

Progress Report

Second Quarter 2008

Temple Prostitution

Indian girls are dedicated or sold to pagan priests by their parents to become "ritual harlots".

By Jon Nelms

Last May I received an email from one of our newer National Directors, Solomon Bijja, whose expansive ministry is in the State of Karnataka in southwestern India. Getting an email is nothing new, as I get about seven thousand a month; but what this one spoke of shocked me. As I read the letter, it was as if the pages of the Bible were coming alive before my eyes. Something that I had heard of, something that I thought had died out with the last worshippers of Diana in Ephesus, was now starring me in the face and taunting my heart. I was grieved to say the least; but now some months later, having witnessed it with my own eyes, I can report to you that the mere reading of it pales in comparison. Rather than tell you the contents of the email, I will let you read it for yourself.

Bro, Jon

One of the people groups that we are reaching are called Madar/Methri they practice dedicating their young girls to Temple prostitution. They believe once they dedicate their daughters to a "Goddess Yellamma" all their woes in life will be solved.

These young girls believe they are married to Yellamma. Their duty is to fulfill sexual desires of all the male devotees who visit the temple, plus they have to dance and perform temple rituals.

Once these girls lose their physical charm they are thrown out, they have to live on the streets begging and surviving by prostitution. The kids born to them in the process end up as child prostitutes/ bootleggers.

In order to break this cycle of social evil from repeating in their lives, we have already started an orphanage for only girls born to the temple prostitutes, right now we are taking care of 30 girls providing education, food and shelter.



Ministry Information

The *Progress Report* is a free, bi-monthly publication of the FINAL FRONTIERS FOUNDATION INC., whose purpose is to effectively take the Gospel to the more than three billion souls, who have never before heard. Currently we are ministering in seventy-three nations. Many of these countries are closed to foreign missionaries, and in others, 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. Thus 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 and reputation. 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 \$35.00 - \$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.

Current ministries available for support are:

- Sponsorship of a national or native preacher (\$35.00 monthly)
- Sponsorship of a *TEAM* of preachers in a given country (\$10.00 minimum per month, per *TEAM*)
- Sponsorship of a destitute child with our *Touch a Life* subsidiary (\$35.00 monthly)
- Sponsorship of the Final Frontiers Society, Bible distribution program (\$10.00 monthly)
- Sponsorship of our Bags of Hope program (\$20 monthly) which distributes food, etc. to widows, orphans and persecuted peoples, primarily in the Islamic Middle East

Executive Board of Directors:

FINAL FRONTIERS, a non-profit, religious corporation, was founded by Jon Nelms in 1987, and is governed by those serving on the Executive Board of Directors: Rev. Jon Nelms (Chairman), Rev. Gene Carpenter (Vice President), and Dr. Ron Charles (Secretary/Treasurer), Mr. Charles Turner, Rev. Steve Ware and Mr. Kevin Carden. Further council is provided by those serving on the Board of Advisors. Contributions and gifts to this ministry are tax deductible and are applied to the ministry's evangelistic outreach. FINAL FRONTIERS is classified as a 509 (a)(1) public foundation, under section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Annual copies of the ministry's 990 form are available upon request by contacting the home office.

International Offices:

International offices are maintained in every country of service for accountability purposes, and are staffed by national and regional coordinators who are approved by the Executive Board of Directors. Administrative Branch Offices are located in Honduras.

Contact Information:

For further information concerning this ministry and its various programs, please call or write to the home office:

Final Frontiers Foundation
1200 Peachtree St.
Louisville, GA 30434 USA

Telephone: 706-955-4916
FAX: 706-262-2894
Toll Free: 800-522-4324
Email: webmaster@finalfrontiers.org

Where we serve

The 74 countries where we serve as of September 2007

Africa:

Kenya ***
Uganda
South Africa
Nigeria
Togo
Ivory Coast
Ghana ***
Liberia
Burkina Faso
Morocco
Sudan
Tanzania
Rwanda
Egypt
Libya
Burundi
Congo

Middle East:

Syria
Iran
Iraq *
Yemen *
Turkey

Europe:

France
Romania
Albania
Latvia
Lithuania
Hungary
Switzerland
Poland
Bosnia
Macedonia

East Asia:

India ***
Myanmar
Thailand
Laos
Cambodia
Vietnam
China
Philippines
Nepal
Indonesia

Americas:

Mexico
Cuba
Guatemala
El Salvador
Honduras ***
Nicaragua
Costa Rica
Peru
Chile
Columbia
Ecuador
Venezuela
Brazil
Argentina
St. Vincent
St. Lucia
Grenada
Haiti *
Jamaica
Dominican Rep.

Eurasia:

Georgia
Belarus
Siberia
Ukraine
Russia

Central Asia:

Kazakhstan **
Kyrgyzstan **
Azerbaijan **
Turkmenistan **
Uzbekistan **

Pacifica:

Fiji
Solomon Islands

* *TEAM* or limited support only

** countries where support is temporarily suspended

*** receives *Touch A Life* support also

Front Page Photograph

This is a photo of four little girls who have been given as temple prostitutes by their parents. They wait as male customers come and go. Strangers and local men devoted to the goddess are free to come and go as they please without compensation to the girls. The abuse of their young bodies will bring in funds for the temple to enhance the wealth of the pagan priests and adorn the idols with incense and filth, since the goddess they pray to is the goddess of filth.

The photo is blurry because it was taken at a distance so the girls would not know they were being photographed. The "zoom in" process has partially digitized the photo. Here is the complete photo. Pastor Solomon Bijja is in the forefront.



The Jon Nelms report

There was just more than I could cram into this issue so I know you are going to be thrilled by what you read. The rest will just have to wait until next quarter.

Bye, bye loneliness ...

One thing that I haven't discussed inside these pages is the upcoming change in my life. After being widowed for nearly two years, I have decided to marry once again. On May 3, I will be married to Nolin Vargas, a young lady (young to me that is) who has worked in our ministry for a decade. Like my daughter in law, she is also from Honduras and was the one who taught me Spanish years ago. Since that time she has worked as our Spanish translator.

There are several wonderful things about this marriage; first my kids are behind it 100%. Second, Nolin knows our ministry being an employee and will be a great asset to my work. And third, Juanita told me and the kids several times before she passed that she wanted me to marry Nolin. She said I would need someone to take care of me and felt Nolin was the one. I concur. (Though I will always love and miss Juanita.) Finally, because I will be in Honduras most of the summer and need her there as well to help out with the groups that are coming down, we decided to rush the wedding. I wish I could afford to send you all an invitation but that would break me, so if you happen to be in the Augusta area on May 3, drop by! The wedding will be at my home that morning at 11:30.

A ministry I want to share with you ...

Have you ever grown weary of passing out tracts only to see them dropped on the street? Are you intimidated by the prospect of witnessing to someone or don't yet know how to do so? I have a solution for you ...

The best gospel tract I have ever seen is available to you through our ministry. They are the size of a "Chick Tract" but they have a slate attached to the back. You encourage the person to write some of their sins on the back, then read the tract. As they come to the end of the attached booklet, in order to show how Christ removes our sins from us, it instructs the reader to pull up on the clear plastic sheet attached to the slate, and just like the child's toy, as they pull up, the sins disappear. It is a fantastic witnessing tool for children and adults!

Larry Franklin, who designed the tract, tells me that he has only produced 200,000 of them over the years, yet the letters and reports he receives indicates that at least 100,000 people have come to Christ through this gospel tract. That is amazing.

The cost of the tract is fifteen cents each and they are sold in bundles of 100 for \$15 plus shipping. (They are available in English, Spanish, Chinese and Russian.)

Imagine passing out a tract that has a 50% probability to bring someone to Christ. That means for each thirty cents, you have brought a soul to the Lord. That's three for every dollar!

You can order the slate tracts from Larry and Charlotte and if you like, you can invite them to come and teach their seminar in your church on "teaching children". You can reach Larry and



Jon Nelms

Charlotte at (816) 516-1185 or email him at: icme@comcast.net. If you don't mind, let him know we referred you.

Our National Director from Ghana is coming ...

Daniel Sappor will be here from July 10 – September 30. He is coming to get training for our Touch A Life program so he can open centers in Ghana. While here he is looking for churches to share his ministry and hopefully to support some of his kids. If you would like to have this African preacher, who speaks perfect English, in your church, call me to schedule a date. 800-522-4324 ext.110. He can come by bus to most any state and will gladly come on a love offering basis. You won't regret having him.

More representatives joining our team ...

Next week I will be giving training to a missionary couple who have served in Russia as a pastor and church planter for over two decades. In fact, his wife is Russian. Lately, they felt the call of God to come home and help us raise support for preachers around the world. Dennis Ellis will be appointed as the Director of Europe Expansion.

If you are interested in joining our team of representatives whether full time or part time, let me know and I will set up a training time for you.

Can you help us out with this? ...

We are trying to get our readers and sponsors to allow us to send you our Progress Report and the letters from your sponsored preachers and kids to you by email.

- ◆ Currently, each Touch A Life sponsorship costs us \$15.94 a year to mail you their letters, receipts, Progress Reports, etc., that's a total of \$3,902.00 annually
- ◆ Preachers letters and receipts cost us \$7,796.00 per year (not including the Progress Report)
- ◆ Each Progress Report costs us \$0.71 to print and mail. That's \$21,300 a year.

Now if you are like me, you prefer the paper version (I hate reading magazines on a computer screen) even though the online version is in full color. So that is really no problem because my goal is for you to read this thing; but for news alerts, receipts, reports, etc., if you will give us your email address, it could save us at well over \$1000 a year. And I promise we won't give it out to others. I appreciate your help with that.

That's all for now. Enjoy yourself as you read the following pages, and be prepared to be blessed, burdened and challenged to do more for the Lord.



Yours for souls,

Preachers in urgent need of sponsorship ...

These men listed below have been faithfully serving the Lord for many years and have benefitted greatly from support. Unfortunately the churches and families that have faithfully partnered with them in ministry are no longer able to do so. We have chosen to highlight these who have long proven themselves, in hope of getting replacement sponsors for them. For more information on sponsoring a national preacher, see page 19 or see our complete list on our website at www.finalfrontiers.org

Preacher's Name: Lumpha Chirmir
Wife's Name: Meedha
No. of Children: 3
Country: Thailand
Sponsorships Needed: 1 more @ \$35.00 monthly

Testimony:

In 1978 Pastor Paul Chirmir came to my village preaching the Gospel of salvation. That was the first time I had heard the good news. I accepted Jesus as my Savior that night. Pastor Paul taught me how to read Akha words. God sent knowledge and wisdom in my life and in a few weeks I could read God's Word and sing songs of praise to Him in my own language.



In 1997 I had a bad accident and broke my leg. I still have problems with this leg, but I have a good time in the ministry.

My wife came from a Catholic background. She was saved in 1986 before our marriage. She has faithfully followed me everywhere as I preach God's Word. She also helps in teaching Bible lessons among the women at the church.

I have trained three men to be pastors and have started three new churches. I have been blessed with leading over 100 souls to Christ. Currently I am involved in church planting, evangelistic work and children's ministries besides my pastoring the church.

We live in a simple house built of cement with two rooms. Our most favorite food is chicken. Because of my health, I must purchase my food at the market. I speak Akha, Thai and Chinese and live in northern Thailand where Burma, Laos and Thailand meet.

Preacher's Name: Efrain Pedro Bamaca Lorenzo
Wife's Name: Tomasa
No. of Children: 6
Country: Guatemala
Sponsorships Needed: 2 @ \$35.00 monthly



My family and I live in a little house made of mud and straw. We eat lowly food just like the people in our village. We do not have land to grow food so we have to buy whatever we eat.

To the glory of God I have started seven churches and have trained five men who are now serving in the ministry. I have been blessed to baptize more than 158 new converts as well.

My wife was saved as a young girl having grown up in a Christian family. She is an incomparable mother and wife and is a great blessing to me. As a family, we will all appreciate your kind help.

Preacher's Name: Gopi P.
Wife's Name: Aleyamma
No. of Children: 2
Country: India
Sponsorships Needed: 2 @ \$35.00 monthly

Testimony:

I was born into a Hindu family and as a result had no peace in my life. One day I happened to hear the Gospel being preached and I accepted Jesus as my Savior. My wife was from a Christian family and was saved at the age of 13. She has always served God since her salvation.



Thus far I have trained nine men for the ministry and have started six churches in my state of Kerala. I also serve on a film team and conduct open air meetings and crusades. Through these efforts and my personal witnessing, I have had 2,900 people to make a public profession of faith, and thus far 255 have received baptism.

I speak two languages, Malayalam and Tamil, so I am always able to witness wherever I travel in this area.

Our churches help to support us but the people are so very poor that they are not able to sufficiently care for our needs. They have given me a stipend of \$18.00 monthly, but our needs are for \$66.00. This of course includes family and ministry needs. Your assistance is therefore greatly appreciated and I assure you we will not waste what you send to us.

I received Jesus Christ in June 01, 1984. I experienced such a change in life so for that reason I was baptized immediately. I gave my complete life to the service of God. Before I knew the Lord Jesus Christ, I was living as an unbeliever. I was lost without the word of God. He has changed my life and now I am serving him.

In 1988 I started to study in a Biblical institute. Four years later I finished my studies and continued serving the Lord in the same church where I was born spiritually. In 1994 I received the call for the Lord to work in the Nueva Esperanza (New Hope) Church in San Pedro Necta, Huehuetenango full time. Since then I have been dedicated to his ministry.

From the Mail Bag ...

Every trimester, those who support a preacher, TEAM or orphan receive a personal report verifying the receipt of their support and showing how it was used. Here are some samples.



GUATEMALA

Last trimester he reported ...

churches started	3
villages evangelized	3
professions of faith	15
converts baptized	8

From: Leonel Hernandez
Sponsored by: Jerry Greene Family, MO

Thank you for sending this offering. It will be a big blessing. I am going to use part of it for my family and other to buy tracts. I will buy literature for discipleship named "Nuevos Creyentes" (New Creation). I will use it also to travel because I am a missionary pastor. I go to 12 towns in all to preach the Gospel and perform films on giant screens. In other towns I just go and preach.

In 2008 I want to evangelize 48 villages which have not heard about the Gospel. I am from Guatemala but I make my ministry (across the border) in Chiapas Mexico.

Pray for one of my children, he is 13 years old and his name is Wilmer. He broke his hand and knees. I need your prayers. Thank you for everything. I wish you to continue supporting me. May God bless you and your family.



MYANMAR

Last trimester he reported ...

churches started	3
villages evangelized	11
professions of faith	64
converts baptized	62

From: Richard Yee
Sponsored by: Paul Clark Family, OH

I went up ranges of mountains and villages during my mission trip. As I am getting old (61 years) I was burnt out at the arrival of every village but the next day I was refreshed by God's grace to preach to the Lahu animist people who worship evil spirits. I've got spiritual warfare and disturbance from local authorities who say "don't preach". I was almost caught but God's love and blood have protected me from all harms. Three villages have responded to the message. I felt like no more tiredness on the day of their baptism morning. After founding the three new churches the local authorities banned me not to go to those villages again. But God says I still have to go.

I want to go more places before I die. I just want to be hurry while the lost are ready to be reaped in the mission field. When I saw those people, I saw as people who are lost in the darkness and hunger for both spiritually and physically. After they become children of God they need us to be taking care of them as our flock. Through our love to them God's love and glory will be

exalted more and more among (the Lahu) nation. Please keep on helping me more and more and praying for me more and more. I and my wife are gradually losing health but we want to be faithful. Thank you for helping me. We will forever take rewards one day.



KENYA

Last trimester he reported ...

churches started	1
villages evangelized	4
professions of faith	109
converts baptized	74

From: Solomon Elomdanga
Sponsored by: Frank Murray Family, OH
 Bruce French Family, MI

I greet you in the name of our beloved Jesus Christ hoping you are fine in the Lord. I and my family are fine in the Lord continuing with the ministry.

Thank you for your support. I know God will reward you for your giving. I have been preaching in church every Sunday, evangelizing in villages and many people have come out and received Jesus Christ as their Savior.

I had a baptism in the church where 32 new members were baptized.

I have started a small church in place of a community which keeps on moving from one place to another for search of water for their animals. But God is so good because the government helped them to dig bore holes which they do get water from. Now they have settled at one place where there is no church. Many people do ask us to build a church there. Many pastors visit there, preach and just leave.

I have opened a church under the tree and I have send one person to assist them in growing spiritually. I travel to their place which is about 200 kilometers (about 134 miles) from where I stay. It is a semi-arid place and I travel with the help of a missionary car sometimes. I spend three days preaching to those people where about forty have accepted Jesus.

These (tribal) communities they are still believing in their own customs, men wear just small sheet around their waist while women do wear only skin cloth. Now is too hard to preach to them to leave their custom and wear (modest) cloth and turn to Christ. They do not even allow their children to go to school. They know only their mother tongue so I have to use a translator when I talk to them. Normally in my country we speak English or Kiswahili as our national languages.

Pray for the church to grow spiritually and that they may (all) know there is a God and they may worship Him in truth and spirit. I do pray for you and the church as a family we remember you in prayers.

continued from page 1

Now we are in need of starting a separate Home for the boys born to the mothers involved in temple prostitution. Hence I kindly request you to please pray for our endeavor. Will there be any possibility of Final Frontiers sponsoring any of such boys. This is just a request. Thank you.

After reading this I was as shocked as you probably are right now; but I had questions, so I immediately sent a reply to his letter to which he responded ...

Some women give away their daughters between 5 to 10 years of age and others officially dedicate their daughters to the temple between 10 to 15 years of age. Some wait for their daughters to attain puberty, while others abruptly discard them for just a couple of hundred dollars. All this takes place to overcome the family's poverty and in the name of religion.

In January I left with a group for India. Our band included John and Cindy White who have often gone there with me as well as a friend of theirs, John Smith (no kidding, that's his name!) who has been helping some preachers in eastern India. Pastor Steve Ware of the Tabernacle Baptist Church in Orlando, who is one of our board members accompanied me for our second trip to India together. Also with me was our India Director of Expansion, Mike Robinette and meeting up with us later was another board member, Kevin Carden, who was in India on business and Ron and Paula Charles. Ron had been invited to speak at a conference in Mumbai (Bombay) and then met up with me three weeks later in the southern India city of Madurai where he introduced me to a new group that I will tell you about later in this article.

The first few days were spent in Mumbai where the group was able to see the ministry of Karl and Susan Silva and the orphanage and school he has there. Karl is one of our National Directors and we now support nearly twenty men who work with him. He currently has a school with 1,200 children which is expected to grow to 2,000 in the next term. A number of Amway Distributors from America have built him a four story school building and are now erecting a new orphanage building for him. What a tremendous work for God he has orchestrated there. We are pleased to soon open a branch office in his facilities and to raise support for the needy children he has there.

After adjusting to the travel and time changes, most of us left for Bangalore. We arrived around nine at night and Solomon carefully squeezed all of us, plus he and the drivers (9 people) and sixteen pieces of luggage into one SUV. Somehow we did it and started off on a nine hour ride, which turned out to be eleven hours. About an hour into the journey we had to rent a second vehicle because there was just too much weight for the vehicle to bear. (And no, that has nothing to do with my weight, it was the 16 pieces of luggage that did it—or at least that's my story and I'm sticking to it.) The next morning as the sun arose we arrived in the city of Hubli and checked into a hotel. It seemed to take forever to get out of the cars as our old bones were cemented into place after the long ride. No one had "leg room" but amazingly, no one complained. God blessed me with fantastic travel partners for this trip.

After a shower we went to Solomon's house where his wife Mony (pronounced "money") had made a delicious breakfast for us. His family lives in a three story house which has the first floor as a living area, the second floor as a chapel and two

classrooms and the third floor as a dormitory for the children that he has rescued from temple prostitution.

Meeting with these children stoked the fires of curiosity in me about the entire issue and what we could do to help overcome the tragedy in the lives of these and other children. But it would be the next day before we could actuarially go to the temple and see it with our own eyes. After meeting with the children and Bible college students and watching as John and Cindy wowed them with their animal balloons and stories, we headed off to meet some of the preachers in Solomon's group.

Four hours later, all cramped as usual in one vehicle, we arrived at the first outpost of his ministry. All his churches meet in the homes of the pastors. There is just no funding available to build church buildings. The houses are made primarily of



sticks and palm branches woven together loosely and packed with mud. After the mud dries they smear buffalo dung inside and out which hardens like plaster and is then painted, if they can afford the paint. Usually the floor is dirt or is hardened by dung as well. A sheet, usually brightly colored, is placed on the floor for the people to sit on. The physical condition of their "churches" in no way imitates the spiritual condition. The fact that they meet in houses should not in any way diminish each congregation's zeal or witness. Each house we went to was packed out, primarily with women because the children were in school and the men were in the field working. It made me wonder where they put the others on a Sunday morning when everyone comes to worship

together. As they sang for us and shared testimonies, it was amazing to hear how many of these converts had been saved, both physically and spiritually from temple prostitution. One by one they rose to tell the stories of how they had come to Christ and were set free by Him. And one by one they shared their burden to reach their people with the Gospel. Men also stood who confessed their sins of the past and shared testimonies of God's blessings and answers to prayer.

For several days we drove and drove and then drove some more, stopping only to meet with another church or pastor, to share a meal with the members or drink a cup of tea that they had purchased for us with their meager earnings. They asked for nothing and came only to be blessed by our presence, having no concept that the greater blessing was ours.

It was not uncommon for them to share their sufferings with us. One pastor we met has several children, one of which has a disease that causes his skin to peel away from his body. He is also mentally retarded. To see this young boy in so much pain was in itself painful. Just to shake his hand can peel the skin off his body. He cries all the time from his pain and there is nothing they can do to help him. As a parent, I cannot imagine the anguish they endure each day having a child in such a condition

and being helpless to relieve him of his suffering.

In another village they told how they have to walk great distances to get water because the village people will not allow them to use their well. Such physical distress always causes us as wealthy Americans to stop and ponder how they live in these conditions and yet maintain a smile on their faces. But for me, the trip to the temple magnified the reality that the true poverty of India is not physical, it is spiritual. They are trapped in a culture that is dominated by Satanic religions and philosophies. And they are whole-heartedly devoted to it.

Driving to the temple required going a great distance and then cresting a large hill. Leading up to the temple walls were vendors and shops lining the road. Nearly everyone was selling incense that was colored bright yellow and red. Piles and piles of it. They were prepared for the devotees that were coming to worship their goddess and offer incense to her. *(To see the brilliant colors, I suggest you go to our website and find this issue under the section called "media".)*

Walking past the stalls of endless color, we stopped to speak to a vendor just outside the temple walls. She was an older lady who had been a temple prostitute herself for many years. Now that she was old and undesirable she was cast out to sell trinkets in order to survive. Of course, she had to give the larger part of her earnings to her goddess to ensure her salvation. We talked to her briefly about her goddess, all along refusing to buy anything from her. Trying to bring her to a place to begin a witness I asked her, "What has your goddess done for you?". Seeing her poverty and filth along with her pitiful condition and hopelessness, I expected a reply of "nothing!" from which I would then begin an earnest witness of all we have in and through Christ. To my surprise she smiled and to my question responded, "She has given me everything. I love her". About that time we were beginning to be surrounded by a group of angry men who did not want us to be there and would not tolerate any witnessing. We had noticed her hair so in order to learn and to avoid a confrontation, I asked about it. You can see in the picture that it must be the world's longest dread locks. From the time of their youth the women devotees do not cut their hair, they weave it and fold it over and bind it. Another thing they don't do is they don't wash it. Ever! In fact, they rarely wash themselves as they see filth as an act of devotion to their goddess. When they enter the gate of their temple they all throw incense at the garlands above the entrance in order to make it as dirty as they can. What a contrast to our Lord and His holy temple.

We were not there long before we felt it best to leave. The atmosphere seemed to be filled with demonic stress. Everywhere were the strange staring glances, the smiles of devotion to a goddess of stone that demands filth and sexual servitude from her servants; and then there were the young ladies and little girls present who were serving as the "ritual harlots". *(see the front cover photo)*

As we left the apex of the hill I was thinking to myself how

can such a goddess attract followers. There must have been at least five hundred people already there that morning, all of whom were devout followers. But as we drove down the hillside I was overwhelmed. For as far as you could see there were wagons of families making their way to the summit. They had traveled for days and weeks only to arrive for a few days of pagan worship. They were singing songs of praise to their goddess and were obviously ecstatic to be there and to be near her. They had decorated their oxen by painting their horns and garnishing them with garlands of flowers. They were going to worship, to pray, and to give their daughters to a lifetime of sexual service, deprivation, sickness and ultimately an eternity in hell. It became apparent that the only way to reach these people was to do it with boldness. To rescue their daughters, to convert their prostitutes, to show them that God is love. Solomon and his team are doing just that one life at a time and it is our privilege to help as much as we can.

After leaving Solomon, some in our group went on to meet with Pastor Kumar in Rajahmundry but Steve and I flew to Kolkata (Calcutta) to meet with friends and preachers there. Kevin Carden flew in that night to join us. After three days we would join the group in Rajahmundry.

I have been a friend of several men in Kolkata for years. Some were once Brahmin priests who now serve Christ. And then there is Ashok Andrews, formerly the pastor of the Carey Baptist Church, which of course was started and pastored by William Carey. I always enjoy going to his church and walking through his house that still contains some of his furniture, his writings and pulpit. The pictures that you see of William Carey in books are seen in their original format hanging on the church walls and in his office. Those who go on the trip to India with me next year will have that opportunity as well. We had gone to Kolkata at the request of the Board of Trustees of the Calcutta Bible College which meets on the campus of the Carey Baptist Church. They were wanting a partnership with Final Frontiers but we are not in a position financially to help them. It is our hope and effort now to find a Bible College in the USA that will partner with them in their work and associate with them, allowing them to be an extension campus of the American school.

By the time we left Kolkata, both Steve and I were sick. I had acquired parasites in one of the house churches from something I had eaten (fresh grapes that had been washed with impure water) and Steve had come down with a horrible cough which he politely passed on to me. What are friends for after all! To this day both he and I still have the cough, some two months later.

At this point I would like to tell you about our time in Rajahmundry and starting the first Touch A Life feeding center in India. But I have something more pressing to tell you about that really touched my heart and besides, you can read about the newest feeding center on page 14.

About a week later, after most of the team had left for home, I went to Bangalore for a day to visit a ministry there, then I went on to Madurai to meet up with Ron and Paula Charles.



Ron wanted to introduce me to a new ministry for us to work with and support. Richard Samuels has been a friend of Ron's for a number of years. Before Ron worked with us he worked with Larry Burkett and was his writer. Richard stills works with Crown Financial Ministries as their Indian representative. He had invited Ron to come there and teach a group of pastors he had assembled. Along with Richard I met his brother Raymond who works with him.

The State of Tamil Nadu is a very poor region of India. Richard and Raymond have trained scores of preachers and also started several orphanages and homes for widows who have been cast out. That is another story in itself. But what touched me most was two ministries they perform. The first is to rescue infant girls from the villages around them. In these villages it is customary to allow the first daughter to live but to kill all others at birth. This is because the family cannot afford to raise and then pay a dowry for her to be married. She is a financial burden that can destroy the entire family. Thus when a girl is born they kill her either by pouring ash down her throat to suffocate her, or by taking the sharp husk of the harvested rice and pouring it down the throat. The end result is the lining of the stomach and intestines are cut and the infant bleeds to death, slowly and painfully. Raymond routinely goes to villages in search of pregnant women and convinces them, should they have a daughter, to give it to him. He then places the child in their orphanage and raises her. I was privileged to meet a number of these little girls that he has rescued. When Richard told me that in the last two years he has saved over thirty little girls from about thirty villages I was impressed and elated. While I was congratulating him he informed me that in his area there are over three hundred villages that have this practice. His thoughts were not on what he had done but on what was left to do. So many more will be without our help. In the future we will get photos and applications of these girls and ask you to sponsor them.

The next day he shared another ministry with me, this one I believe we can help with immediately if you will get involved. For some years they have had feeding centers for children who are in abject poverty. In May of this year, the Europeans that have funded them are ending all their support to fund other projects. That will leave Richard and Raymond with five hundred children who will have no food. They asked for our help and I pledged to do whatever I can to make the need known to you and to save as many as we can.



These children come from the poorest of the poor families. They live in houses that are held together by rattan "strings". What we would use as a placemat they use for walls and a roof. Their fathers cut sugar cane for a living and have to leave home for six months at a time, leaving the family with no support. The children often go naked and have no schooling because they have no uniform to wear. They typically have a meal of tea and a single roti (an Indian tortilla made of rice) for breakfast if anything at all. That will likely be their only food for the day. They are undernourished and sick because of malnutrition and are susceptible to any disease that comes along; diarrhea, typhoid, malaria, cholera, asthma, leprosy, etc.

I sat with tears in my eyes as they told me the stories of some of these children. As much as I wanted to help, I knew that the task of getting five hundred sponsors in just two months would be overwhelming. After all, it has taken two years to get



our current three hundred children sponsored. Then I tried to explain to them the growing economic problems our families in the USA are facing, knowing all along that they would gladly exchange their Indian "wealth" for our American "economic problems". I wondered out loud if we could do something unique for these kids. What if we forget the uniform, forget shoes, the back packs, the school supplies, the medical care, forget the high quality and abundant foods we normally serve at our Touch A Life centers. What if, I wondered aloud, we give them just enough to get them by until we can find sponsors for them sometime later. What if we serve them only typical Indian food such as vegetables, curries and rotis, and buy it all in bulk? And what if rather than buying rice that has been ground and prepared for selling in the stores, we buy the raw, harvested rice and get ladies in the church to volunteer to grind it for us? (bottom photo)

Richard and Raymond thought for a moment, worked over the numbers and then announced that if we do that, we could feed each child for as little as \$5 a month. When I heard that I was amazed. That is because our **Bags of Hope** program is supported at \$20 a month and one bag feeds a family of four. Thus \$5 per child equals \$20 for four kids.

So there it is, for those of you who want to help you can donate your gift to **Bags of Hope - India**. Whether you want to give a one time gift or a monthly pledge of \$5 to help one child or more, with your help we will come to the rescue of these kids. This need is urgent so please respond quickly. If you want you can give on line or by calling in a credit card donation to our office at 800-522-4324 (ext.110). Either way, we'll keep you updated on the results of your giving with future articles and photos. Today we can feed them; someday with a Touch a

Life sponsorship, we can change their lives forever.

Gosala Yohanu — a special project

Going through our files we found a preacher that had not been supported for some time. Though his sponsors were faithful in the past they had ultimately stopped supporting him. Before attempting to find a new sponsors I inquired of his condition ... is he still alive, is he still preaching, is he still qualified to get support, etc.? Pastor Kumar wrote back with this email and the photos attached.

I went to the village of Gosala Yohanu and met with him. Here with I enclosed the photographs. One is his photograph and the second one is he is walking and another one is with some of his church members. Yesterday, being Sunday in India, I have visited the congregation. He is still preaching by sitting on a chair. He got paralysis of only the left hand and left leg. After that I took him to the hospital in the evening and they informed me that if he uses proper medicines for three months he will be alright. But for medicines and special diet he needs some extra money. If we support him with additional help he can personally convey his thanks to you when you come to India January. He will walk without any one's assistance or even without the stick. By seeing the photograph you can understand about his physical condition. Whatever the amount God leads to you, you can help him. Please pray for him.



After reading his email I sent another to get more details in case someone reading this would want to help him. This was his reply:

Regarding the price of the medicine and treatment, it is a long process of at least for six months. Above all he should have good nutritious food every day. If it is a monthly process he requires at least \$150.00 for his food, medicine and treatment. It is advisable you can help him at a time once for all and then see the result. If you can send him \$500.00 we can give him all he needs at one time. If he improves in his health then we can raise support for him to go out and start more churches. So if it is possible you can help him with \$ 500.00 once for all.

This is a worthy preacher who in the past has started several churches. The only thing that has detoured him is first, the lack of support to feed his family and second, his disease. It would be a great joy to see our readers step forward to buy his medicine as a "thank you" for all his service to the Lord. Then we will try to find a new sponsor for him who will be faithful and partner with him to reach his own people for Christ. Let us know if you want to help this brother.



Together
Effectively
Advancing the
Ministry

From: Alejandro Gomez Gonzalez
Location: Huehuetenango, Guatemala

What was the total amount of the TEAM funds received?

\$149.60

What were these funds used for?

From this offering a part was given to brother Lasaro Vasquez to buy his medicine because he is sick and the other part was given to install electrical energy in the temple of a church named "Cristo el Camino" (Christ is the Way) in Escuintla.

Do you have any special needs we can pray about?

1. *Pray for the ministry of all the pastors who work in the Mam Campus so God may use them according to his will. ("Mam" is the name of the Mayan sub group of which they are all members.)*
2. *Pray so God may deliver all the pastors from temptations, especially for their teenage children.*

Attention TEAM sponsors:

I am writing this letter on behalf of all the pastors. I take this opportunity to greet and wish a lot of success in your personal life and in the precious ministry God has commended to you.

I am writing this letter just to thank you for the support you give to the pastors who are working in the ministry in several rural places. Thank you for looking for a sponsor for these three pastors.: Francisco Bamaca, Francisco Martin and Jose Maria Castellanos.

Here in Guatemala, especially in the rural areas, we don't have enough financial resources but the pastors make an effort to preach the Gospel even when they are living in poverty. For the glory of God our ministry has been effective and has brought a lot of blessings. Thank you so much for Reading me letter.

That's all, bye now.

TEAM funding is based upon two principles, one Biblical and the other practical. Biblically, that the weapons of our warfare are spiritual. We need to provide assistance to groups of preachers who can wisely and collectively use the funds to purchase needed supplies to advance the spread of the Gospel. And from a practical standpoint; that there is no end to what can be accomplished if those working together are not concerned with who gets the credit.

For more information about TEAM projects, see page 19

Time to cut back on spending, but not on eternal causes.

By Jon Nelms

The economy seems to be getting worse and as a result, several sponsors have already had to drop support of some or all of their preachers. I know that is not something they desired to do but they felt their backs were against the wall and they had no other choice. But what does it mean in the real world, when you have to drop support of the preacher you have been helping so faithfully?

The \$35 dollars you have been using to support him, though not insignificant to you, is probably only a small fraction of your overall income; but for him, it may be 25%, 50% or even more or what he and his family have to live on each month. Can you imagine what you would do if suddenly, unexpectedly, your income was cut by 50%? It would be devastating to say the least.

We know there are times when conditions require a cut back on the "special offerings" that you use to support your preacher. But maybe there are other things that you could cut back on instead that would not jeopardize your standard of living and would allow him to continue full time in his service. These words are meant to be an encouragement to you, to spur you to think of ways that you can continue to support your preacher and still meet your monthly budget. I write this in the spirit of Hebrews 10:24 which says, "And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:"

Here's a few suggestions of things that we could each cut out of our monthly budget and thereby be able to continue to support - or even support more national preachers. How did we come up with these suggestions? Actually it was quite easy. I asked the staff to help me think of ways each of us could accomplish this goal and in a matter of minutes, we had the list.

In my own life I have often found that I am "running low" financially and feel that I just don't have enough to continue giving sacrificially while maintaining the "standard of living to which I have become accustomed". When that happens I tend to do the illogical thing. Rather than cut back on my giving for eternal causes, I take most of what I have left and give it to the Lord. Never has He left me to go hungry or naked or with my bills unpaid.

I have also noticed personally, that when I am low in funds, it is not because the Lord has been unfaithful to me but rather because I have been irresponsible with what He has given me.

Item	Frequency	Amount	Monthly Savings
Soft drinks	one a day	\$1.40	\$42.00
<i>Solution: drink water and save yourself the unwanted calories</i>			
Eating out with family	once a month	\$40	\$40
<i>Solution: have a family picnic at home or at a park</i>			
Eating out at work	once a week	\$9	\$36
<i>Solution: take a sack lunch instead of eating at a restaurant or fast food</i>			
Starbucks coffee	twice a week	\$9.00	\$36.00
<i>Solution: fill up a heated mug with coffee from home</i>			
Other coffees	once a day	\$1.40	\$42.00
<i>Solution: while cheaper than designer coffee, it still adds up so fill up at home</i>			
Refund check	once a year - 2008 only	\$600	\$600.00
<i>Solution: this will support your preacher for 17 months</i>			
Storage facility rental	once a month	\$40.00	\$40.00
<i>Solution: have a yard sell and use the proceeds to buy a storage unit for your back yard and then use the monthly savings to support your preacher.</i>			
bottle water	once a day	\$1.20	\$36.00
<i>Solution: buy a cheap water filter for your kitchen and refill your bottle. 40% of all bottled water sold in the USA is just filtered tap water anyway.</i>			
save your pocket change	family of two daily	\$1.50	\$45.00
<i>Solution: reward yourself with the surplus</i>			
store brand foods	family of four weekly	\$20	\$80
<i>Solution: name brand foods are the same as the store brand only more expensive</i>			

Let me illustrate ... currently, by God's grace, I live relatively debt free. I do make a mortgage payment and would be willing, if necessary, to make a car payment, but beyond that, I don't owe anyone, anything. I worked hard for five years paying off all my debts just so that I could be debt free. Why? Because I had become a slave to my debt just as the scripture says, "the borrower is servant to the lender". Many times I wanted to do more, give more, go more, but my finances would not allow it. I was shocked the day I finally realized that I was working to pay off interest more than the principle. Most Americans owe about \$25,000 in credit card debts. Having to pay an annual interest of some 20% means that we are paying \$5000 a year in interest payments alone. **That's over \$400 every month — enough to support 11 national preachers full time!**

I challenge you to do all you can to cut back on nonessential things so that you can continue laying up rewards in Heaven, where the economy never fails! Browse through our list of suggestions above. Most will save you far more than \$35 a month so you could use the extra to pay down debt. Frankly, all these could be done at the same time. Just imagine if you did them all — it could save you hundreds of dollars a month. Then you will have the freedom to do what is in your heart to do.

“I am the way, the truth and the life ...”

By Yosef Rehma

In the Islamic culture they do not focus on education for the females in their society. They give their daughters very basic education just to be able to read and to do some calculation and when they reach the age of 14 or 15 years old they keep them at home and put a lot of restrictions on their lives. They even arrange their marriages,

One of those girls who grew up in this kind of society, her name is Fatima, got married when she was 16 years old to a man older than her by 25 years. She had been taught that Jews and Christians are infidels and that she should not have them as friends and that she should not even shake the infidel female's hands and if she has to do so, she must wash her hands immediately because they are not clean. Many other false illusions were pressed into her life and mind.

Some time after marriage, her husband moved with her to work in the country of Saudi Arabia. While they were there she continued to participate in all the Muslim religious duties, such as five daily prayer times and fasting the whole month of Ramadan and making the pilgrimage to Mecca.

During her stay in Saudi Arabia she went to the hospital for medical treatment. While there she met an old lady who was in the same room and started to share her health problem with her. Suddenly the lady told her, “we need the Prophet of the Christian people to come and heal us”, and then this old lady shared with Fatima a dangerous question which had been told to her. She said first, as if to verify that she was not an infidel, “Thank Allah because I'm a Muslim woman,” and then continued with her mental dilemma, “but if Mohammed was the favorite prophet of Allah and was the last prophet and if Allah gave him a special message to be preached to mankind, then why is it he never preformed a single miracle? He never even healed a sick man!” The Old lady continuing her speech said “But Mr. Christ (as Muslim people called Him), He does everything for His people and sustains all their needs.” The old lady kept talking and said, “All the Christians pray to Mr. Christ and he hears and answers, it is not the same in Islam.”

Fatima didn't say a word and on the next day she left the hospital, went back to her home and started to think about what she heard from this old Muslim lady. She kept it secret in her heart because she was so scared to share it with her husband. She started to verbalize many of her questions to a group of Muslim women, about the difference between Christianity and Islam; and with each question they would ask her if she was going to leave the Islamic faith and to remind her of what happens to her if she did.

After a long time in Saudi Arabia her Husband sent her back to visit her family in Syria. A few weeks later she met a Greek Orthodox lady through a mutual friend and immediately revealed that she had some questions about Christianity and wondered if the lady could answer them? The Greek Orthodox lady said to her, (which is very common because the government makes the people think this way) “I was born as a Christian but really I don't care about my religion because its very complicated; but if you want to talk to somebody, my sister reads a lot of Christian literature and always prays, so if you want you can come and visit her.” So Fatima went to see this lady and talked with her. This

lady, unlike her sister, was one of our church members and is a born again believer. Before they met she came to us and told us she is going to talk to a Muslim lady and that she is so afraid because it might be a trap from government spies or some Islamic militant group. So we prayed with her and told her to be wise.

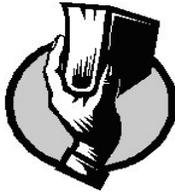
Fatima came and met with her and after some time our church member told Fatima, her personal testimony. At the end of their conversation Fatima was so quite and after a moment said, “I envy you because you feel like that with your prophet”. Upon hearing that, our member asked her, “May I give you a Bible to read and to know more about Christ?” To which Fatima fearfully declined. Our member asked her again if she would like to meet one of our ladies who could explain more to her. Fatima refused, and left, without any comment and after two weeks Fatima started to prepare herself to go back to Saudi Arabia. She called our member and asked her if she could still be given a Bible. After receiving one she went back to her husband and started to read it. (Just taking it into Saudi Arabia was a crime.)

One day her husband caught her reading the Bible and he became so angry that he beat his wife very hard and locked her in a room outside the house without food and bound her with chains for fifteen days. Every day he would come in and torture her. At the end of the fifteen days she apologized and assured him that she was still a Muslim but in her heart she never stopped thinking about what she had read and what she had heard about Mr. Christ. Confusion and fear were now controlling her but she never forget what she had read in the Bible that was freely given to her and the peace she felt when she read the Bible. She described herself as a barren land that was finally receiving water after long time.

With all this going on in her mind, one evening she lay down in her bed wondering which way was the truth, which one is the right God, how can she find the truth? As she turned her head to look out the window she said to God, “If you are real and you are the God of Islam or you are God of Christianity help me to find the truth.” Suddenly she heard a voice whispering in her ear, **“I am the way, the truth and life, no man cometh unto the father but by me.”** Startled, she looked behind her to see who was speaking but no one was in the room. Immediately she felt so peaceful, she felt so happy. The next day she called our church member and told her what had happened to her. Recognizing the words that she said she had heard, our member immediately started to share with her how she can be saved. Fatima prayed and accepted Mr. Christ as her personal Savior.

Since that time God has changed her life even though she has faced a lot of persecution she has remained to this day as a faithful witness and church member. She has won her own daughter to Christ and is able to witness to others, who like her, are won because of a personal witness and the power of reading their own Bible which is given to them free of charge by those whose support of the Final Frontiers Society make it possible. Every Bible we print and distribute at a great risk of life (Arabic, Kurdish, Persian) has a new story or stories, just like Fatima's.

Can you help us by giving \$3.50 to print a Bible?



Final Frontiers SOCIETY

A society of Believers, dedicated to distributing Bibles around the world



- ◆ There are 6,912 known living languages in the world today. Each dot on the map represents the primary location of these languages.
- ◆ 347 (approximately 5%) of the world's languages have at least one million speakers and account for 94% of the world's population.
- ◆ The remaining 95% of languages are spoken by only 6% of the world's people.
- ◆ The top four Languages spoken are Chinese (Mandarin), Spanish, English, Hindi

The map clearly indicates that in many, if not most countries, there are multiple languages being spoken. Look at southern Mexico and Guatemala. In many places Spanish is not spoken because the land is inhabited by various tribal groups of the Maya people, who have 69 different dialects. In South America, Peru has 93 and Brazil has 188.

In Asia, where most of the unreached people groups live, Nepal has 123, India 415 and Indonesia has 737. No wonder Asia is still largely "unreached".

In Africa, where huge numbers of "unreached groups" also live we have as an example Togo, which has only five and a half million people, it is about the size of Atlanta Georgia and yet there are 39 languages spoken there. Kenya has 61, Burkina Faso has 68.

Each of these nations has an "official" language which is what most people speak and what missionaries are taught to learn, but if we are not training the national converts to reach out and witness in the languages they speak other than their official language, how will we ever get the Gospel to every nation, tribe and tongue (language)? We must utilize and fund the army of national preachers who are equipped to win their own people to Christ, in addition to just sending more missionaries from America.

If American churches would simply give a tithe of their building fund projects to purchasing Bibles, every single family in nations like Togo could receive their own copy of God's Word.

Sources: The World Almanac and Book of Facts 2007 and Ethnologue: Languages of the World

They think they do God service



By Ron Charles

"Then they shall deliver you up to be afflicted, and shall kill you: and ye shall be hated of all nations for my name's sake. And then shall many be offended, and shall betray one another, and shall hate one another" (Matthew 24:9-10).

"They shall put you out of the synagogues: yea, the time cometh, that whosoever killeth you will think that he doeth God service" (John 16:2).

Shortly after their experience at Pentecost (Acts 2:1-47), Peter and John were walking to the Temple to worship when they encountered a man who was lame from birth, begging at the Gate Beautiful of the Temple. Although they did not have any money to give him, Peter told him to rise in the name of Jesus. The man was immediately healed and began to walk (Acts 3:1-26). This event so infuriated the Sadducees and Pharisees and Jewish religious officials that they began a persecution campaign against the disciples of Jesus (Acts 4:1-31). Thus began the persecution that Jesus warned his followers would be a mainstay of their lives from that time up until this present day. Soon after this, one of the first appointed deacons of the church, Stephen, was martyred (Acts 6:8-7:60) by angry Greek Jews with the approval of the Judean Jewish religious authority; followed in quick succession by an increase in persecution and arrests throughout Judea. Saul, a young zealous Pharisee, who was originally from Tarsus in Asia Minor, was one of those whom authorities counted on most to make life miserable for this new movement of believers in Jesus, by making arrests wherever and whenever possible (Acts 8:1), feeling that without a doubt, he was doing the will of God by persecuting this new sect.

During the reign of Roman Emperor Caligula (AD 37-41), relations between Rome and the Jews became very strained and Rome began a crack down on the Jews in Judea. This resulted in the Jewish religious authorities pull back from their persecution of the new believers in Jesus, so that they could concentrate on defending themselves against Caligula's rages. It was during this time that Saul experienced a powerful conversion experience on the road to Damascus, Syria. After changing his name to Paul, he became not only a follower of Christ (Acts 9:1-30), but he became the primary proponent of Christianity and the most important Christian leader from the time of his conversion until his execution in the mid-60's AD.

With the death of Caligula, Claudius became emperor (AD 41-54). Tensions between the Jews religious leaders in Judea and the Roman authorities lessened considerably during Claudius' reign. In order to show the Jews favor, Claudius appointed the Jew, Herod Agrippa I, King of Judea and Samaria. One of the first things that Herod did to gain the respect and favor of the Jewish religious authority in Judea was to have James the apostle, the son of Zebedee, killed (Acts 12:1-2); quickly followed by the arrest of Peter (Acts 12:3-17). Once again, the Jewish religious leaders began persecuting the Judean believers in Jesus. This persecution lasted until AD 44, when Herod Agrippa I died. After the death of Herod Agrippa I (Acts 12:20-23), Claudius' good relations with the Jews began

Welcome New Sponsors

Sponsoring Family	Preacher	Country
Anonymous Sponsor, IN	G.B.	Syria
North Spring Baptist, WV	A.I. Abraham	India
Wendy Turek, GA	Cleofas Castellanos	Honduras
Wendy Turek, GA	Samson Wafula	Kenya
Alberta Philips, MI	Bollarapu Samuel	India
Nathan Carden, France	Maturi Asseerwadam	India
Terry Schamp, WV	Paleti Citta Babu	India
Randy Anderson family, MI	Gbarsy Wesseh Bestman	Liberia
John Irving family, NE	Van Monyrath	Cambodia
Pierre Smith family, GA	Boutouaka Lare Gbernabe	Togo
First Baptist Church Belpre, OH	Kodzovi David Nadhon-Azo	Togo
First Baptist Church Belpre, OH	Phan Sophun	Cambodia
Storden Baptist, MN	T.V. Barn Boss	India
David Croskrey family, WA	Phan Kim Heng	Cambodia
David Croskrey family, WA	Daniel Seruuma	Uganda
David Croskrey family, WA	G.B.	Syria
David Croskrey family, WA	W.A.	Iran
David Croskrey family, WA	Y.A.	Iran
Rick Hofmeister family, GA	Hoang Thanh Tung	Vietnam
Bernard Lemmen family, MI	Harish Chandra Mallick	India
Rafael Igartua family, IN	G.B.	Syria
James Moore family, CA	Ch. Manikyam	India
James Moore family, CA	Cheppula Babu Rao	India
Providence Baptist, Augusta, GA	Maturi Asseerwadam	India
Providence Baptist, Augusta, GA	Bampa Lazarus	India
Providence Baptist, Augusta, GA	Didday Samuel	India
Providence Baptist, Augusta, GA	Gadi Peddi Raju	India
Providence Baptist, Augusta, GA	P. Palu	India
Providence Baptist, Augusta, GA	Paleti Citta Babu	India

Sponsoring Family	Touch A Life Children	Country
Warren Spalding family, MI	Juan Alberto Saucedo Galindo	Honduras
Mark Archer family, MI	Surya Babu	India
Chad Roberts family, FL	Estela Ondina Medina	Honduras
Chad Roberts family, FL	Cinthia Yaquelin Barahona	Honduras
Julie Maryon and family, MI	Ceidy Josselin Martinez	Honduras
Lovonia Carson, GA	Talari Mary	India
Darryl Shafer family, GA	Marlon Pineda Zelaya	Honduras
James Davey family, MI	Sathish Chandra	India

A word from a sponsor ..

Dear Jon,

I read your article in the 3rd quarter 2007 Progress Report about the opposition to support of national church planters. I know it must hurt you but I want to encourage you to just keep doing what God has called you to do. Before you came to Temple Baptist and spoke, I was seeking to support native pastors. I appreciate the years you've put in to setting up the accountability side of things and organizing your ministry so others can be a part of it.

I, like you, am not opposed to American missionaries. I see the body of Christ as one, whether American or National. Some friends of ours were missionaries to the mountain people in Vietnam before the war. They along with some others planted some seeds there and a few believers were born. They had to leave the country because of the communists. My family and I have been supporting a radio ministry that has been broadcasting into Vietnam for I believe over 30 years now. The national pastors have been faithful and God is blessing. Last reports I believe listed the number of believers in that language group now as well over 100,000. So, why not support nationals?

Keep up the hard work.

David and Kammi Croskrey and family, Washington



VISIONARY TRIPS

May:
Egypt
Austria
Ireland

June/July/August:
Honduras (5)
El Salvador
Nicaragua
Guatemala

September:
Russia
Ukraine
Belarus
Siberia

October:
India
Nepal
Pakistan

November:
Nicaragua
Peru

January:
India

February:
Thailand
Myanmar
Cambodia
Vietnam

March:
Kenya
Uganda



CHURCH MEETINGS

April:
Stockton, CA
Covington, GA
Cincinnati, OH
Dayton, OH
Central City, KY
Cleveland, TN
Seattle, WA
Richmond, KY
Findley, OH

May:
Dublin, Ireland
Windom, MN
Arlington, TX
Austin, TX
Borger, TX
Oklahoma City, OK

June:
Stockton, CA

SCHEDULES



Touch a Life

A child sponsorship ministry of the Final Frontiers Foundation
www.touchalife.net

By Jon Nelms

In the last Progress Report we shared some photos of the sponsored children in Honduras getting their Christmas gifts. Photos from India did not arrive in time but we have them now, so on the next page you can see some of the children playing and displaying the gifts bought for them. I want to say "thank you" to all those who purchased gifts and Christmas stockings that we filled with candy, gifts and scripture. You really made a difference in the lives of these children. Many who are not even sponsors gave for this cause and because of you, hundreds of children were able to receive a Christmas gift for the first time.

Before our trip to India in January I had asked Pastor Kumar to select several villages that he thought would be the best for us to start our first feeding centers in. Up to this point we have been supporting well over a hundred orphans. They have been placed in the homes of pastors and live as a member of the family; but up to now, there have been no "feeding centers".

Well, that has all changed now! After scouting out several villages, of the more than 800 where we have churches in that area, we selected one that has always stood out in my heart. Years ago Pastor James Acree and The Hillside Baptist church in Pomeroy, OH built a church building for the congregation in a small village and it stands out in stark contrast to the palm branch houses where the members live that surround the building. The structure is their pride and joy and they pack it out every time there is a service.



The morning we were there, Pastor Kumar had arranged for us to feed the children of that village. They all gathered inside and sat on the floor waiting to be fed. (photo at left) Most were able to use aluminum "plates" that had been purchased for them but others ate off of banana leaves, which is the common "plate" in that part of India. (center photo) After some singing and a short Bible story, cameras snapped photos as I was honored to serve the first child in our Touch A Life Center in India. (photo at

right) The kids stuffed themselves on rice and vegetables and mutton curry. I have no doubt that tens of thousands of other children will be fed just like her over the years to come.

After that event, we moved on to another village that really touched my heart. This "church" is made of palm branches, covered on the inside with buffalo dung, and we had to duck just to enter the "building". (photo at top right) Inside were some supporting posts and a dirt floor. The "kitchen" was outside and consisted of a fire with one pot and a long stick to stir the rice as it cooked in a mixture of water and coconut milk. Surrounding the church was a stick wall and just to the side of it was open sewage flowing along the roadside. The children were no more than ten feet from the ditch as they ate.



This will become our second feeding center as we get the children sponsored. (There are at least sixty-five kids in both locations.) But in the mean time, we are providing meals in both locations on Sunday mornings only. Can we afford to do this? Well monetarily no; but morally we cannot afford not to, so we just scrape up the funds from wherever we can to feed these children for now. In the mean time we are waiting for the applica-

tions to arrive from these new centers and as they are filled we will move on to the third and then fourth and so on.

I hope you will help us in getting these children sponsored. Talk to your friends and family about it and see if they wouldn't be delighted to help out. I think, like me, you will be amazed at how willing people are to help a hungry child, especially when their support will provide not only food but also clothing, shoes,

education assistance, basic medical care and Bible teaching.

And by the way, up to now all our Visionary Trips related to Touch A Life have been in Honduras. Beginning next year in January I will host a trip to India for those who wish to go and meet their sponsored children. Already the Providence Baptist Church in Augusta, GA is planning to send ten people. I hope many others will choose to come along too. This will be a life changing trip for all who come. I guarantee it.

Christmas for the Indian children

What a great time it was when Pastor Kumar arranged for all the orphans who had been placed in the homes of pastors and church members to come to the Final Frontiers office where his church is located, for a day of fun, food and gifts.

Play time is not common in India. Most children tend to keep to themselves and work around the home when school is out. The poverty they live in does not leave time for the luxury of play time or athletics. So, having a special day set aside for just that was a real blessing.

More than a hundred of them gathered together and in typical Indian fashion, the boys played separately from the girls. But when it came time to roll out the gift cart, their eyes were filled with delight to see all the Christmas gifts that had been bought for them, by their sponsors.

Until you sponsors came along, these children never knew about Jesus or Christmas. They were orphaned and abandoned and literally starving. You have demonstrated God's love to them by your support and put "icing on the cake" with your Christmas gifts. Thank you so much for helping us to help them. And by the way, we have more Indian kids



Visionary Trips 2008

Our Visionary Trips to Honduras for the Touch A Life program will allow you to:

- ◆ meet and spend time with your sponsored child and their family, visit in their home and help feed the children in the feeding centers.
- ◆ meet some of the pastors supported by Final Frontiers.
- ◆ have an opportunity to go out with a Honduran church member to witness and pass out tracts.
- ◆ go shopping for gifts for the children and souvenirs for your family and friends

If you would like to go, call our office to register. **1-800-522-4324 ext.110**. Please leave your name and phone number and we will get back with you.

The cost per person (except for the international airfare), which includes travel within Honduras, great food and clean, modern lodging, is only \$650 per person. The only other funds you will possibly need are for souvenirs and snacks. A \$200 deposit is non-refundable. Deadlines for registration are six weeks before the trip date.

Churches and schools are encouraged to book a week for their own group to go down. We can custom-make a trip just for your ministry needs in a week that you choose. We can even arrange for you to help us start a new church while you are there.

The dates available for 2008 are:

June 12-19	Full
June 19-July 3	Reserved for MIT*
July 3-10	Half full
July 10-17	Half full
August 7-14	Almost full
August 14-21	

If another date is desired for a group of 10 or more, please contact us as quickly as possible. Recommended groups are churches, Bible study groups, Sunday School classes, etc.

* **MIT** refers to **Missionaries In Training**. This is a new program developed by Final Frontiers to take serious, missions minded youth (ages 15 and up) to the mission field for several weeks of hands on, missionary work. It is similar to our regular Visionary Trip but is expanded in time and enhanced in function.

Students will be paired to an English speaking partner and assigned to pastors whom they will assist in soul winning, church work and church planting. They will also have classes taught by national Preachers and Final Frontiers Missionaries on cultural training and missionary training and will have experience working in our feeding centers and ministering in both urban and rural settings.

To qualify an application must be completed. To be approved it is not necessary to have a "call" to be a missionary but it is required that the applicant be serious in fulfilling the Great Commission in whatever capacity God leads them. Applications will be available in January 2008. Call 800-522-4324 ext.110.

Water Shortage in the Dry Season

This time of year in Honduras many children will die because of drinking contaminated water. The World Health Organization says that 50,000 children under the age of 5 will die in Honduras each year due to contaminated drinking water.

Many families have to walk miles carrying buckets of water on their heads. Many times their water comes from a creek where cows pass through or that contains human sewage. People also bath and wash their clothes in the same water, adding to the problem.

The springs and natural wells are drying up during this dry season forcing people to walk further than normal and sometimes all they can find is muddy, contaminated water. The children drink this water, they have no choice, there is no other water to drink, many times the youngest of these children get sick and die because they are the weakest of the poorest of the poor.

We feel that it is necessary to dig a bore well at our main facility where we feed over 200 children every day. Currently water is only available three days a week. We cannot tell you how much this will cost. It depends on how many holes have to be drilled before we find water and how deep we must drill to find a consistent source. We estimate it will cost about \$5000. Our tower and tanks are already in place, all we need now is the well to be dug.

Continued from page 12

to sour. He refused to appoint another Roman authority for Judea; and for more than four and a half years, Jerusalem found itself in the grasp of anarchy. It was during this time of no Roman authoritative presence in Jerusalem that rebellion began in earnest in Judea. It was also during this time that James, the brother of Jesus, the leader of the church at Jerusalem, was killed by the lawless Jewish religious authorities. In 49 AD, Rome returned Judea to Roman rule, dissolving the position of King of Judea and Samaria. For the next two and a half decades, successive Roman governors outraged the Jewish population of Judea, who responded with numerous uprisings and rebellions against the Judaean Roman authority. In quick succession, Rome moved ruthlessly to suppress each uprising. Unfortunately, the Jewish believers in Jesus of the Jerusalem fellowship became victims of the Romans' Judean Jewish population's suppression.

But, outside of Judea, the Christian movement quickly spread across the whole of the Roman Empire, enduring persecution by several Roman Emperors. The first documented case of imperially-supervised persecution of the Christians in the Roman Empire began with Nero (54-68 A.D.). Further state sanctioned persecutions were random (under Titus, Domitian, Trajan, Marcus Aurelius, Caracalla, Macrinus, and Elagabalus) yet severe in the major cities of the Empire including Rome, Ephesus and Antioch. During the reign of Maximinus Thrax, persecution of Christians was extended beyond the limits of the major cities to include every part of the Empire. Under Decius (249-251) persecution of Christians across the Empire became a matter of state policy, culminating with the severe persecutions of Diocletian and Galerius at the end of the third and beginning of the fourth century. However, even though theirs was the last, their persecutions were considered the largest, the bloodiest and the most horrible of all of the Roman persecutions. Christianity attained legal recognition, when Galerius, Diocletian's successor, issued an edict of toleration on his death bed in AD 311. In AD 313, Roman Emperor Constantine, affirmed the religion's legal status with the issuance of the Edict of Milan, and gave Christianity a privileged place in Roman culture and society. Then in the latter part of the 4th century Theodosius I made Christianity the official religion of the Empire. Some historians believe that as few as 100,000 to as many as 500,000 Christians died from state sanctioned Roman persecution.

Yet, even though Christianity was now the official religion of Rome, persecution continued in other regions of the world. In 337, a conflict in the ongoing hostilities between Sassanid Persia and the Roman Empire led to anti-Christian persecutions by the Persians. Over the next few decades, over 15,000 Christians died in Persia. In the 3rd and 4th centuries, Christian missionaries converted the Goths to Christianity. The Goths saw this as an attack on their religion and culture. In response, the Visigoth King Athanaric began persecuting Christians. In the 5th and 6th centuries, the Arian form of Christianity became prevalent among the Goths (the belief that Jesus was not God but was declared the "perfect sacrifice" by God), and persecution began against all Christians who did not accept their Arian form of Christianity. In the early sixth century, Khosrau II, King of Persia from 590 to 628, invaded Asia Minor and Syria at the head of a large army. Ninety thousand Christians are said to have perished at the hands of Khosrau's persecution. For the next 28 years Persian persecution was an annual monarchical exercise, resulting in the death of more than 3 million. This was followed in quick succession by the 900-year long Islamic con-

quest persecution of Christians, and the religious persecutions in Europe that spanned more than one thousand years.

Even today, persecution of Christians is still going on. In fact, according to recent statistics, persecution of Christians worldwide has reached staggering heights. One European Christian missions organization claims that in the year 2006 alone, there were over 200,000 cases of persecution against Christians worldwide, ranging from confiscation of property to loss of job to beatings and death, and that most (about 86%) of the persecutions were in countries where the dominant religion is Islam. Without exception, the Islamic fundamentalists who are involved in the violence against Christians felt that they are doing God (Allah) a great service by this persecution, in that they believed that they were eliminating infidels and the unbeliever threat from the world; just like Jesus had warned just before his death and resurrection.

This modern day Christian persecution became a true reality to us (my wife and I) during our most recent trip to northern India (the Muslim region of India). I had been invited to present a three-day teaching to the struggling and very poor, Christian pastors in the region. Some of these pastors are so poor that they cannot afford a Bible. In fact, we discovered that as many as 12-15 pastors shared a single Bible because they could not afford the \$5 that a new Bible would cost them. Some of these pastors came from Hindu backgrounds, but the majority in that region came from Muslim backgrounds. So, when they accepted Jesus as their Savior, they were immediately rejected by their families and the people of their villages, which was difficult enough for them. But, when they decided to forsake their past life and dedicate themselves to ministry for Jesus Christ, their earthly destinies were cast—persecution would be a way of life from that time forward.

Most of these pastors live with the daily threat of persecution, which includes refusal of services to both him and his family (medical treatment and medicine, transportation, food and water purchases, and so on), confiscation of personal property (money, clothes, bicycle, and so on), denial of housing, denial of education opportunities for his children, physical abuse of both he and his family, and much more that we in the western world consider absolute minimums for living. Yet, these pastors continue to teach and to spread the love of Christ, as faithful servants of the Lord, seemingly oblivious to the constant threat. Nevertheless, there are times when these pastors must face not only the above mentioned persecutions, but also the ultimate persecution—the forfeiture of their lives. Such was the case in the one village in northern India, near where we were providing teaching to the region's village pastors.

The three-day pastors' teaching seminar was open to all of the Christian pastors in the region. Upon arrival at the open air facility where the teaching was scheduled to take place, I was quite surprised to see the place filled with pastors waiting for the session to begin. I later discovered that many of these pastors had to walk for two or three days through the jungle in order to attend the sessions. Because of the distance, most did not return to their homes each night, but rather, they stayed at the facility and slept on the concrete floor of the facility with no cover and no change of clothes. All had come prepared to fast for the entire three days because they did not have money to buy food, but thanks to some of the local Christians enough food was provided so that they could have a meal each day.

Although most of the pastors, especially those from jungle villages, chose to stay in the town and did not go back and forth, one pastor in particular (we will call him Joseph—I re-

member him well. He was maybe in his early 40's and was continuously smiling throughout the teaching sessions as he took notes and nodded in agreement often throughout the session) decided that he wanted to share the information that he had learned with members of his small church located in one of the jungle villages. So, after the first day's session was over, about 5:30 PM, this pastor walked four hours back to his village, arriving well after darkness had set in (I still remember how excited he was when he left to walk back to his village. As he left, he gave me a big hug, saying that he will see me the next morning). Joseph met with members of his little congregation who had gathered together to pray for the sessions, and began to share with them what he had learned that day in the teaching session. He intended to teach all night and then leave his village at about 3:00 AM in order to walk the four hours back so he could be there at 8:00 AM, when the next morning session began.

We began the session on time the next morning, but about midway through the morning session, a young man, Samuel, about sixteen years old, arrived at the meeting totally exhausted. He sat for a few seconds and then raised his hand in order to be recognized. I recognized him and he said that he was from the village where Joseph was a pastor. He then shared the heart-breaking story with all who were there. He said that the night before, about 20 members of Joseph's little congregation had met together in order to pray for the three day teaching seminar. As they were praying, Pastor Joseph arrived and told them about that day's session. He then began to share with them all that he had learned. Then after about two hours, a large group of Muslim members of the village came to the little bamboo and grass hut that served as Pastor Joseph's church and began to tear the hut down, yelling all the time that Allah hates infidels and that he demands that unbelievers pay for their blasphemy of acknowledging Jesus as God. All during the time that the hut was being destroyed by the Islamic villagers, Pastor Joseph and the twenty congregation members knelt and prayed that God would through them, show His love to those who were destroying the "church" hut.

Very soon the hut was completely destroyed and then burned. The crowd then turned their wrath upon the congregation members. The crowd began beating the twenty, challenging them to renounce the blasphemy of Jesus as God, saying that they would receive favor from Allah if only they would renounce. None of the twenty renounced; standing firm on the side of Christ. The twenty were then threatened with imprisonment for the remainder of their lives if they continued to worship Jesus, and were warned, through threat of death for them and their families, about ever attending a Christian gathering again. They then forced the twenty badly beaten Christians to leave and to return to their homes, leaving Pastor Joseph alone to face the angry Islamic villagers.

For the next three and one half hours Pastor Joseph was beaten unmercifully, and even though some of the villagers had appealed to police in a neighboring village, the police refused to get involved saying that it was a religious matter, which was not their responsibility. Plus they did not want to incite conflict among the Islamic majority. So, they did nothing. Pastor Joseph was repeatedly beaten unconscious, revived and then beaten unconscious again. Finally, he could no longer be revived. His tormentors left him to die in the dirt and returned to their own homes. After they had left, Samuel rushed to Pastor Joseph's side and was there when after about another 10 or 15 minutes, he stopped breathing and his soul joined his Savior in everlasting life. Samuel lifted Pastor Joseph's body up and carried it to

his little hut, where he lived with his badly beaten wife (she was one of the twenty beaten by the crowd). Pastor Joseph's wife then asked Samuel to run as quickly as he could to the seminar to ask prayer for the twenty who had been beaten and threatened, that the Lord would give them the strength to withstand and words of encouragement and love to give to the ones who had beaten them so that they could come to know Christ. He had run all night in order to get to us so that we could pray for the twenty beaten believers.

After Samuel had finished sharing with us how Pastor Joseph had spent his last hours on earth, we all joined together in prayer and asked God to give the twenty, wisdom and the encouragement to stand strong for Him, as requested by Pastor Joseph's wife. Although we continued with our teaching sessions, it was very difficult because I still remembered the smiling face of Pastor Joseph. Yet, what made the situation even more difficult is the knowledge that the ones who had beaten Pastor Joseph to death had done so feeling that they were doing God's will and were providing a great service for God.

After the session, I asked Samuel if I could come with him to the village so that I could pray for the badly beaten believers. He refused my request saying that I must stay to teach the others so that they could bring the truth to the jungle people; and that if I went with him that I too might be beaten and would not be able to teach the others. For such a young man, Samuel seemed to have maturity well beyond his years. I understood where he was coming from and honored his objections to my accompanying him back to the jungle. As Samuel turned to walk back to the jungle, I watched him until he was out of sight and as I watched; I could not help but feel that people like Samuel and like Pastor Joseph and the twenty who were beaten are the ones who will be the first in line to receive rewards from our Lord; and those who feel that they are so indispensable to the Lord's kingdom, with their huge ministries, multimillion dollar media broadcasts and Christian world well recognized names, will be so greatly surprised when those who have suffered such persecution receive their rewards long before these Christian celebrities receive theirs.

So, Christian persecution did not die with the ascension of Constantine to the throne of Rome. It is very much alive and functioning to its maximum today. From the deserts of the Sahara to the towering heights of northern India to the jungles of Indonesia and beyond, persecution is a daily fact in the lives of tens of thousands of Christians. Most will live their lives for Christ, standing boldly for Him in the face of the most unbearable abuse and maltreatment, and will never be on Christian television, will never write a Christian best seller or whose name will never be heard from pulpits in the western world. Yet, in the world that really counts; the heavenly world; their names will proudly be displayed in the rolls of the heroes of faith.

As we travel throughout the world, we have one request that we make to all believers everywhere. We ask that all believers set aside at least 5 minutes per day in order to pray for the persecuted Christians around the world. Five minutes is not much. But it can make such a tremendous difference. Just five minutes a day. It takes longer than five minutes to walk to your car from your work. It takes more than five minutes to drink a cup of coffee, or to watch a television commercial. But five minutes a day can be what stands between life and death of persecuted Christians throughout the world. So, we ask for you to join us today and commit to praying five minutes a day for your persecuted brothers and sisters in Christ throughout the world.



Prayer and Praise Reports from around the world ...

If you desire to help with any of these needs, please designate your gifts accordingly.

Lithuania

From Mindaugas Diksaitis
Final Frontiers, National Director



Pastor Artura's (Good News Baptist church, Kaunas) wife Ramone was diagnosed with very aggressive breast cancer. The surgery had been done and chemotherapy was supposed to

have been started yesterday. However it was not started because she was also found to be pregnant (5weeks).

The family is going through dark times and needs lots of our prayers in their decisions that have to be made quickly.

Artura, with his wife are outstanding leaders in Lithuania and throughout Eastern Europe, and their church is influential, having planted numerous other daughter churches throughout Lithuania and Latvia, though they have very limited financial resources. Please pray for them often.



This is a photo of the Good News Baptist Church in Kaunas, Lithuania where Artura is the pastor.

Kenya

From Randall Stirewalt, BBF Missionary
Regional Director Final Frontiers



Greetings from Eldoret, we are blocked in the city all exits are being controlled gangs. I tried to go Maku-tano yesterday, eight miles out of Eldoret I ran into a road block. They perhaps

would have let me pass but I didn't want to take any chances. When I saw them I turned around and came home.

Each side keeps upping the problem, last night an opposition Member of Parliament was shot dead. I expect later on today riots.

I have waited for Jon to come to Kenya for years, now he has a plan to come and I don't know if he will be able. If things don't change soon it will not be safe for him to come. We are safe, but we are also held up in our compound.

I just received a report there was much burning near our Bible Institute in Eldoret last night. Our caretaker is a Luyah by tribe but his wife is Kikuyu. Please pray they won't burn the Institute.

Please pray for peace, I will be very truthful we are beginning to become weary. Having so many of our people in danger, so many pastors homes burned, taking care of so many peoples needs everyday. Then not knowing if civil war is going to start at any time. We live one day at a time. Most missionaries have left, only a few remain.

God bless you and God bless Jon and Final Frontiers. The pastors really need the funds at this time.

Thailand

From Kiatisak Siripanadorn
National Director



Sorry for not write to you since you leaved us in late November. After your schedule, 3 days later I was back to Chiangmai for 5 days and I took a medical team from Muskegon 19 of them with 8

workers from us joining with the team for translation. We went to 11 areas among the Lahu and Akha tribes. Praise the Lord for thousand of sick people who came to the doctors and heard God's word and about between 55-60 got saved.

One of those numbers was a pastor of a Lahu church. He came forward, prayed, accepted the Lord after he heard the message of Gospel. "Save by Grace through faith in Jesus Christ only. Not by baptism." I went to him and talk with him after the meeting was over.

Thank the Lord for His plan for us for this village. This Lahu village was not in our schedule but because of unexpected rain and heavy rain came to the area we could not go where we planned so I sent Pastor Lumpa (see page 4) to talk with the village to get the permission to go there with the medical team and to preach. On that day 26 of them got saved (including this pastor) out of over 250 attended the meeting.

Pakistan

From Maalik B. (alias)
Final Frontiers Missionary Associate



Our evangelistic team, led by Pastor Nadeem, has planted our first church in interior Sindh province. They did an evangelistic meeting on Tuesday and about 180 souls came to Christ, many

from the Hindu and Muslim backgrounds. This church will be a house fellowship and we have plans to stand a proper church building ASAP to have a Christian witness in this un-evangelized area.

Rapid church growth means there is also a growing need to develop more leaders who can help strengthen and expand the church. In Pakistan there is a great need to develop more indigenous leaders who have a sound understanding of the Bible and theology and who at the same time are able to serve effectively in outreach and discipleship.

The training of existing and emerging Pakistani church leaders is the heart of our strategy. We have developed various programs for leadership development. Our goal is to train visionary church leaders and workers who will effectively serve the growing church in Pakistan.

Sponsorship Information

- 1

Sponsoring a **national preacher** is a simple process. Simply tell us which country you are most burdened for and we'll provide you with information on preachers living there who are approved for sponsorship. If you don't have a preference, we'll assign you a preacher from our most needy list.

Sponsorship is \$35.00 monthly, however, since we get each preacher two sponsors, you have the option of providing double sponsorship (\$70.00 monthly) if you prefer. Your \$35 sponsorship includes \$10 support of our ministry (unless you direct us otherwise). This gives our foundation funds to operate with as well as providing assistance to preachers who do not yet have sponsorship. Typically up to half of this amount is used overseas. If you prefer your total support to go to your preacher, tell us and we will comply to your request.

As a sponsor you should receive correspondence when we send your support to your chosen preacher three times annually.

Each preacher recommended for support has successfully passed through at least three levels of examination and has been proven to be doctrinally sound, morally pure and have a verifiable track record in church planting and discipleship.
- 2

Sponsorship of a **TEAM** can be done for \$10.00 monthly or more. *TEAM* stands for *Together Effectively Advancing the Ministry*. Though many preachers are being supported, they often collectively lack ministry tools that can be useful. The purpose of the *TEAM* funding is to provide each country with money to be used for such things as printing literature, buying bicycles for the traveling evangelists, building a church or Bible school, emergency relief, feeding widows and funding preachers who do not yet have a sponsor, etc.

Each trimester as the funds are mailed abroad, the national coordinator for each nation is asked to fill out a *TEAM* Report Form which we will send to you. This will give you a first hand report of how your funds were effectively used to advance the ministry in that land.
- 3

Sponsorship of **Touch a Life**, gives assistance to an orphaned, abandoned or destitute child. The \$35.00 monthly sponsorship provides for food, clothing, basic medical care, and educational assistance.

All orphanages and home placement programs assisted by Final Frontiers are administered by pastors who are supported through this foundation, and are operated as a ministry of a local church. Trimesterly correspondence is encouraged between the orphans and their sponsors. Sponsorship distribution for the child is identical to that of the preachers (see #1)
- 4

Membership in the **Final Frontiers Society** is \$10.00 monthly and is used to purchase and distribute Bibles. Many national pastors and Believers do not own a copy of God's Word. FFS membership funds, help to turn the dream of having their own Bible, into a reality.
- 5

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 is \$20 monthly.

After Death ...

More and more sponsors are contacting us about the opportunity to continuing supporting their preacher after they have passed away.

Imagine being able to leave funds for your preacher so that after you have gone to be with the Lord, he can still be serving with your help.

Or what if your burden is to feed children or distribute Bibles or just to leave funds for the ministry to continue as needed?

If you are interested in leaving Final Frontiers or Touch A Life in your will, you should give us a call. We can give you all the information you need and even help you find a professional in your state that will help you with your will or trust.

After all, if winning souls and planting churches are important to you in this life, how important do you think it will seem to you in the next?

**Give us a call at:
800-522-4324 ext. 110**

Now it's your turn ...

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (home) _____ (office) _____

Email: _____

I want to receive the *Progress Report* on-line rather than by regular mail

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

Enclosed is my donation of: \$ _____ to be applied to: _____

Also, please contact me regarding sponsorship of:

____ a National Preacher	____ a country's <i>TEAM</i>
____ A Touch A Life Child	____ membership in the Final Frontiers Society
____ Bags of Hope	____ other _____

Final Frontiers
Foundation
1200 Peachtree St.
Louisville, Georgia
30434

Register to receive your Progress Report via email, in full color at:
www.finalfrontiers.org

Non-profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
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AUTO

Address Service Requested

Moved lately?

Please give us your new address. E-mail: webmaster@finalfrontiers.org or call: 1-800-522-4324

Reports received from the Final Frontiers ...

Reports received in the last three months indicate there have been ...	Totals from all reports received since our beginning in December 1986 indicate there have been ...	A current total of all statistics indicate there are currently ...
453 Churches Started	29,234 Churches Started	1,293 Preacher Sponsorships
1,075 Villages Evangelized	106,929 Villages Evangelized	327 Touch A Life sponsorships
22,853 Professions of Faith	897,702 Professions of Faith	819 Number of actual sponsors
12,145 Believers Baptized	319,311 Believers Baptized	74 Countries involved

Missions statistics and points to ponder

Christians largely squander opportunities to invest where the harvest has the greatest potential ...

In a world of 6.35 billion people, there are 2.51 billion who live among the "least-reached people groups"—populations where there are less than 2% evangelical Christians. In these places there is "no indigenous community of believing Christians with adequate numbers and resources to evangelize [its own] people group."

Unfortunately, North American missions organizations tend to target population groups in already-evangelized countries, where converts come more quickly and easily.

- ◆ 96% of all foreign missionaries work among existing churches
- ◆ only 4% work where no church exists
- ◆ 40% of the church's entire foreign mission resources are being deployed to just 10 oversaturated countries already possessing strong citizen-run home ministries

Thus, it is not that we lack the resources to evangelize the unreached but that we fail to make it a priority. As opportunities for church growth grow globally, U.S. Christians continue to accumulate record wealth while giving away proportionately less than we did during the Great Depression.

Churches and giving ...

- ◆ A 2004 survey of 34 denominations showed that the average amount of total denominational budgets going to overseas missions was 2%
- ◆ When asked "What would you do with an unexpected financial windfall?" 31% of Protestant pastors said they would build, expand or update their church buildings and facilities. 7% said they would give more to foreign missions and evangelism.
- ◆ Almost 50% of the average church's budget goes to staff and personnel salaries. Missions and evangelism account for about 5%.
- ◆ Only 2 cents of every dollar given by American Christians goes to support overseas ministries.

Christian organizations and giving ...

In 2000, nearly 97% of the entire income of all Christian organizations was spent on, and primarily benefited, other Christians at home or abroad:

- ◆ \$261 billion spent on ministering to Christians
- ◆ \$7.8 billion on already-evangelized non-Christians
- ◆ \$0.81 billion on unevangelized non-Christians

Source: generousgiving.org