

International FOCUS Ministries

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God uses ordinary people like you and me!

Throughout the Bible it is not unusual to see that God delights in using common ordinary people, like you and me, to accomplish His purposes. The following are some examples:

☐ Jacob, known as a liar, was used to “father” the Israelite nation (Genesis 27). Joseph, a persecuted slave, saved his family and the Egyptian nation from starvation (Genesis 39ff).

☐ Moses, a shepherd and murderer in exile led Israel out of bondage, to the Promised Land (Exodus 3).

☐ Gideon, an ordinary farmer, delivered Israel from Midian (Judges 6).

☐ Jephthah, a son of a prostitute, delivered Israel from the Ammonites (Judges 11).

Hannah, a housewife, was the mother of Samuel (1Samuel 1).

☐ David, a shepherd boy and last-born of the family, became Israel’s greatest king (1Samuel 16).

Ezra, a scribe, led the return to Judah and wrote some of the Bible (Ezra, Nehemiah).

☐ Esther, a slave girl, saved her people from total massacre (Esther).

☐ Mary, a peasant girl, became the mother of Christ (Luke 1:26-38).

☐ Matthew, a tax collector, became an apostle and Gospel writer (Matthew 9:9).

☐ Luke, a Greek physician, became a companion of Paul and a Gospel writer (Colossians 4:14)

☐ Peter, a fisherman, became an apostle, a leader of the early church, and a writer of two New Testament epistles (Matthew 4:18-20).

In addition, Scripture reveals a host of unnamed heroes God mightily used, such as Gideon’s band of three hundred warriors, the boy who brought Jesus the loaves and fishes, the Good Samaritan who gave aid to the beaten traveler on the Jericho road, the despised Samaritan woman who brought her entire village out to see and hear Jesus, and the person who prepared the upper room for the last supper Jesus observed with His disciples before the crucifixion.

Ordinary people doing extraordinary works for God, is the witness of history and the testimony of the present! You may feel unimportant and totally inadequate to do anything for God, but I have great news for you — God has given you a talent, a gift, an ability that He wants to use in the work of His kingdom. He has a place and work designed especially for you, and you can do it because with God nothing is impossible! God will never guide where He does not provide, and if you will obey Him He will guide you into that special place in your church, your community, or elsewhere in the world where He will use you for His glory!

In the Ukraine for instance, where things are not easy, particularly for women to do public ministry, God has touched a dear sister who has done an incredible work for God. In just four years, Sister Valentina has planted 29 new churches. God has honored her faith as she has ignored opposition, persecution, the lack of transportation, the lack of

funds, etc to do what she has been called and gifted to do.

We all have a place to serve in this great last day harvest before Jesus returns. Some of us go, most others stay, but we are all to be engaged in fulfilling the Great Commission. Both the front-line and supply-line workers are necessary and needed to complete the work. Please notice the words of Jesus in John 4: 37,38, *“For in this the saying is true: ‘One sows and another reaps.’ ‘I sent you to reap that for which you have not labored; others have labored, and you have entered into their labors.’”* NKJV

INDIA HARVEST

By the time you receive this letter, the Lord willing, I will be already in India for the 24th year serving in this fascinating country. Through your prayers and support you will join me for a month of ministry in three states. As usual, I will be doing numerous types of ministry, from evangelistic/healing crusades, to training national pastors and leaders, teaching in Bible schools, ministering to children in four Children’s Homes, reviewing our three new elementary schools for children of all religions, dedicating new churches and water wells we have provided this past year, counseling leaders, attending the special service where ‘a son in the faith’ V.V. Thomas, receives his earned PhD degree at Union Biblical Seminary. This is the oldest theological seminary in India, started by the Free Methodist years ago. I will have the honor to speak to the Faculty and student body on this occasion.



the final week of our Three Month Intensive Training School and assist Rev. Walter Zygarewicz in the graduation service and minister in as many churches as our time allows.

I will be sharing more details about the Africa/ Ukraine meetings in the next newsletter.

Meanwhile, will you join us in these efforts to win lost souls, train leadership, and minister to the spiritual and natural needs of vast numbers of people in these countries? What can I do? You ask. You can have a vital and equal part in these outreach ministries through your faithful prayers and financial support.

First, let me ask you to make a definite decision to faithfully pray for us on a daily basis. John Wesley said, “God does nothing except by prayer”, and your prayers mean everything to us. Pray that we will have good health, traveling mercies, divine favor, divine anointing to minister, and a glorious harvest of souls.

Secondly, I realize we are all inundated with financial appeals and we are simply not able to give to every appeal. That is also why I ask you to pray. If the Lord speaks to your heart to help us, whatever He says to do, please do it—you will be blessed and whatever the size of the gift, it will be a special blessing and deeply appreciated.

I was richly blessed and encouraged this morning in my devotions and I encourage you to also read Psalm 20. We are praying that the promised blessings of this Psalm will be yours in abundance throughout this New Year. We love you and appreciate your faithful partnership.

Yours for the harvest,

Harley and Donna Fiddler

SOUTH AFRICA & UKRAINE HARVEST

I have only four weeks to be in the States following my return from India before going to South Africa and the Ukraine. Rev. Tony Abram and I will do evangelistic/healing crusades, Pastors and leaders conferences, and the annual Easter Convention in the Durban and Johannesburg area. From Africa we will travel to the Ukraine to teach in



Partners in Harvest