



ROCK of AGES MINISTRIES



"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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"For all flesh is as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away:"1 Peter 1:24

Historians say that flowers were a language that was spoken without words. A message to a friend, a greeting to a new acquaintance, a message of love to someone dear to you and even a message to an enemy. Even today flowers are an emotional expression. Though the beauty of the flower has longed passed away the memory of the gift remains. Peter expresses though the work of the person ceases with the ending of life, the word of the Lord **endureth** forever. This month marked the 39th year since I preached my first message which only lasted 5 minutes. Since that first message I have been privileged to preach hundreds of times worldwide. It has been a great joy seeing sinners come to Christ and to have part in training and equipping others to serve. As a flower we all just fade away but the message we share will endure for generations to come. Now a missionary for 32 years, Judy and I have seen several of our dearest friends and servants of the Lord go home to receive eternal glory. Men and woman that shined with such glory in our lives now faded from this life. As I thought on this verse I thought of the many of you that pray and give that the one thing that will never fade away will be spread around the world. Thank you to all that have been with us from the beginning and to those the Lord has added along the way. We look forward serving with you as long as the Lord allows us.

The past month we held the 42nd annual Rock of Ages National Conference at the Franklin Road Baptist Church in Murfreesboro, TN. Pastor Norris and the church folks were the great host. This year we heard some great preaching and many of our missionaries stated it challenged them to press on and do more in 2020. Every year we give the results for the following year which the Lord again used the many volunteers and missionary families to see 39,918 souls saved worldwide. Over 20,000 prisoners worldwide study through the Prisoner's Bible Institute and thousands of school kids went through the ministries Character Under Construction Courses. Praise the Lord for another great year.

The remaining of the year is very busy with thousands of miles of travel ahead. Please pray that the Lord will watch over our travels with safety and good health. Also, Judy and I want to thank those who gave to some unexpected medical/dental needs.

Upcoming trips:

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| August 28-30 | ROA Regional Conference - Pittsburg, PA |
| September 1-11 | Trip to Romania |
| September 16-20 | Missionary Candidate Classes - Cleveland, TN |
| September 23-Oct 8 | Trip to Philippines |
| October 13-16 | Church Revival - Wetumpka, AL |
| October 21-25 | Staff Meetings - Cleveland, TN |
| November 1-5 | Trip to Guatemala |
| November 14-25 | Trips to Tennessee, North Carolina, Virginia-Prison Revival meetings. |
| December 1-21 | Several meetings throughout Tennessee, Georgia and Florida |

Recently, we were able to send a container full of Bibles and New Testaments to Kenya and Uganda and the need again for a second container has arisen. I received an email from a missionary friend in the Philippines asking if I could supply him with 10 Rock of Ages Study Bibles for his Bible College graduates. I then receive a call asking could I get the New Officers New Testament for a good chaplain friend. Would you pray with me about this ongoing ministry? I would like to make Bibles and New Testaments available where the individuals have local jail and prison works. If you would like to help please mark the donation for Ricky Dunsford's Bible Account.

In Christ's Service,

Dr. Ricky Dunsford

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Titus Partners August 2019

"For David, after he had served his own generation by the will of God, fell on sleep, and was laid unto his fathers, and saw corruption." Acts 13:36

From shepherd boy, to a warrior, to a captain of the armies of Israel and would finish his life as King of the nation that all history and the future is centered around. A great song writer and praise of men, David was surely what today's society would say an accomplished man. Though human with sinful moments, David was called the apple of God's eye. But, it was not covetous desire to succeed or to build great empires that made David the man God chose to establish the throne. It was that David did not fail in serving his own generation. The greatest crowning of any child of God is the words, **"Well done thy good and faithful servant"**!

As partners together in reaching a world I draw two things from the above passage. First, it is that David served his own generation. Every year at the Rock of Ages National Conference we take a night and recognize our missionaries that have completed years of services. This year we recognized Brother Steve Gregory for 40 years of faithful missionary service. Brother Gregory was my personal mentor when I joined the ministry and was instrumental in making the first foreign trip possible. We also recognized the first foreigner to be accepted as a missionary with the ministry 25 years ago. Brother and Sister Mircea Cristian received their gold rings for faithfully serving their generation in Romania. Thanks to many of you that helped, the entire trip was paid for and this family truly received the honor due a faithful servant.

The second thought drawn from this passage is that David served his own generation. David had a people, a nation and a destiny to serve. This meant that David was responsible to reach every age group. It is obvious that if we neglect the service to the younger generation, the future of the next generation will struggle. I remember after days of rice, chicken and fish I was longing for some American style food. The missionary on the Philippine Island of Cebu said, we have a TGI Friday's here and I said I will buy if you will take us. When we sat down I noticed 8-10-year-old children all dressed in the same uniforms as our waiters.

I asked what are they doing and the management said, their parents pay for them to come here and work with the staff. The reason was to teach the children to be a servant. I thought now there is how you reach your generation and prepare a future generation to be servants. At the Rock of Ages our primary focus is reaching prisoners worldwide.

One area of ministry that has flourished in America has been the Prison Prevention Program. For several years the ministry has been working in public and private schools with Character Courses with the primary goal of sharing the gospel and detouring these young minds from making choices that could land them behind bars. For years we have been involved in child evangelism overseas, but we were lacking in developing a more structured program. In the past few years the international staff and I have been working with our US personnel in developing an ongoing ministry in schools around the world. In the past year the Lord has opened more doors and has begun sending personnel to focus on this work.

As partners together, we need your prayers. The heart of government officials will need to be touched as we present the Character Under Construction Programs. The minds of parents will need to be opened to look beyond their tradition beliefs. Of course, the need for faithful partners to join with us in meeting the many needs of this area of ministry. Already we have several national partners being trained to reach their local schools. Help us pray as we develop this vital area of outreach.

Thank you again this month for your faithful gifts to the Titus Partners Outreach.

In Christ's Service,

Dr. Ricky Dunsford

Dr. Ricky Dunsford
Executive Vice President