

August-September 2024 Newsletter

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# I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Philippians 3:14

Thayer's concordance defines the word 'press' as to run a race with the idea of reaching a goal. Judy and I will complete thirty-eight years of missionary service this coming April. Over the years, I have made it a practice to set goals in three- five- and ten-year increments. At the beginning of each year, I stop to look back at where the Lord has brought us and to re-evaluate our future goals.

November 3<sup>rd</sup>, if the Lord allows, I will turn 67 years old. Over the past couple years there have been some health issues that have slowed down our plans. Thanks to the goodness of our Lord and his guidance to find the right doctors, Judy and I are both doing very well and back to a busy schedule. In the past several months, I have worked to secure my volunteer status in three state prison systems with the goal of helping our newer missionaries whenever my schedule allows. In addition, I believe the Lord will have me to begin making international trips again.

As I write this letter, I am flying to Brazil. Brother Mike Adams and I will be working in a new region approximately 4 hours north of Sao Paulo. We will be preaching in a pastor's conference and a volunteer meeting. In addition, we will be visiting a couple new prisons. We now have eight full time Brazilian missionaries working in prisons and public schools throughout the country. It is our prayer the Lord will raise up new families while we are in the country. Help us pray for souls saved and that our missionaries will be challenged to do more to reach the over 750,000 inmates in their regions.

The past couple months have been very busy. The first of August concluded our Rock of National Conference. The Lord again this year met with us in a great way. We have been praying the Lord would pay off all the debt at the Rock of Ages. Thanks to the great giving of our missionary families and Rock of Ages friends, the debt is paid off and

all the properties are free and clear. This will allow us to add more help at the office and to expand the printing and warehouse needs. PRAISE THE LORD!

Judy and I were blessed to be in several churches, and I was in a couple prison meetings. We praise the Lord for allowing us to see three souls saved in our travels. We again have completed two weeks at the home office for candidate classes and staff meetings. It is such a blessing to take a week with our field staff and hear the great things that the Lord is doing on the field. From new curriculum for the public-school outreach, to the developing of material to be placed on various apps where prisoners can watch preaching and study the Bible online. We had five families during our candidate class week. All the families seem to be doing great as they continue with their deputation. Please help us pray that the Lord will continue to send forth laborers.

As I mentioned, I have a desire to make at least three foreign trips next year. In the spring of the year, I will be in Accra, Ghana West Africa, then a few weeks later there is a great need for me to visit Romania and Hungary. Later in the year I have been asked to preach a pastors' conference in Brazil and present the need for volunteers in the prisons. Please help us pray for the financial needs of these trips and that the Lord will continue to keep me healthy.

Again, thank you for your prayers and support. There is no way we could see the many souls saved around the world without the faithful support of our friends and partners.

God bless You, Your Missionaries

Ricky and Judy Dungstord

2 Corinthians 4:5 For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake.



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"And the Pharisees and scribes murmured, saying, This man receiveth sinners, and eateth with them.". Luke 15:2

The above verse is truly one of my favorite statements in the Bible. Often, I stop and just praise the Lord that he still saves and receives sinners. In his concordance, Thayer defines the word 'receiveth' as to admit or give access to one's self. The Lord says in Luke 5:32, "I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."

Over the past three decades many of you have join the Rock of Ages by supporting the Titus Partners Outreach. Together we have been able to enable and empower thousands of foreign nationals to reach their nation's prisons through ongoing evangelism, ongoing Bible Study through the Prisoner's Bible Institute correspondence courses, teaching Character and Emotional Concept course in the public schools through the Prison Prevention Programs. In addition, our missionaries have been able to assist our national volunteers in starting churches that in a big part have given several former inmates and their families a place to grow and serve. Every month, somewhere in the world, our partners depend on our support both prayerfully and finances. The Lord has given access to the sinner through the message of the gospel.

Thank you again this month for partnering with us in taking the message that "THIS MAN RECEIVETH SINNERS."

Thanks to your partnership we can report from the field the past couple months:

#### Zambia

- 13 services
- 1,578 inmates in attendance
- 290 professions of faith

#### Ghana

- 44 services
- 3139 inmates in attendance
- 360 professions of faith

## Brazil

- 15 prisons visited
- 3086 in attendance
- 225 professions of faith

### Romania

• Through the Prisoners Bible Institute correspondence courses there were 19 saved this past month

In recent months, we have shipped several containers, boxes and barrels to various countries that are loaded with Bibles, lessons and gospel tracts in addition to our in-country printing. Please help us pray for these ongoing needs. Help us pray that the Lord would add more monthly supporters to the Titus Partners Outreach.

Thank you again for your faithfulness.

In Christ's Service,

Dr. Ricky Dunsford

Vice President, Rock of Ages Ministries

2 Corinthians 4:5 For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake.

7. Terry R. Ellis, President

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