

The Final Frontiers Foundation

Progress Report

Fourth Quarter 2023

Sharing the Gospel Through

MISSIONS & Ministry

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www.missions.world

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® 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: Summer 2023
Location: Cairo
Subject: Touch A Life Cairo

The Story: Since we began a regular feeding program in Cairo a few years ago, a church in Cairo has given a beautiful modern building to this ministry. Now, we feed scores of children both physically and spiritually, and their parents are coming to Christ as a result.

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

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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A few thoughts from Jon Nelms

Greetings to all:

Nolin and I were blessed to spend all summer in Honduras doing the work of the ministry and hosting the groups that visited us. There were not many this year, but we had tremendous results, with several hundred making public professions of placing their faith in Christ. We are doubly blessed to be able to direct those converts to our national preachers who will baptize them and begin their training in discipleship. We must remember that the Great Commission is about more than just bringing them to Christ. It mandates that we baptize and disciple them with the aim of each new convert eventually doing the same until all the dominoes have fallen.



In November, we’re off to Pakistan again with most of the pastoral staff of Anchor Baptist Church in Columbus, Ohio. I am thrilled to have these three pastors go with me and help with the preaching. Since I was there in February 2022, I don't think a week has gone by that our team has failed to start at least one new church. These generally average about 100+ newly saved and baptized adults. While there, I will officially inaugurate our new Bible Institute facility, which just started a new semester with some twenty new students, all of whom are already church planters.

Further south in India, we have incorporated an existing Bible College into our ministry that Pastor Thomas Maher and Evangelist David Wood founded, and we have registered Final Frontiers India with the national government. This will be our new hub and our official office in India. (Pastors, if you are interested in teaching at either of these locations for a week or two, let me know.)

In addition, it seems the Lord has opened doors for me to be useful to existing foreign missionaries. Men who have been taught to serve traditionally as pastors in their lands, who now see that their biblical calling as a missionary is to be a church planter who plants church planting churches. They want to travel with me to other lands to learn their craft by observing national church planters whom they can emulate. We have now gone from introducing the concept of supporting national missionaries to American churches to having national missionaries train our under-trained American missionaries. Wow.

I'm getting older and tired, but I’m still useful, and I have the energy to serve my Master and train others to do likewise. And I am thankful for the opportunity. I plan to die with my boots on and am so thankful to all of you who make this work possible. I'm doing my best to help our supporters lay up treasures in Heaven by "producing fruit that abounds to your account." And if you are not praying for us and contributing, I guess you'll have to look for fruit elsewhere. So why not join me? I need you, and can do much, much more with your help.

More News from Final Frontiers



A Giant Leap Forward!

Your support through The Great Commission Fund recently allowed us to approve 92 preachers for support—in one day! And they were among 106 preachers we were able to tell that after years of planting churches with no outside help, they would all now receive a monthly stipend.



..... www.missions.world



Providing God's Words... For All People... In All Lands... By All Means

Scan to Support our
Smugglers Ministry



Islamic Man Comes to Christ After Waiting for Years for a Bible

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.

I had met a 35-year-old man who had grown up in a Muslim family. His father was committed to the religion, rituals, customs, and traditions of his tribe, and he imposed those on his family. When this man was six years old, his father began to take him to the mosque, teaching him how to obey the five pillars of Islam and the rituals of his denomination without any objections. He was trained to follow the Imams without questions. As he grew older, he was faithful and listened to the sermons of his spiritual leaders. So, he believed in their teaching that Christians and Jews were infidels who hated Islam. When he asked why, their answer was a verse from the Quran that says, Jews and Christians will not be satisfied with you until you leave your religion. They gave him examples of how Christians and Jews persecuted Muslims by perverting historical evidence, such as the Crusades, the invasion of Iraq, and the West's support of Israel against the Arab world.

One day, he was listening to an Imam on the radio who was verbally attacking Christian nations for standing with Israel against the Palestinians, saying, "Their prophet (Jesus) claims that they must love their enemies, and yet they stand with a criminal regime (Israel) that kills innocent children and women. Their Christ is against them, their fake religion, and their teachings." Yet, from all

that, what stuck in his mind was, why did Christ say to love your enemies, and how can you love your enemies?

As he grew older, studying Islam, he discovered controversial issues in his beliefs but was afraid to reveal his doubts. Later, a desire grew in his heart to know why religious Muslim men were so focused on destroying Christianity.

The question that began to arise in his mind was, "How is Christ in Christianity," and why does the Quran describe Christ as "the Word of God and a spirit from Him!" Many years passed, and he couldn't find the answers and did not dare to ask anyone because it was taboo to discuss this topic because it affected the credibility of the divine prophecy of Muhammad.

Then, one day, the Lord prepared the door for us to meet through a mutual friend. It took time to build trust to discuss these taboo subjects in our culture, especially from his side. I showed him that Christ in the Bible is totally different from Christ as described in the Quran, and I explained to him who Christ in the Bible is and why Christ holds two natures (God and man). After that, I asked if he would like a Bible to read, and he told me that he had been waiting for years to get one. As he read, the Word of God started to work in his heart, and we met weekly for several months. Finally, in one meeting, I explained to him why the Lord Jesus Christ said, in John 14:6, "I am the way, the truth, and the life..." After I finished, I noticed tears in his eyes, and the Lord graciously opened his heart, allowing him to come to the knowledge of salvation and accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as his personal Savior.

Note: Four things were needed to bring this man to Christ: the contradictions of Islam, a trusted friend, a brave national pastor who patiently witnessed to him at the risk of his own life (there are no foreign missionaries in his country), and you. Those of you who, with a \$6 donation to our Smugglers ministry, provided us the ability to print, bind, and distribute the Bible that introduced him to Christ. Your \$6 was a small investment that will yield dividends for eternity.

Bibles
Distributed
600,000 +

Final Frontiers Foundation on YouTube

By Joshua Martyn

In the past few years, the Final Frontiers YouTube channel has grown in videos and subscribers, and we dearly hope that more Christians across America will help us to blossom the channel's visibility.

The purpose of our videos is to raise awareness for the many extraordinary ministries of Final Frontiers Foundation—drawing traffic to our website: finalfrontiers.world—where global needs, and opportunities to meet them, abound.

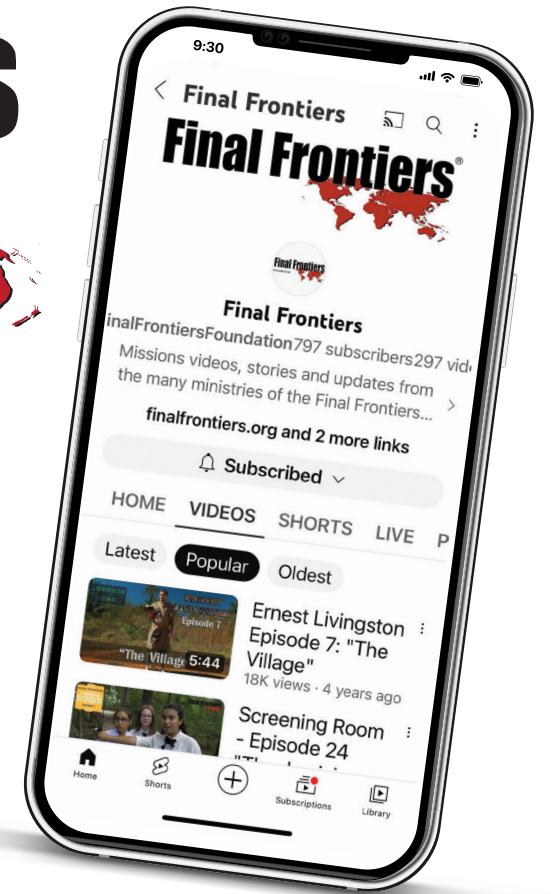
After I first came on board in 2016, online advertising restrictions made it very difficult to expand our outreach to find that special breed of missions-minded believers we know exist in every church. Notwithstanding, I still frequently hear of new viewers discovering our videos, getting excited, and sharing the links. Thanks so much to all of you who help us with this! If those who love the cause of missions as much as we do would help us share these stories with their churches, family, and friends, we would have no need for advertising. We pray that God will continue to guide those people to our channel.

EXPLORE PLAYLISTS

If you scroll through our twenty active PLAYLISTS, you will discover all types of content about world missions. A few of the many headings you will find are: "ministry videos; missions stories & needs; thank you's and results; mission trip debriefings; Touch A Life & Daily Bread; biographies of national preachers; and teaching sessions with Jon Nelms, like: "The Great Commission Series." My personal favorite is "Expeditions," with stories of how we use our PowerPack audio Bibles to saturate whole people groups with the gospel.

Two of our most well-liked series are more on the humorous side: an adventurous comedy of an underdog missionary who never gives up, called "Ernest Livingston;" and a comical interview scenario made primarily to teach children what a missionary is, called "Screening Room."

"Mine eye affecteth
mine heart..."
– Lam. 3:51 KJV



Find Us on YouTube



Right now, we have a brand-new series in production called: "A Day In The Life Of," which takes you on a sun-up to sun-down journey to experience an entire day with men, women, and children living in the third world.

Whether you are a missionary looking for more information on countries and people groups, a pastor looking for missions videos to show your church, a youth director looking to inspire your young people, or a parent looking for Christian content for your children, we hope you will visit our channel and browse through our playlists.

SHARE OUR STORIES!

But don't stop there . . . please help us raise awareness of the needs on the mission field by sharing our videos!

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.



Providing Missionary Support and Tools For Evangelism and Church Planting

The Great Commission Fund Is Growing

By Jon Nelms

When we first began introducing our Great Commission Fund, it was challenging to help sponsors understand its effectiveness. The idea of my (or their) personal contribution being combined with those of others to help many men rather than going to one was appealing. I knew many would resist because they would miss that personal connection with the preacher they had supported for years. Therefore, we have "grandfathered" those sponsorships into our original program. Still, others, like me, were less concerned with the personal touch than with the opportunity of helping as many men as possible reach those where Christ is still unnamed and unknown.

It occurred to me that I might explain it better using the local church offerings as an example. When we give to our church, we all know that it will pay for the lights, the mortgage, the salaries of the pastor, associate pastors, secretaries, etc. That's why no one designates their tithe for "the pastor" when giving to their church." They know that when they give, a portion of what they give, combined with the giving of the other church members, will pay for those budget items.

Your support helps us provide training for pastors like this one that took place in Kenya.

You helped us provide an audio Bible for a man who is blind and has leprosy.

When I was fifteen, my family joined the Forest Hills Baptist Church in Decatur, Georgia. Curtis Hutson became our pastor (and eventually my mentor and boss). At that time, the church attendance was running a bit less than 500 on Sunday mornings. Within two years, that number increased to well over 2,000. I fondly remember Dr. Hutson telling us that when he became the pastor and was a mailman, the church could not give him a salary; instead, they gave him a percentage of the offering. (I think it was 50%, but I'm not sure.) He fondly reminded us that when the church grew and, by extension, the income, they did away with the percentage and gave him a salary.

Had they not made that change, he would have become very wealthy, but the church would have suffered. There would have been no associate pastor, bus pastor, or youth pastor (myself for a short time), no secretaries, and no ability to make the mortgage payment for the new facilities.

Such was our concern regarding our original method of supporting national preachers, a method that dozens of other ministries have emulated. If they grow, they will also learn what we have, that there really is a glass ceiling, and that funding methods must be changed to support more national church planters. Most ministries patterned after Final Frontiers support five men, ten, or maybe even one hundred. But after raising support for more than 1,500 national missionaries, we knew we had to make a change, and by doing so, our ministry network quickly grew to more than 28,000 preachers, with another 10,000 on a waiting list. Except for those grandfathered in, we no longer give them all the same amount. We give them what they need based on their family and ministry size and the recommendation of their National or Regional Director, who personally knows them and their needs.

Evangelizing in a Lisu village in Thailand

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?



Watch the Video

In the past, if we wanted to start supporting a new group of preachers (we only support groups, not individuals, as one man serving alone has no local accountability), raising the necessary funding for a group of ten men (our minimum group size) may take us four to six months to get enough sponsors for all of them. This is because the economy has strangled the giving potential of many, and we constantly had to get new sponsors to replace older sponsors who had retired or passed away. Our system had become a two-steps forward / three-steps backward nightmare.

However, the Great Commission Fund has grown to the point that we recently took on a new group of national church planters in India. It was not a group of ten, twenty, or even thirty active and experienced church planters; it was a group of ninety-three! The fund also allows us to provide the tools needed for the preachers to evangelize and plant new churches. These are ministry tools like bicycles, motorcycles, Bibles, tracts, teaching curricula, medicine, etc.

When I started this ministry in 1986, it took me five years to get the first ninety-three preachers sponsored; now, we are blessed to do it in one day! That's entirely because the Great Commission Fund is growing, and it is growing because more of you now understand how it works and have chosen to help.

But, imagine if you were designating your offering solely for your pastor, would you be expected to provide his entire salary? No, (but if you are financially able to do that, please let me know). You would simply give what you can, knowing it will be combined with others who are also giving. And that is precisely how our Great Commission Funds works. You give what you can when you can. It's just that simple. To support a preacher no longer means you have to provide the complete support for a preacher (\$50 monthly). You can give that much if you want or give \$5 monthly, quarterly, or annually because your gift is combined with others to help as many men as possible. It's just



like when you give at your church, and that's why we could take on ninety-three men at once.

But what about accountability? Our original method pioneered quarterly reporting forms that are now the acceptable format for missionaries to report.

Those who chose to maintain the original sponsorship method still get quarterly reports. But for those who chose to give through the Great Commission Fund, you receive reports in each issue of the Progress Erpot as well as four to six other GCF reports each year by email. Whereas our sponsorship report forms are two pages long, the GCF reports typically vary from three to eight pages in length with photographs and explanations of things mentioned that are unfamiliar to American readers, such as the names and natures of foreign gods, sacrificial methods still used today, reports on the needs of widows and orphans cared for by our preachers and even the rescue of our Bible smugglers and children sold into both secular and religious prostitution and slavery. The topics are unending. (We send these by email to everyone on our email list so they can benefit too, but the purpose is to provide accountability to those who contribute to the GCF.)

If you have not already, I invite you to join me and our entire staff by directing your support to the GCF or adding an extra \$5 to what you are already giving.

We've come so far since this preachers and wives meeting in India in 2008.



INDEPENDENT
BAPTIST
MISSIONARY
PASTOR: K. SWATANTRA KU



3rd Quarter 2023 Progress



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.



Sign Up

Misunderstandings About What a Missionary Is

UNDERSTANDING
The Great Commission

Part 3
Language

At age 11, I felt a call to missions. From that point on, I listened to and learned from every missionary I met. I became convinced that I had to learn another language to be a missionary merely by their examples. Hence, as I grew older, I naturally wondered why missionaries served in England, Australia, Belize, and other English-speaking countries. I was a bit confused.

As I began to study the Bible, I couldn't find any place where Paul preached to Gentiles in any language other than Greek—a language as familiar to Paul as English is to me. As I studied his ministry methods, I began to see a pattern emerge. Paul never had to attend language school. His emphasis was on penetrating cities that were the cultural seats of a surrounding region. Each community was distinguished by its primary or patron god or goddess. These may have also been known and worshipped in other regions, but they were secondary to the region's primary deity. Corinth primarily worshipped Apollo, Ephesus worshipped Diana, and Athens, of course, worshipped Athena. When Paul and Barnabas first began to perform miracles and evangelize in Lystra, Timothy's hometown, the citizens believed them to be Jupiter and Mercury.

Besides each region having its own regional god, they also had their own regional language—just as Paul had his native language of Hebrew. Through military occupation, languages often died, but even when a local language survived, the people typically were forced to speak the Empire's language. Statistically, today, a

language dies every two weeks, and 96 percent of the world speaks one of four languages.

So then, it's not the languages you speak that make you a missionary; it's the message you proclaim. Missionaries don't always have to be bilingual if English is well-known locally or if they have an interpreter.

For the record, at this writing, there are 225 million English speakers in America, but there are also 220 million English speakers in India and Pakistan. Though there are thousands of languages and dialects spoken in India, I have known Indian pastors who only speak one language – English.

Points to Ponder

- English is the official language of 67 countries and 27 other territories. It is the most spoken language in the world, barely surpassing Mandarin Chinese. The impact is primarily due to the British Empire's former expansion and the USA's leadership worldwide.
- Had you ever considered that Paul never had to go to a language school?
- What languages do you speak? Most people enjoy listening to someone who attempts to communicate with them. They are tickled by our errors and honored that we try to speak their language. Swallow your pride and try to talk to foreigners you meet in your town. Your attempts could lead to their salvation.

Caring for Widows

Another Way Your Generosity Makes A Difference

By Daniel Nelms

When the Board of Directors of the Final Frontiers Foundation voted me in as president some years ago, one of the first internal policies I drafted was a death benefit for the families of supported church planters who died while in service. This is something that, unfortunately, we have used more than a few times since its adoption.

In the past, when a preacher died, it was up to the sponsor if they wanted to continue to help fund the widow and their family after their loved one had gone on to be with The Lord. The question of what comes next was always a tough one with many facets. Sometimes, the sponsor would opt to continue support of the widow, but more often, they would not. Thankfully, some would choose to support a different church planter, but more often, they fully suspended support. A sad fact that pained me and frequently kept me up at night.

However, in this particular scenario, the supporting church in Michigan has continued to help.

This brings me to the subject of this story, Samuel Ahmed and his wife Minna.

Rev. Ahmed was born in Nigeria on a balmy Tuesday, January 15, 1952. He was raised in a Muslim household and completed his recitation of the Quran in 1963 at the age of 12. Later, as a young adult in his mid-twenties, he attended a film screening that talked about the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. During the screening of this contraband film, police broke in and arrested him and everyone else who was in attendance.

Samuel wrote, “I gave my life to Jesus that December 1978. It was a powerful experience.”

Minna, widow of Rev. Samuel Ahmed, continues to serve the Lord as a teacher of children and women and still goes door to door in villages to spread the Gospel.



Sometime later, he was gifted an audio cassette by an American woman who was serving as a missionary in Nigeria. It was a recording of a sermon by her pastor back home titled “What do you mean, Lord?” This sermon would change the course of Samuel’s life. It was this recorded sermon that made him feel called to share the Gospel. While Samuel knew he did not want to be a “pastor,” he did feel called to evangelize and start churches but wasn’t sure how.

Fast forward to 1986, when Samuel and Minna were married. Minna was also raised in a Muslim household and later converted and began to serve the Lord. She came to Christ at an open-air crusade and was baptized soon after.

Samuel and Minna had five children, Mercy, the oldest born in 1988, followed by Emmanuel, Victoria, Joy, and the youngest, Precious, who was born in 2007.

In 2014, we received Samuel’s application for support and began to assist him in his church-planting efforts. By this time, he had started two churches and led hundreds to Christ.

Then, in May 2022, we received sad news from the group’s director, which read, “It is with a heavy heart to announce to you

today of the passing of one the men in my group, Pastor (Samuel) Ahmed Otaru (4820). Nearly two years ago, FFF raised enough money for him to undergo treatment when he found out he had prostrate problems. After medical attention, he was able to get better, and though could not do ministry like before, he was thankful he was active. Two weeks ago, pastor Ahmed was hospitalized, and the doctors said he had Leukemia, and just this morning, he went home to be with the Lord.”

During Samuel’s eight years in our program, he started another twenty churches, with a total of twenty-two in his life. He recorded 599 salvations and 408 baptisms baptisms.

Because of the generosity of donors like you, not only are we able to continue supporting Samuel’s family on a monthly basis but we were able to provide them with a lump sum benefit upon his death to help with their expenses.

While Samuel has run his race and finished the course, Minna continues to serve the Lord as a teacher of children and women and still goes door to door in villages to spread the Gospel.

In the most recent report received in July she reported that she had witnessed in two new villages and that her house and part of the church’s roof needs to be repaired. She also wrote, “Since the passing of my husband the support has been helping us with feeding of my family.”

Praise report – Please share the testimonies of what God is doing your ministry and/or life.

Since the passing of my husband the support has been helping us with the feeding of my family.

Late this summer, I was forwarded a text message that she sent to the director for him to pass along to us.

“May God bless and protect in all your journey as you do the work of God. He will never forget your labour of love. I shouted for joy when I saw the money because we didn’t have anything to eat. We are very grateful. Please extend our greetings to all those who have been helping us. The work of God is moving on.”

It’s easy for me to forget sometimes that what we do as a team (yourself included!) makes such a difference. This message reminded me of that, and I wanted to share it with you.

Rev. Daniel Nelms is president of Final Frontiers Foundation, Inc.



VISIONARY TRIPS

“Lift Up Your Eyes and Look”

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

BE ADVISED

We are almost entirely booked for next summer. We have only one week available, so contact us soon to experience what next summer holds.



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

2024
March
Ecuador

May-August
Honduras

October:
Ukraine
Bulgaria

November:
Vietnam

December:
Thailand



TOUCH A LIFE

In Cairo, Egypt, Touch A Life is feeding scores of children both physically and spiritually, and their parents are coming to Christ as a result.

Missions or Ministry?



Touch A Life in Cairo, Egypt

By Jon Nelms

There is a difference in **MISSIONS** and **MINISTRY**.

In my understanding of scripture, missions take the gospel to the people/places where Christ is primarily unnamed and unknown.

That's why our mission statement for Final Frontiers has been from day one, "Through the funding of national preachers, we endeavor to effectively advance the gospel where it has never been preached before." And now, with over a half million churches planted in nearly ninety countries, we have made a dent in our mission, and I long to see it fulfilled in my lifetime. But what about ministry?

Churches almost, without exception, confuse missions with ministry, and since many ministry opportunities are at our doorsteps, they typically get the bulk of our mission's funding. Rescue missions, anti-abortion clinics, Christian schools, children's homes, and orphanages are noble and worthy causes that churches feel it imperative to support. We are no different. When we began to help fund our preachers with their ministries beyond the support of their mission (around 1992), we made an effort not to confuse the two and started our Touch a Life ministry. (Originally, our children's ministry was called Child Care, but in 2005, we changed our name and refocused our purpose from only supporting orphans to feeding any hungry child. It has grown from one ministry in one country to serving dozens of ministries in ten or more.)

If a ministry is a spoke on the mission wheel, then I am happy to use mission funds to support it. Still, if it is a stand-alone ministry with nothing to do with taking the gospel where Christ is unnamed and unknown, then I prefer – not to ignore it - but to support it with ministry funds, not missions funds.

I like to see ministries that affect a church or organization's mission, goals, and purposes. Touch a Life does just that. Let me explain with a few examples.

Years ago, we were referred to Lori and Oleg Enskyy in Ukraine, whose work our last Progress Report focused on.

Oleg and Lori started Final Frontiers Ukraine and Touch A Life Ukraine. They had children's soccer teams that competed nationally and table tennis teams that competed throughout Europe, often being televised wearing their Touch A Life uniforms. It was common for Oleg and Lori to be interviewed on national television as they helped the youth and cared for Crimean refugees fleeing inland to evade Russian troops. As the war escalated, Touch A Life has remained and offers food, medicines, clothing, and a place to sleep to fleeing refugees. As they consistently return to the homes of Believers, they offer these items to all who need them, along with a gospel witness and a Bible. Touch A Life does not support national church planters; Final Frontiers does. And Final Frontiers does not



Touch A Life in Ukraine offers food, medicines, clothing, and a place to sleep to fleeing refugees. As they consistently return to the homes of Believers, they offer these items to all who need them, along with a gospel witness and a Bible.



feed hungry children; Touch a Life does. We use your funds as you designate them.

Is theirs a dangerous ministry? Indeed, it is since bombs and missiles continue to rock the country daily. But the Enskyy's continue the ministry and deliver the gospel (missions) and goods to those in frontline cities and foxholes, particularly to Ukraine's citizen-soldiers, some of whom, having accepted Christ, have already joined Him in Heaven. This is a fine example of how a ministry can be used to affect missions.

Another example is our Touch A Life ministry in Cairo, Egypt. We started this work with anonymous locals when Nolin and I visited our men there a few years ago. We waited until dusk so we would not be so evident being white foreigners in a low-rent slum complex. Still, as we walked through, heads began to pop out of windows, and questions became abundant. We finally



A CHILD SPONSORSHIP MINISTRY OF THE FINAL FRONTIERS FOUNDATION

ABOVE: Aid delivered to persons displaced by war led to a church plant in Kyiv, the capital of Ukraine. **BELOW:** the gospel message is delivered to soldiers in the Ukraine.



ABOVE: Touch A Life feeds many children daily in the Middle East. **BELOW:** A team in the Levant region of the Middle East prepares to feed families.



entered a building and walked up several floors to a tiny, two-room apartment, no more than 400 square feet in size. In the room were about a dozen adults, mostly saved already due to the labor of their Egyptian pastor and his Timothies, but there were about two dozen hungry children. That night, we decided to begin their feeding on a regular basis. Since then, seeing what we do and what we teach, a church in Cairo has given us its beautiful modern building, not just to use but to possess. And now we are feeding scores of children both physically and spiritually, and their parents are coming to Christ as a result.

If anyone would like to help Nolin and me fund this feeding center, please designate your offering to Touch a Life Cairo. We could use about \$250 monthly to meet the growing need.

Now, let me share one more example of how our Touch A Life ministry has helped with missions (church planting). There is a particular country in the Levant region of the Middle East that has been in turmoil for nearly twenty years. In this land, we have buried over a thousand church members, including scores of our pastors and national missionaries, their wives, children, and church members. Recently, thirty-eight of our young men, all servants of the gospel, left against our recommendation to go to Europe as refugees. As Timothies, we have been giving them \$2 a day for food, and they felt they could no longer live on that. They planned to plant churches among the hundreds of thousands of their compatriots living in Europe, get jobs, and finance our mission and ministry in their homeland. We said goodbye to them with tears as they boarded the ship and, a day later, received word that the ship had sank in the Mediterranean Sea; more than three hundred souls perished, and among them were our thirty-eight.

Paul listed all the sufferings he had endured for the cause of Christ, but the most significant suffering he saved for last, that of having "the care of all the churches." This is the same burden we bear; still, the Touch A Life ministry in that land has enabled us to help those afflicted by last February's earthquake. We have cared for our own and thousands of Muslim families. Now, so many of them have come to Christ and attend our house churches that they are bursting with new converts, leading to new house churches being started (missions). Lest you think a house church is an insignificant thing, our house churches meet daily, but on Sundays they typically have four to seven services with different attendees of about fifty souls. So, each house church has an attendance of 250-350 people.

Some American Believers are interested in missions, others in ministry, but most of us are concerned with both. We open the door for you to help in any way you feel led. How? If missions is your cup of tea, you can support Final Frontiers' Great Commission Fund, through which we fund our network of over 28,000 church planters. Obviously, we need help with that. But if ministry appeals to you more, consider supporting our Touch A Life ministry, where your donations will be used to feed hungry and destitute children cared for by one of our local churches and its pastor. Or better yet, if able, why not do a little more for missions and ministry?



Fifth Feeding Center Launches in Kenya

In July, Agape Baptist Church became the fifth Touch A Life feeding center in Kenya. This church is located in Eldoret and is one of the closest to the Kenyan Touch A Life office.

On the Sunday when the program launched, the church fed around thirty Sunday school children and also a number of adults with the food that remained. You will see from these photos how the kids enjoyed the food. With your support, the church was able to purchase kitchen items and cooking items like firewood and charcoal in addition to food for July and August.

Agape Church was begun in the late 2000's and is pastored by a faithful servant called

The Rev. Cosmas Atita expresses appreciation to all those involved in supporting the feeding program and the launch of the program at Agape Baptist Church in Kenya.

Rev. Cosmas Atita. His family, especially his girls, help in praise and worship. His wife, Hellen works with the choir team and the women in the church and leads a sewing ministry with the ladies.

We spent the last whole month of June with the church and were so blessed by the knowledge that Rev. Atita has in teaching and preaching.



Please join us in praying that what was started here will be the beginning of many young and the old coming to know our Lord Jesus and giving their lives to Him.

Pray for this church even as they plan to build a permanent church. Pray for the Sunday school children that not only will they be filled physically but also spiritually.

"...and whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men: knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ."

– Col 3:23-24 KJV



Useless but Still USEFUL

This summer in Honduras, we had many vehicle problems, including the need for new tires. I've been driving for fifty-two years and have had my share of flats, whether by glass, nails, or screws, but this was the first time I had a flat due to a rock. I admit when it comes to having to spend money, I am prone to have too much patience. So, as I ignored repeated warnings about the condition of my tires, it wasn't until one went flat that I realized how slick they were – that a single rock went through the tire, embedding itself in the rubber.

So, after buying four new tires, I had to decide what to do with the old ones that still had some use to them. Usually, I give them to the local police departments. They don't drive much, and it is always local, and there seems to be no budget for them to buy new ones. Old and worn as mine usually are, they are delighted to receive them as a gift.

In America, when tires are beyond use, we usually "dump" them. But in developing countries, they can always find a use for what we don't want. While out visiting, I took this photo (poorly focused as it is) so you could see how old tires can be "recycled" and still retain some usefulness. It reminded me that sometimes we get distracted in serving Christ or even too old or infirmed to do what we were created to do, but that doesn't mean we have outlived our usefulness. Find a way to be a step for someone else to reach their potential. After all, repurposing yourself for the benefit of others is better than wearing away in the hot sun of a garbage dump.



"One man's
trash" really
is "another
man's
TREASURE."

Trash or TREASURE?

Only a few years ago, it became common for large farms to irrigate their fields in developing countries. For this reason, their yields have increased incredibly. Many were struggling to feed their families, and now, they have an abundance to sell in the local market. Still, it is rare to see PVC used for irrigation because of its high price. Most farmers use a thin, collapsible, black hose. They roll it out across the furrowed and planted lines of seedlings, then attach it to a water source, and voila, you have an excellent and dependable drip irrigation system. That's the good news.

The bad news is that they are suitable for only one season. The material from which they are made, the "thinness" of the hose, and the trampling of the horse, mule, donkey, or bull hoofs tend to rip them, and the sun bakes them for three to four months. Still, the cost of replacing them for next season's crop is worth it because of the increase in produce acquired by irrigation. But what do they do with the discarded black irrigation hoses? Are they worthless and destined to be carted off to some (non-existent) trash dump? Thankfully, no. Because of their innovation, this trash becomes a treasure.

Throughout the world, in developing nations, boys and girls gather on "fields of dreams" where they imagine themselves scoring the final, winning goal at an imaginary World Cup tournament, ensuring they will become national heroes and wealthy. Of course, we are not talking about baseball but what the world (outside the USA) calls football. Usually, they have no "goals" to aim for, so they plant two sticks in the ground at each end of the field to serve that purpose. But in Honduras, the boys take the discarded black irrigation tubes and weave them across a stick frame to make soccer goals.

Their imagination, ingenuity, and genius, mixed with some weaving, save the day and may serve as the training ground for a future, world-famous soccer player. If so, he will owe his treasure to another man's trash. You may have a low esteem of your work for the Lord; to you, it may seem outdated, worn, and worthless, but you never know the dreams you are creating and fulfilling in the lives of those watching you. Throw your trash our way, and we'll turn it into treasure.

The Greatest Gift of All



Christmas Stocking

Our Christmas stocking is filled with candies, toys, and a gospel tract. These gifts are handed out to children by our regional church planters at Christmas time.



Visit Online Store

\$20



Feeding Center

Help support one of our many feeding centers for one month, which feeds up to 200 children out of a local church every week.

\$100

Most Americans will give and receive gifts in December. For those who know the True Meaning of the celebration, it will be an expression of love. **God loved us, so He gave His Son to us. According to the angelic army that oversaw His birth ("host" is the same word as "army" in Greek), His gift was for all people, in all generations.**

Jesus continually gifted people with food, health, financial needs, and relief from suffering. He did so to show that He was both the gift-giver and the greatest gift of all.

Though you may already help us by supporting The Great Commission Fund, Touch A Life, Smugglers, or other ministry projects, soon it will be Christmas. Will you help us with a special gift toward a ministry that will make a huge difference for people in places where demonstrations of the love of Christ are rare or unknown?

For a gift of \$20, you can provide a Gospel Stocking to a child. Or you can help by giving funds for gospel tracts, Bibles, chickens, lamps, food bags, or even a village well, which would make a huge difference in the lives of believers in one of the countries around the world where we support pastors.

We encourage you to do so by visiting our store online at www.FinalFrontiers.world/store or using the QR Code.



Motorbike

Motorbikes allow our national church planters to travel much further, with the freedom from public transportation. The ability to go to locations where they would not be able to go otherwise and do so in greater safety, without fear from the attack of wild animals and bandits while walking. In some countries, the entire family will ride on the motorbike, allowing the wife and children to attend the newly planted church. While our national church planter teaches and disciples, his wife can encourage the newly converted women, training them so that they may again soon leave for a new area to start another church and repeat the process.

\$1,350



Village Well

Many remote villages where our national church planters travel do not have access to clean running water. They often have to travel miles every day to collect some from a nearby stream or river.

In recent years, we've drilled wells in multiple villages in Pakistan and elsewhere. With advances in technology, we've also been able to construct toilets and lay the pipework to all the houses in each village. With the benefit of a solar panel, a pump can run to fill a cistern so that all homes have a continuous supply of running water!

You can help bring fresh water to villages that have been won to Christ by our national church planters! Even if you can't afford to fund a well project yourself, any amount donated will be combined with others.

\$10,000

Gospel Tracts

What can compare to sharing the Word while evangelizing new villages? Supply our national church planters with Gospel tracts to help them witness in new communities.



\$1

Chickens

Purchase a pair of chickens for our network of national church planters, allowing them to harvest their own eggs and, depending on the situation, allow them to start their own small business to further subsidize their ministry.



\$30

School Supplies

A lot of countries run their school year from January to December, so help prepare the children with the supplies they need to succeed this coming year.



\$50

Food Bag

Our food bags can help feed a family of 4 for several weeks, depending on the country. What a blessing it is to them, especially during the Christmas season.



\$51

Winter Heating

Supply wood or cover the cost of natural gas in war-torn Ukraine for heating a house or apartment. Energy prices have skyrocketed, and this is a wonderful outreach for the team.



\$500

Bible

Help supply our local national church planters with Bibles that they can distribute to the new believers and members who can not afford their own.



\$6

Lamp

There is no reliable electricity in almost every community our national church planters serve, so a lamp or lantern is their only tool for lighting their home and way at night.



\$40

Toiletries

Supply our national church planters and those in their communities with much-needed necessities such as soap, toilet paper, feminine products, and more.



\$50

Goat

Purchase goats for our national church planters. These can be invaluable for adding additional nutrition to the diets with their milk while they are also very hardy, eating almost any unwanted vegetation.



\$380

Power Pack

Our PowerPack allows our trained national church planters to hit the road and present the gospel to remote areas where there is no power, often to people who have never seen a movie, let alone the Jesus film!



\$1,500

Charitable Giving

And the Power of Life Insurance

By Scott Vignere

In this article, we will go into a little more detail on what is called permanent insurance. But just to give you a heads-up, this will be a somewhat lengthy series because it is so often misunderstood and misused. It is also a very powerful concept in the right application. Permanent life insurance includes whole life, universal life, variable life, and any version of each, such as indexed universal life. The common denominator is that the policy is for life. It's permanent.

Before we get started it may be good to ask a few questions.

Let's start with asking why do many high net worth (HNW) and ultra-high net worth (UHNW) people use them? Why are they getting policies with a \$10 million, \$20 million, or \$50 million and up face value? Why do many have multiple policies like this? Why are they using premium financing and premium funding when the rates make sense? What do they know that we don't know? Why don't we know? Is it some deep, dark secret only the rich know? Why aren't more people using it? Is it a scam? A tax loophole? Unfortunately, the most common reaction is to get out the pitchforks and torches and hunt those "monsters" down.

It's All About the Tax Code

The truth, however, is that it's all built on the tax code. There have been many cases where the IRS and Congress have confirmed the tax code regarding life insurance. There have been many clarifications and adjustments, but the basic code remains intact. You can go to your local library and read the tax code for yourself. But you will be asleep in ten minutes. These concepts and policies with all the tax advantages are available to anyone and everyone. Rich or poor. So-called "loopholes" included.

Each State Examines Each Product

Starting with some foundational concepts, we will examine some of the basics as to how they actually work. To begin, every carrier has to submit every product they offer to every state insurance commissioner for approval. Not all states approve every product that is submitted. Some are approved in particular states

with modifications that the state wanted. This does not mean that the state is endorsing the product. It is only an indication that the state feels the product meets the state's guidelines for that specific kind of product. Any state that does not approve a product that carrier cannot and will not offer that product in that state.

The question may come up, "What if I want a product and it's not approved in my state? Can I buy it in a different state?" No. To be sure, there are those who will offer to find "a way around that." Be very careful here. Certain states do offer exceptions with certain criteria, but you need to make sure you follow the criteria. Not your agent, your attorney, or your CPA, but you. You will be the one in court. Am I overdoing it here? Probably. Until you find yourself in court.

Tales from the Commissioner

Let me share an example with you. I have some clients in California, but I live in Indiana. I have applied for my California nonresident license, and so I had to go to my police station and get fingerprinted. Then I had to send that in to Los Angeles. They scan it in and do an FBI background check followed by a Department of Justice background check. Then, all that is sent to Sacramento. The Insurance Commissioner's office is there. I was just informed there was a problem and I have to do it over. At this point, it has cost me nearly \$400. Now this client owns a rental property in Chicago, IL. I am licensed in Illinois.

A "way around" all this would have been to use the address of the rental property as the home address. The problem though is that they are not actually a resident of Illinois. This "way around" would have saved a lot of time, money, and grief. The truth is that "tactic" would not have made it past the first step. But I would be in big trouble. The carrier would drop me and probably turn me in to the state. The client might get all their money back or might not. The state or the carrier could want to bring charges or seek penalties from the client. But not likely in this case because it's a relatively small policy. Would it have been worth it? Of course not. The bottom line to all these laws and rules is that the state is protecting you, the policyholder client.

Find an Architect

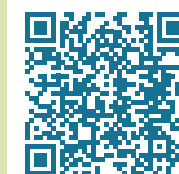
I will briefly touch on this next point then save the rest for another time. When you purchase a policy it is not just a transaction. This type of policy is something you build. Your agent should be an architect, so to speak, or know of one or more. Then ask, exactly what are you trying to accomplish? Then, it should be determined



Charitable Giving

For the Wise and Prudent Donor

FINAL FRONTIERS FOUNDATION



Watch Now

A playlist of recorded Charitable Giving Webinars are available on Final Frontiers YouTube channel. Topics so far include donor-advised funds, the tax benefits of annuities, and two webinars on life

what type of policy is best. Would universal life work best? What about variable? Or whole life? These types of policies can provide more than just a death benefit. Because of that, it is important to understand the difference between the cash value and the death benefit. Do you want the death benefit to grow over time or do you want the cash value to grow more?

This decision can make all the difference in the world. If you decide on one aspect but it's structured for the other, you will be disappointed. so it is important to understand how this works. We will go into more detail in another article

Please Note: All charts and numbers are for illustration purposes only. Accuracy is neither warranted 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.

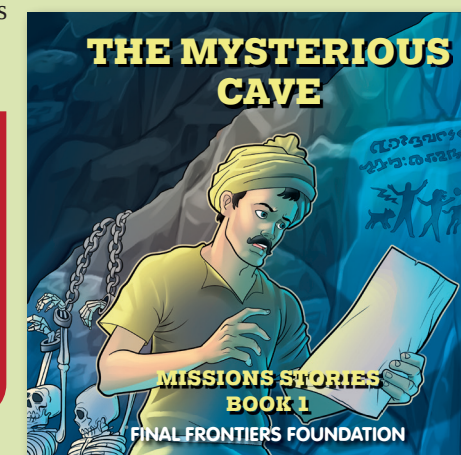
Giving Hearts

When you're considering gifts for children, please remember our missionary story book. *The Mysterious Cave* profiles Battina Rao, who grew up an idol worshipper but became a Christ follower and missionary who is supported by Final Frontiers.

The books we read to our children have the power to instill in their hearts and minds an interest in serving our Lord. A gift like this has the potential for an eternal impact. And you'll enjoy reading this adventure, too!



More Info and
Coloring Pages



Your GIFTS Bring



"I have a lot of joy to you (our sponsor) for considering me as a pastor's wife whose responsibility is to help needy people both spiritually and physically."

– Dorothea Nassari

The special support of a ministry partner in Caro, Michigan, has helped a pastor's family in Africa to build a home and a new business!

Pastor Zephania Nassari serves in Tanzania, where he preaches the Gospel in villages and schools, leads many to salvation, baptizes believers, and starts new churches.

In his report for the 4th Quarter of 2022, Pastor Nassari reported two new churches started, three villages evangelized, 162 professions of faith, and 16 baptisms. In the report, he asked for prayer for new believers to be baptized and for many people who were without food due to drought. He also asked for prayers that his family would be able to have a good house.

In a special message of thanks to the ministry partner who supports his work, he reported using gifts to pay tuition fees for his children and to purchase "two more iron sheets for our house in the coming future."

This information moved the ministry partner to give generously to help build a home for Pastor Nassari's family as well as a shop that his wife, Dorothea, plans to operate. From the shop, she will sell things like cooking oil, corn flour, bread, rice, sugar, and other basic items a family needs. She will use some of the supplies and funds generated to help her own family as well as needy widows and orphans around the community.

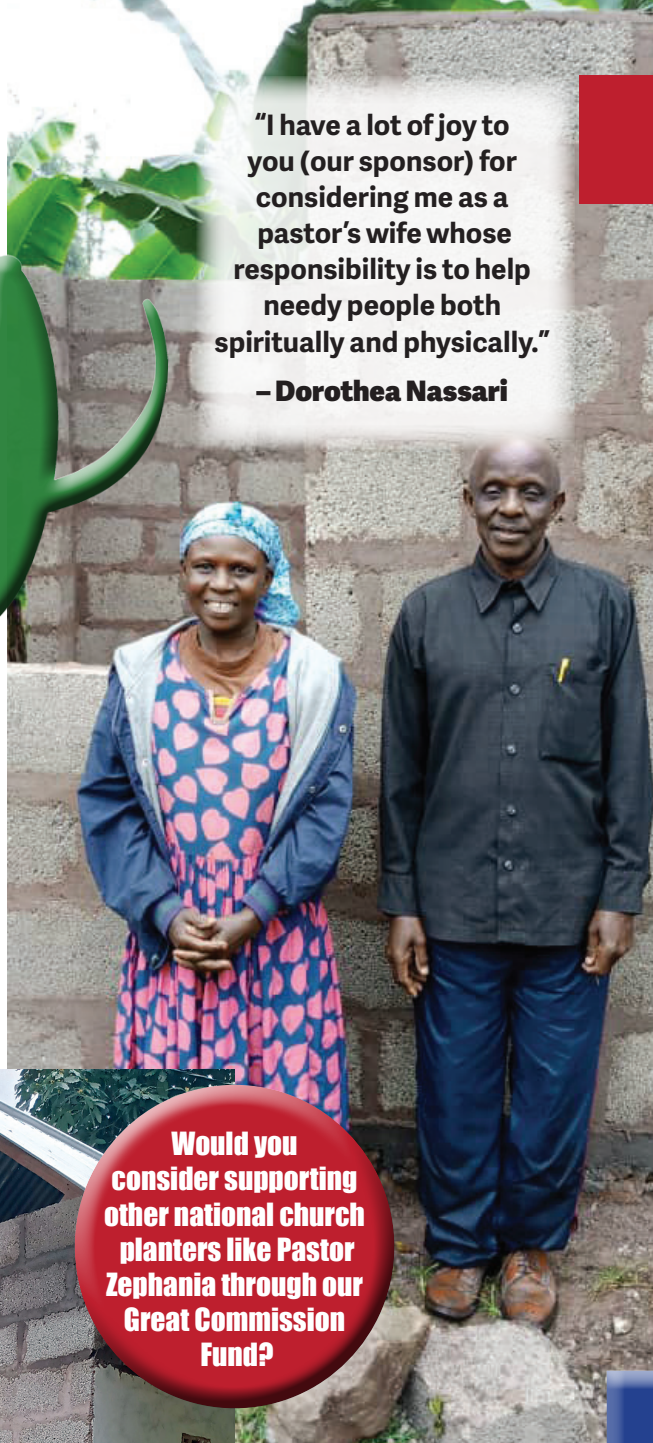
The project is under the supervision of National Director Pastor Lazaro Leyan.

Pictured here are photos of the shop under construction in Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the project. Phase 3 is underway, thanks to the generosity of this partner!

Thank you, God, for willing, generous hearts!

Dorothea Nassari's Vision:

"To help others who are in need as a way to help them see the loving acts of Jesus through a person like me."



Would you consider supporting other national church planters like Pastor Zephania through our Great Commission Fund?



Reports from
Pastor
Zephania Nassari

44

Churches Started

116

Villages Evangelized

3,490

Professions of Faith

905

Believers Baptized

Choose a Ministry You Can Help With

NATIONAL CHURCH PLANTERS SUPPORT



The Great Commission Fund

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®
A CHILD SPONSORSHIP MINISTRY OF THE FINAL FRONTIERS FOUNDATION

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 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.

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

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.

Final Frontiers Foundation, Inc.

PO Box 358, Grovetown, GA 30813 • (800)-522-4324

TAX ID Number: 58-1721535

REPLY FORM

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



Donate Now

☐ 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.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (home) _____ (cell) _____

Enclosed is my donation of: \$ _____

To be applied to: _____

Final Frontiers Foundation
PO Box 358
Grovetown, GA 30813

**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 ...

571,511	Churches Started (\$4.18/church)
1,794,496	Villages Evangelized
21,152,075	Professions of Faith (\$0.11/salvation)
7,340,076	Believers Baptized

During these years our network has encompassed ...

3,086	Preachers
25,203	Timothies
3,472	Touch A Life Kids



Missions News by Final Frontiers
www.missions.world

Register to receive publications
and/or news alerts online at

www.finalfrontiers.world



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Final Frontiers and
TOUCH A LIFE

MOVED LATELY?

Please Give Us Your New Address

e-mail: **webmaster@finalfrontiers.org**

or Call: **1-800-522-4324**



Around the WORLD



Pickups vs. Mules

In America, pickup trucks are often considered luxury vehicles, and most who spend money buying a four-wheel drive vehicle do so for the fun of weekend jaunts on dirt fields and roads. However, I suspect most owners will never use the four-wheel drive function. The attraction is not in using it but in knowing you have it available (and showing it off to your friends). As Americans blessed with abundance, we have become people who "spend money we don't have to buy things we don't need to impress people we don't know."

But in developing countries, pickups are considered work vehicles, and you are blessed if you can afford to buy one; that's why they are usually ten, fifteen,

or twenty years old and still running – somehow. But most either must carry their loads in their arms or, if able, use their animal as a pickup.

This boy lives in a mountaintop village in Honduras named Majada Verde, where we have a church and feeding center. In the summer, we take our Visionary Trip groups there to meet the people, conduct a mini-VBS, or deliver food bags. As we were doing so, we would have to step aside for an occasional motorcycle to drive through or, in this case, a mule. This smiling boy walked through two of our vehicles carrying a load of firewood to take home so his mom could cook.

If the family has no food, they typically express it by saying they "don't have any firewood." The meaning is that if there is no food to cook, firewood is unnecessary. So, though a family may have a pile of wood outside if there is nothing to cook, they will say they have no firewood. It's not a lie; it's a metaphor.

You may notice this young boy has a smile on his face. He was happy to see us; he was happy because of the abundance of firewood he collected, but now, he could go on his way with a bag of food, enough to last for the next four or five days. Now, at least, he cannot say they have no firewood!