



As the summer prepares to give us its last (and perhaps best),
I pray this prayer for you, my dear friend;

*May you have a **clear perspective** of the greatness of the
love of the Lord, which casts out **any fear**; may the
blessed hope that is ours lift you up as on **eagle's wings**!*

August 1, 2019

Dear Ministry Partners,

August is here and summer is still on....and so is the Soul Harvest!!!

I hope you're having a wonderful summer. I have too! I've been to **CUBA** twice in recent days . . . long hours, hard work—but joy. Let me give you one brief glimpse:

On my second trip, at the end of a long day, a husband and wife approached me at a church where we had just completed our ministry program.

Do you remember a 12-year-old boy many years ago in Havana? the man asked me.

"The boy came into the church crying hysterically because he had just received news that his father had died moments before," he continued

You prayed for that boy, the man said, *and he calmed down.*

"Of course I remember!" I replied. I remembered the moment very clearly.

The man's face was radiant.

"I am that boy!" he announced. "I am now a pastor, and I planted the church I am pastoring as a member of the World Link team for the last two years."

I could have jumped for joy. We hugged—a deep, heartfelt embrace. What a happy, explosive end to a very long day!

The man introduced me to his wife—she was beaming, watching our joyful encounter. Looking at the two of them, shining with happiness, I couldn't help but think about so many people I've met over the years who came to us as "youngsters" . . . acquired the tools of ministry (with the help of generous friends like you) . . . and since then have "come of age," *bearing much fruit!*



My mind reeled back to years ago in Havana. Yes, I was there—but so were you, in spirit. Brothers and sisters like you who are still now serving the Lord after so many years have made this ministry what it is, by the grace and power of God.

Again and again, during my summertime work in Cuba, I experienced rich moments of affirmation—not just for me, but for all of us who are partnering in the work of God through World Link . . . not just in Cuba, not just this summer, but on every outreach, in every context, in every nation where God has led us to do His harvest work!

A summer like this makes me love Hebrews 6:10 all the more:

“God is not unjust so as to forget your work
and the love which you have shown toward His name,
in having ministered
and in *still ministering*
to the saints.”

Now let me lead you on a little journey . . . back to the springtime of this year.

Can you remember what you imagined this past spring that your summer would entail?

I can remember at the beginning of the summer, I predicted that we would be busy in the soul harvest all summer long.

I was right! - as it happens every summer! It has been *busy*, and it is still busy.

One example: After my trip to Cuba, I quickly packed again and went to a campaign in **SPAIN**, in the city of Alcalá near Madrid. I was delighted that 12 believers from Atlanta were with us, and we were hoping to address multitudes in a number of ministry settings.

WOW! Whatever I hoped for, was short, as the outreach went beyond anything any of us had wished for, or dreamed of! (We still serve the God of Ephesians 3:20—“unto him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us”!)

We attracted crowds however we could—starting with “strength-multiplying” loudspeakers blasting good ole’ country music! In every town square the first thing we did was crank up “Cotton-Eyed Joe” or “My AchyBreaky Heart,” and the crowds swarmed!

We also brought in rocket launchers for kids, balloons for the youngest customers, face painters, bracelet makers, and many other attractions. People came out in waves!



But at the heart of it all—to our great delight—many Spanish students and “disciples” were all part of this scene with one bold purpose: sharing the Gospel. There was a clear intention to engage the people there, making sure that they heard the Gospel.

We had a team of 65 people! It was amazing! Europe was enduring a record-shattering heat wave, so our days were hot and long. Once the music started, however, people forgot the heat and began to enjoy the festival.

I have to tell you about the line dancers. We didn’t know how this would go over this time. Teams from the visiting American church—Christian moms, dads, and kids—joined together to launch some strictly “nonprofessional” line dancing, inviting the locals to try it.

The Spaniards loved it! They jumped in!

And before it was all over, we had preached the Gospel. Our team members connected with individuals in the crowd—and **230 people prayed to receive the Lord.**

THIS IS WHAT **YOU** DID EVEN WHILE YOU WERE ON YOUR SUMMER VACATION! YOUR PRAYERS AND YOUR HELP ACCOMPLISHED THIS!!!

I am still elated over the whole experience. I know this was not about me. It was not about some “program” or “project.” *God used the students that you helped to train through your generous giving to mount and manage and implement this entire campaign.*

The campaign week flew by, but the results will be with us forever. They’re *eternal!*

As I was flying away from Madrid, I thought back to how the Spain campaign began. We started on our first Sunday, at the church of a graduate I introduced to you some time ago: Naci, a “wandering Aramean” who fled his homeland when it was overrun by militant Muslims.

Naci heard the Gospel being preached in a square in downtown Madrid where some of our students preach every week, and he was beautifully converted. This week we went to Naci’s church. In keeping with the culture, he asked the visitor from America (me) to preach. God used that cultural quirk. When I gave the invitation, there were more than 20 decisions for Christ—a great start for our week of evangelistic ministry!

After these six weeks of ministry journeys, I’ll be home for six days, then I’m off to teach in southern and northwestern **BRAZIL** for two weeks. The goal: to train and deploy Brazilians to fan the flames of planting **600 churches!**



According to Brazilian missiologists, even if all we ever did was to plant 600 churches, it would be “the greatest achievement in missions in Brazil.” Please pray with me that it will happen! I believe if we can reach this goal, the accomplishment will send shock waves throughout Brazil, inspiring hundreds of other churches to launch church-planting ministries of their own! Pray that this will happen too!

Pray with me for INDIA as well. As I write, our teams there are waiting for the rainy season to end so they can resume well digging in earnest. While they wait, they’re conducting discipleship and baptisms all across the nation!

(It ministers deeply to me to see that, of all the pictures they could send, the photos they send time and time again are pictures of baptisms! They know the priority of making disciples. We are so blessed to have them as our partners.)

And yes, I must circle back around to CUBA. Pray for Cuba too. Many friends have asked what’s happening there with the shifting economy. I’m in constant touch with our teams. At this moment, our workers are gathering in the east, in the city of Bayamo. One of our professors from Madrid is teaching about 250 of our workers for a week. He will then move to the center of the island and teach another 250 workers there. *Economic times may be tough, but the work goes on!*

There has been a mighty harvest for Cuban souls for a very long time. God continues to work and is intricately involved in all the details. It’s a wonderful feeling to be in the thick of it . . . to be shoulder-to-shoulder with the people, working hard with those who are working hard.

It reminds me of a special moment in Asia in a training session. The pastor in charge said to the church planters:

“There is no pretense in here behind these walls. If any one of you should choose to expose us and send us to jail, there is no defense, no denial left to us. You could do it. If you want our brother never to come back and teach again, you certainly have the opportunity to see to it. But you need to know that God is here with us too. He knows who you are. If on the other hand, you are with us, you are also with God!”

In that moment, I felt as if I were their flesh and blood. This is how it feels to be brothers and sisters in Christ. We are in each other’s hands, as we share in the harvest work!

Today I ask you to give as generously as possible, joining the Lord in His circle of friends, as 1 John 1:3 declares: “What we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, so that



you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ. These things we write so that our joy may be made complete.”

May the Lord assign you a great role in His drama of redemption!

Gratefully in Christ,

Dr. Manny Fernandez

P.S. Summer, there can be renewal and there can be redemption and there is plenty of time for both! It's harvest time every single day! Please stand with us in the work of God. We need you! Thank you in advance! God bless you!