



April 1, 2022

Dear Ministry Partner,

May the Lord be with you and with your loved ones! May the name of the God of Jacob set you securely on high! May He send you help from the sanctuary and support you from Zion (Psalm 20:1,2).

*May it all be true, even in these dark days!*

Yes, we have been going through dark days with the Russian war on Ukraine. We've been in touch daily with workers in the field—in fact, several times per day. I've heard so many stories of need and absolute heartache, I sometimes feel guilty just eating a meal in peace.

Yet by God's grace, there is hope.

- Here's some good news: Thanks to the generosity of caring friends like you, we have mobilized a fund of \$50,000—which was then generously matched by a church in Fort Worth!

*Imagine the moment when I spoke to the leader of our work in Ukraine and shared this news.*

Ruslan, an outstanding church-planting partner and our Ukraine leader for the last 22 years, could only say, again and again, with his rich accent:

“It is a MIRACLE! A MIRACLE! A MIRACLE!”

He and his team, seeing their country being destroyed before their eyes, had been in the depths of despair. They'd been praying with all their strength.

With word from you and me that relief was on the way, *they rejoiced!*

This moment is a beautiful illustration of God's heart for our world: ***He is always willing to flow.*** You know how relentless water is in our physical world: It will find any possible way to flow. Likewise, God's love won't be stopped—despite obstacles, despite government actions, despite armies and bombs and hatred.

***But you and I are the channels of God's love and power. We must remain open to His flow. We must be available to receive from God—and willing to let His love and power flow THROUGH us . . . to connect His love and power to those in need.***

I can't help but think of a wonderful old hymn:

How I praise Thee, precious Savior,  
That Thy love laid hold of me;  
Thou hast saved and cleansed and filled me  
That I might Thy channel be.



Now we're receiving a continuous stream of photos from various sites in Ukraine where **food, medicine, fuel, and other goods are being distributed thanks to generous giving to this ministry by friends like you. . . .**

At a kitchen run by a very young church-planting couple in our program, 500 people every day hear the Gospel preached and then eat a nutritious, life-giving meal. Hundreds are receiving Christ as Savior in this difficult wartime setting!

Just a channel full of blessing,  
To the thirsty hearts around;  
To tell out Thy full salvation,  
All Thy loving message sound.

Van drivers are going into the toughest areas, even locations being bombarded. Where Ukrainian forces are holding the line, our drivers pick up women, children, and older people, taking them to safe sites where they can be cared for as they wait and pray for an end to the nightmare.

(One driver makes the most dangerous runs — into Kharkiv, Kherson, Kyiv, and other places. Ask him why he chooses these routes; his answer is simple and faith-filled: “Найважчі місця, вочевидь, найбільш нужденні!” Translation: *The hardest places are obviously the neediest!*)

Another van has become what the Ukrainians are calling a “mobile gas station.”

The government has been forced to ration fuel for the population so the army can be adequately supplied. Thanks to friends like you, we've been able to provide a very generous supply. Our team member drives his “mobile station” to pastors in various towns, refueling them so they can provide for the refugees under their care. It's a mobile fuel supply operation—filling others up!

Emptied that Thou shouldest fill me,  
A clean vessel in Thy hand;  
With no pow'r but as Thou givest  
Graciously with each command.

*This is the Church in action.* Churches have become the most reliable “general stores” in this beleaguered nation. If you need anything from aspirin to diapers, from food to medical equipment, you go to church. They'll probably have what you need—and if they don't, they'll try to go find it for you. Best of all, it's free!—thanks to people like you, empowered by the Lord!

Yet the grief of the people is real, and it is deep.

*As I spoke yesterday with Ruslan, he broke down in tears as he described refugees on the run, trying to work out their escape plan, moving from place to place toward some safe destination. . . .*

Many reach out to friends only to find that they themselves are on the run. Many arrive exhausted at a host home or church, expecting to stay a short time only to find that they have nowhere to go.

As their “tenancy” lengthens, their hosts continue caring for them, cooking and providing and ministering in the name of Jesus. But the practical reality is, the hosts don’t have the resources in the chaotic wartime economy to keep providing. Over and over, Ruslan has heard the same helpless refrain: *We don’t know what to do.*

Until now: THEY ARE SO GRATEFUL FOR “THE MIRACLE!”

Jesus, fill now with Thy Spirit  
Hearts that full surrender know;  
That the streams of living water  
From our inner self may flow.

So I thank you from my heart, for being part of the God-given miracle touching the lives of Ukrainian refugees in the midst of this monstrous calamity . . . even as your generosity continues to touch lives in so many ways in Spain, Cuba, Africa, Mexico, Brazil, India, and beyond.

**Everywhere we look we see warfare on a spiritual plane—and we rush to save victims of the battle for souls.**

- As I write you this letter, I’m just one day away from a trip with a small team to launch ministry in our newest field, the Philippines. . . .

The pastors there have been struggling in what they regard as a “slump,” without clear vision—and now, after our online conversations, they’re eager to finally unite behind a proven-effective church-planting strategy! They feel certain that our strategy will be applicable to every single participant—and will make a powerful impact all over the Philippines.

*What will God do—throughout this entire nation—as leaders catch fire and take hold of the tools that you offer them through your prayers and your giving!*

We know that a vision is a vision of *greatness* when you see it *capture the imagination*—when people agree that *this is it* . . . that “This is what we must do!” In this moment, we know: God has captured everyone’s imagination!

Even against the backdrop of heartbreak in eastern Europe, we see God capturing everyone’s imagination on the other side of the globe, in the Philippines, and we know that God is still at work. *We must be faithful; we must open to the flow of His Spirit.*

At this moment, as we continue providing all the support we can to the people of Ukraine, we are also asking ourselves how many leaders and workers can we bring on to a new church-planting force in the Philippines?

And even this is not the “end game,” but rather only the “next step”—because we are asking the same question of Venezuela where we’re scheduled to launch ministry before the end of April!

*These are not intimidating questions; these are EXCITING questions!*

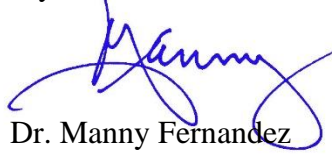
And the real question . . . the bottom-line question . . . is the most exciting of all:

**What will God do through us if every one of us opens our heart to the needy multitudes of Ukraine, of the Philippines, and of Venezuela?**

Channels only, blessed Master,  
But with all Thy wondrous pow’r  
Flowing through us, Thou canst use us  
Every day and every hour.

Please open your heart, that His power and provision may flow! For the sake of millions still in need of a Savior, I look forward to hearing from you soon. God bless you!

Joyful in His service,



Dr. Manny Fernandez

P.S. Maybe the mission field seems too big—the goal too daunting. But look at God’s math: He was able to launch the Church worldwide with 120 . . . then with 3,000 . . . and then—*look what happened!* So I bring you this simple but critically important invitation: **How open can you be today to letting the power of God flow through you to those in need of Him?**