

The Final Frontiers Foundation

Progress Report

Third Quarter 2025



TOUCH A LIFE

One Child At A Time

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www.missions.world

Through the funding of national and native preachers, we endeavor to effectively advance the Gospel where it has never been preached before.

The Progress Report is a free, quarterly publication of the **Final Frontiers Foundations, Inc.** Currently we are ministering in over eighty countries; many of which are closed to foreign missionaries. In other countries, work among the various tribal groups is restricted to national preachers only; thus they are open to us because of our unique method of missions.

We believe that the training and subsidizing of national preachers is the most efficient and effective method of global evangelism. We seek to raise prayer and financial support from believers in the West, for God's servants abroad, who are actively involved in church planting and discipleship.

Selection of those we sponsor is dependent upon their doctrinal beliefs, need, reputation and ministry experience. We support only those who are serving by faith, never those who are waiting for a salary in order to serve. Worldwide, the average preacher in a third-world country needs as little as \$25.00 - \$350.00 each month to support his family and ministry.

All those subsidized through this foundation are involved in church planting. Their various outreach ministries include: Bible translation and distribution, radio and television broadcasting, camps, Bible schools, outdoor and film evangelism, educational and health programs, handicap and leper ministries, orphan and children's ministries, etc. The Foundation receives its funding from individuals, churches, businesses, etc. who choose to support our preachers, projects, or desperate children under the Foundation's oversight; or give general donations allowing the funds to be used where needed.

CURRENT MINISTRIES

The Progress Report contains articles dedicated to their purposes and providing accountability for those who support those causes are listed on page 23.

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Final Frontiers® is a non-profit, religious corporation, founded by Jon Nelms in 1987, and is governed by those serving on the Executive Board of Directors: Rev. Jon Nelms (*Chairman*), Rev. Daniel Nelms (*President*), Rev. Michael Horne (*Secretary/Treasurer*), Rev. Tim Schelling, Rev. Don Prosser, Rev. Steve Ware, Rev. Anthony Lamb, and Mrs. Suzanne Raper. Further council is provided by those serving on the National Boards of Advisors.

INTERNATIONAL OFFICES/DIRECTORS

International offices are maintained in every country of service for accountability purposes and are staffed by national and regional coordinators. Parallel oversight is provided by our Directors of Expansion. These Directors are staff missionaries who are particularly knowledgeable of their region of the world and are responsible for finding and approving the national preachers who meet our qualifications and are in need of support. Missionaries from various boards often fill these positions for us based upon their knowledge, experience and location on site.



Cover

Date: July 2024

Location: Honduras

Subject: Touch A Life Center

The Story: These children are standing in line for their daily meal at the Bartolo Honduras Touch a Life Center. For any amount—as little as \$5 a month—you can help us provide daily bread and the bread of life at one of our local feeding centers. In Honduras, we can feed one child one good meal a day for 22 cents.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For further information concerning this ministry and its various programs, or to schedule a speaker for your church or mission conference, please contact our home office: **Final Frontiers Foundation**, P.O. Box 358, Grovetown, GA 30813 USA, 706-955-4916 or 800-522-4324, webmaster@finalfrontiers.org

LEGAL

"Final Frontiers" is a registered trademark of the Final Frontiers Foundation. **"Touch A Life"** is a partner ministry and a registered 501(c)(3) administered by the Final Frontiers Foundation. Other ministry subsidiaries (*see page 23*) are also administered by the Final Frontiers Foundation and are accountable to the Executive Board of Directors. 990s are compiled annually as are Certified Financial Statements, by an outside CPA firm and made available upon request or visible online at www.guidestar.com. Recent copies prior to posting by GuideStar are available by request. Contributions and gifts to this ministry are tax-deductible and are applied to the ministry's global evangelistic outreach. Final Frontiers is classified as a 509(a)(1) public foundation, under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

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Publisher: Final Frontiers Publications

Publication Schedule: January, April, July, October

The **Progress Report** is distributed freely by post and/or email to those who request it.



Updates and Encouragement ...

A few thoughts from Jon Nelms

Some Have Asked About our Administrative Financial Emergency

For ten months, we have operated on a 45% deficit per month. Over the past few months, we have received sufficient generous donations to cover one month of the ten. We are still enduring because our Lord has provided enough to keep us afloat. We can see the lighthouse shining in the distance and have fixed our course upon it. We don't plan to sink, but if we do – we will swim. (We all have "water wings" – mine is XXXL.)

I am thrilled to announce the addition of several men to our team who will speak in churches and help promote our ministry of supporting The Great Commission Fund, Touch a Life, and Smugglers. Pastor Caleb Hon of Demotte, Indiana, and Pastor Tim Schelling of Lake Park, Kentucky (also a board member) have arranged permission from their churches to miss one Sunday and one Wednesday a month for our joint cause.

Additionally, Tom Taylor, a professional radio sports announcer from Elizabethton, Tennessee, with a voice reminiscent of Trace Adkins, volunteers his time to raise funds for printing and distributing more Bibles to the Muslim world through our Smugglers ministry. Tom blessed the Gideons years ago, raising funds for Bibles, and now wants to join our team. Welcome aboard, all! Pray with us about two other men who are considering bearing the burden with us as well.

Our cup of blessings is full, but our saucer is as large as a swimming pool. We will catch and use every drop to bless the Lord and His people. And we thank you for helping us do so.

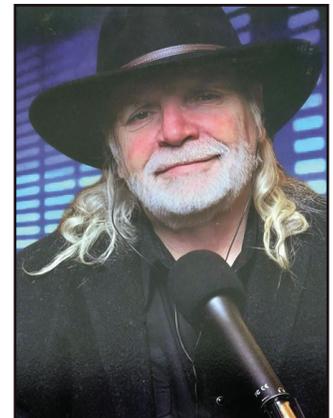
Yours for souls,



Caleb Hon



Tim Schelling



Tom Taylor

P.S. I'll be hosting **VISIONARY TRIPS** in Honduras from June to mid-August.

PLEASE DON'T TEXT ME! That will save us \$10 daily on international text charges (a savings of \$770.00).

Instead, email me at jnelms@finalfrontiers.org or contact my office at 1-800-522-4324, and they will forward your message.

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Stay
Connected
with Us





From One of Our Smugglers

Bibles Distributed **600,000 +**

I want to thank God for each one of you for your prayers and financial support, and I praise the Lord for the Final Frontiers leaders who have helped us in organizing the work and meeting the needs of our ministry here, such as providing Bibles and a location for our meetings.

After one Muslim militia called the Morning of Islam controlled our area, we moved away to another location, which is a little safer for us. Through you, the Lord provided for us to pay the rent six months in advance. Since then, we have been able to meet regularly, although we still meet in small groups several times a day.

Before we left our previous location, I met a 16-year-old young man who was involved with a militia group standing at the checkpoint on the main Street. Every time I left the area, he would search for me and ask me many questions. We developed a friendship and would talk for a few minutes before he would let me go.

One day, he told me, "You are always smiling and thankful to God, don't you ever have a bad day?" I answered him by telling him that the smile on my face is because I have peace in my heart.

"Of course, I have bad days, but I'm sure God is with me, and He can help me get through those difficult times."

The next day, he asked another question: "How do you have peace in your heart?" Then I asked him, "Why don't you come to my place, and we will talk privately?" He told me he would think about it, and after a week, he said he could take off in three hours and visit me. When he arrived, he told me he had only 45 minutes, so we started

to talk, and I shared with him how God gives us peace. He listened attentively, then he had to leave.

The last time we moved out of the area, I was passing the checkpoint, and he asked if he could come again and talk to me, and I said, "Of course." For the next three months, he was coming and

listening several times a week, getting his questions answered. Then, the last time we met, he started to cry and told me, "I'm lost. I don't know what to believe anymore."

I took the time to listen to him, then I shared with him how one can have a relationship with God, and I asked him if he wanted to accept Jesus Christ as his personal Savior. He asked me if he could pray and accept Christ on his own. Before he left, I asked if I could give him a New Testament. He looked at me and said, "I wish to have one, but I can't keep it with me. If they found that with me, they'll kill me." Then he left, saying he would be back soon.

For a week, I haven't heard from him. I went back to the checkpoint to see him, and his young squad, who used to stand with him at the same checkpoint, told me that he was killed in crossfire with another group!

I believe he was sincere in wanting to come to Christ; he certainly knew why he needed to and how to do so. I hope I will see him in Heaven. But without the funding you sent, I would never have had the opportunity to pass that checkpoint and meet him. God used you to bring salvation to this young man. Thank you.



Final Frontiers

Bibles Changing the Middle East

Arab media report as many as 100 Muslim men each day are turning from the religion of their grandparents and believing in Jesus Christ.

Will you join us in this movement as we provide the Word of God to the next generation?





Around the WORLD



VIETNAM

Pastor Duyen-Ba Tang teaches field laborers about Jesus during their rest time.

The Gift of Motorcycles

Your generosity provides motorcycles to church planters in Nigeria, India, Pakistan, and numerous other countries around the world. These powerful tools help preachers reach more villages and plant more churches.



NIGERIA



PAKISTAN



INDIA

Give To
Motorcycles
For
Preachers





Why We Started

TOUCH A LIFE

By Jon Nelms

From September 1986 until today, we have been busy raising support for national church planters. But as we did, we were continually pressed with their needs beyond food and ministry supplies.

1992 was a pivotal year for us. Our effort to sponsor preachers was bearing incredible fruit, and we began expanding into multiple countries. It was also the year that we began supporting abandoned and orphaned children in India. We said little about it because my lack of faith convinced me that, given a choice, everyone would opt for helping a child over a preacher. After all, they have children, too. I made the same mistake the disciples made when Jesus told THEM to feed the 5000 men, plus the women and children. I saw the limits of my finances rather than the limitlessness of God's power. But that was about to change.

I was on a flight to Detroit for a weekend meeting. With me were about 50 biographies that our ministry in India was asking us to support. As I read them, my heart broke. Tears began to form in my eyes and ran down my cheeks. After every sentence, I would stop,

choking back the tears, and ask God to please help the poor children. I didn't realize it, but the plane had landed, reached the gate, and was almost empty when a stewardess approached me, placed her hand on my left shoulder, and gently asked, "Sir, are you alright?" I told her I was well but was reading some disturbing letters, then gathered my belongings and left.

That night in the hotel, I laid aside all my work to finish reading the biographies. I determined that I would try my best to help the children and the preachers, and within half a year, they were all sponsored. Those children, if still alive, are now in their forties.

Gradually, we supported more children, and in 2005, we changed our name from Childcare to **Touch a Life**. You see, at that time, I had spent nineteen years funding men to do their work for the Lord, but I had no personal work to give Him. The verse in the Song of Solomon continually came to my mind, saying, "... but mine own vineyard have I not kept." I asked the Lord if He would please allow me to personally do a work for Him beyond just helping others do their work.

I shared this with my family, and they asked what I wanted to

do. I replied that I wanted to open a feeding center in Honduras and beyond, that we could use the preachers and churches we work with to oversee them, and they agreed. All I would need to do was raise the funds. When I found the task to be virtually insurmountable, I took my inheritance from my mother's death nine months earlier and invested it in God's work. In November 2005, we opened our first feeding center in a small house in Cantarranas, Honduras.

As we grew, we purchased land and built a beautiful campus to house all our ministries. We have since established about a dozen other feeding centers in Honduras, Myanmar, India (multiple locations), Pakistan, Ukraine, Kenya (multiple locations), Ghana, Egypt, and Syria.

I looked at what others were doing with their feeding programs and tried to take the good and sift out the bad or mediocre. I hope we have succeeded. Now, let me tell you what was behind this ministry.

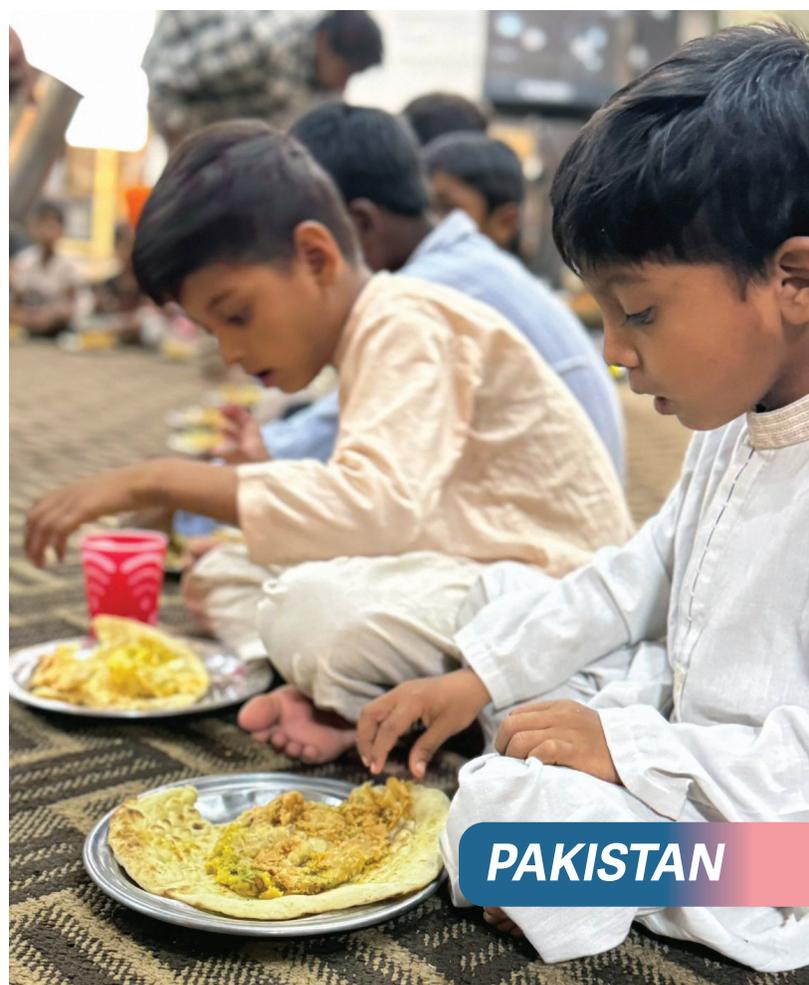
In 1924, George Mallory and his partner, Andrew Irvine, failed on their third attempt to reach the summit of Mt. Everest. Before their ascent, he was asked why he wanted to climb Everest again, to which he replied, "Because it is there."

So, I have given you the historical reason for Touch a Life, but there is a more profound reason. It is the reality of the need, both physical and spiritual, and the challenge of the task. I am not interested in doing what is easy or doing things in the way they have always been done. God did not give me the personality of a truck driver but of a trailblazer. I love the comfort of a smooth, paved road, but I yearn for the dirt trails, wading rivers, and sleeping on the ground. When we started Final Frontiers, we were the first ministry in America formed to support national church planters. There are hundreds, and I hope someday, thousands of similar ministries (though technically, they support national pastors, whereas we support only church planters). Still, there can only be one first. No athlete runs for anything other than the Gold. Copper corrodes, Silver tarnishes, but Gold ... need I say more? I don't compete with others. I compete against my worst enemy—me.

Tens of millions of children live on the brink of starvation, with over 10,000 dying each day due to hunger-related causes. Untold millions of children live in captivity as slaves, being used to fill factories and brothels and living in the most filthy, disease-ridden, and hopeless situations that a moral and civilized mind can imagine. They need someone who cares enough to reach out and touch their life.

"For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: ... Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."
— Matthew 25:35-36,40b

The pastors in Third World countries don't have to seek out abandoned or orphaned children because they are left on their doorsteps. They are brought to them to be cared for because, in their communities, they are known to be the servants of the True and Living God. Thus, despite their poverty, they have no choice but to take them into their own homes.





KENYA

Other children may be loved by their parents but still live in the squalor of a trash heap, slum, or refugee camp. They are as wrapped in poverty as a caterpillar is in its cocoon, but without hope or expectation of someday flying free. Sometimes, you can see the bruises that enslaved children have received from their masters for not bringing in enough money or the scrape marks of chains and leg irons they've been kept in all night—waiting for dawn when they'll return to an existence of forced labor or prostitution. Such children will forever live on the street—only their forever is usually no more than a few short and horrific years of beatings, cold, and hunger. We've seen little girls and boys, as young as three years of age, who were taken to a market and sold to a stranger to be a house worker, a field hand, or a sex slave—all for as little as \$7 and not as a payment for one day, but for a lifetime purchase.

“Defend the poor and fatherless: do justice to the afflicted and needy.” – Psalm 82:3

It is incredible to see poverty as it truly exists once you get outside our country. In the Third World, many families live in houses made from sticks and mud or cow and buffalo manure. Some walls are made from cardboard or plastic tarps; toilets are simply holes in the ground, and water must be carried by hand in discarded containers.

In some places, abandoned, orphaned, and leper children are forced to beg all day and night to earn enough for one meal, which is just one small child's handful of rice. They are never hugged, never tucked in bed. All they know is hard work in the hot sun and the reality of a life of disease, hardships, hunger, beatings, and abandonment. This is the life

of typical children in Third World countries.

If they had their choice, they would've been born in a wealthy country. They wouldn't sleep on the hard floor but would have a comfortable bed. They wouldn't work in the fields every day; instead, they would study in school and play with friends. They would know that a meal can consist of more than just bread and water. They would know what it feels like to slip their feet into a pair of new shoes, to take a shower with real soap, to feel the cleansing bristles of a toothbrush in their mouth, to have a toy to play with, to know comfort, security, and hope, to learn that childhood doesn't have to end by the age of eight. We can't change where they live, but we can change how they live. We can touch their life and make a difference.

“He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the Lord; and that which he hath given will he pay him again.” – Proverbs 19:17

Seeing all this suffering face-to-face, the average person feels shock, sympathy, and compassion—all noble sentiments, but not solutions, and these children desperately need a solution. That's why we started the organization known globally as **Touch A Life**. Our child rescue ministry partners with the Final Frontiers Foundation. We've been helping poor and needy children for over four decades and have supported 4,283 in 11 countries thus far—a number that continues to grow. Because of Touch A Life child rescue centers, many at-risk children are now able to remain with their families instead of living on the streets.



CANTARRANAS
HONDURAS



MAJADA VERDE
HONDURAS

In Our Touch a Life Ministry

Food is cheap and cultural:

- In India, it costs 50¢ to feed one child, one good meal a day
- 5¢ in Pakistan
- 22¢ in Honduras
- 10¢ in Africa

Staff are cheap and eager to help:

- Our Final Frontiers staff donates their time to oversee TAL.
- International staff are voluntary or paid at 1/20th of what an American would make.
- TAL offices are run from our international FF offices, reducing administrative costs.

Facilities are cheap and have a dual purpose:

- Our feeding centers are typically based out of local churches.
- Others are based out of schools and led by the teachers, who are believers.
- We only build when necessary. Our facilities double as a church and a feeding center

Our ministry's purpose is:

- To physically demonstrate the Love of Christ through food, medical care, and education
- To rescue at-risk children from trafficking and slavery.
- To provide ministry for select local churches and sometimes to plant a new church.



UKRAINE



TOUCH A LIFE



**MIDDLE
EAST**

This photo was taken in October 2024. These children are receiving tutoring at one of our Middle East TAL centers. When bombs drop, schools are closed. What we give them may be all they will receive in terms of academics and nutrition during times like this.

- We don't hire expensive Westerners to run our
- programs. Instead, we enlist the help of local,
- reputable Christians who share our burden. Our
- staff are church members who serve because
- they care, and the children are always overseen
- by the pastor of a local church with whom we
- are affiliated. He sees to their needs, he knows
- where they live, he knows their families, he
- knows their names, and he administers the
- program to ensure that what you give is used to
- care for the children. Depending on the country,
- they receive not only nutritious meals but also
- school supplies and basic health care. When
- they come to eat, they get hygiene instruction,
- a Bible lesson, and are taught Bible verses and
- songs. It's more than just a feeding program: it's
- a ministry that changes entire families' lives.



SUYAPA
HONDURAS



For any amount, even as little as **\$5.00 a month**, you can help bear their burden – providing both daily bread and the bread of life at one of our local feeding centers.

KENYA

We don't hire expensive Westerners to run our programs. Instead, we enlist the help of local, reputable Christians who share our burden. Our staff are church members who serve because they care, and the children are always overseen by the pastor of a local church with whom we are affiliated. He sees to their needs, he knows where they live, he knows their families, he knows their names, and he administers the program to ensure that what you give is used to care for the children. Depending on the country, they receive not only nutritious meals but also school supplies and basic health care. When they come to eat, they get hygiene instruction, a Bible lesson, and are taught Bible verses and songs. It's more than just a feeding program: it's a ministry that changes entire families' lives.

We've seen firsthand what it means to provide them with food, clothing, and an education. We've seen them grow up from childhood innocence into the productivity of adult life, and we've been filled with pride to see them serve Christ and live their lives as a testimony for Him. We've seen them graduate, marry, and start their own families. In some cases, they stay with us as employees, helping us care for the next generation in their country. Many of our Final Frontiers national church planters started as children in our Touch a Life ministry.

We've also seen the phenomenal impact of our feeding program on the local churches. Churches that previously had 50 members now have hundreds. The parents and grandparents are so thankful that someone is helping their child that it has opened the door for the pastor to witness to them, win them to Christ, and bring the entire family into the church. Some pastors now have so many children to care for that they've built orphanages or placed them in the homes of faithful church members.

“He that hath a bountiful eye shall be blessed; for he giveth of his bread to the poor.” – Proverbs 22:9

We know the sheer number of suffering children can be overwhelming, but that's why we're reaching out to you with the hope that you'll get involved so we can rescue even more of them. For any amount, even as little as \$5.00 a month, you can help bear their burden—providing both daily bread and the bread of life at one of our local feeding centers. And every quarter in our Progress Report, you'll receive articles featuring detailed stories and pictures of children and their families from the countries where we minister: India, Pakistan, Honduras, Kenya, Ukraine, and more.

We also send additional reports by email throughout the year, which sometimes include links to video clips, so you can see firsthand



TOUCH A LIFE

how they live and where they eat the food you provide them. Likewise, we have produced several "Day In The Life Of" video documentaries of some of these children in different countries. These are 30-minute documentaries without narration, in which you follow the child from waking to going to bed at night. You'll walk with them through their village, attend classes with them, watch them play with their friends, and do their chores. Then you'll cheer as they capture fleeing chicken or piglets for tonight's meal and watch as Mom and Dad tuck them into their mat to sleep. Every child featured is a child that you're helping to feed.

We're called **Touch a Life** because that's exactly what we're doing—touching lives, one child at a time. Someone has got to touch their life, and if not us, then who? We know the task is insurmountable, and we are aware that we cannot save them all, but what we can do, we must do—and with God's help and yours, we will.



SYRIA



PAKISTAN



COFFEE WITH A CAUSE



YUM!

What People are Saying About Our Coffee:

"I always use milk and sugar, but your coffee is so smooth that I no longer need them."

"The best coffee I have ever had. I didn't know I was a coffee connoisseur until now. I can taste the difference, and it thrills me that every time I drink a cup, I am helping to provide food for hungry children."

"It's not bitter at all, just a smooth coffee taste. I really can taste the difference."

"We love that it is organically grown and comes from a family farm. Those things are important to us."

"I liked the sample bag. We will order a bag for every Adult Sunday School Class in our church."

"I bought a bag for each of the pastors on our staff. When the light coffee is available, I'll get them each one as well."

WANT TO HELP MORE?

Our coffee gives your family, Sunday School class, and office a heightened purpose. You can help us by finding customers. Every cup supports feeding, educating, and caring for needy children and equipping their churches to care for their needs.

Go to our website if you're interested in a commission-based affiliation.



They can benefit from your help.

Order using the QR code or visit our website



TOUCH A LIFE

“A Day In The Life Of”

Documentaries Featuring *Touch A Life* Children



By Joshua Martyn

Imagine being invited to step into the humble village homes of families living in third-world countries. Imagine being able to take your child by the hand, slip inside a foreign front door just as the sun is rising, and sit quietly in the corner of their tiny living room, observing what goes on around you as if you were an honored guest.

Through our ‘Day in the Life of’ video series, you get to do just that. You get to literally follow them around their village for a whole day, experiencing exactly what life is like for them. But you don’t have to spend over twelve hours like we do when we’re recording it for you. You get to watch from the comfort of your own home, or your Sunday school class, or wherever it is you’re carrying your phone—an entire day’s story trimmed down to somewhere between eight and twenty-three minutes in length.

Right now, we have three documentaries about children who are fed through our Touch A Life child rescue program in the ‘Day in the Life of’ playlist on our YouTube channel. They include a six-year-old in Honduras, a ten-year-old in Kenya, and an eight-year-old in India. If you would like to introduce your child to how other children live around the world, or if you yourself want to see what life is like in other countries where you support Touch A Life, or if you are a

Watch Video



missionary family wanting to experience daily-life in your prospective field before you get there, this is a very exciting and informative series filled with unexpected nuances to enjoy.

Meet six-year-old Juan Jose Castro living in Suyapa Honduras.

Experience an entire day in this fatherless boy’s life, following him from his government housing with no hot water, to his first-grade classes at the local village school. Watch Jose and the other children play a multitude of games, especially his all-time favorite: football (or American soccer). The very first video chapter is entitled: “Waking up to a Honduran breakfast,” and when you come to watch his story, you and your children get to experience that with him. A little after midday, at video-marker 8:07, you’ll get to see him eating at one of our local Touch A Life feeding centers. You’ll see him play-the-man in his household as he chops wood with a machete; and you’ll even get to see him chasing—and being chased by—a bird you know as a roadrunner. Overall, we think you’ll enjoy finding out what it’s like to grow up in a poor neighborhood in central Honduras. (Run-time: 16:31)

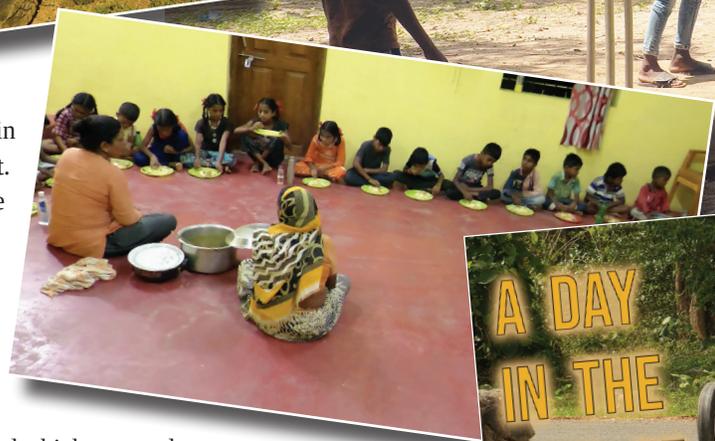
Meet ten-year-old Eclah Chemutai living in Kenya Africa. Experience a whole day in this young girl’s life, as she walks to school for her Grade-4 classes—7 of them—which include Swahili, Math, English, PE, Science, Economics, and Bible. Watch her skip rope and show off her special skill at the game of Kora or Children’s Bao, which



Watch Video



Watch Video



she and her friends play with stones in the schoolyard every chance they get. At video marker 3:50, you'll get to see their opening assembly and singing, which also shows her local church pastor. (He oversees our Touch A Life program that feeds her and others in her neighborhood every week.) You'll see her fulfilling her Friday chores, taking care of their sheep and chickens, and you'll get to enjoy plenty of Kenyan milk tea with her throughout the day! See firsthand what it's like to grow up on a small family farm and attend a private school in Western Kenya. (Run-time: 23:28)

Meet eight-year-old Ebinezar Hanchinamani living in the state of Karnataka in southern India. Experience a full day in this boy's life, as he greets the morning with a game of village cricket with friends—a sport you'll find very different from American baseball. Watch him as he practices traditional Indian drum and dance, as he chases his tyre (motorcycle tire) with a stick, and as he plays the classic Asian board game of carrom. You'll see him performing his weeding and washing chores and tending to his elderly grandfather. You'll see Macaque monkeys who steal water, and long, intimidating lines of red Weaver ants who build nests in trees. At video marker 18:37 you'll get to see Touch A Life in action right there in his own home church, where his crippled father, who is also the village pastor, leads him and other children in both spiritual and educational instruction. Despite his fight with a terminal disease, this young boy stays very active and has a great desire to serve in the ministry. Come and see for yourself what it's like growing up as a third grader in a poor village in India. (Run-time: 21:19)

For even more information about the daily life experiences you see in these videos, please check out our full-length commentary versions, which we create for each episode. For the fourth grader in Kenya, we have Eclah's brother as a special guest, and for the third grader in India, we'll have our national director in Karnataka talking about Ebinezar's life. We hope you'll come and visit our channel soon!

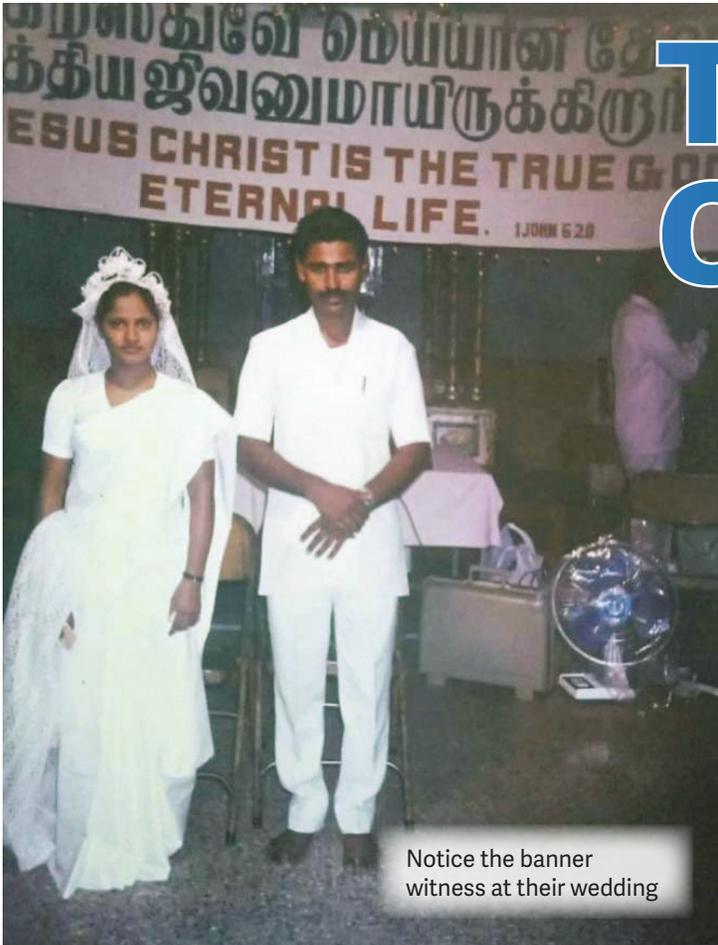
Joshua Martyn, Final Frontiers Missionary and Media Director, travels through the many countries where our national church planters work, creating video documentaries to tell their stories and needs. He grew up in Iowa, then began missionary work, pioneering into closed countries, and documenting expeditions to unreached jungle tribes.

A Day in the Life Commentaries

| | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| <p>First Grader in Honduras</p> | <p>Fourth Grader in Kenya</p> |
|--|--------------------------------------|

Former Hindu Receives Christ and Responds to

The Great Commission



Notice the banner witness at their wedding

55 years old at that time. After we arrived in Hosur, my father went in search of a job and was hired as a Security Guard.

Even then, living our lives was difficult. So, my parents decided to send my elder brother and elder sister to my uncle's house to continue their studies there. My uncle was also a Hindu Priest in the Temple, an astrologer, and a homeopathic doctor.

My parents and I were staying in Hosur. I was 17 years old and was pursuing my Pre-University Course in the first year. However, I was not happy or peaceful living my life in Hosur. Although I visited Hindu Temples and read many books, it ultimately ended in vain. I did not have any peace in my life, and questions arose in me: Why did the gods, whom we had served for many years, not come to save us?

I was depressed and frustrated in life, wanting peace. One of my uncles suggested visiting a person who was an expert in teaching meditation. I attended a few classes and learned to meditate, thinking I might experience peace in this manner. But even that was in vain.

My name is C. Rajendran. I was born into a traditional Hindu family in Ponneri village, Harur Taluk, Dharmapuri District, Tamil Nadu. My father's name is V. Chennakesavan, and my mother's name is Sanjeevamma. My ancestors were Hindu temple priests for generations. My great-grandfather's name was Varadha Iyer, and he used to train my father to perform various Hindu rituals in the Temple from the age of 15.

My father was also working as a Postmaster in Ponneri village and was managing his own cycle shop. My mother, a housewife, was unable to run the family on a very low income. There were three children in the family: an elder brother, an elder sister, and I, the third, born on April 22, 1968.

We faced numerous financial difficulties within the family and were unable to remain in the same village. My father, who had been a temple priest for about 40 years, had to resign from his responsibilities at the Temple. As a family, we decided to vacate our own place and relocate to Hosur, Tamil Nadu. My father was



Temple of idols where they worshipped



Temple of idols where they worshipped

After a few days, an old lady visited our home. I started to teach her about how to meditate, but she refused to listen to my words because she firmly believed that Jesus Christ is the only God who can give us peace.

Then, later, I started to ask her what I needed to do to find peace in my life. She shared the powerful Gospel of Jesus Christ, who bled and died for our sins and rose again on the third day. She said, “Jesus is the only God who came from Heaven to Earth to show the way. He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Believe in Him, and you will see a marvelous change in your life.”

However, I did not believe all her words, so I began meditating again. Days passed by, and I could not find any change in my mind, and did not receive any peace from whatever I did.

After six months, I met the same old lady again and asked her to take me to church. The first time I visited the church, I felt a deep sense of peace in my heart and mind. I gradually started to believe in the power of Jesus Christ. I continued attending the church regularly, week by week.

Later, the church organized a Convention meeting in a nearby village.

When I went there, I saw people praising and worshiping God and experiencing His presence. When I saw them, I felt that I wanted to have the same experience, but I could not receive it. I prayed continuously, and then, on the third day of that meeting, I experienced His presence in my life. That was the day I completely surrendered my life to Christ. I started to pray more, shared my experience with the Pastor, and gradually became involved in ministry. Then, after a few days, I got baptized and changed my name to Paul Rajendran.

When I was 18 years old, I lost interest in my studies and did nothing for almost a year. When I was 19, I found a job in a company, worked, and earned money. When I was 23, my father decided to arrange my marriage. But I refused to get married to a Hindu girl because I came to know the love of Jesus Christ and wanted to marry a Christian girl. There were many complications between my family members and me. So, I requested my Pastor's help in finding a Christian girl for me to marry.

By the Grace of God and the Pastor's help, we were able to find a girl who was born into a Christian family and was pursuing a diploma course at a Bible college. When I was 24 years old, I got married to this Christian girl named Alexandria. She was 20 years old at the time of our marriage.

Supporting

National Church Planters

– Since 1986 –

The purpose of **The Great Commission Fund** is to have finances perpetually available to subsidize, support, and enhance the ministries of qualified and competent national preachers who have experience in starting house churches and in training men as local pastors.

While projects are approved based on their need, and strategic value to the expansion of the Gospel in that particular town or region, the national church planters are approved for a subsidy based on their ministry experience and the recommendation of another national with whom we have a long-standing relationship or by a missionary from an acceptable board.

Team leaders apply for the support of their men (Timothys), who receive not a salary but a stipend for their living needs and support for their ministry. This support could provide ministry tools such as transportation, institute curriculum, fuel, Bibles, clean water, etc. Whereas the stipends assist them with daily necessities such as food for their family, medicines, school expenses, etc.

So, whether stipend or support, your giving to the Great Commission Fund equips those who are already serving, not those waiting for support to serve. Our quarterly articles in the Progress Report illustrate their needs and the results of your giving.

We encourage you to initiate a monthly auto-debit of any amount if you can and are so inclined. Follow the QR code to donate.

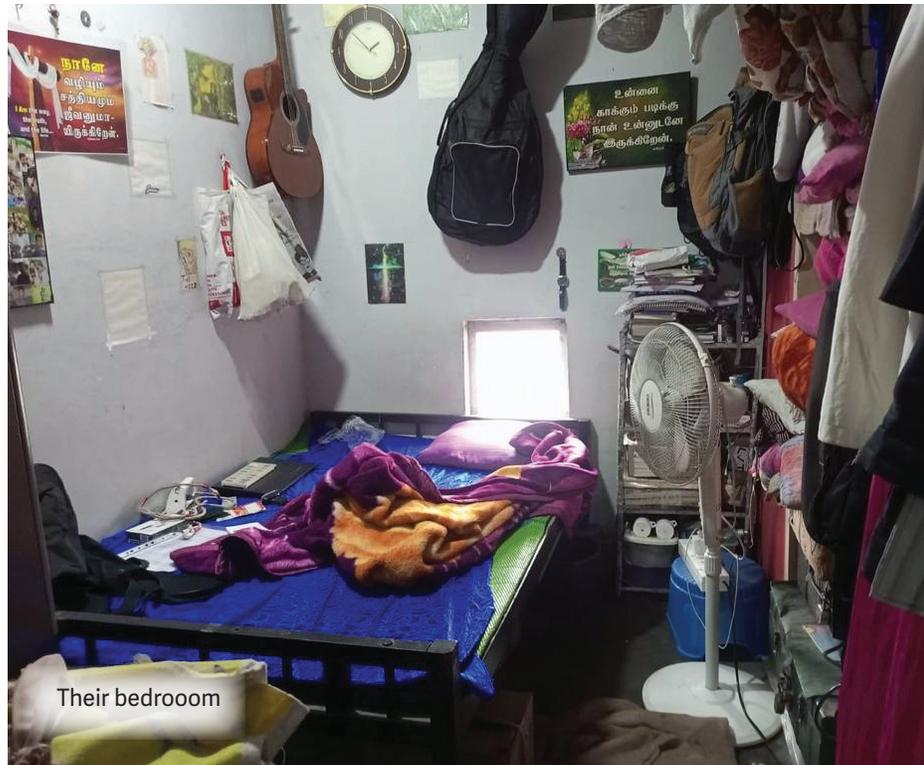
What Is
**The Great
Commission?**



Watch the Video



His father's shop



Their bedroom



Paul Rajendran preaching in one of the churches he has started

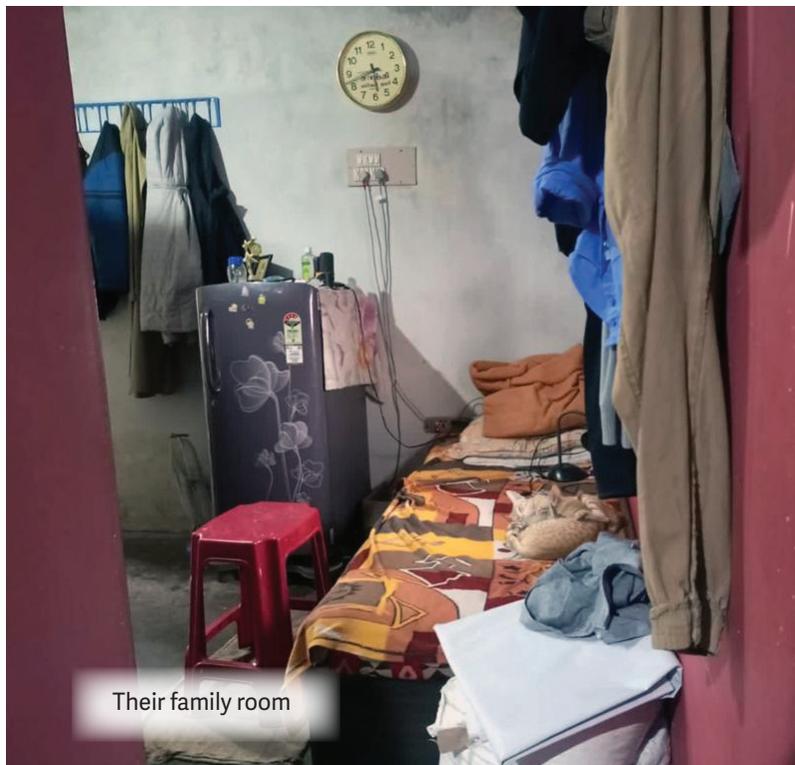
Note - People born to a Catholic family are considered Catholic, and those in a Buddhist family are registered with their government as Buddhists. So, in a country where your faith is part of your identification, if you are born into a Christian family, you think you are a Christian. This only means her family was not Buddhist, Hindu, Sikh, Jain, Muslim, etc. It has nothing to do with being born again and having a personal relationship with God through His Son's sacrifice.

My family rejected me, and I was depressed. On the other hand, I felt secure that I had a job. Though my wife was from a Christian family, her parents were not born-again Christians. Her mother had cancer in the uterus. She was taken to the doctor and given treatment, but it was in vain. Once, a Pastor visited their family, encouraged them with God's Word, and prayed. He also invited them to church. There, the word of God penetrated my mother-in-law's heart, and she confessed her sins and accepted Christ as her Personal Savior. She was regular at the church, and the Word of God healed her.

After this incident, even my father-in-law started to believe in the name of the Lord Jesus. The miraculous healing of my mother-in-law prompted their entire family to accept Christ and receive public baptism.

Our married life was fruitful, and God blessed us with three sons:

- John Knox was born on April 22, 1993.
- John Knight was born on May 17, 1997.
- John Knows was born on July 14, 1999. He wasn't a normal baby. He had an intestinal blockage and was operated on, and for almost a year, while we, too, suffered greatly. Then again, after one year,



Their family room



Their kitchen

he was re-operated. That was the time I confessed my disobedience, having rejected God's call in my life. Then, after the second operation in the year 2000, my son was completely healed. I realized my mistakes and received forgiveness from God.

In 1999, I felt a burden to serve the Lord. I was unable to concentrate on my job and was greatly disturbed. At the age of 31, I experienced this burden. For almost three years, I was in a state of confusion. Later, in 2001, following my Pastor's guidance, I committed my life to full-time ministry, which came after my son's complete healing. Even after accepting God's call, we faced numerous financial challenges within our family. I was struggling to fulfill the needs of my family and to provide education for my children.

Although we faced many such problems, God graciously guided our lives, and our needs were fulfilled; all three of our children received a proper education.

From the year 2001 to date, we have been serving the Lord full-time. Praise God that our elder son got married and God blessed us with grandchildren; they, as a family, are also very supportive of the ministry. My wife doesn't pursue any job; she takes care of the Children's Ministry, Women's Fellowship, and Youth Fellowship.

God enabled us to visit many villages and share the Gospel. Many people believed the word of God and accepted Christ as their Personal Savior. Over the past 20 years of ministry, God has led approximately 120-130 people to salvation through us. We are very excited about these achievements in our lives. We have experienced many trials and persecutions in our lives, but God has turned our mourning into joy and dancing. We always praise God for the way he leads us. God healed many sicknesses and delivered people from

demonic possession through our fasting prayers. Presently, we reside in a small, cement-roofed house with a hall, one bedroom, a kitchen, and an Indian-style toilet, which includes a bathroom.

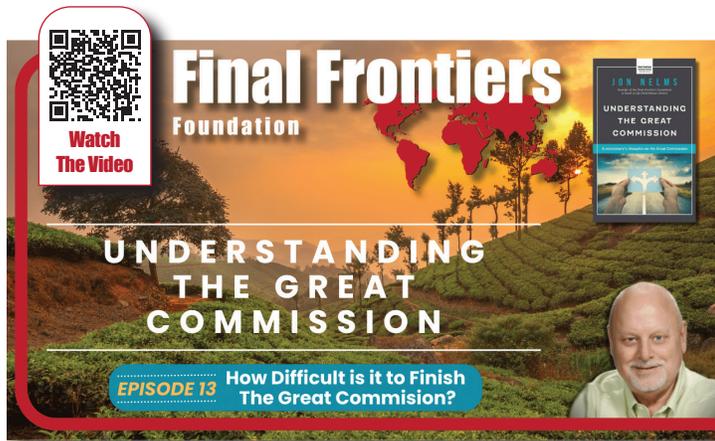
God has laid a burden and a vision in my heart to plant at least 12 branch churches, appoint God's servants to lead them, and give glory to God through this ministry expansion. I also have a burden to teach the Bible to many Sunday school children, youths, men, and women, and raise many disciples for Christ. We visited old-age homes and orphanages, encouraging them with the Word of God and providing them with usable materials, including food, fruits, and toiletries. We have a plan to encourage young people to dedicate their lives to serving God and being part of the expansion of the Kingdom. Praise God; He has given us a good testimony among the villagers, church members, and other preachers.

Many wonder, "How can a family that has newly come to our place be established in such a way?" God has blessed our family, our children, and the ministry we do. By His Grace, we are well-respected by outsiders as well.

We in the ministry encountered many problems and were often rejected by villagers when we began sharing the Gospel. A few tried to manhandle us when we were distributing Gospel Tracts. Time and again, we encountered tribulations, rejections, insults, and so on. However, the marvelous grace of God protected us from many such incidents during the ministry journey. As the Bible says, "Nothing can separate us from the Love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

As a family, we will strive hard to fulfill God's plans in our lives and bring glory to our Father in Heaven. Please continue to pray for us.

Understanding The Great Commission



Understanding The Great Commission

Episode
13

he had worked himself out of a job as a church planter reaching unreached towns. His team had planted churches in every place, which could now finish the job of saturation evangelism; thus, he planned to pass through Rome on his way to Spain's unreached field, where Christ was both unnamed and unknown.

They had "turned the world upside down in the first few decades." By the year 100, there was one church for every twelve unreached people groups. Today, there are more than 416 churches for every one of the unreached people groups. To finish

the Great Commission, we don't have to build the entire "house;" we only need to place the last few bricks on the chimney, and it's done.

To finish the Great Commission, we don't have to build the entire "house;" we only need to place the last few bricks on the chimney, and it's done.

Points to Ponder

• Consider that every church was a "house church" until the middle of the third century AD. Take a moment and think about the intimate surroundings, the close-knit relationships, and the atmosphere of "family" rather than "corporate." How is that better or worse than what we have today?

• Paul targeted unreached people groups. We should do the same in our mission efforts.

• Paul was not an architect of churches; he was a contractor. His job was to lay the

foundation and let someone else build the "body." He never "built upon another man's foundation."

The New Testament "churches" were the body of Christ

in a particular geographic area. They were congregations, not corporations. Paul wrote to churches in the homes of Philemon in Colossae and Lydia in Philippi. Still, he also wrote to the assembled ones in the Ephesian metropolis, the third largest city of Rome. Corinth evidently had two congregations—Upper Corinth on the hills overlooking the sea, inhabited by the wealthy, and Lower Corinth situated on the docks where merchants like Aquila and Priscilla worked in the second largest market of the Empire. Some believe the two Corinthians letters were written individually to each congregation rather than as two letters to both. That would certainly make sense.

Paul also wrote to the churches of Galatia, which was not a city but a region in what is today Turkey. Those in northern Galatia were not Greeks but were Gauls and Celts. Their ancestors came from the British Isles and northern Europe and had lived there for three centuries. Though considered barbarians due to their ancestry, they spoke Greek and lived under Roman law. The southern Galatians, however, were primarily of Greek ancestry and more easily converted.

Finally, Paul wrote to all the believers in Rome, a church he had not started, stating that he was planning to visit them on his way to Spain. He was leaving Asia and Greece because he had no place left to preach. While there were ample places to preach or pastor,



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Tariffs, Supply Chain, and MISSIONS IMPACT

By Scott Vignere

Tariffs and supply chains are locked in a complex dance, where each step taken by policymakers sends ripples through the intricate web of global commerce. The imposition of tariffs—taxes on imported goods—reshapes the landscape of supply chains, forcing companies to adapt swiftly or face disruption. Yet, amid this turbulence, emerging technologies like smart contracts, blockchain, and artificial intelligence (AI) offer new pathways to resilience and efficiency, transforming how supply chains respond to the challenges imposed by tariffs.

The Impact of Tariffs on Supply Chains: A Storm of Disruption

Imagine a vast network of interconnected pathways stretching across continents, carrying raw materials, components, and finished goods. This is the global supply chain—a living organism that thrives on predictability and efficiency. Tariffs act like sudden roadblocks or tolls on these pathways, raising costs and creating uncertainty.

When the U.S. imposed steep tariffs on Chinese imports in 2025, including a dramatic 145% levy later eased to 30%, the shockwaves were felt across industries from electronics to automotive. Prices of raw materials and finished goods surged, forcing companies to reconsider sourcing strategies, renegotiate contracts, and even rethink entire logistics networks. The immediate effects included:

- **Volatile Pricing:** Tariffs introduced rapid and unpredictable price fluctuations, complicating demand forecasting and inventory planning. Companies faced the dilemma of absorbing costs or passing them to consumers, often with no clear long-term outlook.
- **Complex Logistics:** Trade routes optimized for cost and speed had to be recalibrated to account for country-of-origin tariffs and new customs procedures. This led to bottlenecks, delays, and increased operational complexity.
- **Supply Chain Reshuffling:** Businesses scrambled to find tariff-free zones or alternative suppliers, sometimes relocating production closer to demand centers to minimize exposure.

These disruptions are not just economic—they ripple through the entire supply chain ecosystem, causing delays, shortages, and inefficiencies that can cascade into lost sales and eroded market share.

The Ripple Effect of Tariffs on Supply Chains

There is often a sharp spike in price volatility and logistics complexity immediately after tariffs are imposed, followed by supplier reshuffling and inventory disruptions as companies adjust. Over time, these effects may stabilize as supply chains adapt, but the initial shock requires agile responses

Smart Contracts: Automating Trust and Efficiency

In this tempest of uncertainty, smart contracts emerge as powerful

tools to bring clarity and automation to supply chains. A smart contract is a self-executing digital agreement coded on a blockchain, which automatically enforces terms when predefined conditions are met.

Imagine a shipment of electronics moving through a supply chain. A smart contract can automatically verify when the goods reach a port, trigger payment release to the supplier, and update inventory records—all without manual intervention. This automation reduces errors, speeds up transactions, and builds trust among parties who can transparently verify contract fulfillment.

Key benefits of smart contracts in tariff-impacted supply chains include:

- **Enhanced Transparency and Traceability:** Every transaction is recorded immutably on the blockchain, allowing stakeholders to track goods from origin to destination in real time.
- **Reduction in Fraud and Errors:** Automated execution eliminates human mistakes and reduces opportunities for manipulation, critical when tariffs raise the stakes of compliance and cost accuracy.
- **Streamlined Logistics and Inventory Management:** Smart contracts facilitate seamless order fulfillment and payment processing, helping companies respond quickly to tariff-induced supply chain shifts. By embedding tariff rules and customs requirements into smart contracts, companies can ensure compliance and automate tariff payments, reducing delays and administrative burdens.

Blockchain: The Backbone of Resilient Supply Chains

Blockchain technology underpins smart contracts and serves as a distributed ledger that provides a single, trusted source of truth accessible to all supply chain participants. This shared visibility is crucial in a tariff environment where trust and verification become more complex.

The decentralized nature of blockchain means data cannot be altered retroactively, ensuring the integrity of shipment records, certifications, and compliance documentation. This is especially important when tariffs depend on precise country-of-origin verification and adherence to trade agreements.

Moreover, Blockchain Solutions Enable:

- **Improved Supplier Onboarding:** New vendors can be verified and added quickly with immutable records, accelerating supply chain adjustments in response to tariff changes.
- **Real-time Exception Management:** Smart contracts can trigger alerts and corrective actions instantly when disruptions occur, minimizing cascading delays.
- **Sustainability and Ethical Sourcing Verification:** Blockchain's traceability supports compliance with environmental and labor standards, increasingly important in global trade.

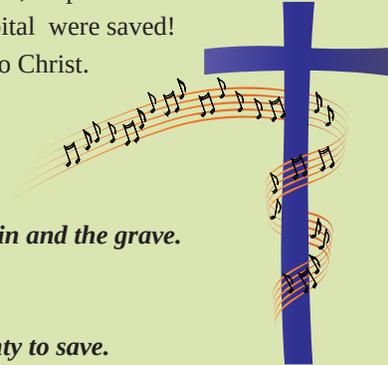


Around the WORLD



At David Vo's church in Vietnam, 18 patients at the "poor people's" cancer hospital were saved! Here, Sarah leads this patient to Christ.

*Rescue the perishing,
Care for the dying,
Snatch them in pity from sin and the grave.
Weep o'er the erring one,
Lift up the fallen,
Tell them of Jesus the mighty to save.*



THE ART OF GIVING

Artificial Intelligence: Forecasting and Optimizing in a Volatile World

While tariffs introduce volatility, AI offers the power to anticipate and adapt. AI-driven analytics and machine learning models can process vast amounts of data—from market trends to shipping times—to improve demand forecasting and inventory optimization.

For example, AI can help companies:

- **Predict Tariff Impacts on Pricing and Demand:** By analyzing historical tariff data and current market signals, AI models can forecast price fluctuations and consumer behavior changes, enabling proactive adjustments.
- **Optimize Sourcing and Logistics:** AI algorithms can identify alternative suppliers, optimize shipping routes, and balance inventory levels to mitigate tariff-related disruptions.
- **Automate Contract Bidding and Fulfillment:** Using RFID data and AI, logistics providers can bid dynamically for delivery contracts, ensuring cost-effective and timely shipments even in complex tariff environments.

The integration of AI with blockchain and smart contracts creates a powerful synergy—AI informs decisions, blockchain ensures trust and transparency, and smart contracts automate execution.

The Future: Toward Agile, Transparent, and Resilient Supply Chains

Tariffs will likely remain a fixture in global trade, driven by geopolitical shifts and economic policy. However, the evolving landscape also offers an opportunity to rethink supply chain management through digital innovation.

By harnessing smart contracts, blockchain, and AI, companies can transform tariff-induced challenges into competitive advantages:

- **Agility:** Automated contracts and AI forecasting enable rapid responses to changing tariff policies and market conditions.

- **Transparency:** Blockchain provides a shared, tamper-proof record that builds trust among global partners.
- **Efficiency:** Reduced paperwork, fewer disputes, and optimized logistics lower costs and improve service levels.

As these technologies mature, supply chains will become more like finely tuned orchestras rather than fragile webs—capable of adapting to tariff shocks with precision and grace.

In Conclusion: The Impact on Missions

I know of a case where a shipment of Bibles and other materials has been sitting in a foreign port for over a year. These technologies could help reduce and at some point even eliminate these kind of issues. Costs would become less volatile in many cases. The dynamics between tariffs and supply chains are complex and often disruptive, but they also spur innovation. The fusion of smart contracts, blockchain, and AI offers a beacon of clarity and efficiency amid the uncertainty, enabling businesses to navigate the tariff storm with confidence and resilience.

Unfortunately, many people are terrified of AI. People were terrified of the internet, of cell phones, of television, of radio, etc. But these same tools have been invaluable in spreading the Gospel. Let's not forget, God, Our Father, is in charge. He uses our prayers and efforts to move mountains. Let us put aside our fears and use these tools to get the Gospel out.

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If you would like help finding such an advisor, we will be glad to introduce you to an experienced planner with your best interest in mind. Please give us a call at 1-800-522-4324

Scott Vignere is a friend to Financial Frontiers and president of Vigtana Advisors. More than 40 years ago, on the advice of his pastor, Scott pursued a career in financial planning. A member of the Planned Giving Design Center, he helps clients partner with God to make an impact on the world through charitable planning. You can reach Scott at scott@vigtana.com.

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The Great Commission Fund

The Great Commission Fund

The Great Commission Fund is a fund whereby the offerings of everyone are pooled to support as many national preachers as possible. This is our preferred and most effective method of supporting national preachers. You will receive 4-8 updates annually with a biography or ministry report from a preacher supported through this fund, allowing you to see what your giving is accomplishing. Each preacher recommended for support has been thoroughly vetted to assure he is doctrinally sound, morally pure and has a verifiable track record in church planting and training other men who are serving in ministry.

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Smugglers

Smugglers funding is used to purchase and distribute Bibles. Many national pastors and Believers do not own a copy of God's Word. Smugglers helps to provide a copy to those who desire it in free countries and in closed countries such as Islamic nations.

OTHER VITAL MINISTRIES



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Bags of Hope is our food distribution program feeding widows, orphans and persecuted families living primarily in the Islamic Middle East. Support for this program provides food, clean water, medicine and vitamins for suffering and persecuted families.



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**“Come and see our zeal
 for the Lord” – II KINGS 10:16**

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| | |
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| 725,426 | Churches Started (\$2.26/church) |
| 2,278,694 | Villages Evangelized (\$0.71/village) |
| 26,767,745 | Professions of Faith (\$0.06/salvation) |
| 9,228,736 | Believers Baptized (\$0.18/baptism) |

During these years our network has supported...

| | |
|---------------|-------------------|
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| 25,217 | Timothies |
| 3,542 | Touch A Life Kids |



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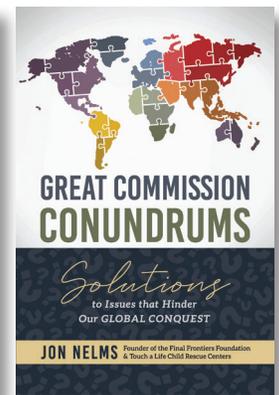
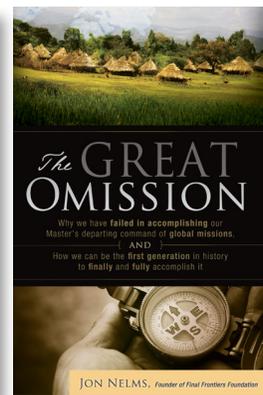
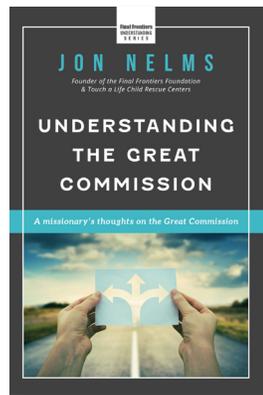
Final Frontiers and
TOUCH A LIFE



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Final Frontiers Books



My first book, *The Great Omission*, was written in 2011, and the second and third were written around 2021. I thought by now, sales would have dried up, but we're still selling one or two cases a month. Additionally, we have been able to provide possibly thousands of free copies to national Bible institutes, as we designate 100% of the profits for that purpose.

Students love the mission stories I tell in the first book and are blessed by the training and principles they gain from reading the *Great Commission Conundrums*. My last book, *Understanding the Great Commission*, allows them to peer into Paul's mind, as he is our primary missionary example. Each two-page chapter explores a mission's doctrinal and/or philosophical thought that today's churches and colleges have overlooked in their study of missions.

From a church planter in the State of Tamil Nadu who received a copy of *The Great Omission*

Dear Dr. Jon Nelms, greetings to you in the name of our Lord. I hope all is well with you. I am John from India. I attended a three-day seminar at ICM in India last week. In that seminar, I received God's blessings. I received your book from Dr. Thomas in that seminar. I read it. It was very helpful for my family and me. That book made a change in my family. It not only touched me but also my whole family.

Write many books and touch every heart. May God bless you more and more. Please pray for me, my family, and also my ministry. Thank you.

– Johan Karthik

I am slowly working on my next book about the persecution of our people in the Middle East. Please pray our Lord gives me the wisdom to tell their stories for his glory and their honor, for truly, the world is not worthy of them. I want to tell their stories as they were given to me, with as little editing as possible, but without giving readers a nightmare. He and they deserve the best I can do.

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