



Cross Currents International Ministries

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Dear Prayer Supporter,

In a changing world it is wonderful to know of things that never change! James tells us of the, “*Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning*” James 1:17. It has been noted that He is the Father of **lights**, not the Father of **light**. This is explained in the Creation record: “*And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night*” Genesis 1:14.

As long as the sun, moon and stars move in precision across the heavens – which we count on each new day and night – God’s promises never change!

So together, as we face this critical year of 2014, His promise for you and for me is, “*Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above and cometh down from the Father of lights.*” The Lord withholds all that is not for our good, and gives - whether pain or plenty - that which will spiritually enrich us both in time and for eternity.

Please prayerfully read some of the responses from our Swahili and Turkana radio broadcast listeners and also, our 2014 theme, “**Lengthen**” and “**Strengthen**,”

Blessed New Year!

Radio Listener Response from Turkana speaking Kenya:

*I have been truly blessed listening to your program. I began sharing my testimony with neighbors and two people have come to know the Lord! Even though our church is far away and we can only attend once a week for fellowship, we daily listen to the 75 minute program “**Turkana Family Devotional**” which includes your “*Dorothy’s Daily Devotional*” (“*DDD*”) in Turkana and Swahili as well as protracted Bible readings in Turkana.

***Lodwar:** *God bless you Dorothy for the good work you are doing teaching the people of Turkana the Bible in their own language. One day I know I will meet you.*

*I want to testify that Jesus saves! I daily listen to your program, but little did I know, that my son’s wife also was listening. While working together yesterday, she told me that she would like to know more about Jesus. I was so excited and took her to my pastor and she has accepted the Lord. My daughter in law and my son brew and sell illicit brew. Please pray for my daughter in law as I walk her through salvation, and also pray for my son to be tolerant and likewise accept Jesus.

Radio Listener Response from Swahili speaking Kenya:

***Voi:** I am a recent convert to Christianity! I praise the Lord for His mercies. I don’t know very much but I am praying that I will be able to grow. Please send me your free books on “*Your Quest for God*” and “*Food for Faith*” in Swahili. (ED: *Praise the Lord! CCIM have just printed another 20,000 copies of “YQFG” & “FFF” in Swahili and English. The heavy demands for these free books are urgently needed by such people as this precious convert to our Lord Jesus Christ.*)

***Lamu:** I have just heard a program on radio, “*Dorothy’s Daily Devotional.*” I am glad to have heard what was being spoken of today. For me, it was surely a word in season! God bless you.

***Ukambani:** While visiting my relatives in Voi, I listened to the Swahili program “*Dorothy’s Daily Devotional.*” I love this program and I would like to listen to it with my family. Please send me a copy of today’s message as I would like to share it with my family and friends. I wish your radio frequency could reach my home area! The Lord bless you.

“Lengthen thy Cords and Strengthen thy Stakes”



-by Richard A. Bennett



At our time in life, it might seem strange for Dorothy and me to be contemplating a strategic expansion of the mission outreach of CCIM. However, by the grace of God, we believe we should respond to His leading for far flung opportunities that lay before us. We rejoice to know that, with these contemplated expansions, CCIM is enjoying an ever deepening bond of fellowship in our long-time association with Trans World Radio [TWR].

Therefore, with many thanks for your fellowship and love, we will share significant opportunities as together we obey the Lord to **“Lengthen thy cords, and strengthen thy stakes”** Isaiah 54:2.

Lengthen Thy Cords

In the astonishing and exciting providence of God, the long prayed for TWR transmitter in Benin, West Africa, broadcasts the wonderful words of Life! The primary target areas for this powerful 100,000 watt missionary radio transmitter includes Benin, Burkino Faso, Ghana, Mali, Niger, Nigeria and Togo. The Gospel penetrates areas where missionaries were seldom able to penetrate!

Previously, we mentioned long-time missionary friends, Frank and Isabelle Baggott. At that time, at age 91, stalwart missionary Frank Baggott, was called from the desert floor of Niger to his Heavenly Home. Frank’s last audible prayer was: “Please Lord, send laborers to this harvest field.” Then, within but a few months, the Gospel message was being beamed from Benin by TWR to that desolate and spiritually dark region of Niger.

From this new lighthouse of love and truth in Benin, it was originally expected that 63 million people would be in the radio signals footprint! But, since their commencement, transmissions were actually picked up as far away as Spain, along the coast of Portugal and even Florida: A huge distance from the target area!

Well, you may be thinking, “That’s interesting; but how does all this good news effect CCIM?”

Because of the thousands of letter responses we have already received, God has clearly shown the eternal significance of CCIM’s *“missionaries in paper covers”* - *“Your Quest for God”* and *“Food for Faith”* in numerous African countries where the books have already been printed. Also, where they are available by E-Reader through our website. www.ccim-media.com

Praise the Lord, many more people are being reached with the Gospel! Not only has the fruit of CCIM’s literature ministry brought joy to our hearts, but it has also been recognized by TWR Directors as a valuable adjunct to their vast missionary radio network.

Pastor Abdoulaye Sangho, Director of TWR West Africa, requested that further copies of both *Your Quest for God* and *Food for Faith* be translated and published in Baoule, Fongbe, French, Pulaar, Songhai, Tamasheq and Wolof. These languages will reach many millions of people from various ethnic groups.

As Pastor Abdoulaye wrote: *“This literature is used for the follow-up of French speaking listeners to the radio programs: ‘Through the Bible’; ‘In Touch’; ‘The Word Today’; ‘The Way of Righteousness’; ‘Africa Challenge’; ‘AIDS Challenge’; ‘Testimonies’; ‘Leading the Way’; etc.*

“Both Your Quest for God and Food for Faith have been a great tool in West Africa for the ministry of Trans World Radio! These books are the main literature used for follow-up of our French programs in francophone countries in Africa. Copies of these books have been sent to French speaking countries all over Africa by Post Office; hand to hand distribution; visits in churches; visitors to our office and distribution during evangelistic rallies. Pastors and Christians are really appreciating this great tool in their hand.”

In some of these regions, the Word of God is virtually unknown and spiritual darkness prevails. In war-torn lands, or, in Islamic strongholds, persecution and martyrdom often await new babes in Christ. However, through the Lord’s enabling, there is great boldness and a desire for such believers to share their faith as: *“God, who commanded that light to shine out of darkness,*

hath shined in [their] hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ” 2 Corinthians 4:6.

CCIM’s books are a vital adjunct to the testimonies of other fine Christian groups especially as TWR/360 is bringing together a vast distribution network to reach people in their heart language. This strategic CCIM expansion opportunity yet adds another step in our commission to **“Lengthen our cords.”**

Strengthen Thy Stakes

As the Lord provides, all the funding for these expansion opportunities will come through personal donations given to CCIM. However, to facilitate this development of cooperative fellowship, TWR has graciously opened an internal CCIM/TWR account at TWR International Headquarters in North Carolina. From there, necessary funds will be directed to multiple countries where CCIM’s ministry is involved. Overseeing this CCIM/ TWR account will be a committee of four: Timothy Klingbeil (TWR International Director, Americas); Ralph Stores (TWR, US Director of Media Development & Services); together with Richard and Dorothy. We four will oversee the CCIM/TWR account and ministry expansion as we prayerfully establish priorities and direct the resources that the Lord provides through CCIM to TWR.

In addition, Dorothy and I have formalized a “Family Trust” through which any personal assets are bequeathed to TWR. The designation of this Trust is that the CCIM ministries of radio and “*missionaries in paper covers*” will, God willing, continue after our Home-call! Until then, we trust God to continue to supply the necessary funds through Prayer Supporters of CCIM for the above-mentioned ministries. Then, at the time of our Home Call, any donations to CCIM will be processed through the TWR/CCIM account.

When reading the Bible this morning, a familiar verse specifically spoke to me: **“Break up your fallow ground, and sow not among thorns”** Jeremiah 4:3.

Sow Not Among Thorns

How easy it is for pre-conditioned thorny patches of lust patterns to emerge in modern-day Christianity. Five such lust patterns have been suggested. To amplify these, we have suggested biblical illustrations:

Approbation Lust: As exemplified by Saul who coveted man’s approval. Accordingly, when he heard of

the women dancing and singing the latest pop song—**“Saul slew his thousands and David his ten thousands.”** Saul recognized that his popularity rating was in decline. As a result, jealousy and murderous intent were born in his heart.

Details of life Lust: As exemplified by Martha. Unlike Mary, who waited upon the Lord Jesus, Martha was excessively occupied with hospitality details to the exclusion of her personal communion with Jesus. Pride lives for its image before men, whereas humility waits upon the Lord to accomplish His purposes of blessing through a life of fellowship and availability.

Material Lust: As exemplified by the Church of Laodicea. Could it be that one of the greatest problems of the Church in America is her relative affluence and resultant self-sufficiency? Lust is never satisfied with anything but a little more!

Power Lust: As exemplified by Diotrephes. Because Diotrephes coveted the prominent position in the local church, he sowed infection about the Apostle John. Speaking of Diotrephes, John wrote that he was **“...prating against us with malicious words.”**

Sensual Lust: As exemplified by David. David lusted after another man’s wife and craved for sexual fulfillment outside of God’s boundaries. The same lust pattern is also applicable to mental lust.

“For this I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh”



Galatians 5:16.

“But God forbid that I should glory, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world” Galatians 6:14.

It is a solemn reality, that before the seed of God’s Word can flourish with penetrating authority and spiritual fruitfulness, each of us need to personally encounter the Christ of the Cross.

“For in that He died, He died unto sin once; but in that He liveth, He liveth unto God. Likewise, reckon [count on it as a fact] ye, also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Let not sin, therefore, reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in its lusts” Romans 6:10-12.

May our daily experience be co-crucifixion with Christ so that His resurrection life may flow like living water as we seek to obey God and:

“Break up the fallow ground.”