



INTERNATIONAL UPDATE

July 30, 2007

The *On Target Ministry* Newsletter
Serving God through International Education

Dr. Jim Bearss, President

Support Address: 2455 Scenic Valley Dr, West Des Moines, IA 50265

Dear **SUPPORT TEAM** and *Fellow-laborers in the cause of Christ,*

NEWS FROM THE ROAD

Sunday we began our 2nd year of deputation ministry. “**Deputation**” is an old term referring to the process of asking churches and individuals to support your ministry. More modern terms include “people raising” and “assembling a Support Team.” There are other terms as well. But what ever you call it, the purpose is the same: bringing the missionary to full support so he can focus 100% on his ministry. After one year, God has blessed us with a **SUPPORT TEAM** of 3 churches and 36 individuals (up 4 in July) whose combined monthly giving accounts for **39%** of our necessary support. **Thank you!**

HOW YOUR GIVING HELPS

It still amazes me when people are surprised to find out that we have people supporting us regularly for \$15 or \$20 a month. “**Can that amount really make a difference?**” they ask. “**Yes!**” I say. The bulk of support in modern missions comes, not from churches whose missions budgets are already stretched, but from people, individuals, couples, college students, who want to “**make a difference**” in the world for Christ. They give what they can, and God honors them for their giving. Jesus said of the widow’s gift of two mites (the smallest copper coin, much like our penny) “**Assuredly, I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all those who have given to the treasury; for they all put in out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all that she had, her whole livelihood.**”

However, it also still amazes me when people are surprised to find out that a few people are supporting us regularly for \$50, \$100, \$300, and even more each month. “**How can they do that?**” they wonder. “**Simple!**” I say. The Bible teaches a **key principle** in giving in *Luke 6:38*. Jesus said,

“Give, and it will be given to you: good measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over will be put into your bosom. For with the same measure that you use, it will be measured back to you.” (emphasis added)

The reason some people give large amount (even when they must sacrifice to do so) is because God blesses them for their generous giving. Jesus also said, “**It is more blessed to give than to receive**” (Acts 20:35). It’s really that simple. “**What kind of blessing?**” you may ask. The answer could be material blessing, but most often it is spiritual blessing, especially in the form of a growing heart for God (see Philippians 3:10). In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus told us to “lay up treasures in heaven.” Why? “**For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also**” (Matthew 6:21). Notice this important relationship: **your heart follows your treasure!** So put your treasures where you want your heart to be!

WHAT YOUR GIVING ACCOMPLISHES

The **single focus** of **On Target Ministry** is the **training of national pastors**. (Click on these links for a good overview of our mission: <http://www.baptistbulletin.org/?p=495> or <http://www.ontargetministry.org>) Since I began training national pastors in 2002 (see picture), I have traveled to Jamaica, Egypt, Mali,



the Niger, the Ukraine, Romania, and Haiti. These trips have allowed me the privilege of teaching the Bible to over 400 national pastors. These men, in turn, have taught hundreds, and in some cases thousands, of others the same courses I taught them. This is **2 Timothy 2:2** in action!

In 2007, I have already been to Egypt, Haiti, and Romania, and next week I will be going to Jamaica. Two trips for Romania are scheduled for September and October. **Note: God enabled us to minister this extensively while at only 39% of our support!** What

a great God! **“How does God do this?”** you may ask. Answer: by prompting people to make special gifts to **On Target Ministry**. Each trip overseas is costly, but God has provided for these trips by **special giving** over and above our monthly support. **What excites me is the thought of how much more we will be able to do once we are at full support!**

BE AN “ON TARGET” AMBASSADOR

One member of our **SUPPORT TEAM** has enlisted two others to become regular monthly supporters of **On Target Ministry**. Thank you! We need more ambassadors like that! Will you introduce the unique mission of **On Target Ministry** to someone? You can tell them about what we do, show them our newsletters, and direct them to our website. Your enthusiasm for this work can be quite contagious!



Kristine, James, Anna, Jim, Sharon

WHERE WE’VE BEEN

In July we presented our ministry at **Calvary Baptist Church** (Menomonee Falls, WI), **Bible Baptist Fellowship** (Brookville, OH), **Wheelerburg Baptist Church** (Wheelerburg, OH), and **Grace Bible Church** (Winston Salem, NC). Pray with us that these churches will soon be supporting us.

JAMAICA!!!

On August 5th, I will be winging my way to **Jamaica** where I will have the privilege of teaching at a leadership training camp and at Fairview Baptist Bible College. Pray that as we train these young people in the Word of God that God will equip them to be mighty witnesses for Christ and church planters for the glory of God.

PRAYER REQUESTS

1. **Teaching in Romania**, Sept 6-21, 2007. (Establishing a new work with the **gypsy pastors!** **Still need \$2,500.**)
2. **Teaching in Romania**, Oct 11-22, 2007. (A new ministry with Romanian pastors in the west. **Still need \$3,000.**)
3. **Haiti Bible Institute** (**\$100,000 needed** to fund four years of operation. **What an opportunity!**)

We are Striving to please an Audience of One,

Dr. Jim & Anna Betsy Bearss

On Target Ministry

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We stand in the service of the sovereign God
whose purposes cannot fail,
whose words do not fall to the ground, and whose
people shall be saved.