

Final Frontiers Foundation

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An Introduction to the writer of this letter...

Greetings. Several days ago, Bob and Judy Tatum sent me this letter by email that they were preparing to mail to all of their supporters. I was so touched by their heartfelt expression, their clarity and burden, that I asked them to send it to our entire mailing list, in lieu of the regular Progress Report.

Bob and Judy, their daughters Kelly and Lee Anna, have worked in our ministry for about five years now. They have been a tremendous blessing to say the least. Bob runs our print shop and has made several trips abroad to establish printing ministries in other lands. Judy is the voice on the phone when you call, but she does so much more than that. She is actually our director of Sponsor Relations and handles all the correspondence from the preachers to their supporters. Lee Anna handles our finances, recording your gifts and sending out your



statements, as well as filing and other secretarial duties, and Kelly, though employed full time



for another business, has dedicated so many, many hours by helping with our graphic work, filing, etc. The Tatums are an integral part of our work, and it is time you met them and learned why they have sacrificed so much, to make so little, in order to help so many. Leaving the field of Mexico after serving years as missionaries, to work with Final Frontiers has not only changed their lives, but the lives of the preachers abroad, who have benefited so much by their service to the Lord.

Jon Nelms

Dear Praying Partners:

The other day I wrote a letter and put 1999 on it. That was the first time I had done that since the change into the yr 2000! Maybe I subconsciously wanted to go back, but one thing I've learned over the years is that there is no going back. There is no way to turn back the clock to take back those things I said that I wish I had not said. There is no way to now do

those things I left undone. There is no way to undo those things I did that I wish I had not done *and the only way I can get rid of this gray hair is to cover it up with dye.* However, Praise God, the one thing that encourages and enables us all to go on is that *His mercies are new every morning!* He takes ashes and turns them into beauty! He takes broken vessels and crushes them, then He restores them to be better and more useful than ever before. Only OUR God can do that! Buddha can't! Mohammed can't! Money can't! Things can't! Success Can't! Fame can't! Only God can!

Since we can't go back....let's continue to move forward with the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, reaching those areas that are unreachable for most Americans. Let us go into the villages of India, the Highlands of Vietnam. Let us cross the rivers in the Philippines, and hike up the dirt roads in Liberia with a very dedicated man and woman....a husband and wife team.... who have given up all material goods and who say they will continue to evangelize Liberia until Jesus Christ comes back to take them home. Let's provide bicycles in Guatemala for our barefoot men who walk because they cannot afford public transportation. Not walking to the mall to buy more things they don't need...walking to reach people who have the greatest need there is in the world. The need to know Jesus Christ as personal Savior.

God forgive us, since we came back from Mexico, I think we have become almost as materialistic as the American Christians we use to complain about when we lived on foreign soil. You pray for us and we will pray for you that each of us will have a renewed fervor for what really does matter. Does it really matter that you have a new Easter dress this year? Does it really matter that the sofa is looking a little worn? How many pairs of shoes CAN you wear at one time anyway? How many TV channels can you watch at one time? How many more toys do your children and grandchildren need? How many more computer games? Each one brings on the desire for another and another....it just doesn't stop, does it? But it WILL stop one day! The day Jesus Christ comes for the church....it will stop then. When that happens, you know, of course, that you will leave every material thing you own behind. But what scares me the most, what burdens me the most, is how many souls will we leave behind? How many neighbors? How many family members? How many in Cuba? In Vietnam? In China? In Russia? In Romania, In India, In Africa? How many will be left behind and spend eternity in hell because we did not do what needed to be done to take them to heaven with us?

I'm not trying to put anyone on a guilt trip. God has been speaking to me along these lines for awhile now. Have I become more interested in my house and how it looks, in clothes, in hair, in recreation? How about my computer time at home? My play time? Time is short! We all are aware of that. There is nothing wrong with having things, God wants us to enjoy the things He gives us, He has blessed us ALL abundantly but with what proportion in relationship to time and money and energy does He want us to enjoy them? I am sure in my heart that it is not to the proportion that most of us spend in either one. My heart is heavy with a burden to help every national that has applied to Final Frontiers for sponsorship. There are hundreds of them that we have not found sponsors for yet. There are many more who would apply if we would accept more applications but we cannot accept more until we have helped these men first. Could YOU take on one preacher for support at \$35.00 a month? Could you take on one more preacher if you already have one? Could you take on 5 more? We have one church in Florida (I won't mention the name since I haven't asked permission) that sponsors about twice as many national preachers thru FFF as they have members! They sponsor 50 preachers, taking

on a few at a time. They have 20 some members. We are not the only mission organization they support. They meet in a building that was a store and they will not spend money on building something new because of their desire to spread the gospel on foreign soil. We have a family in Florida.....husband and wife....who by taking on a few sponsorships each time God blesses his business with new work, are now sponsoring 20 national preachers around the world. They give, God blesses, they give God blesses. Isn't that the way it always works?

If you can't take on a preacher or any more preachers, could you share our Progress Report with a family member, with a Christian neighbor, with your church? Could you speak with your pastor about one of our representatives coming to speak at your church? Could you make it your mission to make the work of Final Frontiers Foundation known to as many people as *you* can? Not for financial profit for FFF but for the profit of lost souls won to Jesus Christ.

If this letter hits home, please remember; that it zoomed in on me, and that I have only shared with you what God has been saying to me. Now I am going to pray and ask God what more can I do? I hope you will seriously do the same.

Don't forget; if you haven't sent in your \$45.00 for this year's *Final Frontiers Society Membership*, it is that time again. We have appreciated those who have joined with us in past years. The Tatum and the Nelms will be sending in their \$45.00 and we need YOU to join us again this year even more than ever before. Following this letter there is a detailed explanation of what your \$45.00 can help us do this year.

Serving Him in the home office,
Bob and Judy Tatum

A WORD ABOUT OUR FINAL FRONTIERS SOCIETY

It is that time of the year again that we ask our readers to participate with us on a higher level, by becoming a Final Frontiers Society Member for the year 2000. For several years now we have had this program and it has helped incredibly by providing needed funds to operate our international offices and to care for special, emergency needs. Needs for which there was no time available to "raise funds".

Society members receive an annual certificate that is frame quality, for them to display in their home or office. But that's just on the surface; the real benefit is that each Society member, by setting aside an annual gift of only \$45.00, becomes a partner with every preacher we support, every office we manage, every tribe we evangelize. This is without a doubt, spiritual fruit that will abound in your heavenly account.

As you take a moment to look at the statistics on the next page, to marvel at what was accomplished by these national preachers in partnership with their sponsors, remember too, that without the Society Membership funding, so much of this would not have been accomplished.

Please take a moment now, before your attention is diverted to other pressing daily needs, to write out your check for \$45.00, made payable to the Final Frontiers Society. We have accomplished a lot in the past, but working together, we can do so much more in the future.

Statistics from FinarFrontiers

Totals for Jan 1987- Dec 1999

12,205 Churches Started
 49,104 Villages Evangelized
 421,585 Professions of Faith
 129,732 Believers Baptized

Combined totals for 1999

1786 Churches Started
 8166 Villages Evangelized
 49,505 Professions of Faith
 20,598 Believers Baptized

Totals for January 2000

73 Churches Started
 253 Villages Evangelized
 4,787 Professions of Faith
 1, 219 Believers Baptized

Totals for February 2000

161 Churches Started
 1,731 Villages Evangelized
 5,354 Professions of Faith
 1,387 Believers Baptized

Totals for March 2000

143 Churches Started
 629 Villages Evangelized
 5,649 Professions of Faith
 2,215 Believers Baptized

If you have heard God speak, and you are a doer of His Word, we have provided for you a form to make your doing a little easier. Please indicate that you are signing up for Final Frontiers Society 2000 and whatever else He has laid on your heart to do for God's men around the world.



• **Name:** _____

• **Address:** _____

• **City:** _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Amount: _____

Apply my donation to : _____

• I am sending \$45.00 to enroll as a Final Frontiers Society Member, please send me my membership certificate.

