

Progress Report

Complacency is the cancer of evangelism ...

but in the world of Islam, it is a word unknown to most Believers

By Jon Nelms

One of the greatest hazards to world conquest for Christ is the complacency of the typical Christian. We can quote batting averages, television schedules and the top ten movies but we can scarcely quote a verse of scripture. If God's word was taken from us, as it has been from numerous cultures throughout history, how many passages would we carry in our hearts? Complacency is, it seems, a cancer that eats at the very soul of our faith.

Recently, I made a journey to a Christian book store in our area. I wandered through its many isles of self-help books that overwhelmed me with how to be a better Christian father, a better Christian husband, a better Christian employee, and certainly, how to be a better Christian. I could have walked out, if my wallet was deep enough, with trinkets to fill a department store at Christmas time. Christian bumper stickers, Christian book marks, Christian mugs, Christian fine china, Christian plaques, Christian lapel pins, Christian T-shirts, Christian pencils, even a Christian door mat with the ever present outline of the Christian fish (*a symbol that we are told was used by the early church for one secret Believer to recognize another, yet which was in reality, according to archaeological records, not "invented" until the fourth century*). How incredible! Only in our materialistic culture could we think to make money by inducing Believers to wipe the mud of the world off on a symbol of Christ before we enter our Christian houses. And don't kid yourself; for what in the world could have been the motivation for such a product? In a word, profit. I was overwhelmed by all I saw but to be honest, I was also wondering just how much of it I could take home with me. They were beautiful and enticing and in most cases uplifted my spirit with their words of praise.

As I progressed on my exploration looking for certain CDs I decided to take a look at the "Missions" section. After all, missions is the life-blood of the Church. God



In an underground church, where Bibles are few and precious, this young boy stands before the illegal congregation and quotes from memory, the first three chapters of John's Gospel.

In this same congregating, these 14 young boys have declared publicly that they intend to be pastors and church planters.

never commanded us to go into all the world and build Christian bookstores in every nation. We were not told to build hospitals, Bible Colleges, etc. All of these are good (and needed) but none are the fulfillment of the Great Commission; they are the result of it. They are peripheral;

the story continues on page 5

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 fifty-eight 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 - \$100.00 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)
- Sponsorship of an orphan through our *CHILD CARE* subsidiary (\$35.00 monthly)
- Membership in the Final Frontiers Society, Bible distribution program (\$10.00 monthly)

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 Rev. Ron Charles (Secretary/Treasurer), Mr. Ralph Wills, CPA/CMA, and Mr. Charles Turner. 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.

Regional Offices:

- Vietnamese Expansion: Dr. Minh Dang, - Akron, OH (330) 864-2077
- European Expansion: Rev. Dennis Kiser - Livonia, MI (248) 489-0844
- African Expansion: Rev. Gordon Daam - Portage, MI (616) 327-9192
- South American Expansion: Mr. Don Courliss - Jonesborough, TN (423) 753-9212
- Southeast Asia Expansion: Rev. Glenn Wilson - Amelia Island, FL (904) 415-1272
- Middle East Expansion: Dr. Ron Charles - Gainesville, GA (770) 531-0180
- Final Frontiers Society Mr. John White - Colbert, GA (706) 788-3848

International Offices:

National 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.

Information:

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

Final Frontiers Foundation Telephone: 478-625-9050
 1200 Peachtree St. FAX: 478-625-9996
 Louisville, GA 30434 USA Toll Free: 800-522-4324

Email: webmaster@finalfrontiers.org

Where we serve

The 66 countries where we serve as of May 2004

Africa:

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

Asia:

India
 Myanmar
 Thailand
 Laos
 Cambodia
 Vietnam
 China
 Philippines
 Nepal

Middle East:

Syria
 Iraq*
 Iran*

Eurasia:

Georgia
 Belarus
 Kazakhstan
 Kyrgyzstan
 Siberia
 Ukraine
 Russia

Europe:

France
 Romania
 Albania
 Latvia
 Lithuania
 Hungary
 Switzerland
 Poland
 Bosnia
 Macedonia

Americas:

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

Pacifica:

Fiji
 Solomon Islands

* indicates *TEAM* or *FFSociety* support only

Applications are in process now from:

Lebanon, Guyana, Croatia, Serbia, Crimea, Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

The Jon Nelms family report

The partnership we have in this ministry is inspiring. Not only between us and the national preachers but also between us and you. Earlier this year I mentioned that we were really experiencing a deficit in our income. For some reason, the months of February and March were extremely low. It hit us so hard that when it was time to send out the letters about the camels, we didn't even have the funds to mail them. (that's about \$1000) I sent out letters to a group of about 30 sponsors rather than appealing to everyone and they collectively sent in around \$20,000. It was incredible. One wrote to me saying that he had lost his job and was unemployed. He asked for us to pray for him as he went job searching. Enclosed in his letter was a check for \$500!

Because of their generosity we made it through the difficult months and sent out the camel letters. Now the rest of you have responded and we have received funds for more than 300 camels. Already 100 have been delivered. Just so you will know, we are keeping the "camel drive" going to the end of August so if you have not participated yet and want to, you still have a little time left. I was sharing this at a church last Sunday and one of the members asked, "with so many camels, how do you keep them from being noticed if they are all at one oasis on a given Sunday?" To which the pastor, Dewey Henderson, immediately replied, "It's not a problem, they are all *camelflagged*."

So many have come our rescue recently that we are amazed day by day. We have received recently gifts of stock, etc that we were able to use to purchase Bible, tracts and help support preachers. Some have even written to tell us that they have placed us in their wills. Another sponsor recently sold his business and sent us in funds to help care for preachers who had lost their support. He was particularly burdened for these men who are laboring with the expectation of receiving, but then receive nothing. His concern has prompted me this issue to include two pages of men who have been faithfully serving, but have lost their sponsorship. If you are interested in taking on one or more of these, men, do let me know right away.

Another gift that has dropped into our laps is provided by a gentleman named Bill Brightman. He has a vitamin company whose products I have been using lately and I am feeling great. My energy seems to be restored, my mind is clearer and I just feel better. When someone orders from him they are asked to name the charity they want a portion of their purchase price to go to. He has agreed to add Final Frontiers to that list and rebates to us about 20% of the purchase price from orders that list us as their referral. So, if you use vitamins, I encourage you to give his brand a try and remember to designate us as your charity. His phone number is: 800-567-8122 and his website is www.lifesource4life.com



Lately we have been experiencing a surge in new sponsorships but I want you to know the need still exists. I still have several hundred unsupported preachers on file and more come in most every day. The dam has burst and there is no way to stop the flow. I praise God for allowing us to have this ministry and share in the fruit being produced by these preachers. It is your honor as well. I am constantly amazed at your devotion to the cause. Still today, nearly half of our new sponsorships each month come from existing sponsors who are so pleased with the results they are getting, that they add on more preachers to their personal list. Just this morning I sent out 32 portfolios to existing sponsors who had requested more preachers to support.

Well, I have run out of room when I still have so much more to tell you. I have tried to pack a lot into this issue because there is so much going on that you need to learn about. So many being saved and so many new churches being started. You make it all possible and from the bottom of my heart I say, *thank you*. In the next issue I have a great blessing to share with you and an opportunity to reach souls like you have never imagined. Keep your eyes peeled for this one. You won't want to miss it.



Juanita and Jon - Daniel and Sara

Yours for souls,

Let's Get Acquainted ...

For more information on sponsoring a national preacher, see page 15.

Preacher's Name: Jonathan Reyes
Wife's Name: Merlie
No. of Children: 4
Country: Philippines (tribal)
Sponsorship Needed: 2 @ \$35.00 monthly



Testimony:

I received Christ as Saviour in 1968 and God called me into the ministry so I attendee the bible Baptist College in Cebu City. My wife was saved in 1977 and she worked for a while at a Baptist church in Cebu.

We are members of the Higa-onon Tribe so almost all of our work would be considered tribal. But I am also a bible school teacher and serve on our film team. There are two men that I have trained for the ministry that are currently serving and we have started tow churches. Both of them are tribal churches. I do speak six languages and English. I have had 187 souls saved so far and have baptized 83 of these.

Our children are still living with us. We live in neap hut made of coconut wood. We have a 2 room house. My days are filled with mountain Bible studies, visitation and follow up. My wife's days are used in cooking and cleaning, visitation and Bible study follow-up.

The Filipino people are poor people but we in the tribes are the most poor of the poor. Our family budget is 3000 pesos (less than \$100) and we received about 1500 from our church. Sometimes they give us vegetables because they have no money. We are thankful and no matter what, we will continue to serve the Lord.

Jonathan and three other Filipino preachers in our group have lost their support and need new sponsorships. If you are interested, give us a call at 800-522-4324.

Preacher's Name: Marjan Dojcinoski
Wife's Name: none
No. of Children: none
Country: Macedonia/Bosnia
Sponsorship Needed: 2 @ \$35.00 monthly



Testimony:

I grew up in a Christian family attending church but never hearing about my need to accept "Christ as my Saviour. I lived that way for ten years.

When I became a teenager I began to drink and fight. My older brother had been away studying theology in Yugoslavia with his wife. They came back to Macedonia for spring break and he started a church in his home. One day he invited me to help him put out some posters about the Jesus movie. That night I heard a man preach on the prodigal son and God touched my heart and I repented and was saved.

After one week I was sent to jail to pay for my sin of fighting previously. When I was released one month later I began working with my brother in the market selling peanuts to make a living. One day I saw a man with a guitar worshipping God an din my heart I wanted to do the same. After two years I went to the bible school in Yugoslavia and began preparing to serve the Lord in Bosnia.

Since graduation I have started one church in the town of Bitola in Macedonia and am helping to start others. I am always training men for the ministry as well as our own church members, to serve as best they can. Currently I am serving mainly in Bosnia. I speak English, Macedonian, Bulgarian and Yugoslavian (which includes Bosnian, Serbian and Croatian) so I am unlimited in my opportunities to preach and train others for the ministry. Currently I am single so all my time is available for the Lord's use though I do hope to marry in the future. Please pray for me.

See these and many other preachers in need of support on our website at www.finalfrontiers.org

continued from page 1

the evidence of our abundance of wealth, and ingenuity. If there ever was a case of putting the cart before the horse, we have mastered it.

Cutting my way through the foliage of merchandise that was choking this *jungle* of Christianity I had entered into, I began to have difficulty in finding the “Missions” section. Ah, I thought, an employee can surely help me. So after waiting patiently for others to be assisted I asked, “Where is your Missions section?” The first few seconds of silence seemed to be minutes, I felt awkward. It was obvious she had never been asked this question before. I became as stunned by her silence as she was by my inquiry. Then suddenly the puzzled look on her face shocked me back into reality. I hadn’t been in a Christian bookstore in years and now I was remembering, it was all coming back to me; that look! In almost every store I have ever been in, I have gotten the same puzzled look when I asked for books on Missions. It is almost like they don’t exist. Maybe that’s the problem. And if they don’t exist, why don’t they? Is it that no one writes about missions or is it that no one wants to read about missions? As the puzzled employee uttered the customary “hmmms” I thought to myself, surely there is a book here on William Carey, or Adoniram Judson or Jonathan Goforth. As I was reasoning this all out in my mind, the light bulb flashed on over her head and she said, “We do have some things back here, follow me”. (On the way she stopped to ask a senior employee where the section was, just to be sure I suppose.) We walked literally to their furthest corner of the store to one little, ten-foot long isle. Here it was at long last, the alleged “missions section”. There were no world maps showing where the unreached people live. There were no CDs of missions music. (Could this be because there has been virtually none produced?) There were no missionary biographies (not even a single book on Lottie Moon and this was a Baptist store). There were not even any how-to books on holding a missions conference or mission coloring books, or pens, or bookmarkers, or mission doormats. It seems that *missions*, has become the religious Dodo bird of our generation.

In 1986 when we first starting this ministry I received in the mail a publication from a mail-order bookstore that boasted on the front cover that over 10,000 titles of books could be ordered from the pages within. I looked through the entire paper and there was not one single title of a missions book listed. Not one out of 10,000! Eighteen years later and nothing has changed. (*Note: most online sites do have a missions section.*)

Before you think I am too hard on bookstore

owners let me stop to say that I have a basic grasp of marketing – supply and demand. I understand that the owners are not going to spend money to stock their shelves with books that no one is going to buy. They are just being good stewards. The fault is not theirs it is ours. If we cared about missions, the shelves would be overflowing with product. We just don’t care and that my friend is why the world still does not know the name of Jesus.

Since I have been speaking on missions for the past eighteen years, I have often shared the pulpit with others. Many have been the times that a singing group was at the church the same time I was. Typically they are given 45 minutes to an hour to sing and entertain the congregation. I am given five minutes to talk about missions. This was specifically because the pastor did not want the “challenge” I was going to give to interfere with their time of singing and praise. At one church in the Atlanta area, I recall that at the end of the service that two “love offerings” were taken. When I left that day after the service, the pastor gave me a check for \$25 and proudly announced that they had raised and given more than \$6,000 to the singing group. Oh well, somebody has to pay for the bus they were traveling in, but who was going to pay to get the gospel to more than two billion people who still have not heard it?

We care too much about ourselves, our desires, our needs and our pleasures; we spend “God’s tithe” to build “bigger barns” for ourselves. And let’s not kid ourselves either; they are for *us* far more than they are for *God*. He does not need a family life center, a bowling alley, a weight room, an aerobics area; but then again, he doesn’t need padded pews, air conditioning or indoor baptisteries. None of these things are wrong, none are evil, but neither are they ultimately necessary. They are an “evangelistic luxury” unknown in Christian history. What is necessary, is reaching the lost with the Gospel. I know that these “tools” can be instruments that open the door of opportunity to witnessing to others but come on, personal soul winning can do the same thing. Who I wonder, is going to pay to open the doors of opportunity to reach the rest of the world? You see what perplexed me as a pastor years ago, is how God’s people will give to build a new auditorium, or classrooms for their church, but they won’t give a dime to build one for another church of like faith in their own town, which just happens to be down the block or in the ghetto. Who are we kidding? We are not building to the glory of God; we are building to the comfort of His spoiled children. We say we are giving to God, but in reality, we are giving to ourselves; to our comfort, to our *own* children’s youth programs. If we were truly giving to God, we would be more concerned about where it is given and how it is used. We would give it where it was needed most, not where we would benefit the most. We pay for padded pews so that our

oversized bottoms will be comfortable while we sing "Send the Light", then we give precious little to send it. We spend \$10,000, \$50,000, \$200,000 on air-conditioning systems so that we remain comfortable for those three hours a week when we actually use the auditorium, but then proclaim that our church cannot afford to take on any more missionary projects. These men whom we are failing, are dying from heat exhaustion while we complain that the thermostat is turned down too low.

Churches and ministries will borrow money to build structures but would never consider doing so to support missions. We will spend tens of millions to build a new church facility for ourselves but cannot give \$1000 to build one for a church in India. I was told by one of our representatives of a church that cancelled his meeting because they could not at the moment afford to have a missions speaker; yet the pastor went on to tell him how the men in his church had just spent some \$14,000 on a fishing trip and



How many Bibles do you see in this underground church in the Middle East? The people pack the "auditorium" up to the platform where the pastor stands, but no Bibles are visible; that is because most of them do not own one.

subsequent fish-fry at his church. God help us!

It is time for our Shepards to stand before the congregations and rebuke us for our complacency. We don't need to be patted on the back and told that our complacency is acceptable to God, we need to be swatted on the seat of our pants and told to repent and do what God put us here to do for Him.

As I said, complacency is like a cancer. At first we don't even know it is growing in us but in time it weakens us, makes us ineffective and eventually destroys us. That is why God warned us, "Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world..." We are His children; we should love the things that he loves. If we spend enough time with him, we will become more like Him. We will love the things He loves and despise the things He despises. This is as much a law of nature as is gravity. I am very much like my father, and my grown children are very much

like me. I don't wonder why. It doesn't surprise me. I expect this, and God expects us to be like Him too. We preach this as if it is something we must do, or give up to accomplish. That is not the case; this should involve no effort at all on our part. If our hearts are in love with Him, it is natural to want to be like Him, to gravitate to what he likes, to shun what He dislikes. At first this may be just an effort to please Him but before long, the effort has been replaced with a sincere desire. When our hearts are conformed to His image, our likes and dislikes are transformed too. You will never get a person to live right by preaching at them. Help them fall in love with Jesus and you can't stop them from living right.

The bottom line is that many of these things I have mentioned are not wrong in themselves. I am not casting stones here, I am merely asking us to consider if what we are doing "for God" really is for Him or for ourselves? As I travel, I have church members speak to me about some of these same things. They too are concerned. The sons of Eli, the Bible says, because they abused the offerings people were bringing to the temple, actually caused people to "abhor" giving to God. When what we are asked to finance is so obviously for ourselves and ourselves alone and does precious little to advance the cause of His Great Commission, then we need to step back and consider what our motivation really is. This is not a moment of instruction to pastors, I am speaking to the church at large. So many pastors go without their pay check because the offerings are so low at their church. They and their families suffer without mentioning it because they are not there for a paycheck, they are there to serve. Such men are worthy of more honor than we can give to them.

Now, while I speak of such men, let me direct your attention to a ministry that is taking place in the Arabic world that you did not know about. (A slight mention is made in our FFSociety bar on page 12.) I must be careful in what I say that I do not divulge personal information. This is an extremely dangerous area of the world. We recently received an application from one man and before it got to me he, his wife and child had all been killed. To ensure this is not the case I am going to relay some stories but hide or change the location. I hope you understand the need to do this.

The Gospel is spreading rapidly in the Islamic world. Many are clearly seeing that what they have been taught is not the truth and they are searching for Christ as a result...

I was recently given the testimony of a lady who, while a child, watched as her father killed her two sisters. He accused them of infidelity and to "wash away" the dishonor to the family, with his own hands he slew them and had the rest of the family observe. This scene never left her.

Years later a group of Believers in her nation realized that the Muslims had a great interest in Santa Clause. They knew nothing about the truth of Christmas and thought it all revolved around him and



the giving of gifts. So the church there would dress up some of its members as Santa and then he would give out Bibles on the street and going door to

door. As he would leave the home, after being invited in to give the gift of a Bible, some of the members would stay behind to evangelize further. One day they happened to knock on the door of this lady, who was now grown and married. Her husband in fact had two wives and would spend a half month with each. When the Bible was offered to her she at first rejected it, saying the Koran declared it was "corrupt", but after a gentle persuasion, she finally accepted it.



This is the lady (center) mentioned in the paragraph above. Here she is at a ladies meeting with her sons.

Before long she called on the women to return to her home where they led her and her two boys to Christ. She declared to her husband her new faith and miraculously he did not kill her. Now she says she is praying that her sons become preachers, even if it cost them their lives.

In Syria since our war with Iraq, the government has given permission for Bibles to be printed and distributed but only inside the registered churches. One "underground church" boldly put a sign on the outside of their "house church" facility advertising free Bibles. Every day they give out between 20 and 40 Bibles to inquirers. One day a man from Saudi Arabia passed by; he had come to Syria

to "cool off" during the summer months. While in Syria he had seen the Mel Gibson movie called *The Passion* and wanted to know why Jesus had to be killed for us. After a two hour period of questions and answers, the pastor led this man to Christ. Two days later he returned with his two wives and requested that the pastor's wife witness to them, which she gladly did. They too accepted Christ and next week (third week of July 2004) they are all being baptized.

This movie by the way, is producing a harvest in the Islamic world. Many nations permit it as a way to show (in their words) the brutality of the "Jews". While they use it as an instrument of hate, God is using it as an instrument of evangelization. You see, many Arab youth are brought up to hate Jesus, even though the Koran praises him. They believe the Jesus we serve is a perverted form of the Jesus we read about in the Bible, thus they have no clear understanding of who he is and what he came to do. This movie is answering many questions for them and creating others. When they stumble upon a Believer, their antagonism has now changed to interest and many are being saved. The movie, tracts, Bibles and radio have sown an enormous amount of



This is the man mentioned above with the pastor. You can see, he had a great curiosity for knowing God's Word. In the inset are his two wives being won to Christ.

seed in this region of the world, which will grow and eventually reap a harvest. Let me give you another example...

In a certain Islamic nation there was a man who had three wives. He seemed to care little for any of them or their children. To one of the lesser wives he gave a portable radio to which she listened every day. She had a young son who one day noticed his mother crying as she held the radio to her ear to listen in private. He asked her why she was crying and her reply was that the words she heard were so sweet that they made her cry. She was listening to the Gospel and the reading of God's word in Farsi. (a

language spoken in Iran, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Afghanistan and Turkmenistan) Over the following few years, she taught him the words of several Christian songs. By the time he reached the age of eight, she died. His father took him to live at a Madras (*a Saudi style, Islamic school notorious for the breeding of radical Islam*) where he was trained in Islam.

At the age of 22, he volunteered to go to Lebanon to train as a suicide bomber against Israel. His first year consisted of psychological training, preparing his young mind for the act of terrorism by instilling hatred against Israel and her allies. He finished this training and began to enter his second and final year which would prepare him physically. This was in effect, the terrorist "boot camp". While on a short break between the two years, he was walking past an underground church in a certain city. There were several Believers standing outside and quietly signing among themselves. Suddenly he paused, realizing these were the words to the song his mother had taught him so many years before. When he approached the singers, they invited him inside but he rejected their offer. Fifteen days later he returned, entered the house church and listened to the preaching but at the end, he just got up and left without saying a word. Two weeks later he returned again. The members were nervous to see him but realized that if he had wanted to betray them, they would already be in prison or dead. He sat again, listening to the sermon without a word and at the end, received a New Testament, then disappeared on the street. Finally, five days later he called the pastor with a myriad of questions and after another month of internal struggles, he was finally won to Christ.

Now he confessed to the small group of Believers who he was and what he was trained to do. He knew he could not return to his former life, after all, he had become a new person in Christ. The members helped him change his appearance, gain some weight and took him outside the city to live in the mountains with a Christian family. For two years he lived as a peasant farmer, studying at the table of a present day Aquila and Priscilla. Today he has returned to his home country to win his people to Christ. There he was plugged into a network of underground Believers. His ministry is not just that of a church planter, but also a smuggler of God's Word. He has sent word to us, asking us to buy 10,000 Bibles for him and his people to distribute. We have already provided funds for around 1500 at a cost of less than \$2 each but we need about \$16,000 to meet their need.

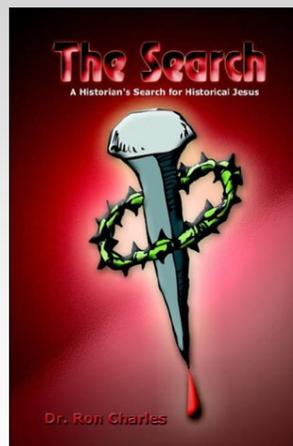
I cannot tell you his name. I cannot reveal his country. I cannot divulge the identification of our mutual contact or the route by which the Bibles will be transported. I can tell you that they will go over the mountains, which means they have to be provided by

the first week of October so that they can get through the mountain passes before the winter snows close them in for another nine months. Whatever you give for this cause will be sent to them. If it is not enough, we will ask for more next summer. If it is more than enough, we will use the surplus to print and distribute more Arabic Bibles at a cost of 4 for \$5.00.

I am not asking any of you to distribute the Bibles. The Believers in the safe country will do that at their own expense and at their own peril. I believe by now we all know what is meant by that. These Brothers are willing to take that chance, but they do not have the funds to purchase the Bibles. It is for that reason that they have called upon us for assistance. I have echoed their call to you. If you have funds to give for this need, then designate them for Farsi Bibles and send it to us as quickly as possible. We are racing against the winter.

In my life I too have been guilty of complacency and indifference. God, by His grace, has knocked that out of me. I am now at the point in my life that I want to do more than just care. I want to give more than just tears or concern or prayers. I want to make a difference. Islam is the greatest threat to the world today, both politically and spiritually. We may hold off their forces with bullets, but we will only win with "*the Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God.*" Our weapons may control them, but it is the Bible and salvation that will convert them. They will not listen to me, I am an American. They may not listen readily to their own countrymen, but in the end, it is their countrymen who hold the key to winning them. They have asked us to join the struggle, not the battle. I pray we will hear them and answer them.

In the past few months we have raised more than \$16,000 for camels. God bless each one of you who have sacrificed to make that dream come true. Now I ask you to do so again, knowing you have precious little left to give. You and I will both get another pay check, even if we have to tighten our belts a little in the mean time; but if we don't respond to their call now, it will be a year before they can cross the mountains again. I look forward to receiving from you.



Don't forget to order your copy of Ron's newest book: "*The Search, a Historian's Search for Historical Jesus*"

You may do so at amazon.com.

Preachers in URGENT need of support

These are all qualified men who have been receiving support until recently, when it was dropped due to no fault of their own. Each man has proven himself in the ministry and we know that his family and ministry will suffer, now that his support has ended. We are giving these men priority over all others at this time.

If you are willing to commit to supporting one or more of these worthy and needy preachers, please call our office and we will send you his complete portfolio. Call 800-522-4324.



Name:
Denis Celestine

Country:
Grenada

Churches started before supported: **3**

Churches started while supported: **17**

Number of sponsorships lost @ \$35 monthly: **1**



Name:
Calixto Lopez Cardenas

Country:
Nicaragua

Churches started before supported: **3**

Churches started while supported: **21**

Number of sponsorships lost @ \$35 monthly: **1**



Name:
Gerardo Gonzales

Country:
Nicaragua

Churches started before supported: **1**

Churches started while supported: **26**

Number of sponsorships lost @ \$35 monthly: **2**



Name:
Nelson Caballero Gonzales

Country:
Nicaragua

Churches started before supported: **1**

Churches started while supported: **6**

Number of sponsorships lost @ \$35 monthly: **2**

This brother lost a double sponsorship.

He lost support five years ago but has remained faithfully preaching and planting new works.



Name:
Sattey Kumar

Country:
India

Churches started before supported: **1**

Churches started while supported: **48**

Number of sponsorships lost @ \$35 monthly: **1**



Name:
Koffi Lolonyo Adjale-Suku

Country:
Togo

Churches started before supported: **1**

Churches started while supported: **4**

Number of sponsorships lost @ \$35 monthly: **1**

Only one sponsor has been lost but we want to continue to fully support any man who averages starting 4 new churches every year.



Name:
**Solomon Kilaka
Elomdanga**

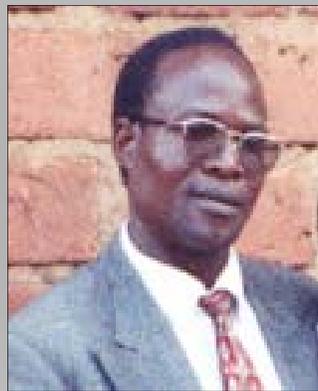
Country:
Kenya

Churches started before supported: **4**

Churches started while supported: **25**

Number of sponsorships lost @ \$35 monthly: **1**

This brother has been supported since September 1994 and averages 2.5 new church plants every year. He needs one more to replace the sponsorship that was recently lost.



Name:
Daniel Seruuma

Country:
Uganda

Churches started before supported: **2**

Churches started while supported: **2**

Number of sponsorships lost @ \$35 monthly: **1**

This brother has only been supported for a few years. In that time he has evangelized 18 villages!



Name:
David Kisaame

Country:
Uganda

Churches started before supported: **6**

Churches started while supported: **3**

Number of sponsorships lost @ \$35 monthly: **1**

This brother has also been supported for only a few years. He has a Bible College where he is now training 75 men for the ministry!

Why do sponsors drop support?

Maintaining sponsorships is like the proverbial saying, "two steps forward one step back". Here are some of the reasons given and an estimate of how often they are cited.

- 2%** Did not receive reports from their chosen national preacher
- 5%** Transferred support to a personal friend or family member (missionary, student, etc.)
- 15%** Experienced loss of income (lost job or retirement)
- 10%** Church called new pastor and he encouraged to drop since he either disagrees with our concept of supporting nationals or he does not know our ministry personally and therefore does not have trust in us.
- 65%** No reason given and no notification given, they just stopped supporting



Name:
Bui T. N.

Country:
Vietnam

Churches started before supported: **1**

Churches started while supported: **unknown**

Number of sponsorships lost @ \$35 monthly: **1**

Being in Vietnam, this brother is unable to get us personal reports of his ministry. His results are combined with the totals for the entire group.



Name:
R'O D.

Country:
Vietnam

Churches started before supported: **4**

Churches started while supported: **unknown**

Number of sponsorships lost @ \$35 monthly: **1**

Being in Vietnam, this brother is unable to get us personal reports of his ministry. His results are combined with the totals for the entire group.

Welcome New Sponsors

Sponsor:	Preacher - Orphan - <i>TEAM</i> or <i>Final Frontiers Society</i> :	Country:
anonymous	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sergejs Homjakovs • Adam Ekiert 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Latvia • Poland
Elton & Yoshika Barber, MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zhong #1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • China
Keith & Ruthie Buck, VA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bibekananda Mahanta 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India
Howard & Dale Carson, TX	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gbernabe Djimesse 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Togo
Rosemary Ray, MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dora Babu (<i>orphan</i>) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India
Greg & Jennifer Pridmore, AL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marko Olikariskoi Alfayo 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tanzania
Duane & Becky Weaver, GA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matthew P.I. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India
Mike & Christine Kelley, MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lumpha Chirmer • Ngo Thai Binh • Nguyen Lap • S. Josephus Hallie (2) • Him Kiry (2) • Athanase Habimana (3) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thailand • Vietnam • Vietnam • Liberia • Cambodia • Congo
Lorraine May, MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carlos R. Messam Obando 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Honduras
Emmett & Dorothy Knowles, TX	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gotru Paul 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India
Louis & Norma Vega, FL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lumpha Chirmer 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thailand
Rosie Shen, FL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jimmy Joseph John 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India
Greg & Jennifer Linberger, MO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jose Mariam Castellanos 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Honduras
Jorge & Zelda Garcia, FL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wycliffe Osaye Odekeyo 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kenya
Mike Partee, FL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M.K. Chandra Murthy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India
Jose & Haydee Soto, FL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shekhar V.M. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India
Nadeen Lawrence & Kerian Ferguson, FL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nguyen Thanh Nhan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vietnam
Josh & Heather Anderson, SC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Karl Smith 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jamaica
Henry Bayard, FL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leo Manyasa 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kenya
Kevin & Stacy Carden, AL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oscar Antonio Carcamo C. • Yarlagadda Yeshayya • Joel Amores 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Honduras • India • Philippines
Paul Brown, TX	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Binu Zachariah 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • India
Perci & Nola Holness, FL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emmanuel Calvary A. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ghana
Wade Bishop, MN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • George W. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Syria
Keith & Yolinda Reyes, FL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brother Fong #26 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • China
Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd Dow, MI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edward Obonyo Sewe • Bambouni Babou 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kenya • Burkina Faso



**INTERNATIONAL
Visionary Trips**

July:
Albania

September:
Azerbaijan
Kyrgyzstan
Kazakhstan
Turkmenistan
Uzbekistan
Germany

Oct. - Nov.:
Thailand
Cambodia
Myanmar
Vietnam

December:
Honduras

Feb. - Mar. 2004:
India
Nepal
Syria

SCHEDULES



**CHURCH / GAM
MEETINGS**

July:
Tirana, Albania
Lazha, Albania
Chicago, IL
Birmingham, AL
Orlando, FL

August:
Cincinnati, OH
Meridian, MS
Commerce, GA
Cumming, GA

October:
Port Huron, MI

A TEAM Report from ... TOGO, West Africa
For information about TEAM projects, see page 15

From: Leo Yawli
Location: Lome

What was the total amount of the TEAM funds received?
\$145.00

What were these funds used for?

- ◆ *It was used for transportation to the supported pastors in various areas of Togo.*
- ◆ *Helping a pastor in need but not supported, Tona Kossi John*

Do you have any special needs we can pray about?

- ◆ *That the Lord may provide sponsors for the other pastors*
- ◆ *Wisdom and faithfulness to work better for the Lord*
- ◆ *Needs for land or shelter for the new churches we are establishing*

Dear TEAM sponsors:

Greetings to you in the Lord. The money you are sending is helping a lot. I can quickly and some times easily reach the sponsored pastors because I have money to pay the transportation and help some pastors not supported with a part of the money.

I appreciate your ministry toward us.

A TEAM Report from ... VIETNAM
For information about TEAM projects, see page 15

From: Nguyen T.
Location: Ho Chi Minh City

What was the total amount of the TEAM funds received?
\$492

What were these funds used for?

- ◆ *To help preachers without sponsors*
- ◆ *To support preachers being trained*
- ◆ *To provide gospel tracts for evangelism efforts*

Do you have any special needs we can pray about?

Please pray for the preachers serving in the Highlands where the persecution is severe. They are experiencing a lot of difficulties.

Dear TEAM sponsors:

We would like to thank you all and Final Frontiers for your love, prayer and continued support. We thank God for everything He has done for Vietnam through you. We want to report to you that in spite of persecution and much difficulties their churches in Vietnam continue to grow and remain strong. Many people have come to receive the Lord.

In the Highlands the preachers and believers have been beaten but the churches in these areas grow rapidly. Praise the Lord! Please continue to pray for us. Romans 8:28.

May the Lord richly bless each of you and your family.



**Final Frontiers
SOCIETY**

As much attention as our Camel Drive has received lately, I wanted you all to know that we are using other animals for unique purposes as well.

We had recently been contacted by a good friend who ministers in the Middle East and asked to give Bibles to the Kurds in Iraq and to also print Arabic Bibles. That having been accomplished, he allowed us to take part in smuggling Bibles into another land.

In an upcoming issue we will give the story of how this was done as well as some photographs. But for now let me say that we were able to provide him with \$2,500.00 for Bibles in the Farsi language. During one portion of their transport into Iran they are actually carried on donkey-back over treacherous mountains. Each Bible cost less than \$2.00 and a mule is capable of carrying 400 at a time. Thus, we provided just over 3 mules worth of Bibles. This could only be done because of your help in contributing to the Final Frontiers Society.

Our preachers worldwide are in need of Bibles to give out to their new converts and those with questions. Certainly though, pastors and church members need their own copy of God's precious Word. You can learn more of this opportunity by reading our cover story.



Eight boxes of Farsi Bibles can be carried by a single mule. Each box can be provided for slightly less than \$100.00

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 two samples.



India

Last trimester he reported ...

churches started	1
villages evangelized	1
professions of faith	11
Converts baptized	11

From: M. Solomon Raju
Sponsored by: Karen Kellogg, MI

Dear Sponsor,

Thank you very much for your prayers and for your regular help.

The other day I have verified all your Christmas greeting cards, wonderful letters and also your photograph because the full day I was at home. I was hurt. I was mentally upset. So to get some comfort and console I have gone through your letters. They gave me good comfort.

The reason I was like that is when myself and my wife went to preach to the nearby village we both were insulted. Several times (in the past) I went to the village. I led many people to Christ. I had a good number of known people (converts). Maybe all of this created the problem.

Some young men after (I) entered into the village stopped my bicycle and abused me and my wife. They even slapped my wife and ready to (actually) remove her upper clothes as punishment to become the wife of a preacher. They forcibly took away my bicycle. They removed my shirt and made (tore) it into pieces. (Traveling) just with my pants and my wife with half-naked reached home. For the sake of Christ we have tolerated. For the sake of Christ we were insulted. For the sake of Christ we both cried. No problem. For the sake of Christ we both are ready even to die. Please pray for us.



Uganda

Last trimester he reported ...

churches started	5
villages evangelized	8
professions of faith	88
Converts baptized	144

From: David Gagula Elexander
Sponsored by: Meyer Family, FL

Dear Robert and Sandi,

Greetings from our family. We opened a new church and there was a gospel rally for 2 days and 58 people were saved and 38 were baptized in the new church called Gogokyi Baptist Church. Pray for the young pastor. By now all my assistant pastors have started churches and others have taken their positions. Our churches (in Uganda) are growing and more saved. 152 people were saved in all our churches and 144 were baptized and I was involved with the other pastors to start 4 different churches in the new areas.

My wife Priscilla visited over 20 new houses and 16 people new have come to attend our church. Pray with us for them to get saved.

Last year our missionary Randy Stirewalt from Kenya visited us on graduation day and donated 5 bicycles to pastors of churches and it has made their travel easy to reach others.

There is much to do before the Lord calls us home and your partnership has me and your prayers to reach others for Christ. More in the next report.



India

Last trimester he reported ...

churches started	1
villages evangelized	3
professions of faith	29
Converts baptized	29

From: Bollarapu Samuel
Sponsored by: First Baptist, Georgetown DE

Dear Sponsor:

Thank you very much for your prayers and for your faithful financial assistance. Many times I was beaten, stoned,

assaulted and humiliated but still I have borne all these problems for the sake of Christ.

Last month I faced a great trouble. Myself and my wife went to a village for preaching which is a long way. We traveled almost fifty miles on the bicycles for twelve hours to spread the gospel. We had good meetings. People gave very good responses. There are no buses or trains or any transportations to this village except bicycles and motor scooters.

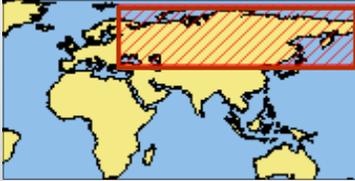
At the time of invitation 24 people came forward and accepted Lord Jesus Christ. I baptized them. Everything went well. After finishing the baptism I came to know that someone stole my bicycle. I do not know what to do. Then a small boy came and informed me that it was stolen as a punishment for leading these people to Christ. They did this not for gain but for jealousy. With a great difficulty we returned home the next day.

Prayer and Praise Reports from around the world ...

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

Russia

From Pastor Vasily Lastochkin
National Director



We wanted to thank you for your prayers. On June 2-4 we traveled to the prison for life sentenced men on the North of Russia. God went beyond of our desires

and dreams. 13 people from our church and two other organizations with God's help, had the concert there. 300 life sentenced man and guards heard beautiful songs about Jesus Christ and short message. We had to sing in front of the buildings where the prisoners were located, on the open air. After that the administration of the prison gave us permission to give our humanitarian aid to all prisoners personally. That means that we could talk with all of them. It was unbelievable!!!

Marina and girls, who were singing, were so broken, weeping for these precious souls. After the message I could hear some of them cry of the window "Amen", then I prayed with them to receive Jesus into their hearts. Many, when we talked to them in the cells, were so touched and shared with us their joy of salvation. We could not even dream about that. Then at night we had the concert for prison workers and their family members. All of them asked us to come back and we will. In September I will travel there with the small team just to talk with the prisoners and encourage them in faith.

During this trip we felt your prayers and the hand of God was so strong in leading us and so gentle in pouring His love to people. Thank you very much. Please, pray that god will provide for us the means to go in September, for special portable sound equipment a video projector and mini bus to travel. There are so many places to go. We want to go back and show them the movie about the Passion of Christ. If we could get a used video projector we could show it in many places.

One of our brethren has already rented a 300 seat theater in his city in order for us to show the film.



Siberia

From Pastor Pavel Gailans
Regional Director (sub group of Russia)



Everything that has happened in Tyumen during past two months is the fruit of your prayers! All of us have been very busy. On the 21st and 22d of May we had two

evangelistic concerts with "Reflection" group from Moscow

Kenya

From Randall Stirewalt, BBF Missionary
Regional Director Final Frontiers



We major our work on discipleship and training of young men for the ministry. The Bible Institute training is a very important part of the program. We have four Bible Insti-

tutes in Western Kenya and Eastern Uganda with 200 students this year.

The Bible Institute in West Pokot is in need of some serious help. The buildings were built more than twenty years ago using mud with cement plaster. These building are finished; in fact we are no longer using one dormitory for it is not safe.



This Institute has eighty students this year with nearly two hundred graduates from the last twenty years. We can build using bricks, which will make these into permanent buildings. The cost is \$26,500, which will include four classrooms, two dormitories, dinning hall and kitchen. We have already made and burned 35,000 bricks; we were able to make these at the Bible Institute.



The work goes on, last year (2003) 25 new churches were started, we were able to buy land and help with a roof for the temporary mud building. This year (2004) we have helped with another 12 new churches. We really need your help with this Bible Institute project.

church. About 450 people, without people from our own church, came to both concerts and many of them got saved. We heard some praying out loud to receive Christ into their hearts after salvation message. It was glorious! 70 people left their addresses and have been followed up.

In June we had presentation of the movie "The passion of Christ". We rented a hall for 300 people and it was full of people. The movie touched people deeply. Many were crying. After the movie we shared gospel message and prayed salvation prayer. About 40 people left their addresses and all of them have been either called or visited. We are so thankful to God for this movie and for the opportunity to use it to draw people to God. We are so thankful to God that He may use us to touch people's lives and to influence their eternal destiny. We trust God that He will continue to work in the lives of all of those people who heard the Gospel in Tyumen for past two months and that He would draw them near to God.

In August our group from Tyumen will meet in 2 million city Yekaterinburg with groups from Moscow and Kazan for the time of intense fellowship, evangelism, showing the Christian movie for 2 days in a city cinema hall and personal investment into the lives of the newly saved. May the Lord bless you abundantly!

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 opportunity of providing double sponsorship (\$70.00 monthly) if you prefer. This of course is not required. Your \$35 sponsorship also 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, all you need to do is inform 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 as little as \$10.00 monthly, or for any other amount you wish. *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 every 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 **Child Care**, gives assistance to an orphaned, abandoned or destitute child. The \$35.00 monthly sponsorship provides for lodging, 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.

Now it's your turn ...

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

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

Please contact me regarding sponsorship of:

___ a national preacher	___ a country's <i>TEAM</i> _____
___ an orphaned, abandoned or destitute child	___ membership in the Final Frontiers Society
___ other _____	



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AUTO

Final Frontiers
Foundation
1200 Peachtree St.
Louisville, Georgia
30434

Moved lately?

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

Reports received from the final frontiers ...

Reports received since the last Progress Report (two months ago) indicate there were ...	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 ...
269 Churches Started	21,932 Churches Started	1,276 Preacher Sponsorships
1,592 Villages Evangelized	80,268 Villages Evangelized	103 TEAM Sponsorships
8,478 Professions of Faith	631,263 Professions of Faith	51 Orphans Supported
3,248 Believers Baptized	215,630 Believers Baptized	66 Countries involved

AS of June 30, our readers have given funds to purchase more than 300 camels ! Over 100 have already been delivered. If you are interested in helping with this project, we will continue to collect funds until the end of August. A camel can be purchased for only \$50.

Photos will be included in the next issue of the Progress Report.

