





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

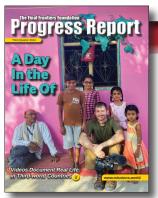
The Progress Report contains articles dedicated to their purposes and providing accountability for those who support those causes are listed on page 23.

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Final Frontiers® 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

Date: June 5, 2023

Location: Village in Karnataka India **Subject:** Filming A Day in the Life Of

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**, P.O. Box 358, Grovetown, GA 30813 USA, 706-955-4916 or 800-522-4324, webmaster@finalfrontiers.org

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PROGRESS REPORT TEAM

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The Story: This photo was taken while shooting a future episode of "A Day in the Life of" series. Joshua Martyn filmed all day with the son of the man sitting on the left who is a pastor there. Even though he is crippled, the pastor still has six churches he ministers to. The other children are neighbors who were there playing and eating at a Touch A Life feeding center that day.

The **Progress Report** is distributed freely by post and/or email to those who request it.



In This Issue

And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the *Holy Ghost: Teaching them to* observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.

- Matthew 28:18-20 (KJV)

Updates and Encouragement ...

Greetings to all:

Nolin and I are enjoying ourselves hosting groups from the USA in Honduras. This summer, we have eight weeks of groups, and the "off weeks" are packed with repairs and construction projects. Already, we have seen at least one hundred souls come to Christ, and yesterday I was able to visit a Tolupan tribal village that I had never been to before. That was a real blessing, and getting there was an adventure. But as always, our Mighty Mitsubishi made it with no problem.

I heard the other morning from a young missionary in Germany whom I am blessed A few thoughts from Jon Nelms



Toys and candy were given to the children in Bartolo.

to know and participate in his mentoring. He called to update me and introduce me to one of his seventeen Timothies, a young German named Pascal. They had recently returned from a gathering in northern Italy. They were eager to share their church plating results with me. What a blessing. The books our Lord has allowed me to write are being blessed abundantly. We now have them in more than half a dozen languages, and they are used in Bible institutes worldwide.

The same morning, I received another call from the Middle East with glowing reports of our work from Morocco to Afghanistan. Our people are still hunted, but they shared with me a story of how the attempted capture and execution of two of our men was spoiled. Like the soldiers who attempted to throw Daniel's friends into the fiery furnace, they, too, were swallowed up by the same cruel death they had planned for our men.

Most days, we get calls or emails from all over the world, sharing remarkable stories, asking for help, and requesting Bibles and prayers. We do all we can, but that is only because you do all you can to provide the funds for us to help.

I will be home in late August and plan to be in and out of the country until next Spring. Still, I cherish any opportunity to share our ministry with the churches in America, so give me a call. Our ministry is exploding worldwide, with so many coming to Christ and so many new churches being planted. Honestly, we are blessed to know such men of God and honored to share their works with you, and your support with them.

There are some pressing needs right now, so please watch for our emails. Check your spam folder if you are not getting them, or notify me at jnelms@finalfrontiers.org.

Yours for souls,







Bibles Distributed 600,000

CONVERSION of a 24-Year-Old Muslim Woman

Editor's Note: Distributing Bibles in Islamic nations is not a trivial task or without danger. Over the past two decades, we have freed hundreds of our smugglers from capture and have buried over a thousand involved in distributing or receiving Bibles.

In America, we are blessed to casually sit in a favorite chair and read the words of God that He has preserved for every generation. But in the Islamic world, possessing a Bible can be a death sentence. They are not offered like tracts on the street corners of free countries. Our people carefully determine the sincerity of the person to whom they witness before offering them a Bible. Once given, that person reads it covertly, carefully concealing it from their family members. They must find hiding places for their Bible in their home or outside under a rock or buried in the ground.

The articles we prepare for you come from our smugglers and are the testimonies of those whom you, by your donations to our Smugglers ministry, have helped them bring to Christ. Here is a recent example.

Greetings to all of you in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. I'd like to take this opportunity to express my deepest gratitude to all of you for your prayers and financial support, which has resulted in the Lord expanding our borders and helping us to spread the gospel around our country, delivering the message of God's salvation to those who live in delusion and confusion. We share with them the Word of God that gives life and a personal relationship with God and fills us with all love, grace, peace, understanding, and divine knowledge of the truth that is in Christ. And contrary to everything they have learned and memorized through their Islamic religious education, the gospel has no confusion or contradictions. Hearing it brings them great joy and peace. Here, I want to give you the testimony of one of our new converts.

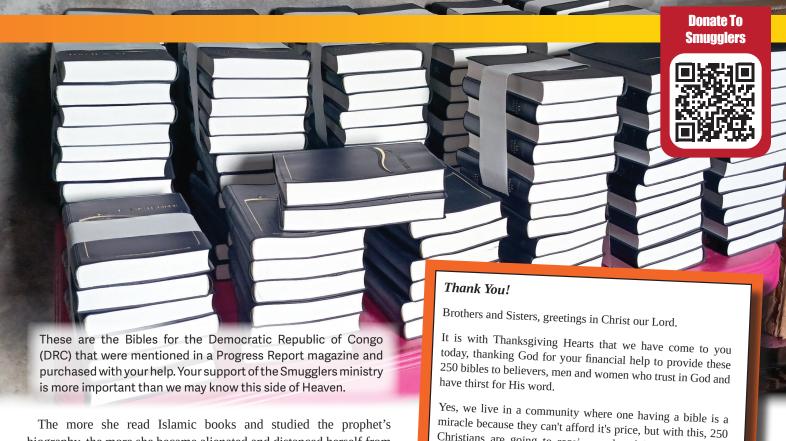
There is a 24-year-old convert, a woman who grew up in a very devout Muslim family. Like other girls in our country, she learned how to obey the teachings of the Quran, the rituals, and the traditions of her sect, as dictated by the leaders of the clergy in her sect. The list of rules and regulations she was to obey seemed endless, and of course, she was required to obey all of them without any questions.

She was the youngest of her five siblings, and her mother taught them how to practice their religious rituals. At the age of six, her mother enrolled her in a private Islamic school to learn the religion. During those years, she studied the Quran and the prophets mentioned in the Quran, their lives, what heavenly teachings they taught, and how their lives ended.

In the Quran and study of Islam, people learn about Christ, but they see him only as a human prophet, secondary to Mohammad, not as the Son of God or Savior. So, when she studied about Jesus in the Quran, what caught her attention was the personality of Christ, and she realized that Christ was special from all the other prophets in his birth, his life, his wonderful behavior, his merciful deeds, all the miracles he performed, not to mention his ascension to Heaven, and even in his return at the end of time. (They believe Jesus will return with Mohammad, being subordinate to him, and will arrive in Damascus, not Jerusalem.)

She was very surprised by Christ's character, and one time, she dared to say to her mother, "As a Muslim, I feel jealous because the character of Christ in the Quran seems more important and desirable than the character of the Prophet Muhammad." Hearing these words, her mother said to her, "Don't say this again. Our Prophet Muhammad is the seal of all the prophets, and he is the greatest of them all in the sight of Allah."

As she grew older and studied the prophet's biography more deeply, she began to discover problems, contradictions, and stories about the prophet Mohammad that couldn't be explained or justified. There was one issue in particular that troubled her: it was the story of one of the prophet's wives, whom he married when she was eight years old, and to this day, she is considered one of the most controversial figures in Islamic history. This is because of her role in writing many of the prophetic Hadiths (teachings) about her relationship with the prophet Muhammad and how the revelations came to him while he was in bed with her. Because of this, she was considered the mother of the believers, and she would speak to the prophet every time he married a new woman, saying to him, "Your Lord is the Lord of your desires and your lust." She said this because he would claim that Allah had revealed to him that he should marry those many women. She also had a role after the death of Muhammad in killing two caliphs by sowing discord among the Muslim followers and starting the battle that divided the Muslims between the two sects of Sunnis and Shiites.



The more she read Islamic books and studied the prophet's biography, the more she became alienated and distanced herself from believing in Islam, which started to scare her. Still, at the same time, she felt that she loved Allah, the Creator, but struggled to accept the concept that the prophet Muhammad was the greatest and the best prophet of all Allah's prophets. After all her study and reading, she could no longer accept Mohammad's supremacy and began to compare the differences between the teachings of Christ and the teachings of Muhammad. These were dangerous thoughts if discovered, so she was afraid to share what was going on inside her mind with anyone. The main question that would not leave her was this: If all Muslims read what she reads and know what she knows, why do they still believe in Mohammad? She was afraid to face her many questions, so she began to pray to God to guide her and strengthen her faith because she had begun to lose confidence in her religion.

By this time, she had stopped praying according to the Islamic tradition; instead, she prayed, asking God to relieve her worries and guide her to the right path. One night she went to sleep and was very sad because of a dream that had frightened her. In her dream, she saw that her private Islamic school was completely demolished, and in the blink of an eye, a second building appeared in its place, looking like a church, with a huge cross radiating light on it. Then she heard a voice saying, "Don't be afraid; I am with you."

The voice startled her, and she woke up terrified by her dream. She was concerned as to the meaning of it. The next morning, she told her mother what she had seen in her dream, and her mother told her, "Don't be afraid because you saw something about Christianity because it is a good thing." And with those words, she felt a little relieved. This dream was repeated to her eighteen times that year, but the last time, the message was different; the voice said to her, "I am the light of the world, he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."

That message made her decide to research how she could know Christ and how she could have the light of life. At the same time, she was very afraid of that step because she knew what could happen to her if her family found out. Still, could not forget that voice saying, "Don't be afraid." She waited more than six months trying to read Islamic books about Christ, and each day she read, she had the same dream, with the same voice and the same message. She began to pray to Christ and asked Christ to help her find someone who could help her to know Him. She felt that she was in a helpless position and didn't know what she needed to do to find Christ.

Christians are going to receive each a bible FREELY OF

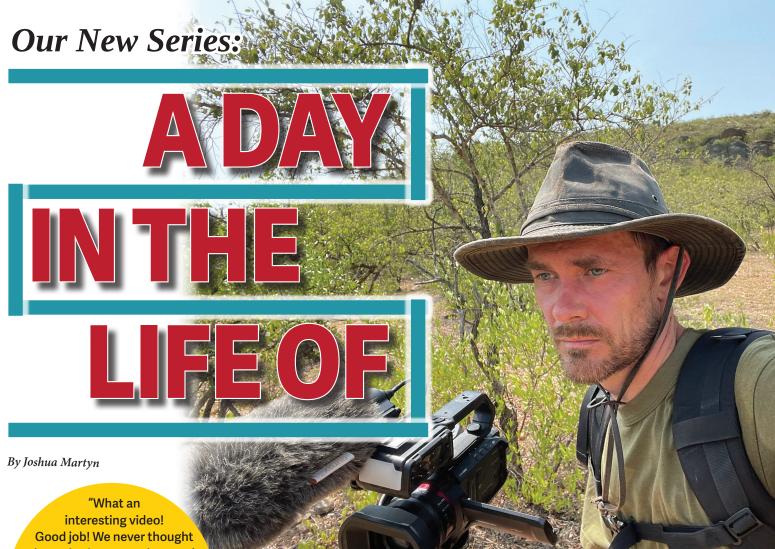
CHARGE which will be a spiritual weapon, food for spiritual

growth into knowledge of who Christ is and God's grace.

Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

From a Pastor

It was then that the Lord opened the door for her to meet a sister in one of our house churches. When our church member opened the subject of the Lord Jesus Christ, her eyes opened widely in amazement, and she jumped off the chair, embraced our sister, and began to cry, saying, "He has responded to me!" Our sister brought her to my home, and she shared her story with us. Then I opened the Bible and started to present to her who the Lord Jesus Christ is and how the words she heard in her dream were quotes from the Bible that she had never read, seen, or touched. I told her that her search was over and that very day, she could have a personal relationship with him. After I finished my witness, she came to the knowledge of salvation and accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as her personal savior.



"What an interesting video!
Good job! We never thought that a day in a normal person's life could be so interesting to watch! You do such an amazing job finding beauty in simply life!"

- what a missionary on the foreign field recently had to say about one of the episodes

In the past, when filming documentaries of our church planters and feeding centers, we've often only been able to spend a few hours in a village before moving on to capture new stories in

another. But on our last film expedition, we traveled through six foreign countries, spending entire days with Christian families who had been recommended to us by our national directors. Right now, we are releasing a new series that allows you to see first-hand what it's like to live in their shoes in third-world conditions.

Final Frontiers' President Daniel Nelms wanted to present you with a brisk, raw, real-life feeling to each day, with as many authentic sound FX as we could acquire. So, these documentaries are a visual journey of everyday life without any narration or subtitles. The only thing added is the music, which guides the twists and turns of the day—leaving you to observe and process what you see as if you were actually there, living right alongside them. The music soundtrack is fully unique to every episode and expresses not only the instrumental flavor of their culture but what I (the videographer) felt personally for each new portion of the day as it progressed. These videos are fast-paced, meaning you

will be watching a person's routine, from sun-up to sun-down, in 15 to 20 minutes, so there's always something new to see.

As Westerners, we are not familiar with their language, their food, or their daily customs. To keep it interesting, we kept it real. Everything in these episodes is unscripted, spontaneous, and captured as it occurs. This gives you the privilege of not just reading about, but seeing how the children you support in our feeding centers live, how the national preachers you support live, and how individual church members in their congregations live. The poverty, the struggles, the simple joys—it's all there for you to experience and better empathize with.

We are presenting a different country in every-other episode, as well as alternating each episode between men and women. Sometimes you will even get to see a day in the life of a child as well, and usually, as is the case with "A First Grader in Honduras," it will be a boy or girl who is eating at one of our feeding centers. So, whether you are a man or woman, you can find interesting common ground in these stories. These documentaries will also help missionaries better understand the people they are going to serve because they can study exactly how they live in a given culture. And likewise, if you want to teach your child how other children live in other countries, this gives you a perfect opportunity.







For those who want to learn more about each location presented, there's always extra information written in the description below each video, and we encourage further questions from our viewers. But we are also producing a full commentary version for each and every episode, which is published after the primary one has come out. In these extra episodes, Daniel Nelms and I discuss what is happening in many of the scenes, with many of the details that may slip by viewers the first time they watch. This will help answer some of the questions you or your child may have. So, even as this article is being written, we have five episodes for five different countries published on our channel right now; and there will be five more additional episodes with further explanation to accompany them. Many more day-in-the-life-of stories are yet to come, so please stay tuned throughout the coming year.

Joshua Martyn with Anton in Ukraine.





Capturing these documentaries has had the added benefit of encouraging the families we spend the day with. They are honored that someone from America would even do such a thing—to come and live like they live and tell their story. I'll never forget one poor man in Kenya who, after boiling fresh milk over his open fire in his mud kitchen, turned to look at me sincerely in the cold morning air, saying: "Thank you, brother, for sharing tea with me"—and you could see in his eyes, he meant it.

Just imagine what it means to a poor Christian family whose father, mother, sister, or brother gets to have a day documented. That precious individualsomeone's husband, someone's child-can now be remembered by their family in a way they would've never dreamed possible. Both parents and children now have something to look back on. I've already heard stories of appreciation, as is the case with Peres in Kenya, who enjoyed the recent video about her



Joshua with Peres and her children in her living room in Kenya

Watch Now





so much, that she "laughed uncontrollably" to get to see herself and her daughter. Another, a man from Ukraine named Anton, thanked me and said: "Our home is always open for you. Next time you come, be sure to come and visit us."

Flowing along like an undercurrent beneath the benefits already mentioned, I also see this series as an attempt to show individual lives as important, dramatic in their own way, and just as meaningful as God sees your own—even though you live on opposite sides of the globe. Our highest-viewed story so far has been "A Hunter In India," about a man named G Kotayya. He's probably the poorest church member we had the privilege of spending a day with while filming this series. In his story, we had to create the feeling of being a hunter-gatherer on days when you don't catch quite so much—but it was still real—just as real as

your days are—and of course, there's still that feeling of adventure and anticipation as he searches on-and-on for prey. You'll

have to watch the video to find out what he caught. I think my favorite part is the ending of the second hunt, where he's resting next to his empty trap, followed by the scenes of him returning home. I could feel the disappointment of not catching anything on that second attempt; yet I could also hear his heart saying: "This is what I am. I am a hunter, and win or lose, I'm still giving it all I've got for the sake of my family."

To make a set of documentaries like these was a dream come true for me. By the end of each day, having worked as hard as possible to capture every detail I could without getting myself into the scene, I felt like I was a part of their family. I believe that





"Look at our brothers and sisters,
what kind of hard life they have. When I'm seeing
that woman, she is our sister, and you know my heart is
crying for her life. May the Lord bless them. You know, videos like
this bring glory to God from you. It is useful, of course. We are
sharing them with our church members. I wish one day to meet
all my brothers and sisters who are serving God
from the heart."

Peres watching her video with her pastor in their church in Kenya.



when you watch these, you'll feel you've lived with them too. I remember one person in the U.S. once saying to me how they would love to be able to crawl inside some of the videos we've put out and see everything that's happening around those thirdworld homes: what they eat; where they sleep; what they do in their spare time; what they bring home from the market—because it's all going to be different in every place you travel to. Now, all of you can do just that; and I hope you'll enjoy the unique opportunity.

Joshua Martyn, Final Frontiers Missionary and Media Director, travels through the many countries where our national church planters work, creating video documentaries to tell their stories and needs. He grew up in Iowa, then began missionary work, pioneering into closed countries, and documenting expeditions to unreached jungle tribes.



Joshua with Sothy and her brother at the end of the day in Cambodia



Note from Jon Nelms

There is absolutely nothing I know of that is more effective in helping national preachers plant churches and train pastors than the Great Commission Fund. Some would argue that direct, full support is better than a ministry subsidy; however, my thirty-eight years of experience have convinced me that providing a high level of support has the potential to have several adverse effects:

- It can cause the recipient to live above the level of those he pastors and works with. This is a death blow to a third-world ministry.
- They can become dependent on outside sources rather than "living off the ministry," as Paul taught. When the source is removed, the ministry perishes. This is why many churches started by foreigners tend to fail when they leave unless another funded foreigner replaces them.
- It removes the necessity for the local congregation preacher.

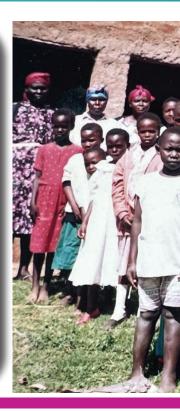
to take care of its own pastors and makes them employees of the sponsor rather than leaders of the ministry.

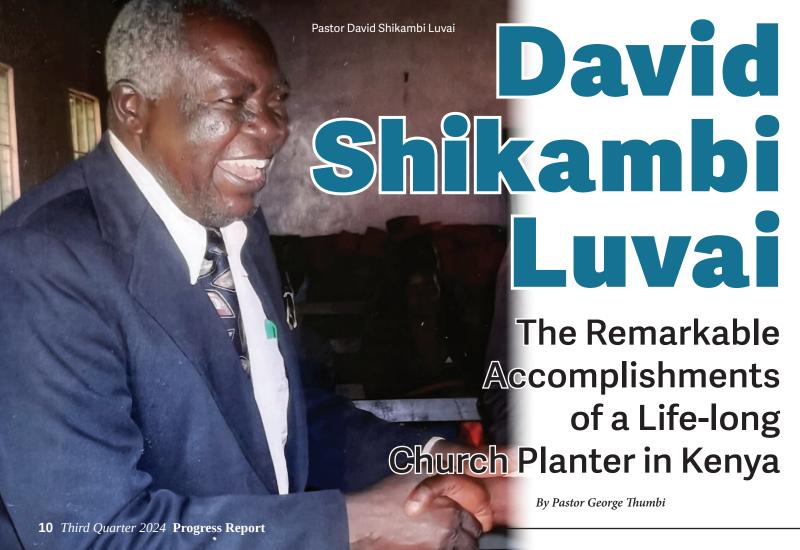
• It promotes the idea that a pastor should and must be full-time in ministry rather than a tentmaker like Paul

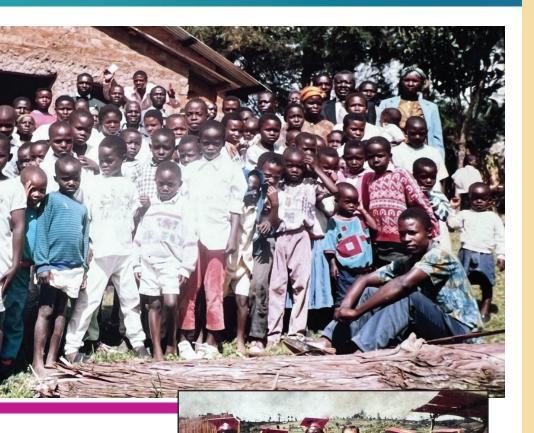
There are other reasons, but that is not the purpose of this article. Instead, we want to illustrate, using one man's life, how our ministry subsidy for experienced church planters is more effective than full support in fulfilling the Great Commission. It gives the preachers a subsidy they cannot live on but allows them to expand the ministries that THEY, not WE, have started. "To better do what they were already doing."

In 2023, our preachers, funded by their subsidies, planted 78,622 new house churches at an average cost of only \$4. How many churches would you like to fund for us this year?

Now, let me introduce you to a remarkable national







ABOVE: Pastor David started 103 churches and assisted in planting many others throughout Nandi. This is one of those churches.

RIGHT: David graduated from Bible College in 1979, together with Rev. James Muthama, Rev. James Kupsang, and others.

Reverend David Shikambi Luvai was born in 1920 in a PAG household (Pentecostal Assemblies of God). Due to school, he was not a staunch Christian, and his parents were not strict about church attendance. After completing his teacher training in 1959, he was first posted to the school at Kakamega and later returned home, where he changed his denomination and joined a Southern Baptist church after meeting a missionary to Kenya named Weaver.

Pastor David married his wife, Methabel, in 1968, who was in a different denomination but later joined the Baptist church. They have four children: Geoffrey, Kennedy, Helen, who is since deceased, and Emmanuel, and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. David was saved in 1966 in a Southern Baptist church under a missionary named Weaver after hearing him declare the Word of God. In 1969, he moved to Nandi, where they were able to plant Kechire Baptist Church. They did not have a pastor in the church, and various men, some of whom were not qualified, began to teach, so the church became weak.

At that time, his teaching responsibilities in a different area made it difficult for him to attend the church faithfully. In 1974, Missionary Jerry Daniels (Baptist Bible Fellowship) and a local preacher from Nairobi, George Kungu, came to

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.

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?



Providing Missionary Support and Tools For Evangelism and Church Planting



Pastor David requires some supplies to help improve his condition, including:

- A high blood pressure kit \$80
- Antibiotics \$40 a month
- Dressing supplies such as gauze, gloves, etc. - \$40 a month
- Strips for the diabetes kit \$10 a month
- Special diet \$100 in a month
- Means of transport to the hospital and helping aid - \$100 a month.

Pastor Boit also suggests that getting a motorbike would eliminate most of the expenses of taking Rev. David to the hospital. The one-time cost is \$1350 compared to an ongoing monthly expense of \$100.

Please pray with him over these needs.

Five" to this day. (These five church planters were among the first twelve Final Frontiers began supporting around 1992.)

Pastor David's work with missionary Randall Stirewalt led to the planting of his first church in 1986. It was called Kapkangani Baptist Bible Church. He planted a house church, Kimatika Baptist, in 1996. In 2005, they bought land and built a facility. He planted three other churches in Samo, Chemoru, and Sicho that year. These are among the 103 churches he has started and others that he has greatly assisted in planting throughout Nandi. Pastor David has also trained a lot of Timothies to date; among them are preachers in the Nandi Fellowship, such as Haron Musonye, Elias Boit, and Amos Kizengwe, among others who are still in the

Nandi for evangelism. With the aid of the two men, Kechire Baptist revived and started again. George Kungu pastored the church under Missionary Daniels, who also evangelized the town of Eldoret. Their teaching doctrines laid a strong foundation for this young church.

In 1976, another missionary, Tommy Moore, joined the ministry but was more involved in the Eldoret Ministry, and missionary Jerry Daniels left for Nanyuki to plant more churches there. David became the first church secretary in 1976 and, in 1977, became the first Deacon of the church with the late J. Savatia and joined the newly formed Bible School the same year. At that time, the only Bible College was Grace Baptist in Thika town, but it was hard to attend there; hence, David attended a crash program in Soy, which was later moved to Langas Eldoret. In 1976, Tommy left, and Missionary Randall Stirewalt (Baptist Bible Fellowship) took over the ministry expansion in the region.

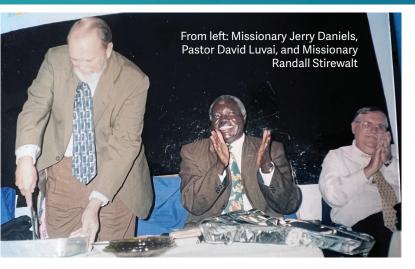
Rev. David graduated from Bible College in 1979, together with Rev. James Muthama, Rev. James Kupsang, and others. That same year, Pastor George Kungu left the church to plant more works, and Rev. David took on the leadership role as the Pastor of Kechire Baptist Bible Church. He was later ordained in the year 1981. A conflict arose with a missionary called Simpson, who broke up the group of preachers into two fellowships, and missionary Randall almost left the Kenyan ministry in discouragement. Reverend David was among the five national preachers (Rev. Muthama, Rev. Alute, Rev. Thumbi, and the late Rev. Ambani) who encouraged Missionary Randall, stood by him through the trying times, and convinced him to stay. They are called "the Big

ministry and have planted more churches on their own. Many of whom we have today as reverends and pastors were trained by him since he assisted in the Bible school as a teacher for 11 years from 1997-2008. Among the women he has trained who are pastor's wives are Sarah, Pastor Edward Masingu's wife; Nancy, Pastor Jason Ambani's wife; Cherop, Pastor Silas Lugongo's wife; and many more.

Pastor David and his wife, Methabel

The main challenges he has had in ministry are illness, including diabetes and "tropical ulcers" that eat away the flesh and meat on his foot. This condition started in the year 1983 and led to him having high blood pressure. He has had this condition for 41 years, and it is still ongoing. He has undergone skin grafting twice, but it wasn't successful. The condition has no suitable treatments; hence, they dress the wounds twice a week. He has to visit the hospital that is far away from his home twice a week, and to date, his medical insurance has been exhausted, and they have to rely on church donations and good Samaritans.

His medical condition made him retire as a teacher in 1994, as

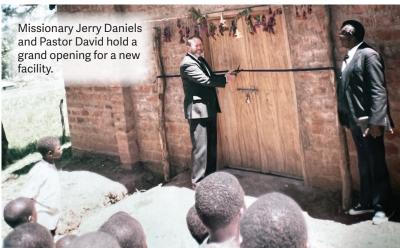


a Bible school teacher in 2008, and as a church pastor in 2015. He oversees church functions and helps in counseling and advising on the pastor's direction for the church. He cannot walk long distances or stand for long, making it hard to do ministry work. His wife was always a great support in the ministry and his life, but unfortunately, they lost her in 2019 due to a heart condition. She was primarily a women's leader in the church and assisted in many ministry activities.

Pastor Elias Boit has been a blessing in his life. He was given the leadership of Kechire Baptist Bible Church as Pastor David moved on gracefully. He even assists Reverend David with his daily needs in his home, accompanies him, and takes him to the hospital. Pastor Elias is like a son to Rev David. David and his wife adopted him as an abandoned child, and now, with Christian gratitude, he is taking care of David. Though their houses are built in the same compound, he says he can't remember the last time he slept in his own home. He has to be with Rev. David all day and all night since Rev. needs attention due to pains, especially at night. Other challenges that he has faced in the ministry include:

- Conflict between neighboring churches and people from different denominations. The Baptist church was nicknamed "the childish church." Since we do not practice forms of worship that other denominations use, they believe our doctrine is immature.
- When missionaries in the area left, we did not have monetary and spiritual support for the new churches being planted and preachers being trained. (This illustrates the need for the Great Commission Fund to give us help to serve rather than a salary to be dependent upon.)
- Finding land to build churches; hence, they have been forced to have home churches and worship under trees.
- In his secular life, he had to quit his job as a school principal to focus entirely on the ever-expanding ministry.

God has rewarded Pastor David with years of faithful stewardship of His Lord's work. He is so happy that he has been blessed with the 84 years he has lived. Doctors tell him they have no idea how he is still alive despite the medical conditions that he has. He currently lives at his home with Pastor Boit and one of the ladies they have employed to help prepare meals for him.



Missionary Randall Stirewalt

We first began supporting Randall's team around 1992. At that time, he had twelve church planters and twelve churches but did not have funds to feed them. He came home on furlough, tempted not to return because he considered himself "a failure," having started ONLY twelve churches. I assured him that his record was exemplary, that he could go back and continue his work, and that Final Frontiers would take the burden of their support from him. Since that time, we have grown from personally supporting twelve men with twelve churches to supporting 230 men who have started 8,172 churches with 564,641 salvation decisions. This number does not include what they have led and helped their thousands of timothies to accomplish. Currently, and throughout the years, each of our supported men, in every location, has between two and fifteen timothies being trained. They, in turn, have timothies of their own, and so forth.

Randall also started seven Bible colleges, six in Kenya and one in Uganda. He also referred us to other missionaries who were doing great work but needed similar help for their national church planters' support. One of them is Jerry Daniels, who is also in Kenya.

Randall Stirewalt passed away in April 2020, and his wife Phyllis now lives in the United States and is cared for by family. Randall and Phyllis were both from the Kansas/Missouri area and came to Christ as children through the bus ministry. We were honored to serve him.

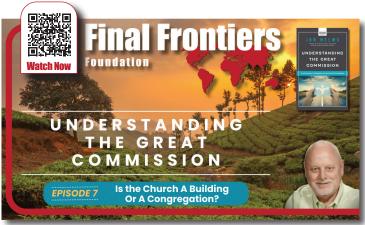
A few great-grandchildren also help by caring for the house and maintaining general cleanliness. He has been blessed to see his grandchildren's children, and God's grace has been sufficient in his life and ministry. In his final years, he continues to mentor the young preachers in the area, and his history inspires many as he teaches his church planting principles, peppered with tales of the 103 churches he started. His prayer is for more people to be reached with the Gospel of Christ and for more churches to be planted in Nandi.

This profile of David Shikambi Luvai is authored by pastor George Thumbi, the Kenyan National Director for Final Frontiers and Touch a Life.



Misunderstandings About

What a Missionary Is



Our ministry of supporting national church planters is quite effective. Some consider our reported number of conversions and new churches planted astounding. In contrast, others dismiss them as unbelievable. I think the primary reason is they do not understand what a church is.

In our American culture, when we hear the term "church," we think of a building. (Go on now, admit it.) We know that is not technically correct, but that image has become so ingrained in us that we even refer to the building as being the "church" or "God's House." We know full well that the church is not the building—but that our bodies are the temples of God. We don't think of church as the worshippers but as a "place of worship" with property, a baptistry, pews, a pulpit, a choir (robes optional), songbooks, and even a parking lot, signboard, offices, and a fellowship hall with a full kitchen.

A church is neither a location nor a facility; it is a congregation. At Final Frontiers, we define a church as "a group of newly saved and baptized believers meeting together regularly for worship, under the leadership of a pastor." The Bible refers to such congregations meeting in homes as "churches." In each epistle, they have:

UNDERSTANDING

The Great Commission

Episode **7**

- 1. A place to meet—someone's house
- **2.** A pastor or several of them—to teach and lead them
- **3.** A people—the congregation of newly saved and baptized believers

Some churches, like Corinth, even had backslidden and unsaved participants meeting with and, at times, leading them. The church addressed in III John had a greedy and ungodly pastor who refused to allow the congregation to assist (national, traveling) missionaries and cast out members who did so despite his ruling. No church is perfect because no people are perfect—even if their building is.

Typically, our "churches" start in a home, on a front porch, in a field, or under a tree. In time, as needed, they acquire the physical trappings of what we in America call churches. Still, for the most part, they spend their tithes supporting their pastors, caring for the needy (both the saved and unsaved), and evangelizing the lost. And that's why statistically (2024), they report a new convert every 10.9 seconds, and a new church started every 6 minutes and 41 seconds. How's that for astounding?

Points to Ponder

- I know you know, but honestly, don't you often think of "the church" as the building where you worship? I do.
- What other misconceptions might we have that we will pass down to our children?
- Might it be wiser to emphasize facilities (and their costs) less and evangelizing and caregiving more? How can you accomplish that in your life?



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

BE ADVISED

Let us know now if you are interested in a Visionary Trip in the summer of 2025. These trips fill up quickly.

For more information call **800-522-4324 ext. 110**

2024
October:
Ukraine, Bulgaria
November:
Vietnam, Laos
December:

Thailand



Sewing School Graduation

Pastor Yelchuri Sudhakar Rao reports that Master Piece Outreach Ministries in India held a graduation in March for the 2024 Sewing School. The women were so happy to receive the certificates and sewing machines, he says, giving this amazing testimony:

"Our sewing school certificate is so valuable that the Government is blessing these women with one time support to establish a small business and no need to pay back the money which they received from the Government. Once again we really appreciate all your valuable support to our ministry."





You can't imagine the joy and thanks that each expresses to God for you as they receive a sword of faith, a light for their personal spiritual walk with God, and the spiritual diet that will allow them to grow in the grace and knowledge of who Christ is.



One of them said to me, "I can't believe that I have now my own Bible to read and apply its truth in my life. THANKS SO MUCH FOR GIVING THIS OPPORTUNITY."

Thank You for the Bibles

Once again, we all say THANK YOU FOR BIBLES PROVISION TO BELIEVERS IN THE CONGO. There is not any more special gift that one can offer to someone else under the sun than putting God's word in the hands of a believer. This touches soul, spirit, and eternity of one's life. Once again, THANK YOU!

Though the need is still great, we thank you so much for standing with us in this gap so that God's people can have the privilege of reading the Bible every time they want and everywhere they might be. We pray that the Holy Spirit illuminates the truth of God's word into their hearts so that every time they read and hear from it, they may realize the eternal purpose of God in their lives. Amen.

We still remain with about 80 Bibles that we are distributing progressively and more updates are coming.

From a Pastor,

Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)







Bruce and Morgan with friends

The Illula Bible Baptist Church joined Touch a Life to open its first feeding center in Kenya. Among its members are two orphan brothers, Bruce Kemboi (11 years) and Morgan Kipchirchir (9 years), who have been in the church since it was planted and were among the first children to enjoy the birth of our Touch A Life program. We are sharing their story as one since you will always find them together.



By George Maina Thumbi

They live in a small two-room house with their other siblings. Their mum, Melab Nasambu, who was their only parent, passed on last year November. We remember her for her prominent role in planting Illula Bible Baptist Church, as she was among the first members to join when Pastor Wilson Maiyo moved to the area. The church faced a lot of conflicts when the owner of the land they were renting evicted them from the room they were using. Melab kindly allowed the church to hold services in the tiny living room of her house. The church held services in her house for a year while Melab raised her nine children as a single mother, but that never derailed her in her walk with Christ. (Eph 2:10)

When I introduced the Touch A Life program to the church, Melab was one of the members who received us and worked hard to ensure the food was cooked and served on time. Her children, especially Bruce and Morgan, have been in the church since they were in diapers and have never missed church service. They have been good evangelists to their school and neighborhood friends.

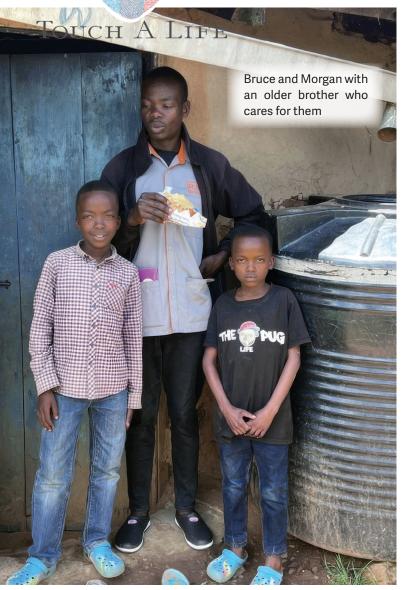
They have also pulled their siblings into the church with the help of their mum. The program has brought smiles to their faces despite the many challenges that they go through in life.

They study in a public school called Chepkoilel Primary School, where Bruce is in grade five, and Morgan is in grade three. Their hobbies include football and watching movies. Since their mum died, these two brothers, who are also best friends, live with their older brother Bramwel Wafula (22 years), who has now become their guardian. He works two jobs, one as a cleaner in a shopping mall in Eldoret town and the second as a community health promoter, for which he is often unpaid. He and his wife are expecting a child. Bramwell teaches the children's Sunday School class and hopes to join our Bible College this year. Still, that plan might have to wait since he is now responsible for caring





A CHILD SPONSORSHIP MINISTRY OF THE FINAL FRONTIERS FOUNDATION







for his siblings. The other siblings work away from home, and one is preparing for her national exams this year with financial help from the county government, friends, and the church.

The mother of these two boys and their siblings was their sole provider and worked as a hairdresser and a community health promoter. Still, since her passing, they have faced many challenges, which include:

- Lack of proper love and care. Since their mother passed on and now the change of guardianship, their brother has to work two shifts, so they are mostly left alone.
- Provision of food. After the mother's burial, the church gave them two bags of maize. However, they still lack many essential needs, which their brother alone cannot provide.
- Morgan lacked a Birth Certificate, which derailed his education, forcing him to repeat classes. Pastor Wilson Maiyo has kindly followed up with the local authorities to resolve that. He is a true shepherd of his flock.
- They were both born HIV+ and are under medication, which is hard to get most of the time.
- According to their tribe's culture, their mum could not own land. One of their uncles is acquiring possession of it and plans to demolish their house and build one for himself, so they are facing possible eviction. Pray that it doesn't get to this.

The TAL program brings children together, and when these children are in the church with others, they don't think about their problems or the challenges they face; they feel a sense of





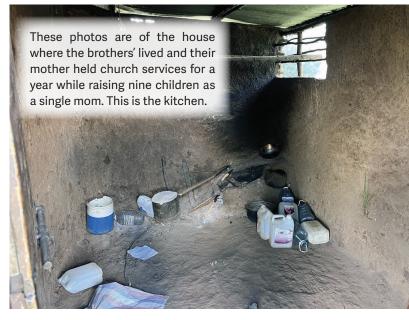
belonging. It has been three years since our feeding program began in the Illula Bible Baptist church, and we have experienced significant changes in the ministry's growth. The number of children attending has increased and are now filling two classes. Previously, some would leave services early due to hunger and boredom, but now they have a filling, hot meal to look forward to after service. These children have been an excellent tool for evangelism since some new believers are parents of the children in our Sunday School and TAL program and now attend our services.

We praise the Lord for the kitchen built by Touch a Life. It has been a great blessing. We used to cook outside, and during the rainy season, it was very hard for us to light fires, and the food took longer to cook. Now we cook inside, in our new kitchen. Our foremost prayer request is for a borehole well at the church. Our village people have always had to walk long distances and carry water home for cooking and cleaning, and a well would be a great blessing for the Touch A Life program. Please pray with us about that need.

Postscript: Since writing this article, we have been informed that Pastor Mayio successfully transferred the land into the name of Bramwell as the next of kin. The church and the extended community support them in this case.

The cost of a well is \$4,520. It includes drilling the borehole, a water tank, a solar pump, a solar panel to run the pump, and a steel stand for the water tank.







OUCH A LIFE Pastor Babu Prasad ministers to Gowindappa, the leprous grandfather of Lakshman and Rekha.

By Noel Prasad

Our TAL program in Bengaluru (formerly Bangalore), India, has many interesting and heartwarming stories. Young Lakshman, about five years old, and his sister Rekha, about three years old, caught my attention. As I spoke with them, I came to know that their grandpa is a leper, and that fact alone increased my curiosity to know more about their family. However, as is typical in such a situation, the children hesitated to talk about their grandpa. I know that Final Frontiers has a great interest in evangelizing lepers and that Touch a Life also has several feeding centers for the children of lepers.

Wanting to learn more about their situation, I went to their home to get more details, but it was pad-locked. After getting the neighbor's phone number and speaking with them, we learned the family had been gone for two months, and the landlord locked their door. Fortunately, the landlord was able to give me a contact number.

After many attempts, I finally contacted the grandpa and got the details I sought. The family consists of a father, a mother, two children, and a grandpa. The mother didn't like her father-in-law because of his leprosy; thus, there was always a fight in the family concerning the leper grandpa. The father was an alcoholic and used to fight, beat, and torture his wife and children and never gave them proper food. The mother was fed up with her life, so she abandoned her two children and husband.

Leper's Children

ABAMDONED ABAMDONED

The father-in-law and other family elders spoke to the mother, encouraging her to stay for the benefit of her children. Still, their words were all in vain, so now the children were without their mother, and after a few more months, the father also abandoned the children.

Lakshman and Rekha were left with their leprous grandpa, who could not work and had no means to feed his grandchildren. His only income was to beg on the street, but most people do not want to give to a leper. Many Hindus believe that such a tragedy is deserved and serves as a punishment for sins of past lives; therefore, to relieve the punishment would require it to continue in the next life until the sin debt is paid. Many days, the grandpa received no help, so the children went hungry.

Seeing this tragedy, other lepers from the colonies would feed them, and when they learned about Touch a Life at our church, they

Touch

a Life has

several

feeding

centers for

brought them to our TAL program. Of course, we accepted them and helped them enroll in a government school where they could study and have a daily lunch, and then in the evening, we gave them dinner in our TAL program, tutored them in their classes, and bought them clothes and uniforms for school and made sure they were in safe hands.

were in safe hands.

We have a weekly program in the leper colony, and the rest of the time, they have to walk two kilometers (1.24 miles) every day to attend the TAL program in our church as they need food and care, which the program provides them.

Once a month, my father and I are allowed to visit the leper hospital. Only my father and I visit the hospital because it is prohibited for more people to visit. We have permission because he is a pastor and cares for the lepers. With permission, we distribute food for them and provide fresh bandages. (My mother is a doctor and has access to medical supplies.) It was during a recent visit, and after we had enrolled them into our program, that we went to the hospital to visit their grandpa, Gowindappa, who was hospitalized for wounds in his legs. We prayed for him and told him not to worry about his grandchildren as the neighbors and the TAL volunteers would care for them. He thanked us with tears of joy and pain.

The neighbors and our church family now care for the children. We pray that in time, they will come to the savings knowledge of Jesus Christ because we show the love of Christ to them.

Noel Prasad is the teenage son of our Director in Bengaluru (formerly Bangalore), India. His mom is a medical doctor. As a young man, we encourage him to provide us with reports of the preachers and children we assist, particularly among the leper children. He is discipled by his father and hopes to work with us full-time as a future administrator. Reading his reports over time, you will see his maturity and understanding of ministry increase. He is one of many hand-picked Timothies serving with us around the world.



Higher Income G

By Scott Vignere

Tn this article, we will very briefly touch on some concepts to make **L**the reader aware that these concepts even exist. These concepts are for those that are higher income higher net worth persons. Each of these concepts can provide certain tax benefits where appropriate. Consult with your tax advisor. This article is only for informational purposes only. We have a lot of ground to cover in this article, so let's jump in!

Leveraged Deductions

These offer individuals as partners the opportunity to acquire minerals, commodities, and other raw materials on terms typically only available to large industry and institutional buyers. This is done by negotiating large allocations of assets but making them available in smaller lots.

Purchasers acquire individual, undivided ownership of the assets, directly or via an entity. Additional support is also available to assist owners in commercializing or managing the assets. (These are not pooled arrangements or investment contracts; purchasers have full ownership and responsibility for them). The assets are able to be purchased at bulk discount and then contributed to charity at retail value yielding a significant tax benefit. It is a real asset and the value is not built on inflated appraisals. This concept is built on the current Internal Revenue Code.

Solar Credits

Solar investments can turn a tax liability into an asset. They can unlock valuable tax benefits for high-income individuals (HNIs) and family offices. By acquiring solar projects, HNIs can significantly reduce their tax burden, while also contributing to a cleaner and greener future. Large corporations reduce taxes by choosing to acquire Solar Projects that generate tax benefits, effectively offsetting a large portion of their tax liabilities:

- 1. Investment Tax Credit (ITC) between 30-50%
- 2. Bonus Depreciation
- 3. Income Stream during Hold Period

Oil and Gas

A longer-term investment, oil and gas take advantage of Intangible Drilling Costs (IDC), Depreciation and Depletion Allowance. This concept can help in tax planning in that it allows an IDC deduction in the first one to two years, and provides a tax-preferred income stream based on real assets. It can be appropriate for high 1099 or W-2 income earners, helping with Roth Conversions or RMDs, or in the sale of a business. It can help with portfolio diversification. It provides a non-correlated asset to equities and bonds and it can provide a long-term income stream that can be reinvested to compound returns.

Structured Ownership

This strategy can reduce the client's out-of-pocket expense from 23.8% capital gains tax rate (plus state income tax) or 37% ordinary income tax rate (plus state income tax) down to 13.5% (capital gains) or 16% (ordinary income) with full liquidity.

- Does not require a charitable structure.
- Client can take entire basis tax-free in case of capital gains.
- Reduction of capital gains or ordinary income in the year the plan is implemented (possible carry forward if business loss exceeds income).

How it works: Client makes capital contribution of 10% in the case of capital gains income or 12.5% in case of ordinary income of desired tax deduction. Client will get a negative K-1 that will offset income of 10x (cap gains) or 8x (ordinary income) of their capital contribution plus a one-time 3.5% administration fee on the total amount. The taxes will be deferred for 15 years and then can be deferred another 15 years and so on until client is able to receive a step up in basis as current law permits. There are no additional fees to renew deferral.

Client will receive a 3% to 5% income on capital contribution, but will not receive capital contribution back (otherwise, tax would be triggered).

Example: Client sells real estate (or business) with \$1 million of capital gains. Client contributes \$100k into Master LLC. Client will get negative K-1 of 1 million to offset capital gains. Client will pay a one-time administration fee of 3.5% on K-1 amount. Client's total out-of-pocket is \$135k (or 13.5%) rather than paying tax of 23.8% capital gains plus state income tax.

Client will receive income of 3% to 5% (\$3k to \$5k) income per year from original \$100k capital contribution.

In conclusion, there can be more options for tax planning than is realized. This is by no means a comprehensive list. It can be beneficial to sit with your advisor and ask what other options are available

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.

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.

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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

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"Come and see our zeal for the Lord" - II KINGS 10:16

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627,195 Churches Started
(\$4.58/church)

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Myanmar

God's Protection

A Recent Testimony from Pastor Maung

We were located about 5km from where AA and the military counsel (SAC) had a battle. There were fighting with all means possible including from air and from the sea. Heavy artillery fell two times in the village and seven times outside the village. I saw one man die on the spot while another six people had heavy injuries. Five cows died, and there were bullets flying in the bunkers where we hid ourselves. Bullets landed on the road where we hid underneath. But God protected us so we were not hit by the bullets.

The next day, we ran into Cheng Chaung village to escape from the battle. There, we still heard the sounds of bombs and artillery fire. We were trembling inside our hearts, and all we could do was call on God. There were no phone lines. Many houses were burned down. Elderly people, pregnant women, and the sick were helpless. A lady who is our church member gave birth with severe hardship. But God protected the lady and the child.

The reason I am still alive this time is that God wants me to serve Him. Praise God!