

May 1,2019

Dear Ministry Partners,

Spring! Warm greetings at the beginning of this season of new life! I pray you'll be in step with the Lord as the year races on—fully engaged in the Father's business!

Spring isn't just a season, however—it's also an action verb! And it's a perfect description of our ministry together. We are springing into action, as if all our previous endeavors—as blessed and fruitful as they've been—have only been winding up the mainspring of God's plans for us . . . and now, we're being released—flung—into a whole new dimension of ministry!

Look at what God has done JUST IN THE LAST 30 DAYS—since I last wrote you!. . .

- ➤ I taught in Gerona, on Spain's border with France.
- Our teams mapped out a major evangelistic campaign for Spain scheduled for early July.
- ➤ I taught in Madrid at our seminary.
- ➤ I taught in the Canary Islands, off the coast of North Africa. In Gran Canary, I taught homiletics in our extension center—which now has 85 students and growing!
- In Tenerife, the largest of the Canary Islands, I taught "apologetics"—basically, how to make the case for Christianity—and the Holy Spirit swept in with a tidal wave of excitement and enthusiasm over the entire church!
- ➤ I witnessed firsthand the phenomenal growth—and awesome *spring boarding* momentum— of an evangelistic movement among the youth of Madrid . . . *led by our seminary students!*
- We launched preparations for our June evangelistic campaign in Cuba.
- I traveled to the Carolinas and Georgia to launch ministry partnerships which will take church-planting teams into Asia, Brazil, and Colombia.
- And now as I write these words, Matthew and Sarah are at the airport, returning from teaching for two weeks in the Far East . . . the wonderful realization of a lifelong dream of serving the Lord!

I have to stop! This list could go on! These are only a few notes from the last four weeks. I can feel my heart pounding with excitement as I list them! (And I must pause to thank God for Glenda—a wonderful partner in the whole of the ministry. She keeps our lives running smoothly, as each member of our family is serving the Lord in various ministries.)

Try to get a handle on this incredible move of God in and through our ministry together, and you have to ask: *WHAT IS GOD DOING? WHAT'S NEXT?* And of course, *HOW CAN I GET ON BOARD???*

Honestly, I can't think of a time in ministry, in all these 30 plus years, that there has been this much enthusiasm, this much energy, in our movement!

And here's what I truly love about this moment: IT IS <u>US</u>. This is not "Oh, Manny is busy." This is, "God has just CATAPULTED us supernaturally into a WHOLE NEW THING!"

You and I are vital partners in a mosaic of blessings. There was a day when you chose to partner with us.



Since that day, your faithful support and prayers have been used by our Lord to reach out to *countless multitudes* in *multiple mission fields!*

And I do not use the term *multiple* lightly. . . . We are looking at <u>six sites</u> for setting up training centers in India. How could it happen?

In Georgia earlier this month, our ministry partners graciously agreed to sponsor the gathering and housing and feeding of our students in India.
In South Carolina, a new ministry partner—a vibrant church—has asked us to add a seventh site. According to field reports, teaching the Bible and teaching the doctrines of the faith are both sorely needed in this area at
the geographic "tail end" of our six other sites.

But the church in South Carolina isn't satisfied with India. They also have a vision for Brazil, in the Amazon basin. . . .

When they found out that our South American teams will be traveling through Bogota, the capital of Colombia, and then to the Colombian Amazon region capital of Leticia, they could hardly believe it! The people of this church have prayed for years for an opportunity to plant churches in Colombia! (This is an extremely needy, extremely troubled country, but one which gets hardly any coverage in our U.S. news media.)

Could you please see your way clear to helping us plant churches in Colombia, they asked, on your way to the Amazon basin in Brazil?

"On our way"! Just "in passing"? Like it's EASY? Amazing audacity! The daring, the impudence of divine inspiration! HOW BEAUTIFUL! This is what happens when God gets hold of people with His plan!

When I heard this request from the passionate believers of South Carolina, my mind flew back to a recent meeting with our own ministry's board of directors. We felt that the Lord was leading us into five new countries in the next year, but we didn't know how He would orchestrate this astonishing advance.

Today, clearly, the Lord's master plan is continuing to unfold!

I hardly know where to turn my attention next. But I look ahead to what God is doing:

- 1. Our teams in Spain are thrilled, as summer draws near. In Madrid, we are gathering a head of steam. There's chatter on the streets as our July campaign approaches! *What will God do?*
- 2. Committed believers from Johnson Ferry Baptist Church in Georgia are coming to lead a "Festival of the Gospel."
- 3. GOSPEL ALIVE, a group of 110 young people led by our students, will join the outreach.
- 4. Unai, a graduate of our seminary, will bring his new ministry group to join with us and with other graduates now pastoring churches in the area.

I know that "numbers" aren't important, but *I can't remember when we've had so many people advancing* for the cause of the Gospel in a single summer. The point is not the number of people working with us . . . the point is the potential for **thousands of people coming to Christ!**



WHAT'S NEXT? We can only wonder what God has in store! . . .

Two of our current students, brothers from northeastern Spain, got involved with our new ministry organization, Gospel Alive, some time ago. They realized that they could use the very same approach to launch an evangelistic campaign in their home city of Gerona. They started making plans. Word got out. Joshua (the elder brother) was astonished to find people "coming out of the woodwork" to join him in this effort!

But he felt a certain concern. These young evangelists will encounter a great number of Muslims in the streets of Gerona—since this region of Spain has taken in large masses of immigrants from the Middle East and North Africa.

Was God worried? No. God had been planning ahead! Another of our graduates, now leading a ministry to Muslims across the North African nation of Morocco, learned about their need for Arabic-language Gospel literature—and offered to give them all the literature they need! (Meanwhile, our Madrid youth group is excited to have Joshua back in town for the summer; they're enthusiastically supporting him in the campaign.)

God keeps moving ahead of us. . . . The only question is "Can we keep up with Him?"

We're thrilled to begin the summer with another campaign in Cuba—plus teaching in our extension centers in Bayamo in the east and in the central province of Villa Clara.

These events will be *extra awesome* because they involve so many new people. This could be the beginning of terrific growth for our overall team, as people "test the waters" and decide to join in our many ministry activities. *This single June campaign in Cuba has the potential to <u>double</u> our impact in that country!*

Let me tell you why I'm pouring my heart out to you this way. . . .

Please, please, know that we can only <u>dare</u> to do these things—we can only venture out and follow God's leading in these ways—thanks to <u>your integral *ownership*</u> of this ministry. It is <u>yours</u>. God has made it so. And you have affirmed Him in it. I am simply blessed to be in the company of partners like you—you, someone who has come to understand and <u>embrace</u> the plans and the purpose of God for us together in the far-flung corners of the earth!

Honestly, I can imagine many of our friends hearing about our jam-packed agenda for the coming season and sort of shrugging their shoulders and saying, "Well, Manny's going to be busy this summer"—and then moving on to "business as usual." But the truth is, **you and I, as partners, have a full plate this summer**. This isn't my ministry. It's ours. Together. I need you.

Somehow, God, in His infinite wisdom, gave you and me the privilege of joining His evangelistic force for the summer of 2019!

I can't help but believe that we are exactly where God wants us. He has been preparing us, positioning us, for this day, from the very day He raised up our ministry. From day one our mission statement has read:

World Link exists to serve as an "evangelistic force" by equipping, and mobilizing teams of local evangelists and church planters who are effective in establishing, sustaining, and reproducing, the Body of Christ in those parts of the world where the need for new churches is the greatest.



Yes! This summer is *exactly IT!* Our program is God-given, and it is amazingly fruitful. Eternity will be the richer and the sweeter for our pursuits—because He gave us our marching orders, and we are responding!

Which is why I come to you today and ask once again for your most generous possible participation. The summer months are before us. I affirm your summer plans! Summer is a lovely season of "putting life on hold," and giving attention to rest and relaxation. I hope you have the most wonderful summer ever, a season of rejuvenation, of body and spirit!

Yet at the same time, I warmly invite you to "seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness." My commitment to you, as you give generously today, is that we will keep at it—we will faithfully pursue the Soul Harvest—throughout the summer months.

But as you well know, summer is also the season when vacations and other lovely opportunities draw people's attention away from God's work, and <u>giving declines</u>. So I pray the Lord will lay this work on your heart in a special way and inspire you to undergird our efforts!

Your generosity today, and throughout the summer months, will mean <u>people coming to know the Savior</u>. This goal makes any summer sacrifice worthwhile. Please let me hear from you quickly. We're finishing the school year and our fiscal year, and summer is coming. A season of promise in the work of the Lord! Thank you in advance for giving generously today!

Rejoicing in the harvest,

Dr. Manny Fernande

P.S. <u>Summer is Soul-Harvest Season!</u> The months just ahead are the months of greatest evangelistic potential . . . so they <u>must</u> be the months of greatest evangelistic <u>activity</u>. Please help us <u>spring</u> into <u>summer</u> by giving as generously as you can today. Thank you again!