



Final Frontiers Foundation, Inc.

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Dear *Progress Report* Readers:

In the works are several fascinating stories for you to read in future issues of our *Progress Report*. Stories of the preacher's exploits in Europe, China, Africa and Latin America, that I think will thrill your mind, inspire your spirit and burden your heart to do more for the Lord. But that is after all the purpose of our *PR*. This month however, I have a different purpose in mind. I want to take this opportunity to give you a bit of detailed insight into the day-to-day operation of our foundation.

New offices are about to open internationally ...

In January's letter I mentioned that we are in the process of opening six international offices. These offices will be funded by gifts designated for that purpose. No, we won't use the preacher's support to fund them, nor will the preachers be required to "voluntarily" give a percentage of their funding to support them. These offices will be independently funded by your designated gifts and by our personal sacrifice. That is how we have always operated, and that is how we will continue to operate as long as I am at the helm.

It is expedient for you however, to know that the purpose of these offices is to share the work load, increase efficiency and to be better organized. Let me explain what I mean. We started this foundation ten years ago, and for the first three years, had less than 35 sponsorships. Then things began to happen. We now have 1000 sponsorships. With the first 35 sponsorships, I was the only in-house staff. With 1000, we only have 4 in-house staff. That's an average of 250 sponsorships per staff. Most churches that size have a pastor, assistant pastor, secretary, youth director, music director and a host of volunteer teachers, workers, etc. Perhaps this analogy will help you to understand just how heavy our work load is, and why we may sometimes be late getting out a report or financial statement. Of course there are those who would say that we shouldn't have bitten off more than we could chew. Perhaps they are right, but since my college days, one of my favorite verses has been "I am the Lord thy God, who brought thee out of the land of Egypt; open thy mouth wide, and I will fill it" (Psalm 81:10). I attempt to keep my mouth open, and continually pray that God will give me a bigger mouth. So far, I like the way the Lord fills it.

Unfortunately, we had begun to become so burdened with paper work that it is hindering our growth. Additionally, I look ahead to the day when I will depart the Earth (hopefully well into the future) or when America may cease to be a source of financing for global missions. I believe it is necessary to plan for the future by shifting as much of our work load as possible, to the various nations where we serve. In other words, employ the national ladies as secretaries rather than just adding on American staff. This should not have just "come to me" like a bolt of lightning, since after all, that is the basis of our support for national preachers, but what can I say, sometimes I whittle with a dull blade (if you know what I mean).

In recent months, as I began to discuss this idea with some of our key global leadership, I found that

Through the funding of national and native preachers, we endeavor to effectively advance the gospel where it has never been before.

many of them had already begun to establish their own offices for these same purposes, and when able, to acquire office equipment and hire staff. They saw the need before I did, and acted on it. I thank God that we are privileged to work with such insightful and "take charge" type of men.

Here's how it will work ...

So this year, God willing, we will open 6 international offices. All funds and correspondence will go from our headquarters here, to those 6 offices, from which funds and reports will be dispersed to the nations in that region. To do that we have to have bank accounts in each country, register with the various governments and staff the offices. Once that is completed we are ready to roll. Let me give you an illustration of how it will work. (Let's take Asia for example.) I had wanted that office in Thailand, but the government there requires a deposit of \$50,000.00, taxes all the funds mailed out of the country to the neighboring nations, and, would require us to assist any other foundation in Thailand that requested our assistance, (even if it was for a Buddhist cause). Obviously we cannot comply, thus we looked elsewhere, and that is when I learned that Missionary John Honeycutt, who oversees our Philippine activity, had already on his own, staffed an office for the Philippines. He has now consented to handle all of Asia for us. Thus, in the future, we will wire all funds, and E-mail all reports to him there (saving us a bundle). John will write checks from the Final Frontiers Philippine Account (in dollars) to our national offices in Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, and the Philippines, and then arrange for funds to be smuggled into Vietnam and China. He will print and mail the sponsors report forms which will be returned to him, not to us. His staff will then type the forms and E-mail them back to us. We will print out the forms and mail them on to the sponsors. In this way, they will get their funds immediately, and we will get our reports quicker, which means the sponsors will too.

Other benefits ...

Another benefit to this is the streamlined communication we will have, and the ability to send someone immediately to a trouble spot from within Asia, rather than originating a flight from the USA. This will save time and money, and help to alleviate the impression that it takes an American to solve a problem, which implies the Asians aren't capable of handling it on their own.

Those of you reading this who are executives of large companies will appreciate the chain I have just explained. You know this will make us a more effective and less overburdened ministry. My concern is that some may equate our upgrade in operations with a change in doctrine. Let me assure you that is not the case.

I remember my graduation from kindergarten in 1961. My parents dressed me in a little white suit. I was of course gorgeous. The suit fit me well at the age of five, but if I had been expected to wear that same little white suit at my college graduation sixteen years later, well, let's just say it's a good thing that I was given a long, black gown to wear, because without it, I certainly would have captured the moment, as I walked across the platform to receive my degree.

Furthermore, one of the advantages to our new operations system, is that you will begin to be able to read reports written by our national and regional coordinators, rather than just always hearing the American perspective. I think their insight, as well as their often humorous use of the English language, is going to really bless you.

Our next issue has new features ...

Beginning with the April *Progress Report*, we will add a current news section, which will give you news bits from around the world, reported on from a Christian perspective. As I receive such information on

a weekly basis, it enhances my prayer life. Having facts and knowledge makes me a better prayer warrior. For instance, it is one thing to pray about the prostitution trade in Thailand (which is one of that nation's largest sources of revenue), but my prayers became more fervent when I read a recent report that up to 20% of Thai girls, ages 11 to 17, may be participating in that trade, and doing so primarily under force. That's 2,000,000 young girls! Another example: It is one thing to pray for Christians living under persecution, it is another to know the name of a brother in Christ, living in the middle East, who is under a death sentence for converting from Islam to Christianity. To learn that his wife left him, his children were taken away and that he is in hiding gives me more to pray about and more reason to pray.

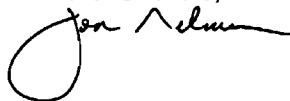
It is my hope that our verifiable news sources will make each of you into better equipped prayer warriors.

Closing thoughts ...

I hope each of you know how much we appreciate you. You may have never given a dime to this ministry, but the fact that you requested to be on our mailing list is encouragement enough. We greatly appreciate your concern and prayers. Your phone calls and letters of commendation, love and mutual philosophical agreement is a blessing that frankly, we could not live without. Thank you. Please know that I have shared with you my burdens and desires, but without your help, they will not soon become reality. We need a budget of about \$3,000.00 monthly to handle these six offices. That may sound like a lot, but it would hardly pay for two secretaries here in the USA. If you are burdened to help, please let us know.

And oh yes, before I close, let me tell you that we are cooking up something new here, so expect a post card in the next few months. May God bless us all, according to His wisdom and mercy.

Yours for souls,



Jon Nelms
Chairman/CEO

News received from the Final Frontiers, indicates that ...

... since last month's report there have been ...

162	New Churches Started
1,519	New Villages Evangelized
7,156	Professions of Faith
1,056	Believers Baptized

... since our inception in January 1987 there have been ...

7,169	New Churches Started
28,471	New Villages Evangelized
253,320	Professions of Faith
72,867	Believers Baptized

Please complete the form below, tear off, and return in the envelope provided. Thank you.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Amount: \$ _____

Apply my donation to: _____

All gifts to the Final Frontiers Foundation, Inc. are tax deductible.