually with a biography or ministry report from a preacher supported through this fund, allowing you to see what your giving is accomplishing. Each preacher recommended for support has been thoroughly vetted to assure he is doctrinally sound, morally pure and has a verifiable track record in church planting and training other men who are serving in ministry.

#### **CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES AND CARE**



#### **Touch A Life®**

Touch A Life (*Child Rescue Centers*) gives assistance to orphaned, abandoned, and destitute children. Your monthly support provides food, clothing, basic medical care,

and educational assistance. All orphanages, home placement programs, and feeding centers are administered by pastors who are supported through this foundation and are operated as a ministry of a local church. We welcome contributions of any amount, whether one-time or monthly donations. A monthly gift of as little as \$5 toward this vital ministry would be a great blessing to these children.

#### BIBLE PRINTING AND DISTRIBUTION



#### **Smugglers**

Smugglers funding is used to purchase and distribute Bibles. Many national pastors and Believers do not own a copy of God's Word. Smugglers helps to provide a copy to those who

desire it in free countries and in closed counties such as Islamic nations.

#### **Final Frontiers Foundation, Inc.**

P.O. Box 507, Louisville, GA 30434 • (800)-522-4324

**TAX ID Number: 58-1721535** 

#### **OTHER VITAL MINISTRIES**



#### Bags of Hope

Bags of Hope is our food distribution program feeding widows, orphans and persecuted families living primarily in the Islamic Middle East. Support for this program provides food, clean water,

medicine and vitamins for suffering and persecuted families.



The PowerPack and Audio Bibles contain everything needed for one man to show a Gospel film in a village with no electricity without the need of a generator or four wheel drive vehicle. It comes in various options. The PowerPack Plus includes camping gear. Audio Bibles are hand-held dramatized, audio Bibles produced in a targeted language. These are used in villages primarily to start or strengthen new churches where no Bible is present. Its sim card can contain the entire Bible in up to 48 languages, where it is not available or does not exist in printed form. These are most effective in leper villages and with the illiterate. The varieties, pricing and details of all PowerPack options and Audio Bibles can be seen at www.ThePowerPack.world

#### **SPECIAL AND UNIQUE PROJECTS**

To be informed, be sure to register for our Email Alerts at www.FinalFrontiers.world

#### **PLANNED GIVING**

#### Laying Up Eternal Rewards When You are Already In Heaven

Planned gifts such as a bequest in your will or a charitable trust, a stock donation, or a designation in your life insurance is a way you can help us continue to promote your desire to evangelize this word, even when you have passed on to the next — and it's easy to do. For help, contact your personal estate planner or let us refer you to one.

I want to receive the *Progress Report* by email. My email address is:

☐ Check here if this is a new address or phone number.

Open the camera app on your phone or tablet and point the device at this QR code to go directly to our online donation page.

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Phone: (home)	(cell)	
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#### **Address Service** Requested

## 'Come and see our zeal for the Lord"

- II KINGS 10:16

Beginning in December 1986, through the efforts of our network of tens of thousands of preachers, Timothies and their trainees, records indicate that there have been ...

551,172 Churches Started 1,730,265 Villages Evangelized **Professions of Faith** 20,391,106 Believers Baptized 7,078,108

During these years our network has encompassed ...

3,060 **Preachers** 25,203 **Timothies** Touch A Life Kids 3,460



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Final Frontiers and Touch A Life

#### MOVED LATELY?

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#### **Honduras**

If you have ever been on one of our Honduras Visionary Trips, this is probably a face you will remember. Ligia and her elder sister ate in our feeding center from the first day. They were fed well, educated, tutored, disciplined, and gave their lives to Christ. Ligia was a rambunctious girl filled with charm that everyone either loved or tried to avoid.





Ligia

Like many, she immigrated to Spain and eventually met and married a good man. She is now pregnant, and they are heavily involved in a local church. In May, my wife Nolin went to Spain with one of her sisters to visit her niece. Now listen to this: Nolin discovered that Ligia lives in the same city, so they arranged to meet for lunch!

We have construction workers here at our property, some of whom also grew up in our feeding center, as have many of the local waitresses, cooks, taxi drivers, secretaries, and even teachers.

Thanks to all of you who have given generously and touched so many lives.