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www.finalfrontiers.org

PROGRESS REPORT



Only two national missionaries in Brazil are currently being supported by Final Frontiers, yet through their efforts and those of Missionary Jim Leonard, applications of other approved men are being completed from all over Brazil. In the photo above, Pastor Moises is baptizing a group of new believers. This is a scene being played out in new church plants all over the country. Brazil is poised to explode with the Gospel. Final Frontiers Director of South American Expansion, Don Courliss, shares the progress he witnessed on his recent trip.

see story beginning on page 7

A publication of the Final Frontiers Foundation
May / June 2003

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 fifty-two 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 - \$100.00 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)
- Sponsorship of an orphan through our *CHILD CARE* subsidiary (\$35.00 monthly)
- Membership in the Final Frontiers Society, Bible distribution program (\$10.00 monthly)

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 Rev. Ron Charles (Secretary/Treasurer), Mr. Ralph Wills, CPA/CMA, Rev. T.A. Powell. 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 Vietnamese Expansion: Dr. Minh Dang, - Akron, OH (330) 864-2077
- Office of European Expansion: Rev. Dennis Kiser - Livonia, MI (248) 489-0844
- Office of African Expansion: Rev. Gordon Daam - Portage, MI (616) 327-9192
- Office of South American Expansion: Mr. Don Courliss - Jonesborough, TN (423) 753-9212

International Offices:

National 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. Six additional international offices are maintained to coordinate regional accountability. These are in Ghana, Russia, Honduras, France, India and the Philippines. For further information concerning this ministry and its various programs, please call or write to the home office:

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Louisville, GA 30434 USA

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Register to receive your Progress Report via email, in full color at:

www.finalfrontiers.org

The Jon Nelms family report

Greetings to you all!

Well I have had a fantastic time since my last writing. I have been in thirteen churches in Ohio, West Virginia and California and acquired some 35 new sponsorships. In addition, we have had a new man come on board to represent our work on the West Coast. Ken Guy and his family have been a sponsors of both preachers and orphans in our work for close to ten years, now he has joined our ranks as a representative. So to all you California readers ... how about giving him a jump start and get him an invitation to present our work at your church.



The Jon Nelms family

*Jon , Juanita,
Daniel and Sara*

We have also been blessed lately by having another new addition. Pastor Frank Caudie of Richmond Virginia has resigned his church and is contacting churches in his region to represent our ministry. Currently there are several others who are considering the same. I thank God for a growing army of representatives who will help us accomplish our goal of global evangelism in our generation.

We have also now made a strong contact for finding and assisting preachers in Syria, Lebanon, Egypt and other north African Islamic nations. This has been a decade long prayer in my heart that is now coming to fruition. I'll give you more details in the future but understand that we will have to be very careful about what we put in print.

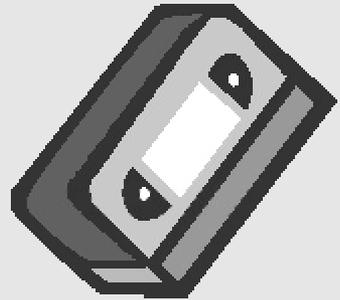
Oh yes, about the letter we sent out. I'll be honest and say that it has not had the impact I hoped for, prayed for and expected; but I am eternally grateful to those of you who have sent in a little extra to help us with our mortgage and building costs. If you have been intending to help and haven't done so yet, now would certainly be a good time. (hint) Recently in a phone conversation with a sponsor, Mr. Donald Crabtree, while discussing our humongous utility bill, he encouraged me to check and see if we had insulation in our walls. We don't. However, once we

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

In this issue ...

- 2 **Ministry Information**
- 3 **A report from Jon Nelms**
- 6 **A *TEAM* Report from Ghana**
- 6 **Schedule**
... Church Meetings and International Travel
- 7 **Cover Story**
...Brazil, a forgotten country
- 13 **Special Announcements**
- 14 **Prayer and Praise Reports from around the world**
- 16 **Credit to where credit is due**
... bicycles and more bicycles
- 17 **Let's Get Acquainted**
... biographies of national preachers in need of sponsorship
- 20 **Welcome New Sponsors**
... a listing of our newest sponsors from across America
- 21 **Learn a sentence in Kiswahili**
... a report from Kenya
- 22 **Countries where we serve the national preachers**
- 23 **Child Care International**
... the biography of an orphaned, abandoned or destitute child
- 24 **From the Mailbag**
... reports from around the world
- 26 **Now It's Your Turn**
... Response voucher
- 27 **Sponsorship Information**
- 28 **Reports**
... statistical information about our worldwide ministry results

Our ministry video is two years old now and still producing results?



This fifteen minute video will take you literally around the world visiting preachers and ministries supported by Final Frontiers. You will see their works and catch their vision to reach their own people with the gospel.

Some scenes are graphic however, as we make no attempt to "water down" the reality of the world's mission fields. And though love offerings are welcome, the video is yours FREE for the asking.

Why not call for a copy and show it at your church, Bible study group, or have a "**Missions Awareness Night**" in your home. Invite your family, friends and neighbors to have a special time of prayer for missions around the world.

Reserve your free copy today.

Just call 1-800-522-4324 and order your copy, or email us at: jnelms@finalfrontiers.org.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

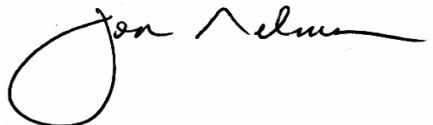
put that in and put on the siding, we should see our utility bill come way down. I have been told we will probably save up to 60% on the bill which averages about \$1000 monthly. (we have nearly 5000 sq. ft of building space). That will be a savings of thousands of dollars every year! I appreciate any help you can give to enable us to be better stewards of God's money.

This month's feature story is written by Don Courliss, who recently returned from a trip to Brazil. Don, as a young man, actually served a term as a missionary there and has carried a burden for Brazil in his heart ever since. It is amazing that after some two decades, once he arrived back in Brazil and was immersed in the culture, the language began to come back to him sufficiently for him to converse and speak publicly. I know his story will bless you tremendously. (I liked it so much I was tempted to put my name on it!)

One of the reasons for our future success in Brazil is the effort of Missionary Jim Leonard who introduced Don to qualified preachers in need of assistance. Jim, who serves with Baptist Mid Missions, was born to American missionaries in Brazil and carries a dual citizenship. He is probably more Brazilian than American as he has spent less than 5 years of his life in the United States. It was through Jim that we learned the reasons for the slow growth of the indigenous church in Brazil and now with his participation in the Bible Seminary, as well as his shared vision with us to train and equip the national preachers, we believe that Brazil has a bright future. I look forward to an explosion of the Gospel there in years to come.

I thank God for the growing number of missionaries who, having long known the value of a supported national preacher, are now joining hands with us to find them, certify them, fund them and hold them accountable. Another fine example of this working relationship between the missionary and the nationals is found in a report we received from Missionary Randall Stirewalt in Kenya. You can read it on page 14. We have been working with and through Randall for more than 12 years and neither he, nor we, have any regrets. What we do have, is an awful lot of fruit that is abounding to our accounts in Heaven, and so do you. I thank God for you. Where would we be without your support and without your constant encouragement to keep on keeping on? Whether you know it or not, you are making a difference for eternity. Keep up the good work!

Yours for souls,



A TEAM Report

GHANA

For information about TEAM projects, see page 27

From: Pastor John Jason
Location: Tema

What was the total amount of the TEAM funds received?

\$232.00

What were these funds used for?

Greetings from Ghana in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. I hope all is well with you all and all your families and the churches.

I want to use this opportunity to thank you all and your churches for the great support you are giving us financially. It was a time of refreshment and mutual edification when I received your support.

What a blessing to use this support to visit two new churches in Ghana and two villages churches in Togo which are being planted in Ghana and Togo. May the Almighty God reward you hundred fold in Jesus name.

The young pastors there are doing a great job soul-winning, taking care of the new converts and visiting them in their homes. I pray that God will bless you sponsors more and to help these young pastors go forward to help this precious souls grow spiritually. We really appreciate the financial support and will continue to pray for you.

God richly bless you. Amen!

Yours in His Service
Pastor John Jason



INTERNATIONAL Visionary Trips

June:

- Albania
- Kenya
- Mexico
- Costa Rica

July:

- Honduras

August:

- Nicaragua
- Guatemala

October:

- India
- Cambodia
- Thailand
- Vietnam

SCHEDULES

CHURCH MEETINGS

June:

- Louisville, GA
- Claxton, GA
- Richmond, IN
- Knoxville, TN

July:

- Sandersville, GA
- Claxton, GA

BRAZIL, a forgotten country

By Don Courliss

*Director, South American Expansion
With emphasis on Brazil*

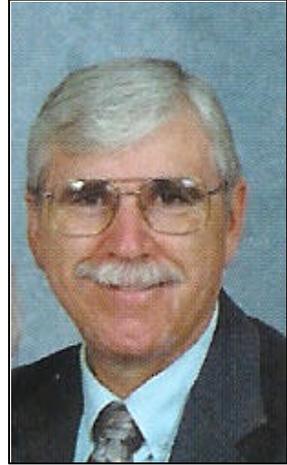
BRAZIL may be one of the “forgotten countries” as far as the sponsoring of National missionaries is concerned. *The Brazilian pastors we sponsor refer to themselves as “missionaries.” Therefore, in this story, that is the term we will use instead of National Pastor.*

The first sentence in this story is one that breaks my heart. Brazil is larger than the continental United States and yet, as of this writing, has only **two** Final Frontiers sponsored National missionaries. When I visited there the first two weeks of April I was sure I would find that there were many more available than just the two. When I was in Brazil in 1975, there were none that I knew personally but I felt surely that must have changed in the last quarter century.

Almost 5 years ago, I was working as a commercial printer in Elizabethton, Tennessee. I had been in the trade for over 30 years, and on Wednesday, July 28, 1999, I woke up unable to move. I had suffered a severe sciatic nerve reaction. Later that day the doctor told me that I had degenerative disk disease, a lateral disk and a very bad sciatic nerve problem. He told me that I would never again be able to lift more than 20 pounds. That has now been reduced to 10.

I had been a minister of music for over 30 years and Bible teacher for almost as long. My wife Carol, had been involved in Bible teaching, Pastor’s secretary and organ/piano playing in the church most of her life as well. Now that was all going out the window. We began questioning God as to what He had in mind.

In November of 1999, we were introduced to Final Frontiers by a



Don Courliss



missionary friend named Richard Wright. Richard and his wife Carolyn, are with Baptist International Missions and serve in Australia. They were and still are, sponsoring a National preacher and when they heard of our situation, they thought we would be a good fit with Final Frontiers. In January of 2000, we went to Georgia and introduced ourselves to Jon Nelms. One of the things that attracted us to the ministry of Final Frontiers is the accountability issue. Every dollar a sponsor contributes is accounted for, from the receiving of the money to the filling out of the report forms by the Preacher, to the form being returned to the sponsor. It is a testimony to the burden and ethics of Final Frontiers.

We began our ministry with Final Frontiers in the spring of 2000 and it has been an exciting and at times, difficult journey physically, emotionally and spiritually. It has been worth every minute we have put into it.

Last Summer I began to question whether we should continue our relationship with the ministry. My wife and I had been quite active in going to meetings and other activities where we could share the burden, but it seemed as if nobody wanted to hear about it anymore. The requests for our presence just died out. So we began questioning God as to our future with the ministry.

Last fall our prayers were answered in a way I would have never dreamed possible. Jon Nelms had been praying about the need for someone to represent the burden of South America. When he remembered that I had been to Brazil he asked me to take on that responsibility. I firmly believe that was God's way of saying, "Hang in there kids."

We are again not only available but excited about the possibility of traveling around this great country of ours and sharing the burden of South America, with an emphasis on Brazil. If we can get there by car, we'll be there.



The view, through the window of the vehicle I traveled in, while going to church in a "barrio" in Juazeiro do Norte, Brazil.

Brazil is a country of great contrasts. When I was there in 1975 there were no such things as motorcycles. Now there are many of them, most of which are used as taxis. There is hardly a street corner now where there isn't at least two or three "moto taxis" waiting for a rider.

Now the question begs itself, why are there no more than two sponsored missionaries in Brazil? I really wish I had the answer to that. Brazil has been on the list of places where the American missionary has been, if not welcomed, at least not rejected. I remember when I was in language school in 1975 that there were at least 4 or 5 other couples as well. There also was quite a large contingent of veteran American missionaries as well. In retrospect, the only problem of which I am now aware was that the National churches to which I was introduced had been planted by American missionaries and then given over to a National preacher. I don't remember ever being introduced to a National preacher that had planted his own church.



It is also amazing to realize that, according to the director of the Seminário Batista do Cariri, Jim Leonard (*more on the school later*), "Brazil is not as far along as other mission fields such as India, Mexico and the Philippines. Then again, foreign missionary work hasn't been in Brazil as long as in these other countries. Missionary work only began in Brazil around 1900 and, up to 1970, very little visible progress was made in this, the largest Roman Catholic nation in the world."

There are two types of national church planting efforts underway in Brazil. The most common is the mother/daughter church concept. This is where a new work is established by a deacon from the "mother" church. For instance, there is one church in Fortaleza with seven "daughters" – one for each of the seven deacons.

The other is the National Missionary: those on the field commissioned by a local church as a missionary. These are the ones we usually recognize as "church planters."

Many of these Pastors are those that have graduated from the school mentioned earlier. This Bible College was founded by Baptist Mid-Missions missionaries, but when the





Jim had a birthday while I was there. This is the card given to him by the faculty and students.



Communists attempted to take over Brazil in the early 1960's, the missionaries gave the entire school into the hands of a Brazilian board of directors. It has been independently run by this board ever since.

I had the honor of staying in the home of Jim and Julie Leonard while visiting Brazil the first 10 days of April. It was a heartwarming experience. I realized once again, how much I love and miss, not only the country but the people of Brazil. Jim related to me how the Bible College views those that are able to attend. They have a very unique attitude, one that should be emulated by the Bible Colleges here in America. Their attitude is: If a man is called of God and his call is recognized by his church and the church asks us to help them prepare him for the ministry, it is up to the College to give him the best education possible to prepare him for the ministry, *no matter what his grades!!!* Not all of them graduate with passing grades but they all receive a lot of personal attention to be as prepared as possible.

One example of what the college is able to do is found in Pastor Antonio Ferreira (left) . He grew up in a very poor neighborhood and was unable to read until he became an adult. He obtained work as a night watchman at the Bible College and while not all night watchmen are conscientious, Pastor Ferreira was. He maintained a very strict work ethic while teaching himself to read by comparing letters in different words in the Bible.

By finding ones that matched, he learned to read well enough to begin his studies. He then began studying at the College, going to school in the daytime and working as night watchman. Although Pastor Ferreira was unable to keep his grades up, the College worked with him and in the following years God has used him in the establishing of four different churches. The latest one is in a 14X20 foot building with a dirt floor.

I was privileged to be able to give my testimony (in Português) during one of their Sunday services. What a joy it was to then go with

them up the hill from the present building to view their new building construction. God has given them land on which to build a beautiful new edifice where they will hear the Word of God proclaimed. God is definitely at work in this missionary's life.



Don speaking in church, recalling a language he learned decades ago.

According to an article in our local paper on Thursday, 17 April, Brazil is facing a “brighter economic outlook” than ever before in its history. “In the three and a half months since President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva took office, Brazil’s currency has made a dramatic recovery, getting much closer in value to the U. S. dollar.” At one time Brazil was a major exporter of coffee (*I brought 10 pounds back with me!*). Unfortunately, it is no longer that way. They are now trying to enter the grain market. However, the farmers here in America have such a powerful lobby that Brazil is being forced to find something else to offer the world.

Most of the cities are growing so fast that the local law enforcement agencies are unable to keep up with the crime. One of these is a very difficult neighborhood (called a “barrio”) in the city of Juazeiro do Norte. Pastor Nilton, a former deacon, feels God has directed him to this place. He has established, with God’s help, the Congregação Batista Filadélfia. This “barrio” has an extremely high crime rate and a low literacy rate. His story is one that makes it all worth the effort to help those Nationals that not only see the need, but step into the gap to do what is necessary.

At one time the “barrio” in which the Bible College is located was just as bad as the one in which Pastor Nilton is ministering. However, as time has a way of doing, it now is quite a nice place to live. At the present, however, the “barrio” where Pastor Nilton is working is not even a place you would want to visit, much less live. Pastor Nilton’s burden is to preach the Word of God and see girls, boys, men and women come to the knowledge of Christ as Savior.

His secondary burden is to teach them how to read. The only problem he has at the present, other than an occasional knife fight in front of the church, is that when the people become believers and learn how to read, they leave for a better life in a different “barrio”.

One of the “criteria” we at Final Frontiers have is that, generally

speaking, to qualify for support, a Pastor be involved in at least his second church planting effort. This however does **not** mean that we refuse to help him if he has only started one church. To that end, a major burden of Pastor Nilton has been the need of \$125.00 for Bibles for the new converts. Fortunately the Final Frontiers Society, whose main purpose is purchasing Bibles for our Preachers, has that much in their coffers and will be able to help with this. Unfortunately, the Society does not have an abundance of funds. If you would like to contribute to the Society please send your contribution to the Final Frontiers Society. Much of the funds in the Society are used for just such a need as this and we are pleased that God has allowed us to have enough to help Pastor Nilton.

Our first sponsored missionary in Brazil is a young man by the name of Antonio Bibiano. Pastor Bibiano graduated from the Bible College and then stayed on to help with the Correspondence Bible School Department, which distributes lessons all across the country. The material is produced by Source of Light Ministries, and is very instrumental in Evangelism and helping young Christians grow in their faith. Pastor Bibiano is not only involved in this but he also has served in two churches. The one in which he presently serves is in the middle of a “barrio” where there was absolutely no evangelical work being done. The church was meeting in the homes of the believers when they decided it was time to purchase their own land for a church building.

Their story is one worth telling:

Several members from the Canaan Baptist Church, Pastor Bibiano’s first church plant, were living in the “barrio” Tiradentes. One of them, a new believer, invited Pastor Bibiano and folk from the Canaan Baptist Church to have a weekly Evangelistic service in her garage. The weekly Bible study grew and the people began looking for a place to put up a church building. One day Pastor Bibiano and Jim Leonard went over to look at a property one of the members had found, but it just didn’t seem right. It was too close to another “barrio” in which they already had a church.



So one day they took out a city map of Tiradentes and pointed to the center of the “barrio”. Jim said, “There’s the best location for the

church if you want to reach Tiradentes.” They went to the spot, and *it was an empty property, a whole city block!* None of the neighbors knew to whom it belonged, so they went to a realtor. He didn’t know anything about that property, but he claimed he had another nice place close to the one they were describing. *(I know, reader, you’re already getting ahead of me, but hang in there)* When they drove to the property, *it was the exact same property!* The realtor was a new believer and his pastor suggested he give them the best deal he could afford. In the end, after much prayer and haggling, they ended up paying the equivalent of \$10,000.00 for the property.

Later they presented the project to Mr. William Bolthouse, and he sent a gift of \$28,000.00 for the first phase of the construction. With that money, and a little more from others, as well as the national believers they were able to build the church you see on the previous page. It’s all true and a testimony to God’s faithfulness and provision.



Pastor Jacinto at left, baptizing new converts

Some of you may ask the question: “How do the city counsel members feel when one of these missionaries comes to their town.”

I’m glad you asked. Soon after Pastor Jacinto began his new ministry in Caríus, the counsel members approached him to inquire if he would be interested in locating on a prime piece of real estate in town. They told him that if he would accept their proposition, they would **give** him the land for the church building.

Or consider the missionary that was preaching in a downtown area and was approached by a pistol brandishing priest who told him to cease preaching the gospel or he, the priest, would shoot him!! The local authorities were called and the priest was hauled away! Such is the reputation many of these men of God have.

Now obviously, this doesn’t happen in every town all the time. There are still towns so callus (*read = possessed by the Enemy*) that it

Prayer and Praise Reports from around the world ...

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

Congo

From Pastor Athanase,
National Director Congo



I have not yet communicate with you due to the problem occurred in our ministry. On 23rd April, one of our pastors was killed by the rebels at 150 km form our place (Headquarters) where I live. He was killed along with his boy.

We went there in funeral and comfort the rest of his family. Please do remember his family in your daily prayers. I will send you all information requested soon.

Kenya

From Missionary Randy Stirewalt
Baptist Bible Fellow Missionary, Regional Director Final Frontiers



We opened the Bible Institutes this year with 85 new students and 100 returning students. This the largest we have ever had. Jon, you are such a good friend and I appreciate your friendship. When you contacted me we

had 42 churches, today there are nearly 200. When we started the Final Frontiers program I told the pastors this money is not for you as a pastor. The church is to take care of your needs as pastor. This money is to expand our vision, you are to use it to help start new churches. They have done this. Nearly 160 churches in the last 10 years. This term it is our goal to see 100 new churches started. It will happen because of FFF.

I met with a young man yesterday from Congo. He was studying here in Eldoret in a trade school in 1996 he joined the Kapsoya Baptist Church. His grandfather and father were Baptist Pastors in Congo. They were living in Goma but the volcano and the war cause them moved to Kasingina in central Congo. I lost contact with him. He sold a pig so he could travel by bus for 5 days to come and see me. He is one of the sharpest young men I have ever meet, and we have a lot of sharp guys here in Kenya. It is my prayer you and I can work with him in Congo. Pray with me about this.

Honduras

From Tim Posey
Baptist Missionary, Final Frontiers Associate



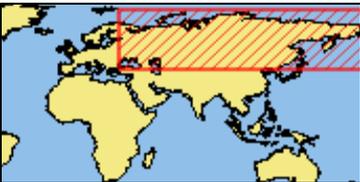
We are in the middle of the 7th course of the pastor training school here in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, and as a matter of prayer we need for you to pray as we are completely out of money for funding this project for the year. This is due partly because one church who had been funding this school had financial hardships. We understand these difficult economic times and know that God must be blessing some other church or individual in such a way that they want to bless these pastors by helping fund their Education in the ministry.

Designate your gift to: “Honduras Pastor’s School”

Note: In our last Progress Report a request was made by Tim for \$1200 in order for the church to be able to start a bus ministry. We are happy to report that \$600 has already been given for that project.

Russia

From Pastor Vasily Lastochkin
National Director Russia



We had more than 1000 visitors in 4 nights for our Easter play and MANY excepted the Lord. My wife and some girls went to the women’s prison and ministered to more than 500. Pray for me. I feel physically very much exhausted. At the end of May God willing, I’ll go to the men’s prison to minister to those with life sentence again.

Morocco

From Missionary Michael Buono
French Missionary, Regional Director Final Frontiers



We spend a real good time with our little Moroccan church. The leaders grew up during the absence of their pastor, because the Great Shepard took care of them and of us in France during this test. It’s a comfort to know the body of Christ in the world pray for us and for this work in Morocco. We are thankfully for your support. Thank the church that helped us in September if you have the opportunity.

Credit to where credit is due ...

By Jon Nelms



Years ago, Pastor Paul Knierim began supporting the ministry of Final Frontiers. I have been to his church on several occasions and never left without having an abundance of new sponsorships. Paul is one of those rare pastors who eats, sleeps and breathes missions and yet, maintains a fresh burden for his own people. Recently as we shared a breakfast in Parkersburg, West Virginia, he began to tell me of all the countries he has been to over the years. This man has traveled nearly as much as I have! No wonder he has such an untiring burden.

Just a few months ago around Christmas time, Paul led his church to provide a special offering which included funds for Bibles and bicycles. The pastors in India who were the recipients of his church's generosity got together for a photograph to say thank you. I thought it would be special to share it with all of our readers. (each bicycle costs \$65)

Paul, along with Mr. Terry Schamp began making arrangements to include me in a missions conference in their area that was comprised of 12 churches. Each night I spoke at a different church (10 churches in 8 days). Before the meetings even got started, the pastors of the two churches where I was not scheduled, approached me to come back to the area later this year and be with them. I thank God for you sponsors out there who participate with us in ministry by helping us get meetings. What an impact for eternity you are making!

Let's Get Acquainted ...

For more information on sponsoring a national preacher, see page 27.

Preacher's Name: Eliecer Matos
Wife's Name: Olvis Duran
No. of Children: 3
Country: Cuba
Sponsorship Needed: 1 @ \$35.00 monthly

Testimony:

I came to know the Lord when I was eleven. I started evangelizing when I was 21. I am still serving the Lord. I believe in the Bible as my only guide for my faith and conduct. God uses His people by empowering them through the Holy Spirit. People are saved only through the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. My wife has been in church since she was a small child and came to know Jesus at age 14. My wife rises early in the mornings and takes care of her family and home.



Our ministry includes founding churches, teaching the bible, holding open air evangelistic meetings, distributing tracts and discipling new and older believers. I have begun training other men for ministry as well. We also go into the slums to minister to the peoples needs both physical and spiritual. I visit to win souls and to encourage the believers at least 4 hours every day. We have services on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Sundays and I lead these services.

Our house has four rooms and is made of wood and tar paper with some fiber cement. We must buy our food at the marker. Food is sometimes very hard to come by. Even black beans are sometimes difficult to find, especially if they are good ones. Many that we have to buy are very old and require much cooking time so that they can be eaten. I have no income at this time and must live by faith in God to provide. We thank you and God for your sponsorship.

Preacher's Name: Jorge Ovando
Wife's Name: Catalina
Number of Children: 3
Country: Argentina
Sponsorships Needed: 4 @ \$35.00 monthly (national director)

Testimony:

When I was younger I was looking for fulfillment in my life through achievements, accomplishments and worldly goods. In God's time He showed me through the death of the man whom I idolized, that it is one thing to prepare for life

and another to prepare for death. Through the witness of Christina friends, I finally came to know Jesus as my Savior. Then I attended and earned a Master of Theology degree at the International Baptist Theological Seminary. I worked for a time at first with Campus Crusade and then ABJM ministering to the Jews of Buenos Aires. I also pastored a Baptist church. Totally I have started four churches and trained seven men for the ministry. One of them is now with the Lord. God has blessed me in evangelism with more than 1500 people coming to Christ. I am able to speak some English as well as Portuguese and Spanish.



My wife grew up not knowing the Lord. Every day she walked to school with some Christian neighbors and they would teach her Bible verses. Finally at age 18 she was saved and we were married several years later. Together we do church planting and also serve as national directors for Source Of Light in Argentina which produces Bible correspondence courses.

Our monthly budget is \$670 and my church provides me with about \$600. We have only a small deficit but now with extra funding we can do more ministry and I can better oversee the preachers in Argentina that will be sponsored by Final Frontiers, since I am now serving as the National Director for my country. My ministry includes slum preaching, open air preaching, radio ministry, Bible teaching and pastoring. Now I will also be responsible for the accountability of the pastors in Argentina.

Continued from page 13

is virtually impossible to establish any evangelistic work in them.

One amazing story of how new works are begun comes from the life of Pastor Irineu. He works in the State of Cereá, the same one in which the Bible College is located. He began his work by taking his accordion with him on the back of his bicycle. He would peddle from 6 to 30 kilometers every day to different “preaching points.” At first it was just the bike, then God gave him a motorcycle and then, finally, a pickup. In the end, God has used him to establish thirty preaching points.

God has also given him twelve “Timothys” to help with the work. He has also been given a very godly wife. She, together with their three children and some of the “Timothys”, all pile into the pickup then go out to the preaching points and proclaim the Word of God.

He now has a new vision. He believes that since he has the “Timothys” to whom he can entrust the present ministry, the Lord is telling him to relocate to another town and begin again. To that end, he has started a Bible study in the home of a new believer in Baturité, a city several miles to the north of his present location. When he and his family are finally able to relocate later this year, they will have around 10 to 14 waiting for them. Please pray for Pastor Irineu as he prepares to begin this new challenge.

We hope to have Pastor Irineu’s application, as well as those mentioned in this story, soon. If you would like to sponsor this amazing Brazilian missionary, or any of the others, get in touch with the main office or check out the web site at finalfrontiers.org for further details.

Every Brazilian missionary has his own story, a story that could “curl your toes,” make you laugh or cry, or make you shout “Praise the Lord.” Hopefully within the next several months we will have many more Brazilian missionaries that will need your prayer and financial support. And with your help, Brazil will no longer be known as “A Forgotten Country”.

Note:

By the time you read this article, we hope to have at least five applications of approved church planters. If you would be interested in helping to sponsor on of these for \$35 monthly, please contact our office at 800-522-4324 or email Jon at jnells@finalfrontiers.org

Welcome New Sponsors

Sponsor:	Preacher - Orphan - <i>TEAM</i> - or <i>Final Frontiers Society</i> :	Country:
Judy Clark, MO	• Tran Ngoc Thang	• Vietnam
Westside Baptist Church Pastor John Shaw Waynesville, MO	• Vo Dinh Dan • Kossi Pouwessima • Douglas L. P. Colindres • Chhoeun Sambo • Khoi Khan Cin	• Vietnam • Togo • Honduras • Cambodia • Myanmar
Chuck and Cynthia Hancock, GA	• Thawng Za Mung • William Amedekah	• Myanmar • Ghana
Nick and Dianne Vanderveen, MO	• Kossi Laurent Amedome	• Togo
Larry Allen, NC	• Michael Pungsar	• Myanmar
Kevin and Cherly Nelson, FL	• Enrique Rodriguez	• Cuba
Shellee Comer, NC	• Beera John Chowdary	• India
Scott and Caron McCracken, KY	• John Omondi Mwamba • Bharat Chandra Paital	• Kenya • India
Charles Northum, OK	• A.M. John	• India
Karen Taylor, NY	• R'com Nen • Elisha Omindo Gulema	• Vietnam • Kenya
Woody and Tary Johnson, MN	• John Chirchir Malakwen	• Kenya
Choice Baptist Church Fredricksburg, VA	• Jose M. Rodriguez • Nuon Youn	• Honduras • Cambodia
Patrice Cook, PA	• Chin Thorn	• Cambodia
Good Hope Baptist, Eastover SC	• Ihor Babchenko	• Ukraine
Madison and Linda Day, AL	• Francisco J. Claudio • Nari Babu Gedela (child)	• Guatemala • India
Terry Holdt, MI	• Esau Ochieng Onyango	• Kenya
Robert and Sandy Meyer, FL	• Luciano Perez	• Mexico
Ross Memorial Bible Church Port Huron, MI	• Moises de Sousa Oliviera • Moses Lomoe Areng	• Brazil • Kenya
Breanna Bradley, CO	• Basavayya Addepalli	• India
Elizabeth Wilson, TN	• Satyam Vali	• India
Victory Baptist, Maryville TN	• Huynh Thien Tu	• Vietnam

Learn a sentence in Kiswahili

Here's an interesting letter that came from David Luvai in Kenya to his sponsors Randy and April Box. In it he also reported starting 2 new churches and personally winning 10 people to Christ. It is a long letter so we will start about half way into it ...

... We have many people who are the enemies of the gospel. There are many false teacher surrounding the ministry.

Recently at one of our open air meetings, one of these false teachers came to disturb the meeting, which was about two kilometers away from the Kechina Baptist Church. He came towards us with his followers shouting and heckling at us.

At that time one of our church members was giving a testimony of his salvation. The false teacher shouted *"What are you doing here? Listen, the man you have been waiting for is coming"*, referring to one of the false teachers whom they had invited to conduct their activities. He went on to say, *"He would like you to meet him at the 'Musavulenze Statium'."* The Musavulenze Stadium is the meeting place or venue for their evil activities. It is not a stadium in a real sense. It is a piece of land, about two acres in size. This land is not being used. The owner is away in Nairobi working there. These people have converted the land as the venue for their meetings. They have nicknamed it "Musavulenze" which is the name of a tree under which they sit to conduct their activities. The leaders sit under the tree but the rest of the people sit in the open. So the man went on to say, *"Come all of you to hear what he wants to say and do."* It was at these words, before he could go on to disrupt our meetings, that the crowd shouted *"Shetani ashindwe"* in the Kiswahili language meaning "The Devil be defeated" or Satan be defeated. The crowd shouted so loudly that the man could no longer be heard uttering any more words. It was a prolonged shout "shetani ashindwe, shetani ashindwe" and so on. They left us and our meeting went on.

We had two people saved at the meeting that day. We praise the Lord because really the Devil was defeated and Christ glorified. These false teachers are in every place. Their teachings and evil works have been seen in many places. Pray for us so that the truth of God's Word should prevail. The story is not yet over.

We glorify and thank the Lord for your support to us. We should (will) use it to go and tell others about the saving Christ.

Attention Pastors

Jon Nelms and the
Final Frontiers
representatives are now booking
meetings for July thru March 2004.

If you would like to schedule a
meeting at your church or mission
conference, please contact Jon at:
800-522-4324
or online at:
jnelms@finalfrontiers.org

We now have
representatives living near you in ...

Alabama
California
Florida
Georgia
Michigan
Michigan
Minnesota
Missouri
Nevada
North Carolina
South Dakota
Tennessee
Virginia

Kevin Carden
Ken Guy
Glen Wilson
Jon Nelms
Gordon Daam
Dennis Kiser
Matt Hood
Neil Lewis
Isaac Moubarak
Wes Hunt
Harley Harms
Don Courliss
Frank Caudle

And if you live elsewhere, we'll be
glad to come to you. This is what
we live to do, so give us something
to live for.

The 58 countries where we serve *as of May 2003*

Africa:

Kenya
Uganda
South Africa
Nigeria
Togo
Ivory Coast
Ghana
Liberia
Burkina
Morocco
Sudan
Tanzania
Rwanda
Congo

Asia:

India
Myanmar
Thailand
Laos
Cambodia
Vietnam
China
Philippines
Nepal*

Caribbean:

St. Vincent
St. Lucia
Grenada
Haiti*
Jamaica*

Pacifica:

Fiji

Eurasia:

Georgia
Belarus
Kazakhstan
Kyrgyzstan
Siberia
Ukraine
Russia

Europe:

France
Romania
Albania
Latvia
Lithuania*
Hungary
Switzerland
Poland

Americas:

Mexico
Cuba
Guatemala
El Salvador
Honduras
Nicaragua
Costa Rica
Peru
Chile
Columbia
Ecuador
Venezuela
Brazil
Argentina

* indicates TEAM support only

Child Care *International*

For more information on sponsoring a child see page 27

The following is a letter written by a Indian child to her sponsor. This letter will give you an insight into the lives of Christian children and teenagers in persecuted nations. You don't have to be a pastor to be a witness or to be a martyr.

This is one of three annual reports that each child must write to their sponsor.

Mr. David Rodgers and Family,

Thank you very much for your faithful financial assistance. Thank God because of you and because of your prayers I am doing well and grown up as a teenage girl and helping many non-Christian college girls and bringing them to my church and responsible for leading them to Christ.

During these months I have witnessed to many women and teenage girls but happy to inform you about 17 women folk accepted Christ in our church when my pastor was preaching. These people came to my church because of me only. I am sorry to inform you that among these people who are saved, one of their brothers with the help of some non-Christian women watched for me at the school entrance and he instructed the women to beat me as a punishment for making his sister to accept Christ. They beat me severely. I was fell unconscious and lot of bleeding came. This incident happen outside the school so the school authorities have nothing to do. The police being non-Christian people, they will not do justice. Thank God an old man passing on the street identified me and admitted me on the hospital. Even at the hospital, first they refused to admit me because I am a Christian. After lot of discussion and arguments finally they have admitted me.

For the sake of Christ I was in the hospital for one month. I have to pay lot of money to hospital bill. Of course the church pastor have not paid but have given an undertaking to the hospital that he will try to re-pay the amount. Please pray to clear of the hospital due.



Vanam Satya Priya in 2003

Inset: 1992 when sponsorship began

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 two samples.



From: B. David Raju
Sponsored by: Robert Moore, MN and
Central Baptist Church
Trenton, NJ

Thank you very much for your regular financial assistance.

Last trimester:

churches
started - 2

villages
evangelized - 2

people
saved - 19

converts
baptized - 19



India

During last month I have undergone lot of worry and mental torture. When I was preaching in a new village the village people warned me with dire consequence if I preach again. I kept a deaf ear to their warning. Two times I visited the same village and two times I get very good response and as a result 41 people accepted Lord Jesus Christ.

This created a sensational news in that village. They don't like people to accept Christ. They made a plan and went to my son's housing who is staying in a different place and kidnapped his son (my grandson) not for gain but as a punishment to me not to preach any more. The boy was with them for two weeks. The police unable to trace him. Actually the police able to trace him but because they are all non-Christians they simply kept quite.

On the fourth day they brought my grandson and left him at the entrance of my home. I went out and noticed that he was already dead. For the sake of Christ I lost my grandson. I have never faced such tragedy so far. Please pray.



From: Alfred Zekeh
Sponsored by: Pastor Paul Knierim
 First Baptist, Belpre OH

Last trimester:

churches
 started - na

villages
 evangelized - na

people
 saved - na

converts
 baptized - na



Liberia

Note:

When sponsorship begins, we now ask the preacher to write a thank you letter to the new sponsor so they will have a chance to get to know one another better. It is for this reason that no statistical data was provided with this report.

I am very excited to have you as a team member in this business of administering to the people from more than 15-villages in Liberia with the glorious Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ by deciding to support us financially.

I just wanted to let you know along with your family that your support has made a lot of ways for many people especially this Christmas season as an encouragement to me and my daughter and all my disciples that are involved with me in the work of reaching the villages with the Gospel.

Remember we have done this work for years feeling that we are alone in the wilderness, and your support has definitely made things a lot easier for us. You guys are indeed a lot of blessing to us. We are definitely sure that we are not alone. Your contribution doesn't only encourage us , but it also forces us to go the extra mile in what we enjoying doing.

As you probably know, our end is a very difficult field to work on. Many a time we struggle to even provide the basic needs of our children and those that we are discipling. Because you came on board with the much needed support, we are now able to have enough food which has improved many things including health. As a father and disciple maker, I can not thank you in words. Please note that we will do whatever we can to use your support wisely by reaching those villages that can only be reached by foot.

Now I am able to carry safe drinking water, Bibles and a lot more tracks and a couple of guys to travel with me. Your support has help in administering deeply to the hearts of many in the villages. We have a need for additional finances to help purchase drugs and other medications for some of the sick people in the villages who have no way of coming to nearby cities for treatment.

We are equally praying for you and your family.

Now it's your turn ...

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (home) _____ (office) _____

Please contact me about hosting a ***missions prayer meeting*** in my home. I have friends I would like to invite to hear a ministry presentation.

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 orphaned, abandoned or destitute child**
(\$35.00 monthly)
- **Sponsoring the Final Frontiers home office**
(any amount)
- **Membership in the Final Frontiers Society**
(\$10.00 monthly)

Sponsorship Information

To obtain further information on sponsorship, refer to the “Now It’s Your Turn” voucher on page 26, or call us at 1-800-522-4324.

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 opportunity of providing double sponsorship (\$70.00 monthly) if you prefer. This of course is not required. Your \$35 sponsorship also includes \$10 support of our ministry (unless you direct us otherwise). This gives our foundation funds to operate with as well as provide assistance to preachers who do not yet have sponsorship. Typically half of this amount is used overseas. If you prefer your total support to go to your preacher, all you need to do is inform 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 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 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, 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

3 Sponsorship of **Child Care**, gives assistance to an orphaned, abandoned or destitute child. The \$35.00 monthly sponsorship provides for lodging, 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.

Reports ...

from the final frontiers

Reports received since the last
Progress Report
indicate there were ...

495	Churches Started
1,926	Villages Evangelized
14,181	Professions of Faith
7,100	Believers Baptized

Combined totals from all reports
received since our beginning in
December 1986 indicate there
have been ...

18,674	Churches Started
69,971	Villages Evangelized
555,930	Professions of Faith
186,469	Believers Baptized

A current total of all statistics
indicate there are ...

1,201	Preacher Sponsorships
98	TEAM Sponsorships
67	Orphans Supported
58	Countries involved

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Louisville, GA 30434
USA