



Serving God through International Education

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**TEACHING
FAITHFUL
MEN TO
TEACH
OTHERS**

2 TIMOTHY 2:2

INTERNATIONAL UPDATE

JANUARY 2010

Happy New Year!

AS WE BEGIN A NEW YEAR and a new decade, we rejoice in the marvelous opportunities God has placed before us. This year, we will be traveling to **Jamaica, Egypt, the Philippines, Haiti, and Jordan**. Eight major trips are confirmed, and two additional trips to Lebanon are in the planning stages. Pray that God will give us the wisdom and resources to accomplish all that He would be pleased for us to do.

Taking a moment to review 2009 brings one outstanding thought to mind: **GOD IS FAITHFUL TO US!** It is more than a cliché to say "Praise God from whom all blessings flow." It is absolute truth. What do we have that has not come from the gracious hand of God? His goodness is overwhelming as He watches over us in countless ways and meets every need with unlimited resources.



Anna visiting with Frieda in Jordan. She was delighted to receive a copy of my course book in Arabic. She lived in her village long before the Muslims came. She wept with joy to hear the gospel preached once again in her town.

God has shown us His provision in a number of ways great and small:

1. **Health & Safety in Overseas Venues.** The fact that God has sustained us and kept us safe and strong is amazing evidence of His grace toward us. (2 Corinthians 12:9-10)
2. **Financial Needs Met 100%.** While our committed support level is only 54%, we have seen God move people to send special gifts that allow us to carry on our work full time.
3. **Haiti Bible Institute Established!** In May 2009 we held Module 1 of the Haiti Bible Institute. Module 2 was in September 2009. Two additional modules are scheduled for 2010. Praise God for making it possible for us to train these committed national pastors in the Word of God in a safe facility.
4. **French Study Bibles for Every Pastor in HBI.** Twenty Study Bibles have been purchased to deliver in Module 3 in May 2010. Read on for news about the next book project. Providing good Christian study books in French is a great way to help these dedicated pastors learn.



5. **Selling Our Wisconsin Home.** Our house has not yet sold, but we are still confident that God will sell it in His perfect time. We long for the day when we can live 5 minutes (rather than 3-4 hours) from a major airport! Keep praying for this need.
6. **Spiritual Lessons Learned!** The memorable lesson in 2009: *"God is always being good to us!"* There are times when it does not seem that way, nevertheless, our God is a good and gracious God, and His goodness extends to us even in our deepest trials and most difficult challenges.

If you would like to help **On Target Ministry in 2010** and rejoice with us in the blessing of God upon this unique work, here are a few opportunities where you can participate:

1. Become a member of the **Support Team** by sending regular financial support to our mission.
2. **Help us with a Project.** The current projects include ...
 - a. **The French Pastoral Library.** For \$200 I can buy 6 excellent books in French! These books will be a tremendous blessing and help to the Haitian pastors that I teach.
 - b. **Airfare.** We cannot teach if we cannot go! Because we are not at full support, our unfunded airfare needs for 2010 cost \$16,000. Your help would be magnificent!
 - c. **Church Support.** We are praying for God to lead several churches to add us to their missionary support budgets. You could ask your church to consider adding us for support or raising our existing support.
 - d. **Project Lebanon.** God is opening a door for us to train national pastors in Lebanon. These men have a fervent desire to reach Muslims with the gospel. If we can interest 20 people in supporting one pastor each, we will be able to pursue starting this school.



Our entire family gathered in the Northwoods to celebrate Thanksgiving! It was a delightful blessing to be together. Our daughters (Kristine, Sharon) are married to wonderful, godly young men (Ed, Rob), and James is learning and growing every day in spirit, strength and stature.

IN CLOSING, LET ME EXPRESS my deepest thanks to all of you for your faithfulness in prayers and giving in 2009. We all know the challenges we faced, financially and spiritually; yet, God continued to prove Himself faithful by providing for you to continue helping us. **Thank you** for your sensitivity to God's grace and leading in your lives. You are a blessing to us. Our prayer is that in 2010 you will be able to abound more and more in your giving so that the blessings of God will abound to your account.

All of Grace!

Dr. Jim & Anna Bearss

"Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is thy faithfulness." (Lamentations 3:22-23)