

Progress Report

First Quarter 2008

Going back to where it all started

A first hand report on November's trip to Southeast Asia and seeing the fruit that has been produced by this ministry in twenty-one years

By Jon Nelms

What a trip! I was excited to return to Thailand again. In our early years most of my time was spent there, enough that I had picked up the language sufficiently to travel throughout the country alone. I was always pleased when someone would ask me if I had been born in Thailand. That confirmed to me that I had at least partially mastered the accent and tones so peculiar to Southeast Asian languages. Over the years I have spent very little time there as we have been advancing our ministry into 73 other countries. Now I barely speak a word of Thai so I was happy that our National Director, Kiatisak Siripanadorn could be with me the entire time.

Also travelling with me was Missionary/Evangelist Mike Robinette, our newest representative and our newly appointed Director of Indian Expansion. I felt it would be a good opportunity for him to see where it all began and gain an increased burden for this region as well. Mike is a specialist when it come to evangelism. While representing us in churches, he also offers seminars on soul winning, teaching how to witness to a Muslim, a Hindu, a Buddhist, a Jehovah's Witness, etc. Afterwards he makes appointments with church members to go soul winning with them, mentoring them in their first efforts. I felt this was a good time for him to be immersed in a Buddhist society and put his training to good use.

Mike really fit in well with the people and they fell in love with him. He was eager to try out everything so



Ministry Information

The *Progress Report* is a free, bi-monthly publication of the FINAL FRONTIERS FOUNDATION INC., whose purpose is to effectively take the Gospel to the more than three billion souls, who have never before heard. Currently we are ministering in seventy-three nations. Many of these countries are closed to foreign missionaries, and in others, work among the various tribal groups is restricted to national preachers only, thus they are open to us because of our unique method of missions.

We believe that the training and subsidizing of national preachers is the most efficient and effective method of global evangelism. Thus we seek to raise prayer and financial support from believers in the West, for God's servants abroad, who are actively involved in church planting and discipleship.

Selection of those we sponsor is dependent upon their doctrinal beliefs, need and reputation. We support only those who are serving by faith, never those who are waiting for a salary in order to serve. Worldwide, the average preacher in a third-world country needs as little as \$35.00 - \$350.00 each month to support his family and ministry.

All those subsidized through this foundation are involved in church planting. Their various outreach ministries include: Bible translation and distribution, radio and television broadcasting, camps, Bible schools, outdoor and film evangelism, educational and health programs, handicap and leper ministries, orphan and children's ministries, etc.

Current ministries available for support are:

- Sponsorship of a national or native preacher (\$35.00 monthly)
- Sponsorship of a *TEAM* of preachers in a given country (\$10.00 minimum per month, per *TEAM*)
- Sponsorship of a destitute child with our *Touch a Life* subsidiary (\$35.00 monthly)
- Sponsorship of the Final Frontiers Society, Bible distribution program (\$10.00 monthly)
- Sponsorship of our Bags of Hope program (\$20 monthly) which distributes food, etc. to widows, orphans and persecuted peoples, primarily in the Islamic Middle East

Executive Board of Directors:

FINAL FRONTIERS, a non-profit, religious corporation, was founded by Jon Nelms in 1987, and is governed by those serving on the Executive Board of Directors: Rev. Jon Nelms (Chairman), Rev. Gene Carpenter (Vice President), and Dr. Ron Charles (Secretary/Treasurer), Mr. Charles Turner, Rev. Steve Ware and Mr. Kevin Carden. Further council is provided by those serving on the Board of Advisors. Contributions and gifts to this ministry are tax deductible and are applied to the ministry's evangelistic outreach. FINAL FRONTIERS is classified as a 509 (a)(1) public foundation, under section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Annual copies of the ministry's 990 form are available upon request by contacting the home office.

International Offices:

International offices are maintained in every country of service for accountability purposes, and are staffed by national and regional coordinators who are approved by the Executive Board of Directors. Administrative Branch Offices are located in Honduras.

Contact Information:

For further information concerning this ministry and its various programs, please call or write to the home office:

Final Frontiers Foundation
1200 Peachtree St.
Louisville, GA 30434 USA

Telephone: 706-955-4916
FAX: 706-955-4908
Toll Free: 800-522-4324
Email: webmaster@finalfrontiers.org

Where we serve

The 74 countries where we serve as of September 2007

Africa:

Kenya ***
Uganda
South Africa
Nigeria
Togo
Ivory Coast
Ghana ***
Liberia
Burkina Faso
Morocco
Sudan
Tanzania
Rwanda
Egypt
Libya
Burundi
Congo

Middle East:

Syria
Iran
Iraq *
Yemen *
Turkey

Europe:

France
Romania
Albania
Latvia
Lithuania
Hungary
Switzerland
Poland
Bosnia
Macedonia

East Asia:

India ***
Myanmar
Thailand
Laos
Cambodia
Vietnam
China
Philippines
Nepal
Indonesia

Americas:

Mexico
Cuba
Guatemala
El Salvador
Honduras ***
Nicaragua
Costa Rica
Peru
Chile
Columbia
Ecuador
Venezuela
Brazil
Argentina
St. Vincent
St. Lucia
Grenada
Haiti *
Jamaica
Dominican Rep.

Eurasia:

Georgia
Belarus
Siberia
Ukraine
Russia

Central Asia:

Kazakhstan **
Kyrgyzstan **
Azerbaijan **
Turkmenistan **
Uzbekistan **

Pacifica:

Fiji
Solomon Islands

- * *TEAM or limited support only*
** *countries where support is temporarily suspended*
*** *receives Touch A Life support also*

Front Page Photograph

Mike Robinette prepares to eat a delicious meal prepared for us by the ladies of an Akha tribal church. In the foreground is a bowl of fried bamboo worms. Though the thought of such is repulsive to us, they are really quite good. A word to the wise though, don't eat the silk worms, they are horrible!

Actually Mike wasn't hesitating about the worms, he had eaten some the day before. He was just looking at that spread they laid out before us. It was our joy that day to feed over fifty people. Always remember when you go to the mission field, pay your own way and theirs, don't make them have to pick up the bill for you. You would be surprised how many people do that on their missions trips.

And remember too, every society has foods that others detest. The French eat snails, the British eat blood pudding and Yankees eat cream of wheat when we all know that grits are much better.

The Jon Nelms report

This is the time of year that I really look forward to; the time when we can examine, not only the past year but also the compilation of all our 21 years of service to God's servants. By doing this we can take our "temperature" so to speak, to see where we have been and where we are going.



Jon Nelms

Nothing pleases me more than to consider that after 21 years, in spite of the hundreds of thousands of Bibles smuggled and/or distributed, children supported, camels delivered, buildings built, radio broadcasts, television broadcasts, crusades, etc., the main thrust of Final Frontiers remains that of supporting national church planters. Men who may be designated with the titles of pastor, preacher, evangelist, national missionary, teacher, etc., but who have several key factors in common: they are all doctrinally sound, morally pure, have a verifiable record in and are consistently involved in starting new churches and training men for the ministry and are tied into a local accountability group.

We have been privileged to support men in 74 counties over the years and look forward to expanding this year into Pakistan, the Dominican Republic and moving back into Zimbabwe. Additionally, we will expand our Touch a Life program into Thailand, Cambodia and Ghana. If God grants the wisdom to do so, we will begin to have spot advertising on Christian radio stations nationwide. In this way we can get the word out about who we are, what we do and how we do it and hopefully, attract more supporters so that we can do even more in the years to come.

This is also a time to clean house a bit. In the past few weeks we have redirected sponsor support from 28 men who we felt were no longer in need or who had become disqualified for support under our program. We had to contact their sponsors to explain the situation and ask that they transfer their support to other men in need and deserving. I hated having to contact sponsors to tell them that the man they had faithfully supported was now deemed to be unqualified; but I was surprised and elated to hear the words of appreciation from sponsors because we were "staying on top" of the situation and had the integrity to tell them the truth rather than sweep it under the carpet. So far, all but one sponsor has continued their support and that one failed to do so only because of financial difficulties (even so, they continued support of the two other preachers they sponsor who remain qualified.)

More and more I am realizing that this is not "my" ministry. It is the ministry of us all who share the same burden of reaching the world through the support of national church planters. It is their joy to do the work; yours to support them, and ours to find them, qualify them and hold them accountable to you. Together we are all working for a common cause. It reminds me of Ecclesiastes 4:12 which says "a threefold cord is not quickly broken."

Now take a moment and reflect on the charts. The top one has to do with our reported statistics for the past year only and

the bottom for our combined reported statistics since we began 21 years ago. Of course, these are not complete, as many of the reports never reach us plus the fact that over 15% of our preachers are in countries where reporting is impossible due to political hindrances; nevertheless, they are quite impressive!

Over the years I have been asked why we report such numbers and have sometimes been accused of dishonesty because they are so incredible. Well, we report them because when we started 21 years ago, the concept of supporting national preachers was unheard of and the quality of their work was questioned. The only way I knew to resolve that issue was to publish their results. As far as the accusation of dishonesty is concerned, all I can say is we have archived every report, letter and photo ever sent to us, so if you want to take the time to come down and count for yourself - in the immortal words of Bob Barker, "come on down". Really

Statistics for 2007

	saved	baptized	villages evangelized	churches started
Total	65,084	27,299	8,106	1,986
Mthly Average	5424	2,275	676	166
Daily Average	178	75	22	5
Equals	one every 8 minutes	one every 19 minutes	one every 65 minutes	one every 5 hours

Statistics for January 1987 thru 2007 (from our beginning to the present)

	saved	baptized	villages evangelized	churches started
Total	874,849	307,166	105,854	28,781
Mthly Average	3,471	1,219	420	115
Daily Average	114	40	14	4
Equals	one every 13 minutes	one every 36 minutes	one every 1 hour 43 min.	one every 6 hours

though, pastors are, or were accustomed to only the reports of foreign (American) missionaries. Obviously someone who is native, speaks the language, knows the culture, etc. should be far more productive than his foreign counterpart. Besides, keep in mind we (or you really) only support "church planters". That is what they do, so why should they not be so successful. And the foreign missionary, well many if not most are not even church planters and some are not allowed by their boards to start churches. Incredible but true and thus the comparative difference. Let's all keep up the good work this year!

Yours for souls,

Preachers in urgent need of sponsorship ...

These men listed below have been faithfully serving the Lord for many years and have benefitted greatly from support. Unfortunately the churches and families that have faithfully partnered with them in ministry are no longer able to do so. We have chosen to highlight these who have long proven themselves, in hope of getting replacement sponsors for them. For more information on sponsoring a national preacher, see page 19 or see our complete list on our website at www.finalfrontiers.org

Preacher's Name: Joseph Kiruku Kimani
Wife's Name: Grace Njeri
No. of Children: 2
Country: Kenya
Sponsorships Needed: 2 @ \$35.00 monthly

Testimony:

I met with a pastor who had preached the Word of God to me from the Book of John. The Holy Spirit convicted me that I was a sinner and I repented that same day and accepted Christ as my personal Savior. I have continued to help my pastor to bring others to know Christ. I knew the Lord wanted to use me in His work.



I have led, personally, 150 people to Christ. Working with groups, I have probably led about 400 more people. I have started, on my own, one church but I have helped start many other churches in our division with other pastors. I do not have a job outside of my ministry other than sometimes I will work in the coffee fields. I am involved in church planting, in showing films, and open-air evangelism. We distribute literature, we disciple new Christians, we are involved in slum ministries; children's ministries and we work with lepers. I have trained three preachers who are working in full-time ministry.

We live in a house that is made of iron sheets and mud. We mostly eat corn flour and beans. Every morning, our family prays together. I care for our cows so that we can have milk. Sometimes I work picking coffee and every day I visit for my church and have men's meetings as well as other activities in the church. Please pray for us as we work here in Kenya and if God leads you to support us, we will greatly appreciate it.

Preacher's Name: Phan Kim Heng
Wife's Name: Kim Soun
No. of Children: 2
Country: Cambodia
Sponsorships Needed: 2 @ \$35.00 monthly

Testimony:

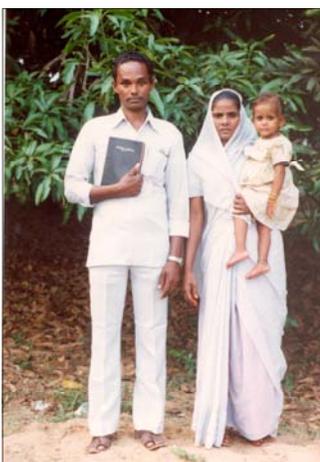
Thank God that He is Lord. Before I was saved from sin by Christ Jesus, I was a wicked man. I would drink alcohol, gamble and did not obey my father, mother and brothers. I was wicked and in sin. In 1992, I believed in Christ Jesus. So I've known that salvation is in Christ Jesus only because He made earth and heaven. Then as my belief grew and grew He called me to work for Him and He gave me knowledge and ability so that I could lead people to believe in Christ Jesus and this led the local church to grow.



My wife was a wicked woman before she accepted Christ. Now she is righteous, loving and kind. She is now a faithful servant of Jesus.

I was never able to go to school so I was trained for the ministry by other pastors. I have now trained a man myself who is serving in the ministry. I have also started my first church. It is in the village of Kos Ream.

My family lives in a bamboo house that has two rooms. Of course we do not have a bathroom or toilet facilities so that is done outside. Our floor is the ground. Our monthly needs are about \$135 but we have no source of income other than the small tithes of our church members. Like us, they are very poor and often do not have sufficient food to eat so there is very little they can give to us. We will be so very grateful for your support.



Preacher's Name: Joseph Kiruku Kimani
Wife's Name: Grace Njeri
No. of Children: 2
Country: Kenya
Sponsorships Needed: 1 @ \$35.00 monthly

I worked for the Indian Federal Government as a mailman. When delivering mail to a village one day, I came upon a meeting in the middle of town. It was a Christian meeting and I was very much attracted by the speeches and messages of the pastor. After the meeting, I took one of the tracts that they were distributing and took it home and read it. I accepted Jesus as my Savior. My father, mother and even my wife objected. I was forcibly sent from my house and my wife went to live with her family.

I continued to witness and took tracts with me to the villages as I delivered mail. Some Hindus reported this to higher postal authorities and I lost my job. Some days later, I was attacked and severely wounded. My wife heard of this and came to attend to me in the hospital, where she too accepted Christ as her Savior.

My trust and faith have grown and since that time, I have dedicated and devoted my life towards Gospel work. Since beginning my work, I have started 3 churches and have personally led 155 souls to Christ.

From the Mail Bag ...

Every trimester, those who support a preacher, TEAM or orphan receive a personal report verifying the receipt of their support and showing how it was used. Here are some samples.



MYANMAR

Last trimester he reported ...

churches started	2
villages evangelized	1
professions of faith	87
converts baptized	67

From: Go Za Kham
Sponsored by: Bible Baptist, Savannah, GA
 First Baptist, St. Francis, MN

I organized two churches, one in Rangoon among the Telugu Indian community. They are 48 members in number. The other one is in the Sagaing Division among the Shan animists. They practice spirit or demon worship and have 8 major demon types to worship. At the same time they also practice black magic and they can kill whom they want to kill or make them sick and the witch doctor can heal again and charge big amounts of money.

Because of this witchcraft the missionaries or evangelists from other churches have never wanted to reach this people. But we went as we preached the Gospel they are interested and eager to know about the living God because they want to get rid of their cultural worship so that they may be free from fear of the evil spirits and fear of each other wondering who will be the next victim. This village has 890 houses and now 61 houses faithfully received the Lord and become completely changed. There are 131 members

in number. The oldest is a lady of 90 years. God did miracles: their shrines on their walls fell down and broke. It really happened and people marveled and marveled. Praise the Lord.



INDIA

Last trimester he reported ...

churches started	1
villages evangelized	3
professions of faith	20
converts baptized	9

From: Aviram Dhal
Sponsored by: Brian Heavner family, MD

It has been four months on my new field in Lucknow. Your support is a blessing—thank you once again for giving so sacrificially.

I have much to tell. The highlight for me in the field where God has placed me is an answer to prayer. The lady in the house where we meet for Bible studies informed me of a 58 year old man named Baldev who is paralyzed and could not speak, eat or drink. This went on for six months. We went to visit the family but he could not even acknowledge us. We worshipped God and I shared the Gospel with his wife. For three weeks my wife and I prayed for his healing. Glory to God, he began to recover. He is now eating and drinking and talking and is completely well.

We are now living away from Mumbai (Bombay) and the comforts that the city has to offer. We trust God for each passing day. Travel is a problem and communication is rare, expensive and not systematic or regular. We

have also learned that door to door witnessing is very dangerous for us. At least 90% of the households here are staunch Hindus and mission work is highly resented. Thank God that He has opened doors for me when they appeared to be closed.



KENYA

Last trimester he reported ...

churches started	3
villages evangelized	3
professions of faith	16
converts baptized	12

From: David Shikhambi Luvai
Sponsored by: Randy Box family, TX

I have great joy to write you. I am sure you and your wife are very fine in the Lord. My wife and myself are fine too. My joy is that even if we are far apart, the Holy Spirit binds us together as workers for our Lord.

The people saved and baptized in the ministry are a blessing. Also those rededicated to the Lord and those disciplined and called to the ministry. We look forward for more blessings when some of us receive a call from the Lord to cross the border of Kenya and take the Gospel to the needy.

You prayed for our recent graduate Edward who married Sarah. He is now a pastor in one of our churches. At their wedding six youth were saved and baptized and joined our church. It was the largest gathering at our church in some time.

We had a baptism for four of our churches and then had our national preachers fellowship and for two days felt revival. The lord touched our hearts as we shared and prayed. We feel well equipped for the ministry.

There are many things happening in our country now, some good and some bad. The government is trying to improve the economy and welfare of the people but the security of the people is in danger in many places. Many people have lost their lives through thuggery. They attack people at night, steal from them then kill them. One member of our church told us how his son played a trick on the men who came to his home to rob him. Normally the attackers throw large stones at the door to break it open. He stood inside his house and watched them without their knowledge and when they hurled the stone, he opened the door and it passed into the house without hitting the door. The thugs did not see anyone in the house so they thought evil spirits were there and caused the stone to pass through the door. (It was so dark they could not see the door well.) One of them screamed: "let us run away quickly, there are evil spirits in that house". Thus the man's life was saved and he gave glory to God for His protection.

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during one of our meals with the Akha tribe, he had a chance to sample what they jokingly call “Akha French Fries”, which is really just fried bamboo worms. You can see by the look on his face that he was eager to get started. I think we all eventually had seconds and thirds as they are delicious!

Also traveling with us was Pastor Mark Glodfelter from Pensacola, FL. I met Mark's family in 1992 at a missions conference in New Hampshire. He and his family were doing deputation to go to England as missionaries. Mark heard our philosophy and really wanted to shift gears and go to work with us. He went home and talked to his pastor about it but since his pastor was ignorant to our ministry philosophy and had never heard of us, he advised Mark against it. Ultimately their family moved to England for a term working under an American missionary there. Mark became disillusioned when he was required to spend his time, not in ministry but in preparing and framing pages of antique Bibles to be sold at high profits to collectors. (All this while the senior missionary was being supported by churches in the USA.) This disappointment caused him and his wife to return to the States where he eventually became a pastor and somehow made contact with us again.

Mark has already led the members of his small congregation to support probably 25 preachers and children through our ministry. Several of his families have already been to Honduras with me to meet the kids they sponsor and now Mark has traveled with me to Thailand. I look forward to having him on many more trips as he is just a riot!

Mike and I landed in Bangkok after a grueling flight of some 23 hours. Mark had arrived before us, so we met him at the Christian Guest House where we had rooms reserved. By the time we arrived, Mark was already pumped up and ready to go. Mike and I did our best to keep up with him for the next two weeks.

After spending several days there and speaking at Kiatisak's church, we left for the north to visit the hill tribes. That is where our ministry started twenty-one years ago and I had hoped to visit them on our 20th anniversary but could not get free.



Above: Pastor Mark Glodfelter and his new friend.

Below: bamboo house with motorcycles next to a wooden house with a tin roof.



Above: Jon stands with Barnabas (left) and Ja Pe (right)

Below: Paul Chirmir



Several things really surprised me as we went from village to village. First, no one seemed to know me. I was last there in November 2001 and at that time I had hair. Being bald now, they just didn't know who I was until they heard my name or that of Final Frontiers.

The second surprise came as I saw the changes in their villages. All I had ever known was primitive hamlets of bamboo houses with no bathroom, no running water, no nothing. Now, though bamboo is still present, you can see a mixture of the ancient with the modern. Motorcycles parked in front of grass houses, bamboo houses with sheet metal roofs, concrete block houses with grass roofs and pvc pipes carrying water to the houses that before were serviced only by buckets. Additionally, many of the tribal villages were half empty as so many of them have moved to the cities looking for work. They are not always fully accepted by the Thai nationals because they are of a different culture and language. If you have spent much time in Asia, you can generally tell what tribe a person is from by their clothing or bone structure. Because of the differences, they usually settle in common areas of a town where they have a culture in common with their neighbors. They will still speak their own language, at least for another generation, but their children are fluent in Thai and learn Thai history, etc. As I say, in another generation, only the most remote areas of the country will still hear their language being spoken. Yet, just a few miles away in Myanmar, Laos and China, the Akha have not been so influenced or integrated in their lands and still maintain the “Akha way”. Already our preachers are traveling and living in those lands to reach their “cousins” with the Good News that they have received.

This evangelist effort has been ongoing since they first heard the Gospel. At first the means were simple but as they learned more scripture and were exposed to evangelistic methods, they became even more effective. In the early days for example, some villages, then as now, converted rather quickly; but there are always those “hard nuts to crack” which required intensified efforts.

One of the first preachers we ever sponsored was called Barnabas. Of course that was not his tribal name but was a nickname he had acquired because of his skill at using the Akha customs, traditions and folklore as a means to introduce the gospel. Whenever they would enter a village that was particularly difficult to evangelize, they would call for Barnabas and like attendants around an operating table, they would watch as Barnabas would come and with a surgeon's skill, cut away the conflict that blinded their spiritual eyes and bring them to the Light of the Gospel.

Another man I was able to see again was Paulu Chirmir (Akha) whom we call Paul. Paul and Barnabas (also Akha) were in the first group of six men that we supported. Two of the six, Jimmy (Rawang) and Javong (Rawang), are now with the Lord. The other two, Boonroat (Lisu) and Ja Pe (Lahu) are still faithful in their church planting efforts.

Paul was a very young man when I first met him, probably about twenty or twenty five (they usually don't know their birth dates). He was the pastor of a church near Zion Hill and was obviously a leader among the younger preachers. When my family and I would stay in the villages, it was usually in Paul's that we found ourselves. He would give us the sleeping platform of his house and have a church member sit up all night to watch us as we slept to make sure no rats or cobras bothered us. (Their rats grow to the size of a small dog.)

I was saddened some years ago when I learned that Paul's wife had died. They had gone in a large group into the jungles to find villages that had not been reached with the Gospel. After several weeks half the group returned home while the other half pressed on to more villages. Paul led the group that continued on while his wife went back to their village. It had been raining and the jungle paths were slippery. On the journey home she lost her footing and fell off the side of a mountain and perished. Paul found out weeks later when he returned home. Their was no wife to greet him at the door, she had already been buried in the Akha way.

We spent several wonderful days with these men, driving from village to village for church services and pastor's meetings. They were always eager to show off their works and let us see all that they had been doing in service to the Lord. It was incredible to see how separated the villages were. When I first started with this group they were all in an area probably twenty miles squared, now they are covering an area hundreds of miles squared. There was so much to see that we didn't even get to stop at most of the villages. There were just too many to see and not enough time to see them. One thing that you did not see among them was any extravagance. They still live in simple homes and walk wherever they go, unless their sponsors have bought them a motor scooter. What took us hours to drive takes them days to walk, but they walk on like John Wesley covering his circuit. Always diligent, always faithful, always fruitful.

Towards the end of our time with them we were asked to participate in the ground breaking of a new church building. This village is located only several miles from the border of Myanmar so the roads are kept in good repair for the use of the military who stand a vigilant watch protecting both the Thai citizens and the refugees who flee into free Thailand from the oppression of the Socialist dictators of Myanmar. (Thailand by the way means, "land of the free".)

At the entrance to the village they have a small church building made of split bamboo walls that have been woven together to support the thatch (grass) roof. But it is falling down now as they last only five to ten years and besides, the congregation is too large to fit inside. We walked to the top of the village (and it almost killed me) where they had cut away a piece of the mounting making it flat enough to build a concrete block structure. The women had come out dressed in their tradition clothes and served us their worms and pork and sweet potatoes and green beans. To be honest, it was delicious and we all ate more than we should have.

This was our time to say goodbye once again to men we have known and love and supported for up to twenty one years. Only God knows how effective they are and how many rewards await them in Heaven, and not just them, but those who have sponsored them and enabled them to do this work that only they can do.

But I had come not just to see my friends but to find several villages where we could start our Touch A Life feeding centers for the Akha and Lahu children. As we visited several potential locations, we were always met with songs and smiles. Most every village we passed could benefit from having a church and feeding center, but I will rely on Kiatisak, our National Director to make the determination of where to begin. Already they are in the process of getting our first applications and hopefully by September, we can open our first Thai center. And once it is open, we will start having a Visionary Trip to Thailand every year for those who want to go and visit their sponsored child or preacher. (Naturally, anyone is welcome to come along.)



Above: some of the Akha preachers we support

Below: Kiatisak stands beside Jon as we all participate in planting the main beam for the new church along with Mike and Mark and Akha pastor, John Pantawit



Above: Mike and Mark take an elephant ride

Below: an Akha child plays in muddy water. Someday he will eat at a Touch A Life Feeding Center



We will also use our work here as a base camp for one semester of our **Missionaries in Training Program**. Students who are missions-minded will stay with the Akha for a month, living in their homes, eating their foods, climbing their mountains and planting churches. While there they will spend several weeks in Bangkok doing city ministry, and then go across the border to Cambodia where they will repeat the process of rural, tribal and urban ministry in a different country, with a different culture and language. During the two month period they will be able to visit Vietnam, Myanmar and Laos as well, meeting and working with our preachers there.

Of course, there is always time for fun. On the way back to Bangkok we stopped by the elephant farm so Mike and Mark could take a ride. When I walked up to the ticket booth

the girl looked at me and said, "your two friends can ride together but you have to ride by yourself". Her friend looked at me and called me a "baby elephant". Though they were serious, it was all in good fun. Actually many years ago the Thai began calling me "chaang" which means elephant. I was much smaller then but would carry six suitcases at a time and that amazed them. Now they call me "chaang" even if I don't have a suitcase!

It was kind of strange for me being there again. The last time I was there was about twenty years ago and Juanita and I had ridden an elephant together behind Daniel and Sara. I must admit the tears of loneliness did begin to well up but I was able to keep it all under control. Sorrow gives way to rejoicing as the rain gives way to sunshine.

When we arrived back in Bangkok Mike and I spent the night and said good bye to Mark. He had not planned to stay as long as we were so that he could get back to his family. The next day we left for Cambodia to visit an old mutual friend, Missionaries Bruce and Margaret McKee and to see the works we support their under the leadership of two of our National Directors, Vek Huong Taing and Say SETHA.

We have been supporting Vek and

his work for probably fifteen years at least. Vek and his wife had a student ministry years ago in Phnom Penh but during the Khmer Rouge devastation of Cambodia, they were both arrested and placed in re-education camps. Several times they escaped and were caught before finally making it to a refugee camp in Thailand. After a short time there they were sponsored to come to the United States where Vek continued to minister to the Cambodian population living in southern California. Over the next several years he started three different churches and then announced that he was returning to Cambodia, in spite of the fact that he had become a US citizen.

This was a particularly surprising announcement when you consider that the war was not yet over. Vek and Samuon returned to Cambodia as church planters and have since started dozens and dozens of new churches. He then started a Bible College where he has trained hundreds of men for the ministry. Never satisfied with what he has done, he started four orphanages and a radio station. Currently he is having more than 800 in attendance each week at his Phnom Penh church. They are building a five story structure now that will have an expanded auditorium, classrooms, and house their overflowing college.

During that day Vek took us to one of his orphanages which is on the same property as the radio station. Currently there are about thirty kids there but they have room to house at least eighty to one hundred. They have their own kitchen and school and the orphans are cute and friendly. Vek has support for the structure but not for the children. I committed that we will support his kids so they are in the process now of getting us the applications. I already have one Cambodian-American who has committed to support two of them. Once all of these are sponsored we will move on to the next orphanage until they are all cared for.

Years ago one of the men he trained went out on his own to the rural areas still controlled by the Khmer Rouge. It was then that Vek contacted me and suggested that we not only support him, but also to make him a national director, in charge of his own group. That man was Setha Say. With Vek's recommendation we did just that in spite of the fact that I had never personally met him. (Though we corresponded frequently by email.) It was a good decision because Setha is a fireball. He and his men, all fourteen of them have already planted numerous churches from the north of Cambodia at the border of Laos to the eastern border with Vietnam.

The day we had set aside for Setha, he met us at our hotel with the look of a child on Christmas morning. We walked out the front door expecting a car or taxi to take us to the prearranged meeting, instead he ushered us into a rickshaw pulled by a small motorcycle. What a blast! Setha sat opposite Mike and me, watching us along the entire way, rarely speaking, just grinning from ear to ear. When we finally pulled up to a residen-



*Above: Vek's orphanage
Below: Setha Say and his preachers*



tial area we entered through what I think was a laundry and climbed to the third or fourth floor. The other men were already there signing as they waited for us.

We had a wonderful time together and got to hear their testimonies as each man took his turn to tell us his life story and ministry experience, then wait to hear if we had any questions. What a blessing to be with such simple, pure and godly men.

Before leaving we were blessed to see our old friends, Bruce and Margaret. We had all met when I was the bus director at Central Baptist Church in Pomona, CA back in the late 1970s. Mike and Bruce and their wives were bus captains and both would go with me to preach in the parks on Sunday afternoons in downtown Los Angeles. Now here we were sitting in a Japanese restaurant in a Cambodian hotel, talking about the good ole days. Only those who serve God get such opportunities.

Though their feeding centers are already funded, I do hope that some day we can help them as well, particular in the garbage dump of Phnom Penh. I am pleased to say however that Bruce gave us some applications of preachers that need support. We were able to meet with these men on several occasions and were as blessed by them as we were by all the others we had met.

Mike and I left Cambodia and returned to Bangkok for several days before flying home. Well, I flew home and Mike went to spend two weeks in Taipei with missionary friends. On Thanksgiving day we shared a meal at a steak house on the seventh floor of a shopping mall in Bangkok. It was great.

I am so glad for the helpers and partners in ministry that God is now sending to us. As you read this report, Ron Charles and Mike will both be with me in India. We will all be there for about three weeks, though we will only be together for several days. There is so much to do that we have to split up to get it done. Pray for us when you think about us.

Leaving Asia is always bittersweet to me. It was my first love and I miss it so much. No matter what we have accomplished, there, there is still more to do. While in Thailand, we went to a village that still has not heard the Gospel. It is a Lisu village as you can tell by the colors and clothing the woman wears. (go



online to see all the photos in color) Pastor Mark took this photo One small village surrounded by mountains. One village still waiting for someone to come and give them Light and Life. Tourists come there to buy there handicrafts but no preacher has been there yet. We have preachers nearby that are conquering one village after another along the path that leads to this village but they have not gotten to this one yet. Pray for

this village and the tens of thousands like it. Help us reach them by supporting one of our preachers.

Missionaries in Training

This is our newest program, designed for young men who are sold out to the Lord and interested in ministry. Ideally it would benefit those who feel the burden to be a missionary but really, any youth will benefit from this training program. Just imagine if in the next generation, every young pastor had spent time on a mission field. How much greater would be the emphasis on missions in our churches!

The two week program will involve personal and practical work as a missionary trainee. Mentoring will be led by Jon Nelms, Ron Charles, Mike Robinette, Gordon Daam and a host of affiliated American missionaries and National Preachers. The student will be taught principles of ministry cooperation with the national churches as well as methods of cultural adaptation and witnessing. Time will be spent in specific instruction as Jesus did with His disciples, day by day. There will also be practical ministry training as the student divides his time between urban and rural settings; living with a pastor's family, eating at their table, sleeping in their bed and serving with them in ministry. While there, he will also help to start a new church.

This course is designed to be the "freshman" course of a program that will take the students in four summers from Honduras, to Thailand, to Africa and then to India. (The Honduras course is only two weeks long; the others are two months.) Imagine the insight and experience as young people live and plant churches on four continents.

To qualify each student must submit an application which can be requested by mail or by phone. The cost of the Honduras Missionaries in Training program, will be \$885 per person for the two week training. Plus international airfare. The date for this session is June 19 to July 3, 2008. Applications must be received by April 15.

Our long range goal is to equip the next generation of missionaries to minister from a Biblical perspective in regards to their relationship with the national churches and church leadership. It is also the beginning step in our goal to form our own **Association of Foreign Missionaries**. This is our way of training and determining which young missionaries we feel would be qualified to work in our ministry as a foreign missionary, helping to teach, plant churches, oversee feeding centers, etc. After completion of the four terms of service as mentioned above, the graduate will spend a half year in advanced training in one of our affiliate colleges around the world and six months in their field of calling, under the tutelage of our National Director. Upon completion, they can then return home for deputation, having diplomas in advanced training and having already served in their own field, having letters of recommendation from the national preachers and returning not as a novice, but as an experienced missionary. What church would not want to support such a missionary candidate compared to those with no training and no experience!



Together
Effectively
Advancing the
Ministry

From: Nelson Esau Crespo
Location: San Miguel, El Salvador

What was the total amount of the *TEAM* funds received?

\$80.00

What were these funds used for?

I used this money to buy tools for our office and to travel in order to give the support for the pastors that was sent by their sponsors. They live very far away from where I live. Also I used it to feed some pastors that come to visit our congregation, but they do not have the economic funds to buy food so we receive them in the pastoral house; also sometimes we give them a little offering to cover other needs that they have to pay but have no funds.

Do you have any special needs we can pray about?

Please pray for my spiritual life so I can always be intact and useful in the work of God. Also I am requesting your prayers for my wife because she is having health problems. Also pray for my three children so that the Lord can protect them from any danger and that they can be useful in the service of the Lord.

Attention *TEAM* sponsors:

Dear sponsors,

Once again I want to express to you my most sincere gratitude for this economic support that you are sending us. I want you to know that it comes in time to cover some of the needs that the pastors and our families suffer in the work of the Lord.

Our prayers are that the Holy Lord prospers you richly and that your full and merciful heart can continue to help us in the precious faith of the Lord Jesus Christ.

I and my family thank you so much in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

TEAM funding is based upon two principles, one Biblical and the other practical. Biblically, that the weapons of our warfare are spiritual. We need to provide assistance to groups of preachers who can wisely and collectively use the funds to purchase needed supplies to advance the spread of the Gospel. And from a practical standpoint; that there is no end to what can be accomplished if those working together are not concerned with who gets the credit.

For more information about *TEAM* projects, see page 19

“Come before winter”

The letter below was received in late November from Pastor K.S. Kumar in Andhra Pradesh, India. Most likely, when you receive this letter I and a group with me will be visiting him.

We have worked with this man since 1992 and are pleased with his organizational and ministry gifts. His men are well trained and very effective in church planting. At this time we support well over 100 of his men but we also have about fifty new applications waiting for support. The story you will read below is about just one of those fifty.

He sent this letter to me hoping I could share it with you and arrange for the supply to be met by Christmas. Unfortunately, the request came too late reminding me of Paul's plea to John Mark to “come before winter” and bring my cloak with you!

Christmas giving is over but if any of you wish to help meet this need please do so. Make your donations to “Indian Preachers Clothing Fund”.

On a humorous note, notice that in order to balance the load of fire wood he is carrying, his son dangles from the pole. The wood is heavier than his son! Also, it seems without fail, no matter the circumstance, that when an Indian preacher is going to get his picture taken, he always has his Bible with him!

From Pastor K.S. Kumar

Here with I am enclosing the photograph of one of our pastors. Is it good if you print in your monthly news letter. If it works well, let some of our pastors should have some clothing for Christmas.

Here with I enclosed a photograph for your kind perusal. This photograph shows one of our village pastors his wife and his two children. He is a fulltime preacher. He is having a church. The weekly offerings for his church will be about two dollars worth of Indian money. He is not able to buy clothing to himself, his wife and to his children. Of course they are having three pairs of clothes almost from five years.

As you know in India we do not have any electric washing machines. We have to take the clothes to a river and in the river on a big stone we will wash our clothes. Because we are using rock our clothes will be soon spoil and become torn. But still somehow our Indian pastors are maintaining with just two or three pairs.

Once in a week this pastor goes to the nearby woods and collect firewood for his cooking purpose. He would bring firewood sufficient for week and goes again in to the woods whenever he needed. You can see the photograph of the pastor bringing the firewood collected by him and placing it on the cart while his son keeps watch by sitting in the cart. His wife also follows him to the forest and helps in collecting firewood and bringing water for drinking. They don't have even tap in their home. The whole of the village is having only one well to get water. Even at this well some times the Christians are not allowed to get water. That is the pitiable condition.



You can see the photograph, the pastor's wife carrying two big pots of water and taking her baby along. Whenever they go out they will take their little children with them because; India is a non-Christian country and because of jealousy the non-Christian may create harm to the children of the pastors. The photograph shows the pathetic situation in which our Indian pastors are leading their lives and striving to win souls. They are well trained and are accustomed to face any troubles with smiling face for the sake of Christ.

Please pray for our Indian pastors for Christmas clothes. They are also pastors just like in your country. You can see how our Indian pastors are sacrificed and dedicated their lives for Christ. They are important to God. You can see Jesus in them. They are leading an exemplary life in the villages. For this reason only they are winning many souls. Now they need clothes. Please help them at least a pair of clothes to the pastor and to his wife.

Each pastor's family needs at least \$ 40.00. As you know I am having about two hundred pastors and we are all unitedly working hard to win our own Indian nationals. Kindly take this as a special request and consider favorably. You can help them as your Christmas gift to our Indian pastors. If God opens the way you can help them all, if not I request you to please arrange to help at least for few pastors as your Christmas gift. I hope and trust in the Lord that you will definitely give a chance for our Indian pastors to taste the love of Christ for Christmas.

I can send you the photographs of our pastors with the new dresses. We will be very happy if you can send your gift before Christmas and allow our Indian pastors to experience the love of Christ through you.

The enclosed pastor by name Dummula Caleb is not yet supported by Final Frontiers. We have about fifty preachers like that who are in waiting list. All of their applications are at your office.



We have been providing gift options for those of you who support a child. Soon we will begin to feature an online store so that those who support a preacher can also purchase gifts for him and his family. Be watching.

He spend this summer in prison and in torture

By Yosef Rehma

Our ministry in the Middle East is trying to reach everybody in our region for Christ. In our area we have more than four ethnic groups and one of them is the Kurdish group. The Kurds officially account for 12% of Syria's population, a total of around 2.4 million people. This makes them the largest ethnic minority in the country. They are mostly concentrated in the northeast and the north.

Kurdish human rights activists are mistreated and persecuted, in most countries where they live. Techniques used to suppress the ethnic identity of Kurds in Syria include various bans on the use of the Kurdish language, refusal to name children with Kurdish names, the replacement of the names of Kurdish locations with new names in Arabic, the prohibition of businesses that do not have Arabic names, the prohibition of Kurdish private schools, and the prohibition of books and other materials written in the Kurdish language.

The majority of Kurds are officially Muslim, belonging to the Shafi School of Sunni Islam. Mystical practices and participation in Sufi are also widespread among the Kurds. There is also a minority of Kurds that are Shia Muslim. Most of them are living in poverty, in the suburban areas of the large cities; some of them have a very low education.

The Lord started to open the door for us to be in contact with these people, and we started to notice that if we were able to print New Testaments in their language (Kurdish Language), it would have a greater influence among these people because it shows them we care enough about them. As I mentioned previously, the Kurds are living in very persecuted circumstances, so many of them are not very devoted to the Islamic ritual faith, they do not care to let their women wear the veil to cover their faces and they do not trust anyone, so as a result they try to separate themselves from other communities.

We have faced many difficulties in the process of printing New Testaments which I cannot disclose in this article but God was in the middle of it all, walking in the fire with us. Realizing that when He opens the door there is no power that could close it and when He closed the door, there is no power that could open it, we felt it imperative to start printing the Kurdish New Testament.

Through our evangelistic efforts among the Kurdish people, one man introduced us to another man who had been involved in the war in Iraq; not fighting the American forces but protecting his people, the Kurdish people, in the north of Iraq from the Iraqi attacks and revenge killings.

During his service he was injured, treated and sent back to Syria, where he began living in depression and hopelessness. In an effort to capitalize on his mental condition, many people tried to persuade him to become a militant by joining with a Kurdish Sunni terrorist group, operating in Iraq. This constant pushing to enlist him only served to confuse him more about the basic teachings of Islam that promoted the killing of the "infidel" American soldiers; because these soldiers had come to liberate his people, the Kurdish people of Iraq, to educate them and to do whatever they can to help his people whom they had never

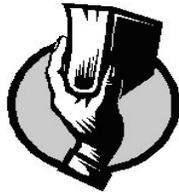
have seen! He had seen with his own eyes how these soldiers had sacrificed their lives, their time and their money to do all these things, in order to change the lives of his people, and now these "religious" Islamic leaders were preaching that they should be killed!

He began to compare their zeal to kill Americans to his own people's history of living in Muslim countries and how they had treated him, his family, and his people, for thousands of years. He could not bring himself to join with the Iraqi persecutors of his own people, a permanent enemy, in order to drive out a temporary, "alleged" enemy.

One day, one of his relatives came to visit him and they start to talk politically and share where each man stood, when in the conversation this relative started to share with him about Christianity and what he knows about Christianity. Curiosity gripped him so he asked how he had gotten this information and he was told that he had been given a New Testament in the Kurdish language. The former soldier was so surprised to hear that in Syria there is such a Book in Kurdish language, and printed secretly by Christian people to give freely to Kurdish Muslim people and all for only one reason; so that they could know that God loves them and He wants to share this Love with them. Startled at such a revelation, neither known nor known of in all his life, he asked how he could get a New Testament to read. The visitor replied that he would try to get him one. Several days later after returning to our area, he contacted us and told us about this man and his desire for a copy of God's Word. Usually we are very careful in giving Bibles away and for many reasons, all dealing with security; so we talked it over and decided to send him a New Testament along with a lot of prayers. After a little while the visitor called us to say this man wanted to meet with somebody who is able to explain to him about the message of the book. Prayerfully and cautiously, not knowing if this was real or a trap, we gave him a time and place to meet.

When we met with him it was very hard to answer all his questions because he could not understand many things. He was overwhelmed with all he had been reading and coming from generations of Islamic upbringing, could not comprehend the concept or reality of a loving and forgiving God. Before we left we asked him if he wanted us to pray for him. He could not understand how we as strangers could pray for him but agreed to our offer. We start to pray and before we were finished he was crying. We were amazed, considering his background and how uncommon it is for a man like him to cry. We left with his promise that he would contact us soon. After only three days he came to us again and said "I'm very confused, I need solution for my life". For five hours we sat together as he asked us more questions and we presented the gospel to him and how he could have a relationship with God. Finally he came to the knowledge of salvation and he accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Savior.

From that day he started to talk to his people telling them how he has peace, love, and a new understanding of God. When people ask him more, he will tell, I don't understand what has happened to me but I know I read a book and its words made me ashamed, then I met a person who talked to me and explained the words to me and I prayed to God and He has changed my life.



Final Frontiers SOCIETY

*A society of Believers, dedicated to
distributing Bibles around the world*

The worldwide status of Bible translation:

- 6,912 ... the number of languages spoken in the world today
- 2,251 ... the number of languages without any of the Bible, but with a possible need of a Bible translation to begin
- 193,000,000 ... the number of people who speak the 2,251 languages where translation projects have not yet begun
- 1,953 ... the number of translation programs currently in progress for languages without adequate Scripture
- nearly 80% ... amount of the world's remaining Bible translation needs that are located in the three areas of greatest need

The areas of greatest need

Today, more than 2,200 language groups do not have a single verse of Scripture available in their languages. Nearly 80 percent of them are located in three areas of the world:

Central Africa & Nigeria:	500+
Mainland & Southeast Asia:	500+
Indonesia & the Pacific Islands:	750

Source: wycliff.org

According to statistics from Wycliffe International, the Society of Gideons, and the International Bible Society, the number of new Bibles that are sold, given away, or otherwise distributed in the United States is about 168,000 per day.

Source: Muthbible.org

At Final Frontiers, we are doing all we can to print and distribute the Bible in regions where it is illegal, as well as providing copies to poor pastors and Christians who cannot afford to purchase one. A Bible can cost a week's salary for many.

While some can be bought for as little as \$3, a New Testament can be purchased in most any language for no more than \$5. Your gifts designated for Bibles will help us give His Word to those who dearly want it and are deprived of it. Most have never even seen a Bible. To many, it is a fairy tale; something they have heard of all their lives but never seen.

We pay \$80 or more for a genuine calf leather, gold leafed, indexed, cross referenced, study Bible for ourselves; can we not give \$5 for someone else to have his precious Word in paperback format?

English Teachers Needed

SEKOLAH MUTIARA NUSANTARA



Welcome to our Open House

A mission's opportunity ripe for the pickin': to work in an Indonesian Christian school that's taught in English and reaching out to the community.

We are looking for qualified Christian English teachers (elementary through high school). Immediate opening in January 2008: Jr. High English teacher. Openings for 2008/2009 school year: 3 English teachers.

If the Spirit sparks an interest, please contact me at wjohnson7@hotmail.com or call my cell: 011-62-8180-925-7315. I look forward to hearing from you.

Wade Johnson

continued from page 11

Later he brought his father to meet with us and to talk to him, and his father also accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Savior.

God changed this man from becoming a terrorist to becoming a Christian. Now he is evangelizing his family and the fanatic Muslims who wanted only to use his mind and body to destroy the lives of others. All their efforts were undone, his life saved, as well as the lives of those he would have killed and he, his father and others brought to Christ. How were their efforts undone? By someone, an elderly couple, a young man, a Sunday School class, someone who gave \$3 to Final Frontiers, allowing us to pass it on to Syria where it was used to purchase and distribute a Kurdish New Testament. Now we need more "some ones" so we can print and distribute more copies of God's Word in Iran, Iraq, Syria, Turkey, Jordan, Egypt, Libya, Yemen, Saudi Arabia, etc.

We are grateful for whatever help you can give us with these ongoing projects.

We currently have four men in need of support; two in Syria and two in Iran. Please contact us if you would be willing to help support one or more of these men for \$35 monthly.

Welcome New Sponsors

Sponsoring Family	Preacher	Country
Robert Wilson family, AL	Phan Kim Heng	Cambodia
Elton Barber family, MI	Pettala Chinnabbaiah Kodjo Jean Srougbo	India Togo
East County Bible Study Group San Diego, CA	Miguel Angel Mendoza Ulloa	Honduras
Harley Smith family, MI	Joseph Adrain Shikokoti	Kenya
James Anderson family, CA	Erastus Guriviza isinga	Kenya
Gospel Baptist Temple, Claxton, GA	Jaladi Absholom	India
Missionary Action Project, AZ	Joseph Kiruku Kimani	Kenya
-Donald Crabtree family, MO	T.V. Barn Boss	India
Jere Snyder family, PA	Joseph Kiruku Kimani	Kenya
David VonWald family, MN	Josphat Khayumbi Wnyonyi	Kenya
First Missionary Baptist, Gilbert, WV	Komla Etoh Ametepe	Togo
Virginia Someillan, SC	Kodjo Jean Srougbo	Togo
Family Bible Church, Westville, IN	Solomon Bijja	India
Sequoyah Baptist Tabernace, Hixson, TN	Gbarsy Wesseh Bestman	Liberia
Rose Talley, NV	Nguyen Lap	Vietnam
George Birch family, TN	John Babu	India
Randy Box family, TX	Harm Vahn Sorm	Cambodia
Bob Chezem family, TN	B. David Raju	India
Jim Vosburgh family, MI	Geddarn Devasahayam	India
	Phan Sophun	Cambodia
	Samson Wafula	Kenya
	John Babu	India
	Mol Sarom	Cambodia

Sponsoring Family	Touch A Life Children	Country
New Vision Baptist, Claxton, GA	Geni Yonathan Ramirez Saucedo	Honduras
Terry Holdt, MI	Bairon Adonis Pineda Cardona	Honduras
	Yesmin Gissel Martinez Ramirez	Honduras
	Evelin Xiomara Martinez Gonzales	Honduras
	Carmen Yulisa Gonzalez Ramirez	Honduras
	Joni Israel Pineda Pineda	Honduras
	Hector Adonai Garcia Medina	Honduras
	Indukuru M. Pushpa	India
	Samrajya Vadam	India
	Varaha Murthy	India
	Vara Prasad	India
Dale Wells family, GA	Santos Rolando Pineda Flores	Honduras
Scott Meinbresse family, GA	Hilda Maria Pineda Garcia	Honduras
Kay Thompson, IA	Oscar Javier Galindo Cardona	Honduras
Rocio Gurrusqueta, TX	Yeimy Gisela Matute	Honduras
	Luddin Lizeth Garcia Coello	Honduras
	Jasmin Korolina Mejia Duarte	Honduras
Bobby King family, GA	Dilcia Yamileth Pineda Flores	Honduras
Frankie Tidwell family, GA	Mary Pravallika	India

Hebrews 11:4

By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, **God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.**

We are very grateful for those of you who have placed us in your will or have created a Charitable Remainder Trust, naming Final Frontiers as the beneficiary. Others of you who are interested in doing so or just want to be able to learn more about the short and long term investment benefits, should contact our office and we will put you in touch with a professional who can advise you. After all, as the verse above shows, just because the flesh dies does not mean that your influence and support must die with it.



VISIONARY TRIPS

January:
India

February:
Ecuador
Germany

March:
Egypt
Kenya
Uganda
Ghana

May:
Egypt
Austria
Ireland

June:
Peru

June/July/August:
Honduras (6)
Touch A Life Trips

September:
Russia



CHURCH MEETINGS

January:
Augusta, GA
Middletown, OH
Weatherford, TX

February:
Jacksonville, FL
Lake Butler, FL
Decatur, AL
Orlando, FL
Columbus, OH

March:
Quakertown, AL
Baldwin, FL
Blue Springs, MO
Grass Valley, CA
Albuquerque, NM
Talluma, WA
Santa Clarita, CA
Gardena, CA
Norwalk, CA
Victorville, CA

April:
Stockton, CA
Covington, GA
Cincinnati, OH
Central City, KY
Cleveland, TN
Seattle, WA

SCHEDULES



By Jon Nelms

Just when we thought we were ready to move in we learned that it is our responsibility to buy the transformer, lines and posts to bring power to the property. Oh well, just a \$7000 set back. But nothing is too hard for the Lord and besides, this is a project well worth any speed bumps on the road to completion.

However, just to show you what we have so far, my son Daniel took several shots of the facility and I have tried to paste them together. By now, thankfully, the yard has been cleaned



up, the sidewalks around the building finished, the second bath room completed and the playground graded and leveled and the wall around the playground completed.

Over the next few weeks we will put in a tile floor (another \$6000) that should last forever and purchase all the appliances, tables, chairs, plates, cups, forks, spoons, etc.

But that's not all ... the equipment we have been using for the past 18 months (tables, plates, etc.) is being moved to the two feeding centers in the villages of Bartolo and El Hatillo. And now, by God's grace we are beginning to get sponsors for the children in the village of Saboneta (they only have 50 kids in the entire village. This would make a good project for a church here in the USA to support this entire feeding center; that's 50 kids times \$35 monthly) To open a center there will cost probably \$2000 or less because they already have a facility, a kitchen and running water. So, by the time the first groups start heading to Honduras in June, we will have four feeding centers up and running. Praise the Lord!

To me, the best thing about all this is the double and triple use we will get out of this facility. Yes, it will serve food every day for more than 200 kids in this town. (And by the way, we

already have applications for 200 more living there.) But it will also fulfill other purposes:

- ◆ Conferences for pastors
- ◆ Seminars for the parents
- ◆ Evangelistic meetings and concerts
- ◆ Day camps and VBS for the children
- ◆ Dining hall for groups that come to visit
- ◆ Dining hall for eventual grade school and Bible college
- ◆ Weddings where the Gospel will be preached
- ◆ Warehousing for other feeding centers in the valley

The list could go on and on, and it will!

And lest you think we are putting all our eggs in one basket, as you read this article, I am in India where we have been supporting up to 150 kids for years. These have all been orphans placed in the homes of pastors and church members. I am there for the purpose of setting up our first (of many) feeding centers in that country.

Also, in November I went to both Thailand and Cambodia for the same purpose and now we are waiting for our first applications from those two nations. In the next year, we will start leading Visionary Trips there and to India for those who support kids in those lands. Of course, those of you who support preachers there are welcome to come along as well and meet the man you are partnering with.

The completion of this first, major center is an important step for our ministry. Now that it is done we can move on to other needy projects. It is unlikely that we will have to erect many other centers like this one. In most cases the feeding centers are in small villages with a limited number of kids. The church buildings in these villages will be used as the feeding centers and the church will have the benefit of the chairs, tables, etc. for their use on the weekends. This has been such an important project for us as it will serve as far more than just a feeding center. I want to once again thank all of you who shared our vision and carried our burden to make this a reality.

As the Lord tarries, thousands will be saved in this facility and on these grounds, hundreds, if not thousands will be trained for the ministry, both in Honduras and around the world; because our freshmen missionary candidates will begin their training here before spreading around the globe. (see page 15) You have a part in it all.

Oh yes, and how much do we need to finish this first project? Zero! (But don't get too comfortable, you know I have more mountains to climb for our Lord and I will be counting on your help. But for now, take a rest. You deserve it.)

Come see it all for yourself

**Christmas Cards for the sponsors
Christmas gifts for the kids**

Below is a sample card (front and inside) made by one of our Indian children for their sponsor. The picture is actually painted on a leaf. Below it is a card from Honduras for a sponsor.



It was a blast for the kids to gather together and receive paper, crayons and scissors and then sit down to make their own cards for their sponsors.

The cards were as varied



as the personalities of the children. This was a first for most of them. Inside each card, (except some from India that arrived later) were updated photos of the child so the sponsor could see how much they had grown in the past year.

But as exciting as that was, it could not compare to Christmas day when the kids received the gifts bought by their sponsors. So many of you gave for the stockings that we were able to go to the village of Saboneta where we will begin our fourth feeding center later this year and gave a stocking to each of the fifty children living there. We are receiving their applications now so if you want to sponsor one of them, let us know. Maybe a church would like to sponsor all fifty and have that as a branch ministry of their church.

Thanks to all of you who made this possible. Their smiles tell the story better than I can.



Visionary Trips 2008

Our Visionary Trips to Honduras for the Touch A Life program will allow you to:

- ◆ meet and spend time with your sponsored child and their family, visit in their home and help feed the children in the feeding centers.
- ◆ meet some of the pastors supported by Final Frontiers.
- ◆ have an opportunity to go out with a Honduran church member to witness and pass out tracts.
- ◆ go shopping for gifts for the children and souvenirs for your family and friends

If you would like to go, call our office to register. **1-800-522-4324 ext.110**. Please leave your name and phone number and we will get back with you.

The cost per person (except for the international airfare), which includes travel within Honduras, great food and clean, modern lodging, is only \$650 per person. The only other funds you will possibly need are for souvenirs and snacks. A \$200 deposit is non-refundable. Deadlines for registration are six weeks before the trip date.

Churches and schools are encouraged to book a week for their own group to go down. We can custom-make a trip just for your ministry needs in a week that you choose. We can even arrange for you to help us start a new church while you are there.

The dates available for 2008 are:

June 12-19	Full
June 19-July 3	Reserved for MIT*
July 3-10	Half full
July 10-17	Half full
August 7-14	Half full
August 14-21	

If another date is desired for a group of 10 or more, please contact us as quickly as possible. Recommended groups are churches, Bible study groups, Sunday School classes, etc.

* **MIT** refers to **Missionaries In Training**. This is a new program developed by Final Frontiers to take serious, missions minded youth (ages 15 and up) to the mission field for several weeks of hands on, missionary work. It is similar to our regular Visionary Trip but is expanded in time and enhanced in function.

Students will be paired to an English speaking partner and assigned to pastors whom they will assist in soul winning, church work and church planting. They will also have classes taught by national Preachers and Final Frontiers Missionaries on cultural training and missionary training and will have experience working in our feeding centers and ministering in both urban and rural settings.

To qualify an application must be completed. To be approved it is not necessary to have a "call" to be a missionary but it is required that the applicant be serious in fulfilling the Great Commission in whatever capacity God leads them. Applications will be available in January 2008. Call 800-522-4324 ext.102

The judgement of the fatherless



By Ron Charles

“He doth execute the judgment of the fatherless and widow, and loveth the stranger, in giving him food and raiment. Love ye therefore the stranger: for ye were strangers in the land of Egypt” (Deuteronomy 10:18-19).

“Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the

world” (James 1:27).

In both the Old and the New Testaments, God has made His will very clear when it comes to providing help to those who are unable to care for themselves—the fatherless and widows (these can also include needy single mothers). It is not an option! God has mandated that His children provide for those who cannot provide for themselves; and in particular the fatherless and widow. For the most part, Christians in America readily recognize that we have this responsibility. In fact, around the holiday seasons in particular, many churches in America have special offerings and have special programs geared towards helping the poor and needy in their churches or in their communities. But what about those who are not known by the church members or who are not members of the local community; the strangers in need? Seldom are these people recipients of church organized helps efforts. Yet, God in His instructions in Deuteronomy 10:18-19, gave equal consideration to the strangers who were not known by them (those not known by the church congregation or community), as He did the fatherless and widows that were known by them. His mandate has not changed from the time that He first gave it until this present time. We are to branch out beyond our immediate vicinity and care for and provide help to the fatherless and widows who are strangers to us and whom we do not know—those beyond our neighborhood, our community, our state and even our own country. The only qualification that God established was that the people had to be in need. And if they were in need, then His people were obliged to provide care and help to them. God has not changed His mind! His mandate is still in effect today.

This challenge from God was brought back to me in such a powerful way as I was driving to the Atlanta airport a few days before this past Thanksgiving Day and was listening to some Christmas music on the radio. After the playing of “I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day,” the announcer paused and asked his audience to remember the needy this holiday season and to remember to pray for peace and for the safety of our armed forces everywhere. He then began to share some statistics that were quite shocking. He did not say where he had gotten the statistics, but they were similar to ones that I had heard before. He began by saying that America is truly blessed by God, perhaps more than any other country, and that as such, we are obligated to share our blessings with others rather than selfishly piling our blessings back on ourselves. He then said that from Thanksgiving Day through New Years Day, America historically consumes more food (per day) than they consume between the day after New Years Day and the day before Thanksgiving Day of the following year and that the amount of food that America

consumes during that 6-week period is more than the annual consumption of food in 136 of the world’s poorest countries (there are 194 countries in the world; 192 countries are members of the United Nations). That was shocking enough! But then he went on to say that America will *throw away* more food during that 6-week period than will be collectively consumed by the 66 poorest countries annually. Are we truly being good stewards of the blessings that God has given us, based on Deuteronomy 10:18-19 and James 1:27, and are we living up to God’s expectations for His people?

Although we cannot determine the efficiency and effectiveness of other helps programs sponsored by other churches, ministries and organizations, those of you who have become a part of Final Frontiers’ *Touch a Life* children’s program and its *Bags of Hope* food aid supply program, know that through these, God’s mandate is being honored—the poor and needy fatherless and widows are being cared for and provided for; regardless of whether they are known or stranger.

I have recently returned from one of the countries in the Middle East where we have a very active *Bags of Hope* program and are just beginning to introduce the *Touch of Life* program (because of the political sensitivity of the area, seldom are we allowed to share pictures of children who have been sponsored in these areas; nevertheless, for those who sponsor a child in these areas, know that you are indeed fulfilling God’s mandate of caring for and ministering to the strangers). While there, I was brought face to face with what God’s idea of ministering and caring for the stranger is all about.

Our contact person and I had spent almost all night delivering *Bags of Hope* (a canvas bag about 36” tall and 18” in diameter filled with enough food to feed a widow and 4 children for an entire month—for only \$20 per month) to dozens of needy widows. We arrived back at the house where I was staying just as dawn was beginning to break, totally worn-out because of the night’s non-stop delivering of food. As I got out of the car, I noticed that there was a small boy sitting on the front steps of the house, he looked to me to be about eight or nine years old, and he was holding a small sleeping infant baby who looked more dead than alive. I approached him and said good morning to him. He stood up, holding the very limp baby, and attempted to respond to my greeting. But as he tried to say good morning to me, his eyes began to water with tears and his lips began to quiver to the point that he was not able to speak. My heart went out to him, so I asked him to sit back down and tell me what was wrong. I sat down beside him. He said that his name was Osmir and that his baby sister’s name was Ismah (not their real names) and that they had been sitting there waiting for me all night. I asked him his age. He told me that he was nine years old and that his sister was about one, he thought. I asked him what he wanted. Again he began to cry. I put my arm around him and pulled him to me. After a few minutes he was about to talk. He said, “Allah hates me!”

My heart broke as I asked, “Why does Allah hate you?”

“I do not know. I must have done something very, very bad. But I don’t know what it is.” He responded as he again began to cry. “What do you mean? Why do you think this?” I asked as I again pulled him to me and hugged him, while he held his limp baby sister. “My mother died from a sickness. I do not know why she died. She died last Holy Day (Friday).” He said. “That was almost a week ago.” I said somewhat shocked. “What about your father? Where is he?”

“I don’t know. He left when they took my mother away. He did not come back. I was left alone with my sister.” He said, again beginning to cry. “I don’t know what I have done to be punished like this. Allah is angry with me for a reason I do not know.”

“God is not punishing you!” I said to him as I again pulled him to me. “He does not punish children by taking their mother and father from them.”

“What have you been doing for the past week?” I asked. “Do you have any other family?”

“I do not know of any family.” He said. “I think I am alone with my sister. I have been trying to get food for my sister and me to eat. But she is so very sick, I think she will not eat and she is weak. Last she ate was goat’s milk three days ago. I think she will die too, like my mother. I must be very bad for Allah to hate me so much.” He again burst into tears as he hugged his little sister lying limp in his arms, but still alive.

“Osmir. God does not hate you. He loves you.” I said as I took his little sister from his arms. “We will make sure that she gets something to eat; and you too. Both of you.”

I then took the little sister to a neighbor’s house (a good friend) and asked the lady of the house to help the little girl. She took her from me and immediately began to try to revive her and coax her to eat. It took only about an hour for the little baby to begin to drink a little milk and slowly begin to eat small amounts of mashed up potatoes. The lady willingly agreed to care for the little girl until she was a little stronger. By nightfall, the baby began to show marked signs of recovery.

While Ismah was being cared for by the neighbor lady, I took Osmir into my house and fed him. He ate like he was starving, which obviously he was. After eating, we sat on the floor on pillows and I asked him how he knew to come to my house.

He said, “It is known in the village that you are a friend of Isa (Jesus) and that you give food to the women who have no man because Isa wants you to give it to them.”

“That is true.” I told him. “Isa loves these women and their children and He wants me to give them food to eat so that they will live.”

He then looked at me directly in the eyes and said, “That is why I came to you.” And then he began to cry. I reached across the floor and took his hand and squeezed it. He again looked up at me directly in the eyes and said, “I know that Allah is angry with me for some reason that I do not know. But I hope that maybe you could speak to Isa for me because you are His friend, and you could ask Isa not to hate me, and maybe you could ask if I can have some of His food for my little sister. Not for me; for my sister.” Hearing his plea, I began to cry!

He continued, “The food is for women with no man and her children, I know. But maybe if you ask Isa, He will let you give some food to my sister, and not hate me so much.”

As I wiped tears from my eyes I said, “God does not hate you. He loves you. Isa does not hate you. He loves you and He loves your little sister. I can guarantee you that He will want you to receive enough food for both you.”

He looked very cautious as he asked, “Are you sure that ‘Isa is not angry with me? He does not hate me? You are sure?”

“I am totally sure. Isa loves you and He gives you the food for you and your sister because He wants you to live and to love Him too.” And with those words he broke out into a smile from ear to ear and said, “Please tell ‘Isa I thank Him.”

“I can do that. But I think that He will want you to thank Him yourself.” I responded. And in amazement he questioned, “Me? He would want me to thank Him? Me?”

“Yes. He is up there waiting for you. All you have to do is to look up and say, Isa, thank you for the food and thank you for giving me life.” I said. Then I continued, “You can also tell Him that you thank Him for loving you and that you will always thank Him and believe in Him.”

“Tell me how.” He said with great enthusiasm.

I then explained to him how he could talk to Jesus (Isa) just like he talks to me and that Jesus will hear him; that Jesus loved him and that He is willing and happy to help him.

Omir stayed with me for two days while his sister was recovering (if the authorities had discovered that I was keeping the boy I would have been interrogated and perhaps even detained and Omir would have been forced into the streets. Although we can give the *Bags of Hope*; we are not permitted to house the widows and/or children). That gave me an opportunity to tell him more good things about Isa (Jesus), his new-found, loving Savior. When the baby was better, he wanted to take her and to go back to his “home.” I gave Osmir a *Bag of Hope* for him and his sister and carried it to his “home” for him, as he carried the baby. His home was nothing more than a piece of cardboard lying under the outcropping of a dirt overhang, overlooking the sewage disposal canal. Apparently he had lived there since he could remember, until that fateful day just six days before when his mother had died and his father had abandoned him and his sister. Omir is now on our monthly *Bag of Hope* distribution list. Even though the *Bags of Hope* program was designed to help the widows and fatherless, our God mandated that we must help the stranger in need as well. This includes little nine-year-old, Omir, and his one-year-old sister, Ismah.

Your \$20 monthly gift to Final Frontiers’ *Bags of Hope* program made it possible for Osmir and Ismah to begin receiving these life saving provisions. But not only can we make a difference in their lives with the *Bags of Hope* distribution, but these children, along with many others, more than qualify for our \$35 per month *Touch a Life* program which will not only provide for their food needs but will also provide for their clothing and school supplies needs.

It is estimated that throughout the world, 30 children below the age of 15 starve to death every minute. If it has taken you twenty minutes to read this article, then during that time, 600 children below the age of 15 have starved to death. We cannot save them all from starvation; but we can save some, and with your help we can make a difference in the harsh world where these children are forced to live and die. So, as you consider what the Lord would have you do on behalf of His kingdom this next year, keep in mind His will and mandate shown in Deuteronomy 10:18-19 and in James 1:27 and how Final Frontiers provides an avenue whereby these can be implemented: *Touch a Life* and *Bags of Hope*. Help us help those who cannot help themselves—the fatherless and the widows; known and not known; acquaintance and stranger.



Prayer and Praise Reports from around the world ...

If you desire to help with any of these needs, please designate your gifts accordingly.

Cambodia

From Vek Huong Taing
National Director



In November we organized a Training Conference for the local pastors. We also had a "professional outreach" in one of the local restaurants. There were 132 in attendance and 51 ac-

cepted Christ as Savior and Lord.

In October we went to the beach and publically baptized 101 new converts. Despite the recent issue of the strict prohibition to do any Christian activities in the public places, we continue to exercise God's authority to serve in making disciples. We feel that as we obey God's command and trust Him for His protection, we are able to be used by Him to help fulfill Christ's Great Commission in our suffering land. Please pray for God's continued hand of protection for us.

Kenya

From Jerry Daniels, BBF Missionary
Regional Director Final Frontiers



So many wonderful things have been happening that it's difficult to know what to write about!!! Here's a few of the blessings:

Mount Kenya Baptist Church in Nanyuki just finished their annual missions conference, and their monthly goal for Faith Promise offerings came to a record of 32,800 Shillings (over \$500)! We support a dozen church-planting African Missionaries, including one in the nearby country of Tanzania.

Our missionary in Isiolo, Francis Mwaniki, led a team to the remote area of Murunya where Joseph Thurania is planting a new church. 52 people accepted Christ as Saviour!

Coming up in two weeks: The annual "Passage to Manhood" youth camp for boys at the Timau Bible Baptist Church. This is a tremendous program which Pastor Stephen Ngunjiri has developed over the past few years. Last year over 60 young men accepted Christ as Savior through this Christian adaptation of the traditional "rite of passage" for young men. The worldly version of the Circumcision ritual is very evil. It has caused many young men to turn away from God. The Timau program is a dynamic alternative to this ungodly traditional process. In fact, the Church program has taken the community by storm! Many unchurched parents are begging for the opportunity to enroll their youth into the December session! Please join us in praying that God will bless this camp with many young men accepting Christ as Savior, and Christian boys giving their lives to the Lord!

Dominican Republic

From Santiago Suarez
Final Frontiers, National Director



Really we are happy to be able to contact you and share with you. It will be nice if you could come back and spend some days here.

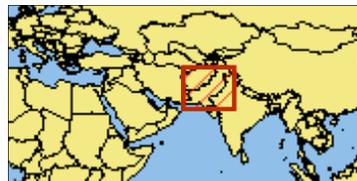
Our ministry has continued working on delivering some economic help to pastors and workers. We are collecting from church's members such things as meals, detergents, soaps, and so on. We give these things to a different pastor every month to help his family a little. We have named that activity "The Lazaro Basket". Don't ask me why because it was Anabell's idea and I don't remember why she named it that way.

Next 24th (this month) we will be at San Pedro de Macoris, (the city where we went the first Sunday you were here after we went out to visit Quisqueya). There we will have our second medical survey. That activity will be developed in a sector of the city named "El Brisal" where about 30 brothers and sisters will be traveling to give free medical assistance, medicines, some used clothes and so on to the poor people and to evangelize them too. We will be working together with the Baptist church we visited when you were here. please Pray for us about that.

FYI: Before Columbus came and renamed their island "Hispaniola", the name used by the indigenous people living in Haiti and the Dominican Republic was "Quisqueya (kiss-kay-yah).

Pakistan

From Maalik B.
Final Frontiers Missionary Associate



We have just returned from Northern Pakistan after a very fruitful evangelistic trip. God used our team in a mighty way. We did 4 evangelistic meetings and about 630 people attended these

meetings, a total 166 made decisions for Christ.

Due to the persecuted atmosphere and Muslim fundamentalist stronghold, Christians don't have church buildings there, they meet at different homes owned by Christian believers. They are in need of Urdu and Pashto Bibles and other faith-based literature that can help them to grow in faith and in their relationship with Christ.

Facing Islamic fundamentalism, terrorism, tribal wars and Muslim denominational conflicts, the people in the area are thirsty for the Gospel message of hope and restoration. Please pray that God will continue to bless our efforts in Northern Pakistan. Our evangelistic team there is in need of prayers and support. Please keep praying for them.

Do we have your email address yet?

Only about 10% of our readers have registered with us. That means 90% of you are missing out on the special emails and photos we send.

Register today at finalfrontiers.org



Sponsorship Information

- 1

Sponsoring a **national preacher** is a simple process. Simply tell us which country you are most burdened for and we'll provide you with information on preachers living there who are approved for sponsorship. If you don't have a preference, we'll assign you a preacher from our most needy list.

Sponsorship is \$35.00 monthly, however, since we get each preacher two sponsors, you have the option of providing double sponsorship (\$70.00 monthly) if you prefer. Your \$35 sponsorship includes \$10 support of our ministry (unless you direct us otherwise). This gives our foundation funds to operate with as well as providing assistance to preachers who do not yet have sponsorship. Typically up to half of this amount is used overseas. If you prefer your total support to go to your preacher, tell us and we will comply to your request.

As a sponsor you should receive correspondence when we send your support to your chosen preacher three times annually.

Each preacher recommended for support has successfully passed through at least three levels of examination and has been proven to be doctrinally sound, morally pure and have a verifiable track record in church planting and discipleship.
- 2

Sponsorship of a **TEAM** can be done for \$10.00 monthly or more. *TEAM* stands for *Together Effectively Advancing the Ministry*. Though many preachers are being supported, they often collectively lack ministry tools that can be useful. The purpose of the *TEAM* funding is to provide each country with money to be used for such things as printing literature, buying bicycles for the traveling evangelists, building a church or Bible school, emergency relief, feeding widows and funding preachers who do not yet have a sponsor, etc.

Each trimester as the funds are mailed abroad, the national coordinator for each nation is asked to fill out a *TEAM* Report Form which we will send to you. This will give you a first hand report of how your funds were effectively used to advance the ministry in that land.
- 3

Sponsorship of **Touch a Life**, gives assistance to an orphaned, abandoned or destitute child. The \$35.00 monthly sponsorship provides for food, clothing, basic medical care, and educational assistance.

All orphanages and home placement programs assisted by Final Frontiers are administered by pastors who are supported through this foundation, and are operated as a ministry of a local church. Trimesterly correspondence is encouraged between the orphans and their sponsors. Sponsorship distribution for the child is identical to that of the preachers (see #1)
- 4

Membership in the **Final Frontiers Society** is \$10.00 monthly and is used to purchase and distribute Bibles. Many national pastors and Believers do not own a copy of God's Word. FFS membership funds, help to turn the dream of having their own Bible, into a reality.
- 5

Bags of Hope is our food distribution program feeding widows, orphans and persecuted families living primarily in the Islamic Middle East. Support for this program is \$20 monthly.

After Death ...

More and more sponsors are contacting us about the opportunity to continuing supporting their preacher after they have passed away.

Imagine being able to leave funds for your preacher so that after you have gone to be with the Lord, he can still be serving with your help.

Or what if your burden is to feed children or distribute Bibles or just to leave funds for the ministry to continue as needed?

If you are interested in leaving Final Frontiers or Touch A Life in your will, you should give us a call. We can give you all the information you need and even help you find a professional in your state that will help you with your will or trust.

After all, if winning souls and planting churches are important to you in this life, how important do you think it will seem to you in the next?

Give us a call at:
800-522-4324 ext. 110

Now it's your turn ...

<p>Name: _____</p> <p>Address: _____</p> <p>City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____</p> <p>Phone: (home) _____ (office) _____</p>	<p>Email: _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I want to receive the <i>Progress Report</i> on-line rather than by regular mail</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Check here if this is a new address or phone number.</p>
---	---

Enclosed is my donation of: \$ _____ **to be applied to:** _____

Also, please contact me regarding sponsorship of:

___ a National Preacher	___ a country's <i>TEAM</i>
___ A Touch A Life Child	___ membership in the Final Frontiers Society
___ Bags of Hope	___ other _____

Final Frontiers
Foundation
1200 Peachtree St.
Louisville, Georgia
30434

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www.finalfrontiers.org

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AUTO

Moved lately?

Please give us your new address. E-mail: webmaster@finalfrontiers.org or call: 1-800-522-4324

Reports received from the Final Frontiers ...

Reports received in the last three months indicate there have been ...	Totals from all reports received since our beginning in December 1986 indicate there have been ...	A current total of all statistics indicate there are currently ...
380 Churches Started	28,781 Churches Started	1,292 Preacher Sponsorships
1,654 Villages Evangelized	105,854 Villages Evangelized	321 Touch A Life sponsorships
12,842 Professions of Faith	874,849 Professions of Faith	818 Number of actual sponsors
4,137 Believers Baptized	307,166 Believers Baptized	74 Countries involved

Missions statistics and points to ponder

Attention Missions Committee Members:

1. *27.4% of the world is under age 15.*
2. *There are 18 countries in the world that have 45-50% of their population being age 14 or under. Most of them are in Africa.*
3. *There are 29 countries whose life expectancy is under age 50. All but four are in Africa. Swaziland is the lowest at 32.6 years.*

What do these facts tell us?

While ministry outreach should not be directed only at children, it certainly should not ignore them either. Once you leave the "western world" you will find few children's ministries.

In America, much of our evangelistic efforts are geared at reaching and training children. (AWANA, Child Evangelism Fellowship, Vacation Bible School, etc.) In third world countries there is simply not the training or funding to target children, therefore they go largely unreached. Most of our American churches have youth groups. They range in age usually from 12-19. The term "youth group" is used worldwide in churches,

however in the third world, the term "youth" generally refers to those in the age range of 16-29.

Are you supporting missionaries and overseas ministries who are actively reaching the over 27% of the world that is under the age 15? If not, we have some for you to consider.

Facts number two and three not only support the first fact, but they also show that for many people, time is running out. Most of you who will read this are already at an age that would have you in the grave if you lived in a third world nation. Life expectancy in Botswana is only 33, Lesotho 34 and Zimbabwe 39. You might estimate that 50% of Africa is under age 14 and 50% will die before they reach the age of 50. This tells us that we cannot "take our time" when it comes to evangelizing Africa.

How many missionaries or national preachers are you supporting in Africa? How effective do their reports reveal them to be? Africa does not have time for us to waste. They are perishing without the knowledge of Christ. What the world needs is for our missions minded churches to direct more of their missions support to the mission field and support home projects with other funds. After all, "the uttermost parts of the earth" are both a larger and less reached mission field than are the suburbs of your Jerusalem.