

Sept 1, 2014

Dearest Prayer Partners,

Warmest greetings in the Savior's name!

I am bursting with anticipation about *great ministry events* we're engaged in this next month and beyond.

- We are approaching the momentous occasion of buying the seminary building in Madrid, **Spain**, in the next few weeks!
- We are launching ministry in **Liberia** and beyond in the fall. I am to go to Monrovia within the next six weeks.
- We have set the date and place in **India**—and we have disciples ready—for a January 2nd launch in Chennai.
- We are adding hundreds of church plants to the work in **Cuba** in the next three months!

Busy summer? Yes! We are thrilled at the outcome of campaigns all over Spain—and the growth they have infused in the churches in the north, central, and south regions of the country.

We are also greatly excited by three couples who have graduated from our Madrid Seminary and are now in Texas (two in Fort Worth, one in Dallas) to continue their education degrees.

These are wonderful steps in a process which actually forms a much greater picture. We know that God can raise up explosive ministries through these distinguished couples and others coming.

The BIG picture is even more encouraging and exciting. Our God is marching on!

A fantastic new development in Madrid: We are deeply grateful for friends in California and in Texas helping us usher in the purchase of the building in Madrid, which finally came up for sale at the end of July. We have been working on the details to acquire the loan and then begin to pay it.

Perhaps you're asking: Why take a loan when God can provide it? Well, we have been praying HARD, and we have been working HARD. We have friends who are working on initiatives to pay back the loan in several big chunks. But the building's availability was NOW—after two years of waiting on City Hall in Madrid. God knew this all along, and He knows the exact reason.



I'm happy to report that this complicated situation has the full support of the Evangelical community in Spain. They agree fully with our various goals:

- (1) We need our own building, adequate for our unique work.
- (2) We want the church that owns the building now to continue to have a home while they build a new home.
- (3) We want to keep a church in this "neighborhood"—an area of 200,000 residents. Right now, this church—which houses our seminary—is the only church in the area. (The church has been given property in another area. Their move would take away the church and its ministry. With our participation, now there will be two churches as opposed to only one!)

Of course the folks in the church are thrilled for us to buy it, for all the same reasons! Please pray that God will "show up" and bring about a victory that only He could think up!

<u>A breakthrough ministry launch in Africa</u>: In Liberia, our director for the church planting school and other efforts in the country, Dr. Vambo, sends this exciting message:

We are grateful for your tireless efforts to reach Liberia thus far.

As the government fights Ebola on the scientific front, we are fighting from the spiritual front with prayer and fasting for God's mercy.

Many Liberians are seeing the need to turn to God as Ebola threatens the very fabric of our existence. We covet your prayers.

We want you to know that you have started a great revival here by merely disclosing an easy, yet realistic, plan to train and deploy Liberians to every corner of our country.

We can't sleep at night knowing that this is the answer to prayers—prayed over the years—that we might bring the Gospel to our whole nation, and take it to our neighboring nations as well.

We are so clear about the plan and we can't sleep at night thinking of all the very real and achievable results!

Praise God! We are THRILLED at what God is doing in Liberia. When I went to Liberia last month, I went to look for seven factors we need for our ministry model to work:
1) church planters, 2) teachers, 3) meeting places where we can train them, 4) adequate curriculum for training them, 5) a budget for the venture, 6) the man of peace to shepherd the ministry there, and 7) a God-given ripeness in all factors so we can launch the work.



I only look for <u>seven</u> but, in fact, there are always <u>eight</u>! The eighth factor is always "opposition." In West Africa it is Ebola. But the strategy with number 8 is always to *stay the course* by trusting and following the Lord—even at the price of our lives, if necessary.

The Liberian leaders told the people at the conference, "We fully expected Manny to call and cancel. His presence here tells us how deeply he feels about God's plan for Liberia."

Meanwhile, in war-torn Ukraine: While some of our people are in biological and spiritual warfare, others are in literal war with guns and bullets. Our Kyiv coordinator, Ruslan, writes from the battlefield in Ukraine:

In Luhansk region is a brother, Oleg Larkov. A few years ago they organized a church and bought a small building in Bryanka town. They did not have water near the building; they were looking for money to make a hole from which they could draw water.

They asked for money everywhere. Many believe that the presence of water wells in the church is a low priority. They could not find the required amount. In the end, they dug a well on their own and borrowed absolute necessary finances.

This summer it so happened that after fighting (war in the region) the town water supply was destroyed. **There was only one place where you can get water:** *at the church!* Hundreds of people came to the church for water.

For many weeks they were handing out New Testaments, they prayed with people, they prepared some simple food, and God allowed them to organize some Kingdom ministry around the water source. Some people accepted Jesus Christ because they met Christians near the source who told them about Jesus!

(Doesn't this story make you wish you owned that water well? You still can. They did the work themselves, but they obtained the necessary equipment by borrowing money which has to be paid back. This is what we call an "orphan blessing" looking to get "adopted.")

Do you feel the thrill from these different mission fields? I do!

I once had an opportunity to sit in the cockpit of an F-16. I was an auxiliary chaplain at Torrejon Air Force base in Spain. I could only imagine what it might be like to fly in such a powerful machine. But today I can tell you this truth: being in the thick of ministry—with huge events changing the topography of Christianity in places far and near—is like the thrill of flying ... but on *far better wings!* 



<u>Launching our work in the biggest field of all</u>: India, soon to be the biggest, most populous country on earth, is a joy to us! We will be teaching, training, and deploying church planters starting in January of 2015.

I praise God for the calling on Westgate Church in San Jose, a congregation thrilled to join the Lord in the work He is doing in this unique and very needy country. We will be going with one of our graduates, Fernando Dantas. We believe that God will enable us to plant churches among the peoples of Chennai and surrounding areas, both Hindi and Tamil speakers.

What the Cuban government says: Time fails me to tell you of the wonderful open doors in Cuba. The government there has conducted a thorough investigation of who we are, and they have graciously expressed their interest in helping us do things in the best possible way. They will approve our ministry groups coming in! Praise The Lord!

Oh, friend, there is much more to share, but I trust you get a sense of what God is doing. It's huge. He is using you and us. He wants to use us together all the more. We have great opportunities all around us.

There are challenges, sure. Fine. Our God guarantees victory! He has given us the Spirit of 2 Timothy 1:7: power, and love, and self-control!

I'm reminded of a professor I had at Multnomah who also did some farming on the side. One day, as he was watering with a hose, he saw that the chickens had gotten into the vegetable garden. They were scratching to eat the seeds in the ground. He decided to chase them out by turning the water hose toward them. They burst into an explosion of cackling and ran as if fleeing for their lives.

Then the prof noticed his geese nearby and decided to give them a dousing as well. But as the water fell on the geese, they stretched their necks, opened their wings, and began a joyful march toward the source of the water!

The prof asked us: "How do you face your challenges? How do you face your opportunities?"

My word to you today, my friend and partner, is simply this: Spread your wings with us today! Join the joyful march! Give a generous gift to participate in the amazing work that God has prepared for us together. Your contribution will support His courageous servants in the field—and *transform lives by the power of God's love!* 



I hope to hear from you very soon. Thank you! God bless you!

Joyful in the Harvest,

Dr. Manny Fernande

P.S. Spain—Liberia—Ukraine—India—Cuba—My heart is SOARING! How could anyone's not? God is doing an incredible thing through us, as we continue in obedience to His call. Please be as generous as possible right now. You cannot go to all these places—I cannot even go to more than one at a time! But by the Holy Spirit, through the work of our hundreds of committed workers, your love can be felt EVERYWHERE. Thank you again!