

This compound once housed the West African Institute of Biblical Studies, the Grace Academy day school, and the Bestmans' residence. Now, as some semblance of peace has returned to the war ravaged country of Liberia, the Bestmans seek to rebuild and increase their ministry and restore their home in Liberia.

STORY PAGE 7

*A monthly publication of the Final Frontiers Foundation
July 1999*

MINISTRY INFORMATION...

The *Progress Report* is a free, 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 Thailand, Myanmar, Laos, Cambodia, India, Vietnam, China, Philippines, South Africa, Kenya, Uganda, Ghana, the Ivory Coast, Togo, Liberia, Nigeria, France, Romania, Russia, Lithuania, Albania, Kyrgyzstan, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Chile, Peru, Fiji, Tonga, St. Vincent, St. Lucia, Grenada, and Cuba. Some 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 America, 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 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, blind, deaf and leper ministries, orphan and children's ministries, feeding centers and refugee ministries. The foundation also offers assistance in missionary training; and we provide mission trips for American believers who want to examine the ministries of the national preachers.

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)
- Sponsorship of an orphan through our *CHILD CARE* subsidiary (\$35.00 monthly)
- Sponsorship of our radio evangelism (\$20.00 monthly for free radio distribution)

FINAL FRONTIERS, as 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), Mr. Jake Cook (Secretary-Treasurer), and Rev. Ron Charles. 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.

Regional Offices:

- Office of Asian Expansion: Director: Dr. Minh Dang, - Akron, OH (330) 864-2077
- Office of European Expansion: Director: Rev. Matt Hood - St. Paul, MN (612) 776-4156
- Office of African Expansion: Director: Rev. Gordon Daam - Portage, MI (616) 327-9192

International Offices:

National offices are maintained in every country of service for accountability purposes, and are staffed by national and regional coordinators who are elected by the supported pastors, and approved by the Executive Board of Directors. Six additional international offices are maintained to coordinate regional accountability. These are in Ghana, Kenya, Honduras, France, India and the Philippines. 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: 912-625-9050
FAX: 912-625-9996
Toll Free: 800-522-4324



the Jon Nelms family report

Dear Readers,

Yesterday I returned from Cuba to find a pile of work waiting for me. But of course that's better than getting back and having nothing to do. I had a great time there of fellowship with the Cuban pastors and people and was also particularly blessed by my time with Pastor Manuel Lopez from Mexico and his assistant Felipe. Manuel is the one who introduced me to these pastors that he has known and worked with for so many years. With him came a complete library of Christian books, commentaries, etc. to start a library in the church for the use of the pastors and people in the region. It was like Christmas! The real blessing though lay not in the gift but in the givers. The members of several churches in Central Mexico were the ones who bought the books. In fact, the first donation to get the fund started came from a group of poor children in an outlying village. (This is the same area of Mexico that this week was hit with an earthquake.)

As I saw this marvelous gift, I marveled at the willingness of poor Christians to help others more poor than they. At the same time, I grew spiritually nauseated at the selfishness of the wealthiest Christians in the world, to give up their "luxury money" to help. Of course there are many among us who go the second mile and help to the degree of hurting themselves. However, there are many more, by the tens of thousands, who do little or nothing to make a difference in the life of another child of God who lives in distress. How short this life is, and how shameful it will be to give an account to our Creator and Lord for our misuse of HIS money, placed in our care.

Very soon I will be placing an article in the Progress Report about the trip. Some of the things I learned were incredible and passed the borders on believability, yet they were true. But enough of that for now.

On or about July 7, I will be returning to the States for a board meeting and for various meetings in churches. My plan, Lord willing, is to do this about every 3 or 4 months. I will be blessed with fresh stories from the field to share with those churches who want a meeting. (If you, as a pastor, are interested in having me come for

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Speaker's Schedule

The following cities will host men representing the ministries of
FINAL FRONTIERS
during July and August. For times, dates and locations call:
1-800-522-4324

St. Francis, MN
Decatur, AL
Montgomery, AL
Gadsden, SC
Columbia, SC

Visionary Trips

Itineraries are being planned for the following countries. Contact us if you would like to go, but be warned, these are mission trips, not vacations.

November : Uganda & Kenya

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

a meeting, call our office at 800-522-4324.)

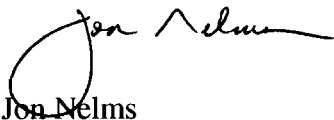
While there, I will be doing a great deal of computer work on our Photo Archive section of our website. My son Daniel, who wrote the program, has made some changes in it making it more accessible and useable on the Internet. Ninety percent of all our Internet work is done from our Latin America office, here in Honduras, but he has somehow fixed it so that I can do this work while "on the road". (So much for getting some rest.)

Our work here continues and my travel schedule is picking up. Just to let you know though, in these slow years, I have already traveled so much that I filled up my passport and had to have additional pages put in. Now those have been filled up and I have only had this passport for three years! As you can see, I stay on the road quite a bit going from country to country approving and maintaining accountability with the preachers. I have traveled so much for the last thirteen years that my idea of a vacation is just to stay home and unplug the phone.

Now for some real family information for those of you who have requested it... Juanita and Sara are both doing great and will both celebrate birthdays in the next two weeks. Juanita will now be forty but looks like she is twenty-five. Sara is finally turning eighteen and is continuing her "friendship" with a special friend in England, via the Internet. Daniel, our resident nerd, will be twenty in August, about the time I return home to Honduras. I guess it will just be a matter of time now before I have grandchildren. I must be living in the twilight zone because I am just too young for all of this to be happening. I'm only forty-three, (even though my hair is sixty-three). I do thank God though for the family He has given me. Their love and desire to serve God and serve others. Their attitudes and love for life.

A special thank you to all our friends in this work of the Lord, for hanging in there with us over the years. Together we have worked hard and accomplished much for the Lord. Now is not the time to slow down. Let's move ahead and see what more we can do in His name and for His glory!

Yours for souls,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jon Nelms". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning.

Jon Nelms

A T.E.A.M. REPORT FROM MYANMAR

From: Go Za Kham

Location: Myanmar

What was the total amount of TEAM funds received?

\$167.00

What were these funds used for?

\$100.00 was given to Khoi Khan Cin who no longer has a sponsor

\$40.00 was allotted for the help of TEAM travel expenses

\$27.00 was allotted to buy medicines for the workers

Do you have any special needs we can pray about?

Please pray that our workers can endure hardships, trials and poverty,

“I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling...” Phil. 3:14

“...forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before”.

Dear Team Fund sponsors:

Your help toward the TEAM fund is increasing and it helps many great needs of our workers. In this country no one can live for himself but must share what he has with those who have not. This is considered to be the most Christian spirit and love for others. Naturally, it is understood that a preacher of the Gospel who never gives help to the poor is not a Gospel preacher. In a sense it is true, because the people are so much poorer than the pastor. If you can raise more up to \$500.00 for a quarter, this will help the workers and those hosting the workers in every village. The mentality of the Asians is quite different from that of the Americans. In Asia a poor pastor is most admired because it is assumed that he has given what he had to the poor and become poor himself.

Note:

TEAM is an acronym standing for Together Effectively Advancing the Ministry. The purpose of TEAM is to help provide funding for necessary projects carried out by the preachers we support, and to help with funding for preachers without current support. TEAM donors are often readers who cannot afford sponsorship of a preacher (\$35.00), but do want to help the cause by an offering of at least \$10.00 monthly. TEAM sponsors are allowed to direct their giving to a specific country where we are involved. For more information, refer to the “Sponsorship Information” page.

Liberia, a country once closed off by war is now open for evangelism.

Monrovia, the capital city of Liberia, is a small country centrally located on the southern coast of the West African hump. It is an English speaking country with most people also speaking the dialect of their tribe. Though officially recorded as predominantly Muslim, nominally so. Christianity is the most visible influence but has been substantially affected by mysticism in the interior, the Assembly of God churches (teaching salvation by works and loss of salvation), the Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, Jehovah's Witnesses, and last but definitely not least, the charismatic faith movement.

Generally speaking, Liberians are very positive toward Americans giving them royal to attentive and respectful treatment in nearly every situation. Americans are seen as enviable; America is believed to be a "piece of heaven." The people are very friendly and eager to please. Unfortunately, many of the missionaries we have known there have been highly paid, compound dwellers whose missionary work extends no further than operation of their denomination's local hospital/clinic or other community service organization, and their church's Sunday services. Meeting a missionary on the street shopping, at a local clinic, or riding in a taxi is truly a miracle we have longed to experience. However, this absence has also opened doors upon doors for us to reach all kinds of people, in all stations of life, with the Gospel. Our family lived in a Liberian neighborhood. Our friends are Liberians. We rode the taxi or walked, cooked our own meals with food from the street market, had a Liberian doctor, wore African or similar clothes, and haggled our own prices at the market. My wife wore her hair braided and sat enjoying a glass of cold water and hot rice on the stoops of the women's homes she visited. "Making Liberia our home" won the respect of the people and therefore their attention - their ear - and their heart. This is the commitment of Christ to us and by His grace of us to them. Hudson Taylor, Founder of China Inland Mission, picked up the spirit of the Apostle Paul's words to be all things to all men to reach some. We have sought to do the same, not by trading or giving



Pastor Bestman (left) pictured here soul winning in the city.

up our own culture but by a sincere and genuine appreciation for the good, true and sensible characteristics of Liberia's people.

Monrovia was once a beautiful seaside city boasting all the modern amenities of public utilities, an international airport, and a five-star hotel. In



Pastor Bestman and his team in the bush on their way to Diamamue.

1990, all that changed. Civil war erupted, and raged on and off for the next seven years. Monrovia was reduced to a "city shell". All electricity, plumbing, and sanitation were destroyed and the vast majority of wells and water supplies contaminated. People were slaughtered and nearly all commerce stopped. Faction leaders and warlords made waste of villages, cities and natural resources.

An entire generation of children went untaught while school was on then off for weeks, even semesters at a time.

Modern clothing stores, libraries, any recreational facilities are all things of the past even in this capital city. Women, young people, and children draw water from wells for all needs. Food and clothing are purchased from street markets set up on benches. Nothing is brand new. Barrels of clothing received from overseas supplies 90 percent of the population. Reading material is supplied wholly by private shipments from other countries and sold on the street market, along with a great deal of Jehovah Witness and Mormon publications, which the educationally starved Liberians rapidly devour.

Life in Monrovia, in all of Liberia, has been very difficult during these years. Many people were caught out of the city when fighting first broke out and could never return because the roads were closed. Other people lost children when fighting sent people running for their lives by the hundreds in village after village. Many small children were pulled apart from their families in the chaos and then lost or often scooped up by others to prevent them being killed. The rebels sought out men and boys to kill or force into service as soldiers, leaving many families without men to provide. Mothers practically live in the marketplace trying to make enough with a small street market of rice, sugar, greens or meat, to feed their children. Food and shelter are a luxury, while money for medicines and school is a dream to be kept alive. This is the life of the people of war-torn countries. Liberia is only one of many of these but it is the place God has put in our hearts.

In April 1996, my family and I along with many church members were forced to leave our homes when fighting once again ravaged Monrovia. The compound which housed our residence, the West African Institute of Biblical Studies, and the infant Grace Academy day school, was burned down by

rebels and my family sent running for safety first to an SIL compound, and then finally across town to our assistant pastor's apartment. God was so faithful and gracious toward us. None of our family was hurt or lost, and through a divinely ordered series of events we were all evacuated to the States, even though nearly everyone's papers had been destroyed.

In January of this year I returned to Monrovia to lead the church and set up house for my family. We have been apart off and on since the evacuation



Forced to leave their home due to war more than 3 years ago, the Bestman family is currently awaiting God's timing and provision for their reunion as a family in Liberia.

waiting for the time God will make a way for our rather large family to fly back home. We have six children; five are adopted Liberian children. They are Grace (18), Patience (14), Benjamin (12), Emmanuel (11), Alice (11), and Elizabeth (10). From our first arrival here we have looked to return, believing our time to be only for a short season, an answer to our prayer that I could attend a year of additional seminary training, and our home church in the States would have an opportunity to meet our children. To our delight both happened. However, the season has stretched its legs and though I have "commuted" to Liberia for much longer than "visit" length trips, we continue to look to Christ and toward Liberia, and the day we will be there getting to know Jesus and serving together again. I want my boys, very shortly turning 12 and 13, to travel about the interior of Liberia with me preaching and holding Bible studies, and encouraging believers to look for Christ every moment. They are eager to be with me and be a part of the work in Liberia, as are my four daughters to be involved in the work of the church. These are those who come after us; those who will carry the torch when we are gone. They must see the vision to share it. It must become theirs. This is part of the fire that burns in our hearts as missionaries and as parents.

In August of 1997, a new president was elected and a period of pseudo peace has prevailed. We don't know how long this will last but we pray it will continue. Each of Liberia's thirteen counties desperately need to hear the pure gospel message telling them of the Savior's love and the salvation He has purchased at great cost to Himself but made freely available to anyone who asks of Him. The Liberian people have been deceived and abused by false messages encouraging them to "name it and claim it" or teaching le-

galism which steals their peace and brings torment. Many others have been completely unreachable due to the isolation of war. But now is the time! Roads are open! There are no more curfews or travel restrictions and areas long inaccessible are literally starving for the truth and free to receive it. Nothing stands between the villagers who need Christ and the delivery of Christ's Gospel. The money to travel is not available but we know it could be made available, and we believe it will be. We believe there are many who want very much to know that their money is really winning men, women and children to our Lord Jesus Christ, and starting new churches. We know how easy that is because of the small amount of money required to send and keep a church planting team in an area for a week - and we know how receptive the people are to God's love and forgiveness. God will move on their behalf.

The time left to reach the lost is shortening each day. We believe His time of return is near. If we can give our lives so the people of Liberia can know the love of Jesus Christ personally - we will do it. My wife, though an American, gladly gave up her life of comfort and safety here to live in Liberia. Though she longs to return with our children to be here in Liberia with me, she willingly remains separated for the sake of the Gospel going to Liberia rather than see the end of the ministry in Liberia so that I could remain in the US. Liberia is a long commute. We have continued steadfastly believing God to be taking us through a season, sensing no direction from Father to change direction - praying for our reunion in Liberia as a family so that we could continue reaching into villages throughout the thirteen counties, believing it is just another day away.

In January 1998, we saw three more of our men recognized for the call of God on their lives, Pastor Samuel Ankrah, ordained; Pastor Alfred Zeke, ordained; and Josephus Hallie, who received his license to preach. These faithful men have continued to travel all over Monrovia and surrounding villages. The Community Bible Study Program and evangelism are the start of new churches. Now for the first time in two years we have men to lead and teach. February 1st-5th, we had a hallmark visit from a dear friend and evangelist, Pastor Scibelli. His boldness to preach the gospel everywhere and anywhere, anytime was a tremendous encouragement and time of teaching as he held our first leadership conference with outside guests in many, many years. Pray God has lit an even greater fire in the hearts of our young men to GO!

Mid-March we went evangelizing in a village 100 miles away called Diamamue. In two nights and three days, well over 200 adults heard the gospel and 24 received Christ as their personal Savior. The village elders held a welcoming ceremony at which they gave and dedicated a piece of land to us for the establishment of a church, and prayerfully a school. More than 200 children in their area are without any educational opportunity. On Palm Sunday weekend two men from Diamamue arrived unexpectedly after traveling more than 100 miles to our church in Monrovia to receive more training and

to encourage immediate planning and clearing of the land that was given for the building of their church. One week ago another man who received Christ that weekend arrived for a few days of personal discipleship.

Rainy season is coming and we strongly desire to erect some type of temporary structure for these people to continue meeting together to share."

The visible testimony of this type of immediate church building would witness to Christ's commitment to them through us and the reality of what He has done for their village would be similar to the impact personal baptisms have in the believer's life. Please pray God will help us to return soon and consistently throughout the rainy season. Four people round trip in and out of Diamamue including five days and four nights stay is \$100. We have ten people in our church, men and women, who are able and willing to travel



The elders (and their families) of the village of Diamamue standing on the land that they gave for the building of a church.

for a weekend to a few weeks regularly to disciple men, women and children in newly reached areas. These people are tithers and givers but the money they earn at market, making shoes, sewing or other basic skills cannot begin to pay even the \$10 -\$20 (US) travel just to get to needy areas. Your money makes an eternity's worth of difference. Please know that what you hear on TV is true - a very little bit of money can do a very great work. Ten to fifteen dollars can feed a small family for a week. Our assistant pastor, his wife, and two small sons, live on \$50 a month in a decent apartment. It's tough and there are no extras but they have their needs met and they give all for the Gospel's sake. Though the cost of living is increasing during peace time in Liberia - your gifts do change lives.

Last month, May, we celebrated the reopening of the West African Institute of Biblical Studies. Although it is unofficially opened now because of changes in the registration we had previously under the old government, we may train our men but are unable to advertise or offer courses publicly. At this moment though we are overjoyed seeing our men rejoice at God's answer to their many prayers. We received so many letters and calls to the States anytime someone traveled begging us to reopen the college so they could learn about God's Word. Each letter reminded us that they were surrounded by the lies of the faith movement, legalism of salvation by works, and mysticism, until they ached for the pure and refreshing Water of Life, God's Word. Now Pastor Zeke, Pastor Domah and myself teach Bible courses such as Christian Leadership, Bible Survey, and the Epistles. The freedom and privilege to re-

ceive this training is never lost on these precious men and women.

Our immediate plans for the work in Liberia, besides development of the Diamamue church and continuation of the Community Bible Study program, include visiting a village called

Buenzu that was heavily evangelized and a church and school begun just before the fighting in 1989-90. This village was known throughout the area for its cruel and evil treatment of neighboring villages, as well as its alcoholism. After receiving the Gospel however, nearly all the adults received Christ and the transformation of the people was so outwardly evident that the testimony of their conversion spread wide simply by the absence of the great wickedness they

had previously performed. Grace, my oldest daughter came from Buenzu. No visits have been possible until recently because of the blockades and heavy fighting during these years. Now the trip is delayed only for lack of funds. Even though it is a long and difficult trip deep into the interior, the cost is still only \$300 for six men for a full week. We know there are believers there who are longing and praying for the return of Christians who will bring the Words of Christ and there are many new young people there who have *never* heard.

Our second priority is the reopening of our Christian day school that burned in 1996. This is an important outreach in the community as well as having the potential to provide a means of supporting our evangelistic efforts from within and by our own means. Any Christian school with an American curriculum and American expertise is highly sought after - with the love of God it would surely be a means through which God could reach many parents and siblings for Jesus. Two other visions for Liberia include: establishing Monrovia as the headquarters Bible Institute and Training Center but also opening up daughter churches with branch Institutes in each of the thirteen counties of Liberia. Converts would receive basic training at the county institute and then be sent to Monrovia for intensive training before being sent back into their county of origin to plant churches. The fourth vision is an evangelistic trip up a north-central route through Liberia the Guinea border including the first two villages in Guinea.

We, along with the others here, can count nothing dearer than to bear the mark of Christ at whatever cost He asks. We only need the opportunity. To get the gospel out to the villages, we must have transportation and we must be able to leave our wives and children with food and shelter. Final Frontiers has sought to help us do this for more than three years now. Though we only have myself, Pastor Ankrah, and Pastor Barlinger in Liberia supported by FFF right now, we have two other men, Pastor Alfred Zeke and Pastor Quintin Do-



A meeting of church elders to discuss plans for Diamamue.

mah, in need of sponsors, and TEAM Liberia would be able to reach out into Liberia monthly if there were TEAM support specifically for evangelism and church planting efforts. It is the greatest joy for us to stop and imagine someone,



Baptismal of new believers in Diamamue.

maybe sitting at their kitchen table, filling out a check for \$50, \$100 or more. Is it for the money? Not directly; it's because it stirs us to realize your faith, to send money to someone far away who you only see in a newsletter, because you have a vision to be a part of the Great Commission to reach the lost for Jesus Christ. We can't tell you the difference it makes in our heart, or in Liberia. You'd have to see it. Are we out trying to rustle up a day's worth of work somewhere or borrowing food, or are we out knocking

on doors telling people about Jesus Christ? You have helped me and many others do the latter. Please continue to pray for the work in Liberia. We are still, as ever, looking for the day God will make a way for my wife and children to join me again in Liberia. We lack still seven tickets to return. Though we do not require additional monthly support, we do need money to get to Liberia and set up house. The one "luxury", if you will, that we are praying God to provide is a four-wheel drive vehicle for evangelism. This would put Liberia in our hand and substantially reduce already low travel costs. These needs are not too great for our Great God. We believe we will be together again in Monrovia as a family with our faithful men fully sponsored.

My wife and I would like to say "thank you" to the Final Frontiers' staff and our supporters for their encouragement and support during our evacuation and time back and forth between Liberia and the States. You have been great friends to my wife especially while she has longed to return with me, yet has had to remain behind. Your periodic phone calls and newsletters helped her feel closer. You have truly been family to us, although we've never met face-to-face. One day we will!

Please note that on page 14 you will find a listing of the needs mentioned in this article. This is provided for you so that you may know how best to pray for the Bestmans and the other national preachers and their work in Liberia. There is also a listing of specific financial needs, if you wish to help with any of these needs you may do so through Final Frontiers Foundation (make sure you specify what the funds are designated for). Also please note that there are currently 6 sponsorships needed for the national preachers in Liberia. If you wish to take on one of these sponsorships please fill out the "Now It's Your Turn" voucher or give us a call 1-800-522-4324.

Prayer Requests for the Bestman Family and Ministry

- 1) The return of the Bestman family to Liberia
 - 2) The on-going ministerial work in Liberia including:
 - ~ Returning to the village of Buenzu
 - ~ Re-opening of the Christian Day School in Monrovia
 - ~ Establishing Monrovia as the headquarters for the Bible Institute and Training Center
 - ~ Opening daughter churches with branch Institutes in each of the thirteen counties of Liberia
 - ~ An evangelistic trip through Liberia and into Guinea
-

Specific Financial Needs

- 1) 7 airline tickets for the Bestman family's return to Liberia
- 2) The expenses of re-establishing a residence in Liberia
- 3) A Four-wheel drive vehicle to be used for evangelism
- 4) Additional TEAM funds to help fund evangelistic trips
- 5) 6 sponsorships needed for the national pastors in Liberia

A WORD FROM THE HOME OFFICE

We frequently bring before you the needs of those who are serving in countries around the world. This is in fact the reason for the existence of this ministry, to bring national pastors and their needs to the attention of those here in the United States who may be able to help them financially so that they can better accomplish the work that God has called them to do. It is with a glad heart that we present those needs, knowing that there are those who will hear of the need and want to help. However, when it comes to the financial needs of the Home Office, it is not so easy to ask for help. Maybe it is because of pride or because of the stigma that our society puts on those who must rely on the generosity of others, or maybe it is a feeling of guilt that we may take away from the needs of the pastors that we are here to help.

Whatever the reasons for not wanting to ask for help, the reasons for needing that help still remain. Final Frontiers is a not-for-profit organization, so we are not interested in accumulating a surplus of income. However, it is important that we be able to pay the necessary bills to keep our Home Office open so that we can continue to do the work of raising support for national pastors. Our expenses are general operating expenses including: salaries for the 5 paid personnel, mortgage payments, insurance for the building, supplies, postage, utilities, phone services, etc.

While we do not wish to divert attention from the needs of the preachers, we would like to let you (the reader) know that we do need your help. If you would like to help us out with some of our operating expenses there are a number of ways that you can help.

- 1) Become a FFF Society member with an annual gift of \$45.00
- 2) Support the Home Office on a monthly basis - any amount you choose
- 3) Give a one time offering designated to Home Office

We truly appreciate your prayers and financial support that you have been so faithful to give us through the years. It is our hope and prayer that we will continue to be able to serve the national pastors around the world and to be able to continue to bring you their stories of struggles and triumphs in their work for the Lord for many years to come.

Welcome New Sponsors

Preacher and Orphan Sponsorships:

The following began sponsorship of a national preacher or orphan since last month's report. For information regarding sponsorship refer to the "Now it's your turn" voucher.

- The Baptist Chapel : Jacksonville, FL
Sponsored: K. Joseph from India
- Rev. Keith Corbin : Manitou Beach, MI
Sponsored: Dhiren Dra Nath Das from India
- David and Annette VonWald : Hastings, MN
Sponsored: Makka Satti Babu from India
- The Baptist Chapel : Jacksonville, FL
Sponsored: Cipriano Cierito Lavado from Peru
- David and Annette VonWald : Hastings, MN
Sponsored: Edgar R. Alayon from the Philippines
- Elton Barber : Lake, MN
Sponsored: Shibu Chacko from India
- David Martin : Plymouth, MN
Sponsored: James Quansah (orphan) from Ghana
- James and Angela Moore : Simi Valley, CA
Sponsored: Abraham N.C. from India
- James and Angela Moore : Simi Valley, CA
Sponsored: Daniel Apeot Ere from Kenya
- The Baptist Chapel : Jacksonville, FL
Sponsored: Alfred Zekeh from Liberia
- The Baptist Chapel : Jacksonville, FL
Sponsored: Luis Francisco Ramirez from Mexico
- Pаметto Land Baptist Church : Summerville, SC
Sponsored: K. Swantantra Kumar from India
- Monty and Theresa Hoyle : Council Bluffs, IA
Sponsored: Shiju Thankachan (orphan) from India

MAINTAINING ACCOUNTABILITY

In my travels and contacts for Final Frontiers Foundation one word I hear all the time is “accountability”. I don’t mind. Accountability is important to me. In fact, I choose to volunteer for Final Frontiers in large part because of the system of accountability that was in place and the emphasis that it held in the FFF literature. Now I am responsible for that accountability in Africa.

When most people use the word “accountability” they are actually asking, “How do you know where the money goes once we send it to you?”. This is very important, but sometimes the catch phrase “follow the money” is not the whole picture. The point of this article is that financial accountability is actually the second area of responsibility that we have to the sponsors. The first area is that the men we recommend to you are indeed qualified and worthy of your support.

I just returned from Baltimore, Maryland. I went there to learn more about an organization that trains many of the Pastors we support in Africa and Europe. The Maryland Bible College and Seminary has several extension schools in Africa. I had a 90 minute meeting with the Academic Dean. I had a 2 hour meeting with the head of the missions department who sends the graduates out to start these extension schools. I met with the men who head the extension schools in Ghana and Uganda, and I spent the rest of the 2 day visit with the missionary who oversees all the extension schools in Africa.

On our National Pastor application, question #11 asks where the applicant received his Bible training. 99 times out of 100, a potential sponsor will not have heard of these foreign schools. It is the responsibility of FFF to investigate the quality of the training our Pastors receive. I wanted you to know that we are doing all that we can to maintain this vital area of accountability.

~ Gordon Daam, Director of African Expansion

Let's Get Acquainted

The purpose of this feature is to introduce our readers to approved preachers who are not yet sponsored. It is our hope that their testimonies will verify their worthiness and need, and will lead to prayer and support on their behalf.

Preacher's Name: Angel Madulin

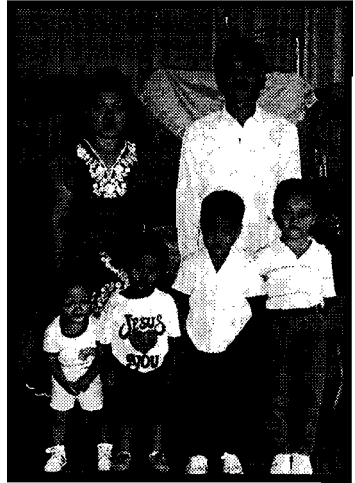
Wife's Name: Victoria

Number of Children: 4

Country: Philippines

Testimony:

In 1974, I was invited by a friend to attend an evangelistic meeting. I heard a Baptist preacher give the Gospel of Jesus and the Holy Spirit began to convict my heart with the Word which he preached. I decided to accept Him as my Savior. God put a burden in my heart for souls, so I decided to surrender to Him and go to Bible school. While



there, I met the lady who has become my wife. I also became involved in church planting while still a student.

Since I graduated from college, I have also started another church but much of my time is spent in training men for the ministry. Evangelizing is not difficult for us because I speak four languages; one of those being English. We have had 357 souls saved and 208 to be baptized. We work well with the other independent churches in our area.

In the Philippines, we are a poor people. Our house is made from a coconut tree, but our roof is galvanized iron. We have only one room in our house. We live and eat like all the people in our area, but the income which my church gives me is less than half of what I need.

Our people are very open to the gospel and we thank God for the opportunity to be His servants. We want to ask you to pray for us very strongly each day that we will be faithful and successful in our ministry. We want to thank you for the support that you offer to our family. God bless you very much.

Number of sponsorships needed: one at \$35.00 monthly.

Preacher's Name: Ioan-Gheorge Botoc

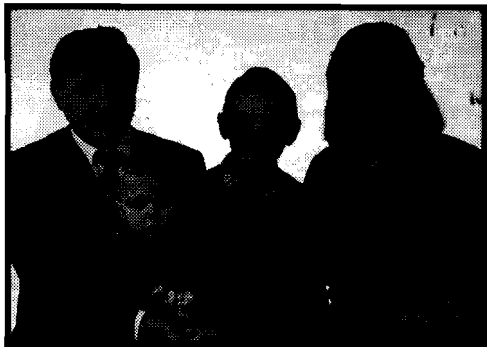
Wife's Name: Florica

Number of Children: 2

Country: Romania

Testimony:

I was born in a Baptist Christian family and since I was a little boy I attended the services of the church, I grew up going to church. On May 5, 1978, I was in Oradea in the Baptist church Nr. 2 and pastor Ton



losif was preaching. At the end of the sermon he made an invitation. I felt the Holy Spirit at work in my heart, convincing me of my sinfulness and I accepted and called Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior into my heart.

I felt that God called me to minister from the day I surrendered my life to Him. This was what motivated me to work with the children and the young people in my home church. This inner calling from God made me realize the importance of being properly equipped for the ministry and I decided to apply to the Calvary Baptist Theological Seminary Landsdale, Pennsylvania, U.S.A., from Oradea, Romania.

After I began school, I visited the church in Urvis and I had a good fellowship with the brother in Christ. I saw the needs there and the brothers asked me to come back. I had this desire and God gave me the opportunities to do it. Starting with this point I became more and more involved in the life of this precious church. I am training three young men who are members in one of the churches I pastor.

Here is my wife's testimony in her own words: "When I was 14, I had an appendicitis crisis. I asked God to take care of me. In Romania at that time, many times the electricity would go off. It happened during my surgery and everyone left looking for something that would give a light. I was alone on the table praying and that was when I received Christ into my heart. The electricity came back and everything went well. My father disagreed with my decision of following Jesus, but I stood firm and after two years my father became a believer too. I thank God for every thing the Lord has done in my life.

We live in our parents 5 room house and our income does not meet all our needs. Your help and your prayers will enlarge our outreach and help feed and clothe our family. We will appreciate this and we will pray for you.

Number of sponsorships needed: one at \$35.00 monthly

From the mailbag

From: Guillermo F. Rodina
Sponsored by: David Scharringhausen

Dear Sponsor,

I started my radio ministry last March, 1999. My co-host is my wife. It is a one hour broadcast, once a week, every Friday from 4 – 5 PM. It is sponsored by our church through the local radio station. It covers three provinces with less than 800,000 population. Pray that God will open homes and families to hear the Good news of salvation of our Lord Jesus Christ.

In our school ministry, God blessed the students. Students testify, "I became closer to my families" "Before, I didn't read the Bible, but now I love to read the Bible it gives me peace." "Through reading the Word of God, it changed my life." "I respect my parents, but now I give more respect to them because of the Word of God.". I told them to continue their new faith in Jesus Christ and look for an evangelical church nearest their own homes.

Bro. David, thank you so much for your continued support of prayer and finances. I believe God has more blessings to come your way.

Your co-worker in Christ,
Pastor G. F. Rodina



Myanmar



Last trimester:

villages
evangelized - 2

churches
started - 1

people saved -
315

converts
baptized - 0



From: Gandham Samuel
Sponsored by: Friendship Baptist Church

Dear Sponsor,

Thank you very much for your prayerful support which you are extending to me through Final Frontiers. The Final Frontiers are very duty minded and at same time mission minded and transmitting your funds to me regularly. I have not missed even a single month of your support from the Final Frontiers from more than 5 years. Every time when I want to conduct preaching service or revival meetings in the nearby villages, the non-Christians, because of their jealousy, create many problems and hardships for us. But thank God, even though I am facing some problems I am successfully completing my meetings. Last month, when we had a meeting in a village called Kadiyam, all of a sudden the power failed and we had to go to rent kerosene lamps; but because our meeting was a Christian meeting they refused to rent them to us. We have to face these kinds of problems in our day to day lives when spreading the gospel in India. Your prayers and your help are strengthening us day by day to go further. Once again I convey my hearty thanks to you for your help.

India



Last trimester:

churches
started - 1

villages
evangelized - 1

people
saved - 17

converts
baptized - 17



From: Benjamin Norh Tawiah
Sponsored by: Tuscaloosa Christian School

Dear Sponsor,

I received the support funds at a time that I needed money to continue rehabilitation work in our house which is very old. In fact, I count on you all as very good friends lending to a poor family in Africa and God will surely reward you all as He said in His word.

Truly, you have shown what true friendship in time of need means. I also covet your prayers for the new work that I am about to pioneer in Nigeria soon. We would need a team which I am training and we need funds for travel and housing and food. We trust that as you pray, God will provide. Thanks.

Ghana



Last trimester:

churches
started - 0

villages
evangelized - 2

people
saved - 12

converts
baptized - 7

Yours in His Service,
 Pastor Ben Norh Tawiah

Now it's your turn...

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (home) _____ (office) _____

Please contact me about:

- hosting a fund raiser at our church
- participating in a fund raiser

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

I like what Final Frontiers is doing around the world and I feel led of the Lord to help out.

Please find enclosed my donation of:

\$ _____

for the following worker:

for the following project:

I am interested in making a monthly commitment to this ministry. Please send me information on the following:

- Sponsoring a national preacher**
(\$35.00 monthly)
- Sponsoring a country's TEAM**
(minimum of \$10.00 monthly per country)
- Sponsoring an orphan**
(\$35.00 monthly)
- Sponsoring the Final Frontiers home office**
(any amount)
- Membership in the Final Frontiers Society**
(\$45.00 annually)

Sponsorship Information

To obtain further information on sponsorship, refer to the "Now It's Your Turn" voucher on page 22, or call us at 1-800-522-4324.

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 opportunity of providing double sponsorship (\$70.00 monthly) if you prefer. This of course, is not required. The preacher receives 80% of the funding and 20% is used for operating expenses.

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.

Sponsorship of a **TEAM** can be done for as little as \$10.00 monthly, or for any other amount you wish. **TEAM** stands for Together Effectively Advancing the Ministry. Though many preachers are being supported, they often collectively lack ministry tools that can be most useful. The purpose of the **TEAM** funding is to provide each country with money to be used for such things as purchasing Bibles and tracts, printing literature, buying bicycles for the traveling evangelists, building a church or Bible school, helping with emergency relief, etc.

Each trimester as the funds are mailed abroad, the national coordinator for every 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.

Sponsorship of an **orphan** is \$35.00 monthly and provides for lodging, food, clothing, basic medical care, and education.

All orphanages 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.

Membership in the **Final Frontiers Society** is \$45.00 annually (for a family) and is used to fund special ministry projects overseas and our various international offices.

Reports from the Final Frontiers

Non-profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Louisville, GA
Permit No. 33

AUTO

138 Churches Started
1,387 Villages Evangelized
5,889 Professions of Faith
1,049 Believers Baptized

11,600 Churches Started
46,154 Villages Evangelized
404,951 Professions of Faith
124,011 Believers Baptized

727 Preachers Supported
1034 Preacher Sponsorships
80 *TEAM* Sponsorships
52 Orphans Supported
41 Countries involved in

**Final Frontiers Foundation
1200 Peachtree Street
Louisville, GA 30434
USA**