



"For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord." II Corinthians 4:5

Dr. Terry R. Ellis, President | Dr. Ricky Dunsford, Executive Vice President



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September-October 2018 Newsletter

"Redeeming the time, because the days are evil." Ephesians 5:16

The word 'redeem' entered the English language around the 15th century and it means "to pay a ransom for, or to buy back something". When I sat down this month to write to you I was thinking on the above verse. It is hard to believe we are finishing up the tenth month of this year and before you know it we will close out another year. In just a couple weeks I turn sixty-one years old. It really seems like just yesterday Judy and the kids and I loaded up our little car and set out on our missionary journey. One thing I am certain there are fewer days ahead than there are behind. As I thought on Ephesians 5:16, I thought of an old phrase I heard from an elderly gentleman when he was asked how are you doing? His reply was, "I am buying time". Judy and I realize the Lord has blessed us by allowing us to redeem our time as missionaries. One of the greatest blessings has been the privilege of sharing that time with so many friends that have partnered with us to reach sinners worldwide. Thank you again for the time you given us through your faithful support and prayers. It is our desire to continue to Redeem the time the Lord gives us.

Since returning from Brazil our schedule has again been a very busy one, of which we praise the Lord for his goodness to us in all our travels. It was a great joy to preach a revival meeting at the True Vine Baptist Church in Mt Airy, NC. Pastor Hanes and the church family were a great blessing the entire week. It was then off to the Home Office in Cleveland, TN to teach during the week of our Candidate Classes. We do praise the Lord for sending new families to labor with us at the Rock of Ages. This is also a week where all candidates from a year prior return for Advance Training. We ask our families as candidates to be prepared to leave public work after one year and step out full time on deputation. The Advance Classes are a time we help the families prepare for life on the road. Please pray as these families continue by faith to raise their needed finances for the work the Lord has called them too.

After the Candidate Classes Judy and I were able to take part in our home church mission conference. I praise the Lord for a pastor and church that is so faithful to supporting missionaries. Pastor Barrow shared with me that it appears we have exceeded our goal again this year. Judy and I have been members of Faith Bible Baptist church for now 38 ½ years and it has been a blessing to be involved in missions since we were saved.

After the mission conference it was off to the doctors. Praise the Lord I had my second cataract surgery and everything is going well. The day after my surgery Judy had an epidural in her lower neck. We both are doing well and back on the road for several weeks.

Update on South Korea. Due to Judy and my medical situations I have postpone my trip to the Philippines and South Korea till the first of next April. I have scheduled to two prison revivals here in the states for November so pray the Lord gives us great liberty in these meetings.

February 25-28, 2019 will mark the tenth year since we began our Alabama Campaign in Montgomery, AL. Thousands of prisoners have heard the gospel and hundreds have been saved through soul winning visitation and evening preaching services. Please pray for the meeting this coming year. If you would like to attend please let me know at rickydunsford@gmail.com.

Thank you again this month for your faithful prayers.

In Christ's Service,

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ROCK of AGES MINISTRIES

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*"After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands;"
Revelation 7:9*

Since the beginning of the Foreign Outreach of the Rock of Ages we realized that the answer to reaching prisoners throughout a nation would need to be done through a partnership with foreign nationals. The Bible is clear that the Lord is interested in reaching the entire world and he has commissioned the church to accomplish the task. The above verse describes the world as nations, kindreds, people and tongues. It is obvious that the Lord desires that all people of all nations be reached with the gospel. In order for the church to reach the world, an understanding that culture, custom and communication are barriers that must be overcome.

Your faithful support and gifts help to provide Bibles and scriptural material and to support a foreign national family reach their nation. Through your faithful gifts the Rock of Ages is able to provide thousands of prisoners with regular Discipleship lessons in their native language. Ongoing programs in public and private schools are reached through the Character Under Construction Curriculum. In order to make the material available, the need to translate material, purchase Bibles, provide warehousing and offices on foreign soil the prayers and giving of God's people is vital to reaching a nation. Thank you again for partnering with us in reaching the world with the Glorious Gospel of our Lord.

Special Prayer:

- The forty-foot container has arrived in Ghana, West Africa pack with material to be distributed in several West African countries. The container is presently stuck in custom as a result of changes to local codes. The country is asking us to pay several thousand dollars for the container to be released. In times past no duty was required because the material is considered benevolent. Please pray with us that all fees will be waived and the material will be released before the end of October.
- Due to several thousands of dollars needed to repair our office in Brazil and the deterioration of the location we have decided to sell the office and relocate to the northern part of the city of Ribeiro Preto. Please help us pray the office will sell quickly and that the Lord will lead us to the right contractors to start building the new facility in 2019. Pray for Brother John Alves and Brother Mike Adams as they take on the building project.
- We are presently translating our Prisoners Bible Institute Material and the Character Under Construction courses in several languages. Please help us pray the material is translated and printed quickly and correctly.
- For years we have been evangelizing public schools overseas. Recently, an influx of request has come from around the world for ongoing programs. Pray with us as we work to organize and international structure for training volunteers, translating needed material and purchasing of Bibles and New Testaments.

Thank you again for your faithful prayers and partnership.

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