



# Evangelical Friends Mission December 2019 Prayer Letter

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Our purpose and passion is to fuel a worldwide movement of people who seek first the kingdom of God, planting churches that live and die to carry out the Great Commission in the spirit of the Great Commandment.

As the year 2019 draws to a close and as we ponder on all the activities carried out by our CHE Trainers, we praise and thank God for the way in which all our activities brought out amazing results. This year women came to the forefront in fulfilling the Great Commission through their small but significant ways in almost all our areas of work. The Adult Non Formal Education program helped us 'discover' women greats like Jamuna and Mina who worked alongside Smriti in this great responsibility. Together they helped so many women, and some men as well, discover hidden talents and the wonderful ways in which God has led them this year to lead churches as pastors and empower women in rural communities of Salyan district to become more effective through the simple reading from the Bible and the strength they draw from this simple act. And Proverbs 31:10-31 now becomes meaningful.

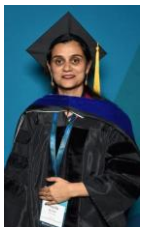


On the other side, in Cha'pur we had Asha and the women prayer warriors getting involved through a simple Sewing Training Program to help reach out to non-believers with the living Word of God and leading families to faith in Christ. Some like Ramita from Mahida in the picture also experienced the saving Grace of Jesus, and gave their lives over to Christ, and became useful in their simple way by working for the needs of society, which brought opportunities to share the Gospel with unbelievers.

The Small Business Development (SBD) Training held in March 2019 at Surkhet with the help of Trainers from Wabash Friends Church has helped people like Tulsa and her husband who is a pastor in Surkhet to come to understand that it is good for leaders to have a tent-making ministry. They started a ready-made garment shop with a small seed grant from CHE and soon this helped their churches in being self-supported and sustainable.



On the home front, PRISCILLA (Ritu) has also shown determination and leadership qualities in leading and guiding these women to rise to the occasion and be considered equal in families and communities. Even with the pressure of all these responsibilities and working in a Nursing College, Priscilla was awarded a PhD by Walden University (USA)



We Praise God for all our activities which have brought Him Glory in small and subtle ways.

### ***Please Pray...***

- For our CHE Trainers and their families as they serve God through various ways in different places and lead many more to Christ.
- For the work in Jugauliya among the Musahar people.
- The Eden CHE Committee in Cha'pur have taken the initiative of starting a Community Learning Centre in an attempt to become united and working among the poor and marginalized using CHE. They are led by Suleman and Pastor Ramesh.



We wish you, all of our friends and well-wishers, as well as our faithful supporters, a very happy and blessed time at Christmas this year, and a year full of his promises in 2020.

Shalom,  
Samson, Priscilla, and Prateek  
Nepal

## **From the EFM Office**

### ***Praise God...***

- For the EFM Board meetings that were held in November in Oregon. We laid some groundwork for EFM's vision and strategic plan for the next three to five years. We were also blessed by the time spent with David Thomas, Samson and Priscilla Retnaraj, and Albert and Metali Adhikari and their two sons, Steven and Edwin.
- For the decision that was made by the Board to release Maria Giron to a new part-time ministry of EFM called, "Missions Mobilizer for Hispanic Friends." This ministry will help EFM develop closer relationships with our Hispanic Friends churches in the United States and Latin America and help them to become more involved in carrying out the Great Commission of Jesus Christ.
- For the Igniting the Hope banquet that was held right after the conclusion of the EFM Board meetings. There was an approximate total of 150 people at the banquet. Many churches from Northwest Yearly Meeting were represented. There was a generous response to the challenge given to increase ongoing giving for missionaries and ministries that are underfunded.

### ***Please Pray...***

- For a generous response to our Year-End Offering letter. We, like many ministries, are helped greatly by year-end giving to finish the fiscal year in the black and have funds available for the new year.
- For Maria Giron as she seeks prayer and financial partners for the new ministry she is pioneering for EFM (see above under "Praises").
- For some meetings that will occur in Siete Ejidos, Mexico, in early December, to keep exploring what more the Lord wants to do through EFM and Mexico Yearly Meeting (MYM) to make disciples in that region of Mexico. MYM's superintendent, Ernesto Ramirez, will be present along with MYM's missionary couple, Jaime and Lupita Leon. Matt Macy will be there along with Edwin and Maria Giron.
- For Dan as he travels to the Philippines and Hong Kong Dec. 3-17. While in the Philippines he will spend time with the leaders of the yearly meeting called PEFIM and visit some of the work that is going on. He will also spend time with Roy and Jinky Twaddell. In Hong Kong Dan will be with Dave and Cindy Aufrance who have been serving there for several decades and have strong ties to Evangelical Friends Church-Eastern Region.

## **From Antal and Agnes Frei**

### **Serving in Hungary**

#### ***Praise God...***

- In the next weeks, before Christmas, we will visit every mission station (churches).
- We will make evangelistic meetings and love gifts for poor people.
- We will invite lots of unbeliever (non-Christians) friends!

#### ***Please Pray...***

- For our mission work! After Christmas I will put together a report with pictures.
- For our Christmas Evangelistic Church Meeting that will be in: Tolna, Budapest, Pécs, Kölked, Ozora, Croatia, Serbia...

## **From Voicu and Ana Marian**

### **Serving in Romania**

#### ***Praise God...***

- A very busy time of ministry, more students in our classes, developing new relationships.
- Early celebration of Thanksgiving, opportunity to teach youth about the importance of gratitude toward God (Luke 17:11).
- Many answered prayers, evidence of God's working in all things for our good; Ana's wrist healing.

#### ***Please Pray...***

- The seed sown to remain and bear fruit. Safety for kids coming to our home, good reports at school and at home for our students.
- Continued openness and support from parents, chances to lift up the name of Jesus during Christmas season.
- Wisdom in planning for next year's ministries; good health and energy; Christina and John's protection, obedience to God in every decision.

## **From Gabriel and Suzana Massey**

### **Serving in India**

#### ***Praise God...***

- For protection on my life when I celebrated my 86<sup>th</sup> Birthday on November 8<sup>th</sup>.
- For the smooth working of the Christian English College where I am manager.
- For the continuous growth of New Believers Fellowship.

#### ***Please Pray...***

- For the Christmas Program on 21<sup>st</sup> December for the students and staff of the School.
- For Christmas worship at Chhatarpur Friends Church and after that, sharing the Christmas message through the main road of city in procession.
- For Friends Hospital and its witness in the city and around also for the Nurses Training School.

## **From A. and M. A.**

### **Serving in Bangladesh**

#### ***Praise God...***

- That he is protecting us, and our health is good. We checked our physical health, teeth, and eyes for all four of us. This is a great blessing for us. Our physical health is good. Sometimes we are in cough and cold, but it was not so serious.
- That our deputation time is going well. We were able to meet many people in different churches. We are so thankful to the Lord that our local leaders are leading very well while we are far away from our country.
- That our elder son Steve has been accepted at Barclay College.

#### ***Please Pray...***

- That we can visit and build strong relationships with our partners during our time here for deputation. Please pray that God allows us to visit more new churches or people groups so that we can share our ministry with them and challenge them to be our partner.
- For our protection as well as our lay leaders in our country. Outside pressure is being raising day by day. We are not secure at all unless God protects us. We need more faithful prayer warriors.
- For Steve as he needs to work on his student visa and raise additional money for his lodging and food at Barclay.

## **From Roy and Jinky Twaddell**

### **Serving in the Philippines**

#### *Praise God...*

- We have started the new semester at Purok Uno and Feast with most of our older students and a few newer ones. We had a great end of semester swim party for our Purok Uno ESL students. The youth from Silangan Evangelical Friends Church helped to host it and there was great fun. It was a late start because of several holidays here, but we got started.
- We were recently invited by the community Leaders at Purok Uno to celebrate the Prophet Mohamed's birthday. We had a great day with our students with food and lots of good conversations.
- Roy will be playing one of the wisemen (narrator as well) in PEFIM's upcoming Children's Presentation on Dec 13th. I think they asked because Roy has traditional Arab attire (LOL). Anyway it will be fun.

#### *Please Pray...*

- Jinky and I will travel to Palawan Dec 5-10 to have a Thanksgiving celebration with our new church plant in Tagnipa. The whole community is invited, and we expect both groups of Muslims and Christians. We want to understand also how to look at the whole community as it is quite diverse with inter marriages with both groups.
- Dan Cammack is going to be here in the Philippines during the first part of December. Pray that we will be able to work out our schedules during the later half of his stay, so we will be able to meet with him.
- We have a busy travel schedule in December. We will be visiting churches and Jinky's family. We both had the flu recently, still recovering I guess. So we need strength and full health as we travel.

## **From B. and D. A.**

### **Serving in Nepal**

#### *Praise God...*

- We had three Buddhists and 48 Hindus give their lives to Christ during the biggest Hindu festival of the year.
- That new converts are being DISCIPLED well.

#### *Please Pray...*

- For Debbie's major surgery on January 3, 2020.
- For our evangelistic meetings during Christmas time.

## **From Rupak and Pramila Tamang**

### **Serving in Bhutan**

#### *Praise God...*

- For the start of giving Biblical church names to cell churches from Gen.12, Ex.16, and the book of Acts. People are excited and blessed.
- For one public testimony of baptism.
- For the mother's retreat and visit of Wangdi and lobesa fc.

#### *Please Pray...*

- For the boys exam that ends on 20 December.
- For my all cell church visit for naming and encouragement.
- For Christmas; let the Gospel be preached all over Bhutan.

## **From Abe and Diane Bible**

### **Serving in Ukraine**

#### *Praise God...*

- Monthly we receive reports of people being saved through the men who are attending the evangelism/church planting workshops. We know the angels in Heaven rejoice!
- We have wonderful testimonies from people and churches who have been transformed by participating in the Financial Freedom course. Yes, only a few out of 2,000 churches but the witness is spreading!
- We will make a brief trip in Australia to attend the wedding of our oldest grandson Jesse on Dec. 14. He is studying for the ministry, is sold out to the Lord, and has found a young woman he wants to spend the rest of his life with. And—we already met her in July. She attended our 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary (yes, all the way from Australia!)

#### *Please Pray...*

- The holiday time of Christmas and New Year's is always a time of spiritual openness here in Ukraine. Pray that some of the men who have only started on evangelistic efforts will see fruit especially in this season.
- There will be a new opportunity to present Financial Freedom to the 24 provincial superintendents. Pray that they will be inspired by what they hear and see and spread the word among the pastors they are responsible for. Abe is hoping in the New Year to start training sessions aimed at pastors only.
- Continue to pray for the mentoring responsibilities Abe has with new denominational leaders. That he will be able to build a strong relationship with them and encourage them to move beyond tradition and seek a fresh blowing of the Spirit.

## **From Dave and Cindy Aufrance**

### **Serving in Hong Kong**

#### *Praise God...*

- For the three that were baptized and six who transferred their membership to RiverGrace on Sunday's beach public display of baptism.

#### *Please Pray...*

- For Hong Kong. The situation worsens. The trust in the government and policemen is at its lowest point ever, but they are not willing to do anything to change the situation except to use more force and crackdowns. While most people are not in danger if they don't join the protests, it has curtailed our meetings and activities. Still, there is no end in sight.
- For the safety of our people coming back and forth to church. Some have to travel through areas where there are regular protests.
- For the transition of Cindy and me as we turn over more responsibilities to others in the schools, seminaries, and in RiverGrace. Pray for our college, Pastor Tommy, now in official position of senior pastor as we are working with him for a smooth transition.

**From David Thomas**  
**EFM Whole-Life Discipleship**  
***Praise God (Thailand)...***

- For a great coaching time in November for Scott Purser and our Thailand Lahu leadership team. Praise God for better understanding of what they need to do to mobilize their chosen village of Ja Taw towards God's purposes for them.

***Please Pray (Thailand)...***

- For the village of Ja Taw our team will be discipling over the next few years: Pray for God's grace, blessing and favor to rest on this village, leading to their transformation. Pray for a powerful, dynamic example to emerge in this village of what it looks like to "disciple this nation." This village will become a beacon of light paving the way for many more Lahu villages to move into God's Kingdom transformation.
- For our D4D team to have all the wisdom, insight, grace and favor they need to interact with this community's leaders as they seek to facilitate a process unifying the village with hope around a vision for transformation.

***Praise God (Rwanda, Burundi, and Congo (DRC))...***

- For Brad and Gerard's excellent coaching trip to Burundi as well as Tertullien and Augustin's excellent trip to Uvira, DRC. 28 leaders in Burundi are forming 13 teams, and 7 leaders in Uvira, DRC are forming 4 teams.
- For Tertullien, Augustin, Gerard and Brad who are more healthy, rested, focused and strategic than they were. Continue to pray God's favor, blessing and wisdom over them in the middle of the challenges of their expanding ministry.
- For our Musanze D4D leadership team who are doing a wonderful job mobilizing their community leaders around a shared vision for transformation for their community.

***Please Pray (Rwanda, Burundi, and Congo (DRC))...***

- For the five Rwandan D4D church teams to continue to have favor with their community leaders. Pray for unity around their shared vision of transformation among various leaders in the community. Pray for worldview change in the chosen D4D community leaders as they meet weekly with the D4D team learning various lessons. Pray Romans 12:2 over them.
- For God's favor and wisdom to rest on our 28 Burundi and our seven DR Congo (Uvira) leaders as they seek for 2 Timothy 2:2 – FATT leaders (Faithful, Available, Teachable, able to Teach others) who will join their community discipling teams.
- For our seven leaders in Goma that our Rwanda team is mentoring. Pray for peace, hope, calm and focus in the midst of all the chaos of life in Goma (Ebola, fighting, poverty, etc.). Pray for discernment for our team to know how to best mentor them.