

May the Lord bless you, and keep you; The Lord make His face shine on you, and be gracious to you. May the Lord lift His countenance on you and give you peace.

—Numbers 6:24-26

March 1, 2018

Dearest Ministry Prayer Partner,

I left home when I was 15 years old. I had 10 cents in my pocket and the clothes on my back.

Never in my wildest dreams did I think God would take me to the places He has taken me! He has taken my ordinary, insignificant life and used my willingness to write His great plans in places all around the world!

But He has never used me alone. He has only—and <u>always</u>—used me in <u>partnership</u> with <u>others</u> . . . others like <u>you</u>, who are <u>also</u> willing!

I thank God for our partnership, as we serve the Lord together in the amazing array of countries where He has called us! When I look at the incredible advances God has engineered through us, I can only bow my head in humble gratitude and then lift my face to heaven and rejoice!

<u>This year already</u> has the distinguishing traits of victory—and multiplication! *Just look at what God is doing through you and me together:*

1. In the Dominican Republic

As I write these words, I have just returned from the Dominican, where I had the great joy of teaching some 400 pastors and workers. The teaching was very warmly received, but this was *just the beginning of the blessings!*

From the start, I've told our Dominican friends that Christ's Commission is "teach them to obey." Hearing is not enough! I am always burdened with the question of what they will do with the teaching they receive. So I was thrilled to receive this message the day after I left from a Dominican church planter; his own pastor had attended our teaching:



... I thank God for your service and for the ministry you have brought to us. We are aware that you are giving up precious family time to contribute to the ministry as God has led you. You have no idea about what the Lord did and is doing through the teaching you shared with us this last week.

There had been a shattering of superstitious beliefs and religious traditions that were deeply rooted and had been damaging the Lord's people.

You have been used to show us that the best way to do spiritual warfare is not with shouts and "power formulas," but with the correct use and application of God's Word.

The teaching was enthusiastically embraced by the whole group of churches by God's grace. On Sunday *I was able to witness, firsthand, the influence of the teaching* through the preaching I heard from the pulpit. . . .

The Dominican Republic needs the teaching you are bringing to it. *It was extremely worthwhile* even though there were sacrifices made for you to be here. May God bless you all in the World Link Ministries team!

His gratitude is not just for me, but for you! We are all "links"—as we link people to a new and abundant life in Christ. You empower this ministry through your prayers and your giving. You enable us to go and do the work to which God is calling us together! As our Dominican brother put it, your work is "extremely worthwhile"—you're making a wonderful difference—as stereotypes and superstition are shattered by the light of God's Word!

But the evidence of God's tremendous work through you doesn't stop even there!

As I taught the Dominicans that discipleship requires obedience . . . not merely an intellectual or academic experience . . . I insisted that we be able to <u>see the results</u>—in *churches planted*.

The reaction was powerful. The leaders quickly produced a form listing each church in their network and the names of the church planters each church would deploy. They also registered 160 new sites where their church planters will begin work. They even included demographic details about the areas being reached.



(Some folks even tried to sign up for our classes without any plans to evangelize or plant churches. Many would rather just "enjoy the teaching" and not bear any responsibility. But if those who will be "hearers" but not "doers" are allowed, then we undermine the requirement of obedience in the training. I hope those on the sidelines will see the revival, the growth, and the impact generated by those who are actually involved, and finally want to participate as "doers of the Word"!)

2. In India

I've told you about the persecution and trials that are spurring the growth of the ministry in India. The great news is that the Indians are responding with a gallant approach to ministry and spiritual conflict. Churches and Christians everywhere are beginning to respond!

I shared with you the need for wells. Friends have given generously. I praise God for the prospect of more wells being drilled—as well as more churches and schools being planted!

I was recently sought out by a "champion" church seriously considering the possibility of joining us in India in bigger ways. This could mean a <u>lot</u> more wells—and new schools, with greater capacity for touching lives. *What is God up to?* As we continue to obey, we'll see! Hearts are wide open as tragedy of persecution catches people's attention. Brothers and sisters in Christ are catching the vision of "the treasure hidden in a field"—in this case, the field of India.

And <u>the blessings will continue to multiply</u>. A new well doesn't just help one village. A new school doesn't just touch a few students. These undertakings <u>multiply</u> in the lives of families and friends, neighbors, and more, as God's love is proclaimed, as the word spreads in ways unforeseen!

As I write, we are less than a week away from another of our teachers going to India to impact leaders. The people are eager for the teaching to continue and for the Lord's plan to fully take root and bear much fruit.

Plus—additional wells will improve relations even in communities seemingly dominated by emboldened Hindus. I praise God that when the adversary seems to be winning, there is a thunderous backlash of God's winning counterstrategy!

3. Unto the ends of the earth!

Exciting initiatives are ramping up as we head into spring:



- We're preparing for our first-ever missions conference at the seminary in <u>MADRID</u>.
 It will be exciting to awaken the Spaniards to the fact that their new life in Christ <u>perfectly positions them</u> to reach out to Europe!
- I can hardly wait for a series of **BRAZIL** initiatives—both in the north, in the Amazon, as well as in the south near Uruguay. Pray with me that church-planting will *explode*, with the local leaders leading the way!
- We are on the move in the <u>CANARY ISLANDS</u> now, especially on two large islands—Tenerife and Grand Canary—with two seminary couples leading the way. We're due to start our first course in March with evangelistic campaigns to follow.
- Our work in <u>CUBA</u> is ready to enter a new phase as we prepare to press on to new
 initiatives. Churches in the U.S. are preparing to launch <u>hundreds</u> of new churches
 all across the island!

Enough for now! This list actually could quadruple in length! For now, suffice it to say: I pray you can see *just how much good you can do in the Lord*—because His heart for people is <u>unlimited</u> . . . and so are His <u>resources</u>!

God is "the strength of our heart and our portion," according to Psalm 73:26. The psalmist is aware that his own flesh, his own heart, may fail. But he invokes the <u>Lord's</u> strength, and the <u>Lord's</u> heart, as his resources.

Jesus affirms this! "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you," He declares in Acts 1:8. With this astounding power, we are to be His witnesses—unto the very ends of the earth!

So I ask you, if you ever feel inadequate, to simply "be willing"—and let God give you the power, the courage, and the strength of heart to join Him from victory to victory!

You don't have to be a millionaire giver. Only a small percentage of any ministry family is made up of people who could be called "large donors." Even when large donors give millions, the lion's share of the ministry is still driven by people giving on a personal scale . . . people simply hearing from God and responding in obedience, doing whatever the Lord has empowered them to do.

Which is why I am so excited about <u>you</u>. I praise God for you! You are the vital base from which God launches His work. He is using you to mobilize and send workers into the harvest fields!



I believe on that day so long ago, when an ordinary 15-yearold left home with a dime in his pocket, God looked ahead to this day—and ordained us as partners in His work. I believe it because of the fantastic things I see Him accomplishing through our partnership!

Let's keep trusting Him together! He is more than enough. His resources have not diminished. He has infinite power and infinite supply!

"Not that we are adequate in ourselves to consider anything as coming from ourselves, but our adequacy is from God. Who also made us adequate as servants" (2 Corinthians 3:5,6).

Please give generously today. Be a part of what God is doing around the world right now! He will lead us from victory to victory! Amen!

For the Gospel,

Dr. Manny Fernandez

P.S. You are a beautiful example to our brothers and sisters in Christ in so many places around the world. Your generosity and your trust in God inspires many. Thank you for this. Keep up the good work! You can give with confidence, knowing from our track record that your contribution today will translate directly into highly effective ministry. People's lives will change tomorrow because of your generosity today! Thank you again!