



June 1, 2019

Dear Ministry Partners,

Warm greetings in the name of the Savior! May you be off and running into a good summer with your loved ones, and may the Lord grant you a sweet summer of family memories!

As I sit down to write to you today, I can't stop thinking about one key word—not a word we usually associate with ministry . . . and not a word that has been associated with religion or faith systems at any time in history. In fact, this is a word that you and I probably never heard when we were kids—yet we hear it all the time today: **DELIVERABLES**.

- A **deliverable** is an object or a service intended to be delivered to a customer.
- A **deliverable** could be a report, a document, a software program, a server upgrade, a plan or campaign, or any other building block of an overall project.
- But the typical **deliverable** doesn't last forever. It does its job, and then it fades away. That report is old news by next month. That campaign is stale by next year.

Here's the remarkable truth that has captured my imagination today: You and I, whether we realize it or not, are all about deliverables—but *deliverables of ETERNAL value!*

The Lord planted this concept in my heart through a completely unexpected channel: a guy named Umesh, from India, who works as a top management consultant for Coca-Cola—and a Hindu!

As a result of his work, Umesh is very familiar with the chairman of Coca-Cola in India. The chairman is a Christian—who came with his wife on a mission trip with us to Cuba. They figured it would be something of a vacation. Well . . . the chairman returned home saying that it had been *the most significant vacation they had experienced in their entire lives!* He couldn't stop talking about it; he was telling everyone at Coca-Cola about what he had witnessed in Cuba.

When Umesh heard this, he was impressed. Then when he learned that I was visiting India, he was eager to get together and talk. *His very first question: "What are your DELIVERABLES?"* So I listed our ministry's "deliverables":

1. We lead many people to Christ.
2. We make disciples.
3. We plant churches.
4. We train pastors on a massive scale and at a highly accelerated rate.

Umesh was delighted. He instantly went into management/-consultant mode. In spite of his Hindu background, he began calculating how we could advance our cause! If he were in charge of World Link Ministries, he said, he would do exactly what he recommends for Coca-Cola. First, assemble a huge sales force. *I can't help but think there are many people who would want to be involved in producing deliverables like these!*, he said.

Praise the Lord! He didn't know the Savior, yet Umesh could recognize a terrific ROI—a great return on investment—when he saw one!



Then I began sharing how he himself could experience **the greatest deliverable of all: salvation**. He said he was eager to receive Jesus—but he had one hang-up: *Why aren't Christians willing to let me add Jesus to the many gods I already have in my life?*

In those next few moments, I was grateful for the many apologetics courses I've taught. I explained to him that Jesus is the One—He makes the exclusive claim. There can only be One infinite God. If there were even two, then both would be finite.

Very sharp students at the India Institute of Technology had stumbled over this same truth. “Why can't there be at least three?,” they asked. Answer: Because if there are more than one, each of them must be “defined.” Therefore, they could not be *infinite*. The Bible teaches that there is only One God—who manifests Himself in three persons. He is the Triune God. This foundational teaching is how we come to understand the undeniable existence of God.

Umesh had spent his entire life as a Hindu. He had only ever heard of multiple finite gods. So he needed time to think about this to digest it. I haven't been able to see him since, but I'm believing that He will come to know the Lord. Pray for Umesh!

What Umesh had no problem seeing in a heartbeat was this: If someone values our deliverables, our ministry offers a wonderful opportunity for fabulous return on investment! In the U.S., Umesh assured me, there must be “tons of people” who need to be made aware of this opportunity so they can be part of it!

YOU, my friend, are already there! You are witnessing, month after month, the amazing, ongoing, growing productivity of your eternal investment. You have decided that spiritual fruit is important—that you will live in obedience to the One who calls us—and this decision on your part is adding up to eternal gains . . . *deliverables of eternal value!*

Just look at what God is *delivering* through your faithful prayer support and generous giving:

- ☐ This month we celebrated the graduation of students in Madrid who have invested four years of their lives to be trained and equipped for ministry. They have been preaching the Word, sharing the Gospel, and leading people to the Lord—all while pursuing their studies!
- ☐ One graduate, Aurora, is already actively involved in leading girls out of prostitution in the streets of downtown Madrid.
- ☐ Another graduate has been active in ministry in Spain and is now entering a career in ministry in Brazil.
- ☐ Another has already established a ministry to orphans in Senegal and is getting ready to enter that work full-time.
- ☐ Within the next two weeks, we'll launch back-to-back evangelistic trips to Cuba. The first will involve churches in the Dallas – Fort Worth area, the second with two churches from San Jose.
- ☐ In July, we're planning a campaign in the greater Madrid area. We're already seeing exciting momentum for this outreach! Johnson Ferry Baptist Church in Atlanta will be involved.
- ☐ In September we'll mount campaigns in the Barcelona area and the Canary Islands. We'll be teaching during the summer in Brazil.



World Link Ministries



- And we'll be teaching in India again as well.

And more! This list is by no means complete! But please don't think of this as simply a "busy summer" message. My hope and prayer is that you will behold with the eyes of faith *a treasure chest of eternal deliverables* . . . deliverables produced through your prayers and your gifts, because you have ownership of this ministry with me!

Through you, by God's grace, lives are changing. Lives are being transformed. I saw it firsthand yet again, as I taught a group in the Canary Islands on the first weekend of our most recent visit.

This was not a typical "church" group. These were men who had come to Christ through the ministry of a rehab center. They had been "down and out." Each one bore marks of a hard life, a life of struggle, that they were living just months earlier! Yet these men were diligent in their note-taking. They were eager to learn!

I confess, there was a time in my life when I would have written off these fellows . . . assuming they couldn't avoid caving in and winding up back on the streets. But over the years, God has shown me otherwise. He's shown me just how big and powerful and loving He is. He's shown me His *deliverables*. . . .

- I think of Guillermo in North Africa. His girlfriend died of an overdose and that convinced him he was caught in a death trap. He went into a rehab center and received the Lord. At church, he met a woman and fell in love. They married and came to us for help in preparing for a life of ministry. Today they have a wonderful multi-front ministry—and three beautiful children.
- There was Jose Luis, living on the streets. God brought him to us. Today he's a pastor in the Spanish city of Ciudad Real. His wife Refkah, from Morocco, is also a graduate. They have two lovely kids who are learning the ways of the Lord.

The list goes on. The Lord is at work every day, redeeming souls and lives. Now when I see rough characters, I think of people like Guillermo and Jose Luis and Refkah, people serving the Lord who saved us . . . the Lord who saved *them* just as sure as He saved *you and me!*

God doesn't see the limitations that you and I see. He sees *deliverables!* Look at what He is doing in the Canary Islands. We have nearly 100 students in Gran Canary alone. This is the most responsive mission field in the entire territory of Spain. We dream of opening up a full-time seminary extension in the Canaries. If we can do it, I believe the Lord will unleash a revival there until the coming of Christ!

These are the incredible deliverables that your investments in ministry are producing. Not just deliverables for a month or a year, but for *eternity*. Even today we are reaping the results of our very first efforts in the Canaries back in 2001. . . .

- Bruno and Lydia, the couple heading our efforts there, graduated from our Canary Islands extension, then came to Madrid and graduated from there as well. As a result of that education made possible through your generosity, Bruno and Lydia have planted three churches personally—and another 40 by leading others to plant churches as well!



God multiplies your giving, and that's what makes our *deliverables* happen: leading many to Christ, making disciples, planting churches, and training pastors on a massive scale, at a highly accelerated rate!

Does it seem I'm in high spirits? I am. Our whole team is. Why? Not only because of the many wonderful victories God has given us as we serve Him together . . . but also because of what we see coming as we remain faithful to His calling.

Today, "I beseech you by the mercies of God" to stand faithful. This is truly your ministry. Not mine alone. Ours together.

"What then is Apollos? And what is Paul?" 1 Corinthians 3:5 asks. "They are servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each his role. I planted the seed and Apollos watered it, but God made it grow. So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who makes it grow."

Maybe you don't feel your contribution to the ministry is very significant. But let me assure you, God has given each of us a distinct part to play, and He blesses on the basis of our obedience. I can't help but think of the great old song, "Little Is Much When God Is In It," sung by the Gaither Vocal Band years ago . . . *Does the place you're called to labor / Seem so small and little known? / It is great if God is in it, / And He'll not forget His own.*

So I thank you from my heart for your partnership. In the Lord, your role is BIG, no matter what you perceive it to be! The fact is, none of us is anything without Him. The things we do "as unto Him" turn out to be HUGE in His hands—just like those ordinary loaves and unremarkable fishes!

Please pray. Please give. Thank you for agreeing with me about the value of our God-given deliverables. Thank you for your generous gift today. I know God will bless you!

Gratefully in Christ,

Dr. Manny Fernandez

P.S. As I write these words, we are closing in on the "battle phase" of our ministry year. We need your fervent prayer support, and we need steady supply lines. Both of these are absolutely necessary—which is why both are prescribed by God. Spiritual warfare is real. And financial pressures are real too. Please let me hear from you quickly. Thank you again!