



October 1, 2020

Dear Ministry Partner,

Pandemics and fires, and hurricanes, and lawlessness, and more! . . .

But we have hope! Why? Because of Romans 8:37-39:

- ❖ “But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

This is the guarantee of our victory in Jesus!

It hasn't always felt like victory this year. But here in the final trimester of 2020, I don't share the despair of many—the longing for life “as usual.” We've experienced a lot of good this year! We've seen a lot of victories!

Sure, I missed some ministry and teaching trips in various countries. There will be activities to make up and to catch up on. But our discovery of strength-multiplying technology just sheared *decades* off of our task! It feels like our ministry has been granted the *speed of light*!

Think how many people began this year knowing little or nothing of life “online.” Now, they Zoom. They're on Facebook Live. They're connected. They don't give it a second thought.

The proclamation of the Gospel is a huge winner in this! Missions is winning in a major way. We can visit places all over the world in a single day! (I told my wife about a conversation I had with someone a month ago; she gently corrected me as it was only a few days ago! Life is racing by!)

What a privilege to be alive and serving the Lord in these times!

Last Friday I met with leaders in a remote part of South Asia. Each of them was in front of a computer at home. So was I. We mapped out plans for training leaders “virtually”—using the same technology we're already using successfully in other countries—the same technology we were using at that very moment.

I can tell you *there was excitement in the air*! The fact that we weren't physically in the same room wasn't a factor at all.

And you were there too, in spirit. You are a vital member of the team. God is using you to empower and equip workers in the fields. “How will **they** go unless **they** are sent?” You are doing the sending! Thank you!

And I hope, very soon, you'll be able to "travel with us" virtually to meet workers on the other side of the world, to hear their testimonies and their stories.

- ❖ You'll get to *see* their homes . . .
- ❖ *see* the wells you've been helping to dig for them . . .
- ❖ *see* first-hand how they're leading people to Christ . . .
- ❖ and *see* how God is using this "pandemic opportunity" to explode the Gospel in every direction!

In fact, I don't want you to wait for this. *Let's do it right away.*

On Tuesday evening, December 1, we'll host a 2021 ministry launch event with a dinner at the Ridglea Country Club in Fort Worth, Texas. I'd love for you to join us! We'll truly make every effort to put you "front and center" for the program. (We will observe social distancing protocols throughout the in-person program.)

Please consider this invitation prayerfully. We can pick you up at the airport! Or, if you're living in the DFW area, all the more reason to attend!

Our program for the evening will feature Juan Ramon, a world-class master guitarist from Spain, who is also a pastor who has worked with us for 25-plus years , and a gypsy (which, frankly, speaks volumes about his talent on guitar). Juan had his own television show in Spain. . . .

You will also meet, during this event, our wonderful Field Director from Brazil, Roberto Chenk. He is such a blessing! He will share with you the exciting ministry happening right now in the five huge regions of the massive nation of Brazil.

Roberto makes this shocking statement: "Brazilian missions have failed." Initiatives launched from within have fizzled after a brief time. But he is not downhearted. He's excited—because our mere *short-range* goal is to plant **600 churches!** The goal is within reach in the first two years of work there! Our mid-range and long-range goals are, to Roberto, the dreams of a lifetime in ministry for his country.

I don't have enough space in this letter to tell you about all the tremendous details of our dinner program. It will be *rich*. It will be the kind of evening that people afterward remember as a "magical event."

Whether you can join us for dinner or not, I want you to understand how the Holy Spirit inspired it. . . .

I invited a group of friends, people who have supported our ministry for many years, to come together "virtually" and meet our workers in various parts of the world. Our partners agreed; our workers spoke to them—via technology, online, from thousands of miles away—and our friends were "blown away."

It was a moment of REVELATION for our partners.

What I discovered in that encounter is that many of our friends have a heart for one portion of our global ministry . . . they may give to support one part of our worldwide work . . . but they have no idea about what God is doing through our ministry elsewhere around the world!

In that meeting, I witnessed the astonishment of longtime supporters of our ministry who never realized how many wells we've dug in water-starved parts of the world . . . how many hungry people we've fed in the midst of the COVID crisis . . . and how many people have come to faith in other parts of the world. . . .

"We had no idea!" This was the refrain I heard, over and over.

I want you to have an idea, my friend. I want you to have a comprehensive understanding of all that is happening through your prayers and giving.

I remember a dear friend in California who—using online videoconferencing technology—met our Eastern Europe Regional Director in Kyiv, Ukraine.

The Californian had been supporting this work for 20 years! It was an amazing moment!

The fruit-bearing branch got to meet the life-giving root. "Root meets fruit!"

I believe it will be something like this in heaven someday, when you meet the grateful people who came to faith because of the way you chose to serve in the Lord!

There is no joy to compare. . . . Eternity will never be the same, eternity will forever be richer because we came together in the Lord! Only eternity will reveal with wonderful clarity and understanding the great things that were accomplished in the exercise of our faith.

But here and now, getting just a glimpse of what God is doing through us . . . this shows us we are on the right track! Online video technology is a blessing of grace that "lifts the lid" on a glorious future, when we will finally see all the results of having joined the Father at His work!

I read today of plans to place 20,000 low-orbiting satellites so that every corner of the world will have Wi-Fi capabilities, with more than 400 satellites already launched. It seems to be Matthew 24:14 in motion: "This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come."

However you interpret this passage of Scripture, our current reality is that the ability to preach to the whole world *fast* has come fully within reach!

"Come now, and let us reason together, says the Lord," in Isaiah 1:18 NASB. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they will be like wool." Doesn't this heartfelt plea from the God of the Universe echo in your heart toward the world?

He is the one who was reconciling through the Son at the cross, and He continues the ministry of reconciliation through you and me as Christ's ambassadors!

Yes, COVID has made this a unique year. But as you finish approaching the end of this year, you can place a *seal of victory* on it. Use whatever blessings God has bestowed upon you to make an effort in His work around the world. To summarize Psalm 67:

“We are blessed to be a blessing, so that His salvation may be known among the nations.”

I'm asking you today to deploy the blessing of the Lord to be a blessing to the nations—so that His salvation may be known!

Please let me hear from you . . . as part of the chorus of praise and proclamation of the goodness of the Lord . . . for all the world to hear!

Serving Him,



Dr. Manny Fernandez

P.S. A year ago, could I have told you of the year to come? No. You wouldn't have believed me. Yet God has made something *wonderful* out of it all! It's our Romans 8:28 moment! “God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.” *That's you and me!* Please give today. Let's see what God will do . . . in us, and through us!