



## ON TARGET MINISTRY

Serving God through International  
Education since 2006

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*Teaching Faithful  
Men to Teach  
Others, also.*

*2 Timothy 2:2*

## INTERNATIONAL UPDATE

## NOVEMBER 2009

### Thanksgiving 2009 Issue!

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.** Familiar words, but what tremendous meaning they hold! We serve a great and awesome God who has blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ Jesus or Lord. This special issue of *International Update* will focus on the great blessings – material and spiritual – that God has blessed us with. “In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.” (1 Thessalonians 5:18)

**First**, I thank God for my wonderful wife, Anna, and our three children. God has blessed me greatly with a supportive wife and understanding children. Being gone so many weeks out of the year is a challenge to family life, but God has given grace to us all so that we can deal with the times we are apart and enjoy the days we are together. Additionally, God has blessed our daughters with wonderful husbands, extending our family in a blessed way.

**Second**, I thank God for this ministry. This year was a landmark year for me personally. It was my 50<sup>th</sup> year as a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, and it was my 34<sup>th</sup> year in full time vocational Christian ministry. As I look back, I am amazed at the evidence of God's providential hand in my life. Truly the Apostle Paul was correct when he wrote, “Therefore, since we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we do not lose heart.” (2 Corinthians 4:1) Every day I thank God that He allows me to serve Him in this wonderful and rewarding way; and I rejoice in His sustaining grace to do His will.



The pastors and students in Jordan 2009

**Third**, the supporters of On Target Ministry always provide a strong source of encouragement. If it were not for your faithful giving and your fervent prayers, this ministry would not be the success that it is. God has blessed your giving and praying in marvelous ways. Presently the On Target Support Team consists of 5 churches and 48 individuals or families who regularly send gifts to sustain the ministry of training national pastors overseas. Together you make a great team! Currently we are at 53% of our monthly support goal. Keep praying with us that God will raise up the additional support we need to operate our ministry at 100%.

**Fourth**, I thank God for dear friends. Tragically, God saw fit to take one of these friends unexpectedly into His presence. Andre Revis was a close friend, and a generous supporter of On Target Ministry. I met Andre when he was one of my students at Moody Bible Institute. We spent many hours on the phone talking theology! He became our most generous supporter. Last month, Andre was killed in an automobile accident in Los Angeles. He is survived by his dear wife Lisa, and their two young sons, Enoch and Elijah. Please uphold these dear ones in prayer. Lisa understands that her sorrow is not like those who have no hope. So pray for God's grace to sustain them as they adjust to their loss.



**Fifth**, I praise God for my mother, my sister, and my brother. **Mom** was the very first supporter of On Target Ministry! What a blessing she has been to all of us. I praise God for her good health, and for the wonderful care He has shown to her over the years. He has given her a lovely home in Florida and a great church with many friends and a superb pastor! (The picture is mom and Kristine at her wedding.) **Marcea** is a blessing, too. She faithfully prays for us and shows much love and care for the whole family. **John** has also been a great blessing over the years. He has helped many people set up retirement plans to

remember ministries in ways that benefit not only the ministry, but also the family. John is a certified professional Financial Advisor, and he would be delighted to help you establish a strategic plan to help both your family and our ministry in the future. Please call him **(800) 588-5364** or visit him on the Web at **Lifetime Decisions Management** <http://www.donet.com/~jbearss/ldm.htm>. You will be surprised how easy and financially sound it is to plan your giving to include On Target Ministry.

**Finally**, let me share with you **some praise and prayer items**: while the economy has been hit hard with a recession, the giving to On Target Ministry has remained fairly constant. Thank you for making this unique work a priority. Last month we shared the need to purchase **20 copies** of the **French Edition of the MacArthur Study Bible** to give to each pastor/student enrolled in the Haiti Bible Institute. So far, gifts have come in for 15 Bibles! The Bibles costs about **\$70 each**. Your giving toward this project will make a world of difference to these **faithful men!**

**Pray** for the sale of our Wisconsin home. We have been waiting on the Lord to bring us a buyer for 3½ years now. Our desire is to move close to a large airport making my overseas travel less complicated. Also pray that more churches and individuals will begin regular support of our ministry. We have been serving in OTM full time since 2006, and we are trusting God to raise up the support we need. Pray about this with us; encourage your church and your friends to join you in supporting On Target Ministry.

Anna and I praise God that this Thanksgiving we will home with all our family present! This will be the first Thanksgiving like this since 2006. We are praying for a blessed time together. We also pray that your Thanksgiving will be filled with the joy that only God can bring; that you will be overflowing with gratitude for His goodness.

Grace & peace from our Great God & Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ!

***Dr. Jim & Anna Bearss***

