



My prayer for you today: May the Lord bless you, your family, and your work day to day.
May He lead you from victory to victory as you simply follow *Him!*

June 1, 2022

Dear Ministry Partner,

Endless. I confess, that's how my ministry travels have felt since the first of the year! Between excursions to one country or another, my stops back home have never lasted more than a week.

Why the crazy-busy schedule? I'll tell you, simply: We're moving from "pandemic" to "post-pandemic"—and it seems all of our partners in every field urgently want an in-person, hands-on assessment of their situation . . . a post-pandemic ministry strategy! *They don't want to miss out on even one single day of harvest opportunity!*

Then came the tragedy of war in Ukraine, adding trauma to the entire scenario and travel complications.

Yet through it all, we know this: **Our God is still on the throne! And we see Him at work. We see the power of the Truth. We see a powerful response to the casting of vision. We see the greatness of the Lord's work ahead!**

- ✓ I've been to the Philippines. There's good progress. I believe this country is about to explode with passion for the work. It will soon be hard to contain them!
- ✓ I've been to Venezuela. I sense in my spirit that the Venezuelans will "leapfrog" other countries to accomplish more for the kingdom, and more quickly!

Yes, I know, Venezuela has a dreadful image. The news media has relentlessly reported "doom and gloom" about the chaotic political situation there. But the reality on the ground is that the people are amazingly sweet and very hospitable.

If you're going to Venezuela, I hope you like coffee! They love to bring you a cup even before you think to ask! And the coffee cup is bottomless; they keep filling it up for you. (Maybe the caffeine adds to the festive mood and fuels their fantastic hospitality.)

The Christian culture of Venezuela is even more amazing. The sweetness of the people is because of their relationship with the Lord. They love to go to church; they love to be part of every church activity.

The church in Venezuela relentlessly proclaims hope and the great power of the Lord—a hope bigger than the problems the nation is struggling with. For the people living with such overwhelming difficulties, this message is a huge comfort.



Against the backdrop of so many problems in the country, the Venezuelans respond with great joy and festive hospitality to “those who come in the name of the Lord.” I am so grateful that you sent me to them. The Christians I met there told me, *No one had visited them in the last seven years.* “It’s like we have been forgotten,” they said, “abandoned.”

People spoke of their sadness and of the fervent prayers they’ve brought before the Lord. “We *know* that God is not finished with Venezuela,” they told me. “We know, as needy as the country is, we have not seen all that God will do for Venezuela.”

They have not prayed “small.”

- “We have been asking that the Lord will bring His plan for the *entire nation*,” they said. “We have poured out our hearts before Him. We believe that your coming—with a vision and a strategy of national proportions—is **the answer to the very prayers we have been praying.**”

My heart is soaring! How can we respond to such passion? How can we respond to such convictions, such open hearts that came out to meet us?

Here’s how: We can launch 300 church plants.

Does it seem impossible? No. **We can unleash this nationwide Venezuelan church-planting revolution for a mere \$3,000 per month . . .** because the once mighty economy of this oil-producing nation has been brought to its knees.

More importantly, the hearts of the people have been opened wide to the new life that God offers through His Son Jesus Christ!

As you read these words, Venezuela represents *seven crucial needs*—needs that you and I have an opportunity to meet:

1. They need hundreds of vocational church planters!
2. They need teachers: We can go, we can send, we can teach online as well.
3. They need training sites: We have requests in strategic locations around the nation, and online as well.
4. They need curriculum: They are aware of the quality and desirability of our teaching materials, and they’re ready to dive in!
5. They need funding: One worker can plant **three churches with just \$30 a month** in support!
6. They need an overseer—and God has provided a wonderful, humble man: Alessandri is a country man in his forties. He has been voted president of the national fraternity of pastors—although he is no politician. He is a simple man living in poverty, who loves the Lord.

Alessandri is very understated yet very hardworking. *He has planted 23 churches himself.* But now he can’t wait for the new initiative—launching hundreds of churches simultaneously!

7. They need the Lord’s timing and favor. God has been preparing Venezuela through a long, humbling process of events. Now the nation stands on the brink of a MIGHTY HARVEST!

Pray with me for Venezuela! *I can’t wait to see what God has in store for these people!*

✓ And what about the other fields? I could fill pages. But let me simply take you to one, as an example of the Lord's amazing global work. Let's go to Spain. . . .

I've just returned from the biggest graduation we've ever had in that country. Government restrictions during COVID made it impossible to hold the usual ceremonies until now. Of course there was all the traditional "pomp and circumstance," but none of that could compare with the heart of the graduating students!

I wish you could have been there with me to witness it—they would inspire you, as much as you have prayed and given, to pray and give even more! To see what the Lord has done in their lives and to sense what the Lord *will do through them* is simply sensational!

God has been at work for generations setting the stage for this moment. Let me tell you, for instance, about Yoshua and Mark. These two brothers graduated side by side. Their heritage is incredible. . . .

Yoshua and Mark's great-grandmother came to Christ in 1939 during the Spanish Civil War. In the Catholic Spain of that era, evangelicals were like lepers, to be avoided at all costs.

Then, when she was 27, her husband, a major with the defeated National Front, was captured by Franco's forces, tried, and sentenced to death. His devastated wife would need to go by ship to Valencia where the execution would take place. But she was caught on the wrong side of the war lines. Even her own parents would not dare cross enemy lines to accompany her, because they themselves could be executed.

Now, in the complicated, hate-filled political and religious environment of the moment, the major's wife was pushed out of her home—literally put out on the street with her two babies and her furniture—and she was pregnant. None of her neighbors would come to help her.

But by God's grace, a missionary couple from England were in the community at the time, and they learned of the young woman's ugly eviction. They rushed to her, and quickly moved the terrified little family into their own place. Then they heard about her husband's situation—and they came up with a self-sacrificing plan.

The missionaries arranged to accompany her on a military ship to Valencia. There, they deposited her and her children in a hotel and paid the bill until her husband's trial date. As the woman and her few Christian friends back home prayed fervently, the judge commuted the major's harsh sentence. He would live—remaining in prison for the time being.

Back across Spain they traveled—the missionary couple, the young military wife, and her two small children—this time via a torturous odyssey by way of coal train. Back home, when the woman's parents heard the impossible story, they fell to their knees in gratitude—and asked how to receive the Lord who had authored all this unspeakable kindness!

The missionaries moved on. The family never heard of them again. The major was finally released. The entire family came to faith. ***That was four generations ago. Afterward . . .***

- The son of that young military wife—Yoshua and Mark's grandfather—became an evangelist, inspired to a life of ministry at a Billy Graham campaign in Spain over 60 years ago. He worked with our ministry for more than two decades.

- The woman’s grandchildren include 10 ministers. One has been a pastor for three decades. Two granddaughters married ministers and are serving the Lord in Spain.
- And now her two great-grandsons have graduated from our seminary . . . going into ministry themselves!

**When you give to this ministry, you are part
of a move of God *generations in the making!***

Thank you for playing a part in this divine drama. I have the privilege of witnessing the impact you’re making. At our graduation ceremony in Madrid, 60 students received their diplomas—a huge number for any seminary in Europe. How did it happen? Generous friends like you gave so that scholarships could be offered.

Your work in Him is not in vain! Just imagine what God will do through the ministries of these new young leaders whom you have helped to train and deploy!

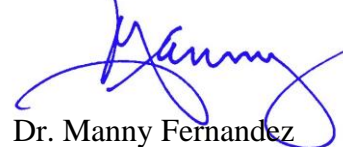
Yes, I could fill pages, but I won’t. God is moving powerfully in other countries as well. The ongoing saga of Ukraine is heartbreaking but also in some ways, inspiring. **Someday in eternity, we will see and understand the whole story. Your name will be written, along with the names of our graduates, as the Father unfolds the canvas of human history, the tapestry of eternity.**

“For God is not unjust so as to overlook your work and the love that you have shown for His name in serving the saints, as you still do. And we desire each one of you to show the same earnestness to have the full assurance of hope until the end. . . .” (Hebrews 6:9,10).

May we show that “same earnestness” . . . may we have that “assurance of hope until the end”? I urge you to give generously again today. The work only moves forward as God’s people pray and give.

And the work is far from finished. Multitudes still need to know the Lord! Please pray especially about helping to launch our nationwide church-planting strategy in Venezuela. I hope to hear from you soon. Thank you! God bless you!

Passionately in the harvest,



Dr. Manny Fernandez

P.S. We can’t know how God will put your gift to work. But we know that He *will put it to work!* As He says of His Word, in Isaiah 55:11: “It will not return to Me empty, without accomplishing what I desire, and without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.” Thank you again for being a partner with me in this amazing global ministry adventure!