

TAKING THE LIGHT

OCTOBER 2023 PRAYER LETTER

“Jesus answered and said unto him, What I do thou knowest not now; but thou shalt know hereafter.” - John 13:7

Dear Friends,

October is over; sometimes, I wonder what God is doing. The world seems chaotic, and I keep telling the Lord, “I do not know what You are doing.” But I know we will all see what He is doing in the future. Sometimes in life, we sit and wonder what we are doing. We make plans, and we set goals. But in the end, it is God who directs our steps. **Proverbs 16:9** “*A man’s heart deviseth his way: But the Lord directeth his steps.*” We can trust our Father in heaven; He knows what He is doing.

With what is happening in the world, things that have transpired in West Africa, and some godly wisdom, I have decided that the group scheduled to go to Burkina Faso in November must be postponed until next year. With the world as it is right now and the current climate of the political alignment with Russia and Burkina Faso, I decided to postpone setting up these radio transmitters in Burkina Faso. I plan on taking the group in the fall of 2024. I am disappointed we can't go this year, but I know God has a plan.

October started with what I believe was the Lord’s leading and directing. I was in Peru, in the southern part of the country, scouting places to Take the Light this month. While in Peru, I spent hours driving around with a former missionary, going through little towns and villages all in the Andes mountains. These small towns had a small population of 10,000 souls or less. I discovered the truth that Jesus said in **Matthew 9:37**: “*The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few;*” These small towns were homes to farmers and blue-collared workers where it was obvious that they needed the Bible churches. As I sought where we could work and minister for the Lord, I discovered many of these small towns had no church.

I met with a Peruvian pastor saved in the 1980s in Cusco, Peru. His name was Daniel Arajuo. He serves with International Partnership Ministries. He has a church in the city and works in 16 villages in Southern Peru. It was incredible to hear about what God was doing through him. Also, there was a man that I met back in July when I was in Peru who is a missionary to central Peru. His name is Carlos Estuque, and he currently has ministries in 3 different small towns around Jauja. I tell you all this because God has already worked in men of God there in Peru.

There were three small towns where I am praying for God to allow us to partner with some national pastors to see churches planted and begin circuits to hit the even smaller towns. Lord willing, I want to set up some radio transmitters with Daniel Araujo and Carlos Estuque. Daniel told me that people with internet service or radio would listen to the gospel broadcast if they had it. The places where I traveled had no cell reception, and some little towns had no radio reception either. We could see how the radio transmitter and the broadcasting would work. Lord willing, this will take place at the beginning of 2024.

Please pray for me as I continue to seek to be diligent in this work that God has given me and seek His leading during this day and age. Thank you for your support and belief in this ministry as we strive to see the Gospel go to these rural towns without Gospel-preaching churches.

Yours for the Gospel,



SENDING CHURCH:

Lighthouse Baptist Church
(Dawsonville, GA)
Pastor Charles Blackstock



For so hath the Lord commanded us, saying, I have set thee to be a light of the Gentiles, that thou shouldst be for salvation unto the ends of the earth.

Acts 13:47

SUPPORT ADDRESS:

Taking the Light
329 Harmony Church Rd
Dawsonville, GA 30534





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NOVEMBER 2023 PRAYER LETTER

Dear Friends,

The way we are going to see this world reached with the Gospel is through MEN – MEDIA – MATERIALS. I have heard that ministry philosophy for many years. I have seen those truths in history in what God has used to reach the world with the Gospel. So, we are working in these three areas when we are doing ministry here at Taking the Light. MEN are people who have surrendered for full-time church service. In MEDIA, we want to use mass communication to reach many people. And for MATERIALS, we want to help missionaries and national preachers with Biblical materials that would aid in evangelism, discipleship, and training for people worldwide.

This past year, Taking the Light, through the giving of faithful donors like yourself, was able to partner with a national preacher (MEN) in Burkina Faso, West Africa. Drabo is a pastor in Bobo-Dioulasso, and we were able to help support him on a special mission where he was to visit more villages surrounding Bobo's Province to search for new areas where new works could be started. The funds we gave were able not only to provide a salary, but also pay for gifts to give to the chiefs of the village. Proverbs 18:16 states, "A man's gift maketh room for him, And bringeth him before great men." The purpose of the gifts was to see about getting access to these villages so that the Gospel could be preached and, Lord-willing, churches could be started in the future. Drabo started this mission last spring and finished at the end of this November. Thank you for playing a part in helping pioneer new areas to see the Gospel go forward.

God also introduced us to another MAN there in Peru. Carlos Estuque is a preacher in central Peru, who has planted several churches and has a vision of seeing churches started in rural villages. Carlos is a man of God with a good testimony and a great work ethic. It's exciting to be able to partner with Carlos and help to see the Gospel go forth in rural areas. Lord willing, I will go this coming year to Central Peru to show you the work and the vision of what needs to be done to get these small towns Bible-preaching churches. We need MEN to see these forgotten fields of small towns and villages reached with the Gospel. Thank you, churches and faithful friends, who donate and give.

I plan to go to Peru shortly to duplicate what we are currently doing in Burkina Faso and to install those transmitters in Peruvian villages. It would be a blessing to the people in rural parts of Peru who live in the Andes mountains and don't have access to radio stations and other media. We can change that very shortly, Lord willing.

I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving. The Canfields had a great one this year. I had the opportunity to go over to a church member's house the day after Thanksgiving and celebrate. This sweet family invited us to celebrate together, and while there, a coworker of the husband showed up. He was a young man in his 20s from Morocco, a professing Muslim. I was honored to show him the Gospel out of God's Word at the dinner table. I showed him how Jesus is God and that the disciples even doubted that He rose again. He was stunned to see this from Scripture. He didn't make a profession, but He did hear. Please pray. God is at work, and sharing the Gospel is the most exciting thing we can do. I know I was pumped. But it reminded me of the millions of people in Africa and the billions around the world who don't get the privilege to hear the great news. I am excited about the future and the work we have to do Taking the Light to this dark world.

Thank you for your prayers and support.

Yours for the Gospel,



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DECEMBER 2023 PRAYER LETTER

Dear Friends,

The end of 2023 is upon us. It is Christmas time, and I can't believe how fast the time has gone. As I was reading in my Bible lately I came across Philippians 2:5-8 "*Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: 7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: 8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.*" This Christmas season we must not forget the sacrifice and gift that Christ gave us. Jesus is equal with God but made himself of no reputation. WOW! What a gift! During the busyness of this time of the year don't forget what Christ has done for us.

God has continued to open doors for Taking the Light. We at the Taking the Light bought tickets and planned a trip to go to Peru on January 8-17, 2024. On trip to Peru we will be traveling with 3 transmitters meant for different spots in three small Peruvian villages. I am super excited that we will be installing this equipment and getting the Gospel in these rural areas. I pray that this media will be a huge help for several national pastors there in Peru. I can't wait until we get the report of what God will do with this new venture. Please pray for this trip. I am wanting to see and hear of fruit and report it back to you all. I am really excited about the stories that we will get to tell in the future of what God will do. But right now we keep plodding forward.

Also, I reached out to an old Peruvian friend living in Arequipa, Peru. I asked him to contact multiple radio stations there in Peru and get pricing on broadcasting the Gospel on the radio in the city. At my home church we have a recording studio. We currently have over 200 Gospel-preaching programs in Spanish ready to go out on the air waves. I am pleased to tell you that we have secured a hour of prime time each week on a radio station that is already broadcasting and has a listenership. I am super excited about this opportunity as we are going to do a 2-month trial run to see what God does. But it even gets better, my friend there in Peru contacted me and told me that two other radio stations in two other cities reached out to him and asked for broadcasting!!!! They will use our broadcasting on their radio stations in other cities and they will charge us NOTHING! We will get free air time. I really believe that God is opening doors, and I am excited just to walk through them.

This year it seems like God has really blessed Taking the Light. I believe that we have a strong foundation in helping missionaries and national pastors in Burkina Faso and Peru. It's like building a house almost; we are laying the foundation. We are taking open doors and seeing what God is going to do. I am excited to see how all this work will play out in 2024. I realize that it wouldn't be possible without you. Thank you for your support. Thank you for all of your kindness and love shown to us. Thank you for taking the light to dark areas around the world. I can't tell you what it means and I am extremely grateful. Merry Christmas and may you have a wonderful new year.

Thank you for your prayers and support.

Yours for the Gospel,



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