

R CROSSING

RAMESH RICHARD EVANGELISM AND CHURCH HEALTH

A GLOBAL PROCLAMATION MINISTRY

R R E A C H
Q 4 2 0 1 4



INSPIRATIONAL CHALLENGE

RREACH is calling on individuals, churches, businesses and organizations—all those fed up with the world but yet to give up on it—to join us in a critical, historic and extraordinary opportunity to deliver spiritual health worldwide by accelerating church health.

How? By meeting an incredible ***inspirational challenge***. Key RREACH friends have collaborated to give **\$500,000** toward the Global Proclamation Commission and intentionally inspire others to greatly grow that amount **by October 31**. Please see page 10 for more information.

WHAT THEN?

“I am a self-made man,” the braggart claimed. To which a child asked, “Why did you make yourself like this?”

I write this article fresh off a 12-day, five-country trip—three of those countries in the chaotic Middle East. I, too, am asking our technologically advanced, self-made world: “Why did you make yourself like this?”

Did we really anticipate civilization would “progress” this way?

As we became more fully wired, the world expected more tolerance and harmony. Yet it seems anything we have gained from scientific progress has been lost in social and moral regress.

Earlier this year more than 270 Nigerian girls and women were abducted from a school. They are still held hostage, and more mass kidnappings have occurred since. Islamic extremists have mounted a bloody campaign to establish a caliphate, showing off barbaric executions on *YouTube*. Though laws have changed, hearts haven’t.

Networking was supposed to keep us all interacting rather than interfering, sharing rather than scaring each other. Yet, thanks to our advanced technologies, these heartbreaking events are repeated innumerable times in ever-grimmer detail, accompanied by mushrooming

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 >>

Ramesh Richard

Middle East Situation Interview



Strengthening Pastoral Leaders is Vital in Helping Middle East Suffering, Says Global Proclamation Ministry Founder

In a recent interview for the *Christian Post*, Dr. Ramesh Richard shares his perspective on issues in the

Middle East. He notes that it is hard for Western people to fully grasp the complexity of the conflicts. He also offers biblical priorities Christians should apply as they respond to the situation. "...One of the most effective ways of helping the suffering is to strengthen the pastoral leaders who are on-site, long-term, more relevant, and often much less expensive. If we can strengthen them, their ministries overflow into their congregations, which become witnesses to their communities," Ramesh said.

A RREACH board member stated, "I believe American Christians desperately need such a comprehensive, Christ-honoring Middle East purpose statement."

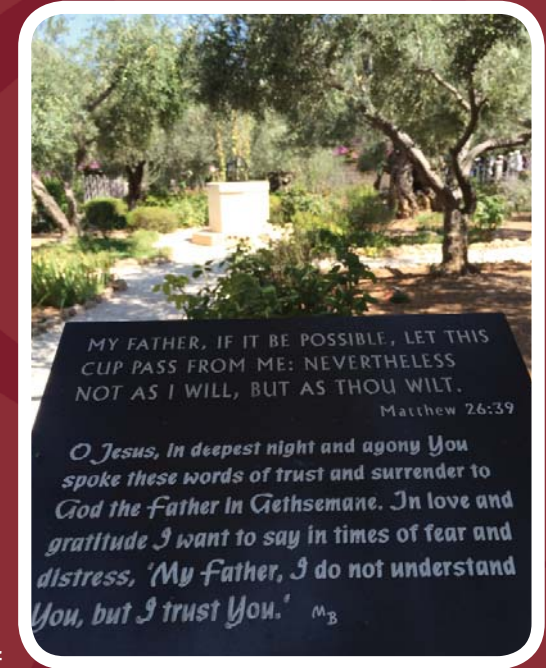
To read the article, visit our website at www.rreach.org/articles. 

Prayerful Surrender

On his recent Middle East trip Dr. Richard paid a poignant return visit to the Gethsemane Church and Garden, the purported site of the Lord Jesus' prayerful surrender to the cross. Several years ago, first personally, and then with Bonnie on an Insight for Living tour, Ramesh went through his own Gethsemane experience. Realizing no one else was available to spearhead the GProCongress, he surrendered to the cost of pioneering the large, complex, and far-reaching effort. Compared to what His Lord Jesus had done for him, it was insignificant.

Again in that sacred garden on this trip, Ramesh prayed his Lord's prayer of trust and surrender, and brought home the picture above as a reminder.

Please continue to pray and thank God for His total protection and global provision for the GProCongress. 



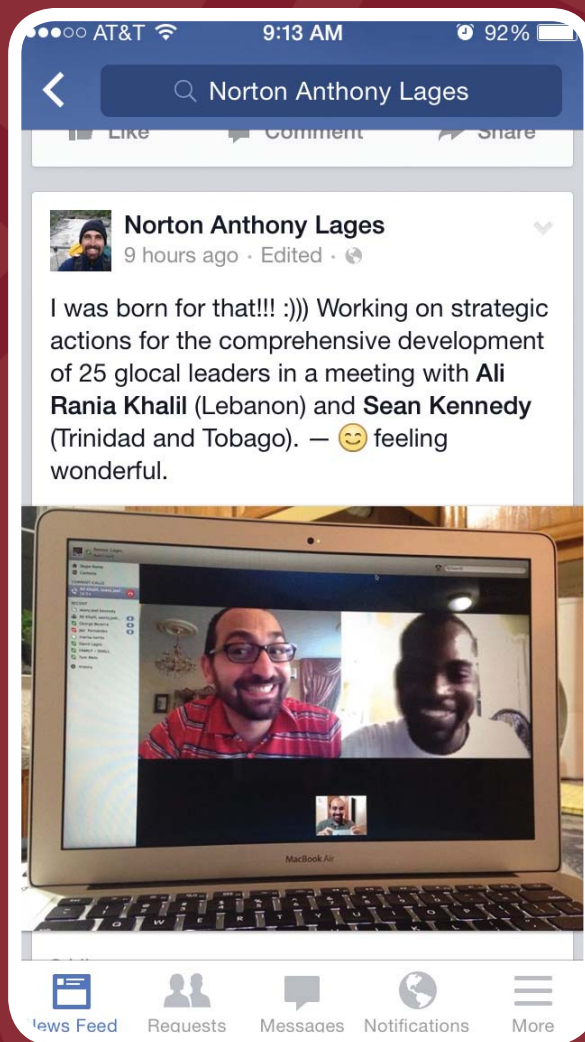
Social Media for “The Very Best of Many Everywhere”

Is media “social” or “anti-social”? The answer has a lot to do with the people behind it. RREACH seeks to make the most of social media for the very best of many everywhere!

For instance, each year we equip Dallas GPA delegates with a current technological device and set up dedicated social media groups to foster life-long connections and resourcing. Prior to the 2014 GPA, delegates began posting greetings, prayer requests and encouragement on the Facebook page we set up for them, and they’ve kept it up. See one grad’s post about his joy in being able to network for the Kingdom (photo right).

Our Media Outreach strategy makes use of social media to penetrate otherwise unreachable regions with thought-provoking messages about life and God. We can even converse with people of those closed areas, answering questions about which they previously had no one to ask.

Social media is also a way to keep up with Dr. Richard and the RREACH ministry—sometimes up-to-the-minute.



Amid the world’s spew of predominantly negative news, we can shine a light on the Sovereign God’s work around the globe.

Dr. Richard also employs social media to share personal insights and spiritual lessons—one way he ministers to his “RREACH congregation.”

If you’re social-media inclined, take a look at one or more of the following. If you’re not, we’re still here for you by phone, email, website, the postal service and in print! 🌐



Ramesh’s Facebook:

www.facebook.com/rameshrichard

RREACH’s Facebook:

www.facebook.com/RameshRichardEvangelismAndChurchHealth



Ramesh’s Twitter: @rameshrichard

RREACH’s Twitter: @rreach_



RREACH’s Instagram: rreach_

trailers of bleak commentary. Words like “metastasizing” (UN High Commissioner for Civil Rights), “apocalyptic” (US Defense Secretary) and “expanding chaos” (*New York Times* column) are common in my current readings.

Financial Times columnist Gary Silverman notes social media has been decidedly more anti-social than generally expected:

It was easy to assume that people would find happiness in their new opportunities to engage in direct, unedited discourse. But what if the opposite is true? What if people don't like who they are meeting? What if it hardens their hearts or sours their stomachs to deal with all these strangers from strange lands? **What then?** (emphasis added)

What then? That is another of my questions. Here are three options for believers.

1. To continue in *unbiblical optimism*—a “the world gets better every day in every way” theory. The youngest among the world's richest men, Facebook's chief executive, wrote these words some time ago: “When I think about the world today, the thing that amazes me most is how many people's lives are getting better every day by just getting online and joining the knowledge economy.”

Life getting better every day? Not sure. In every way? Definitely not. It may be technologically easier to communicate, but the human heart still governs communication content.

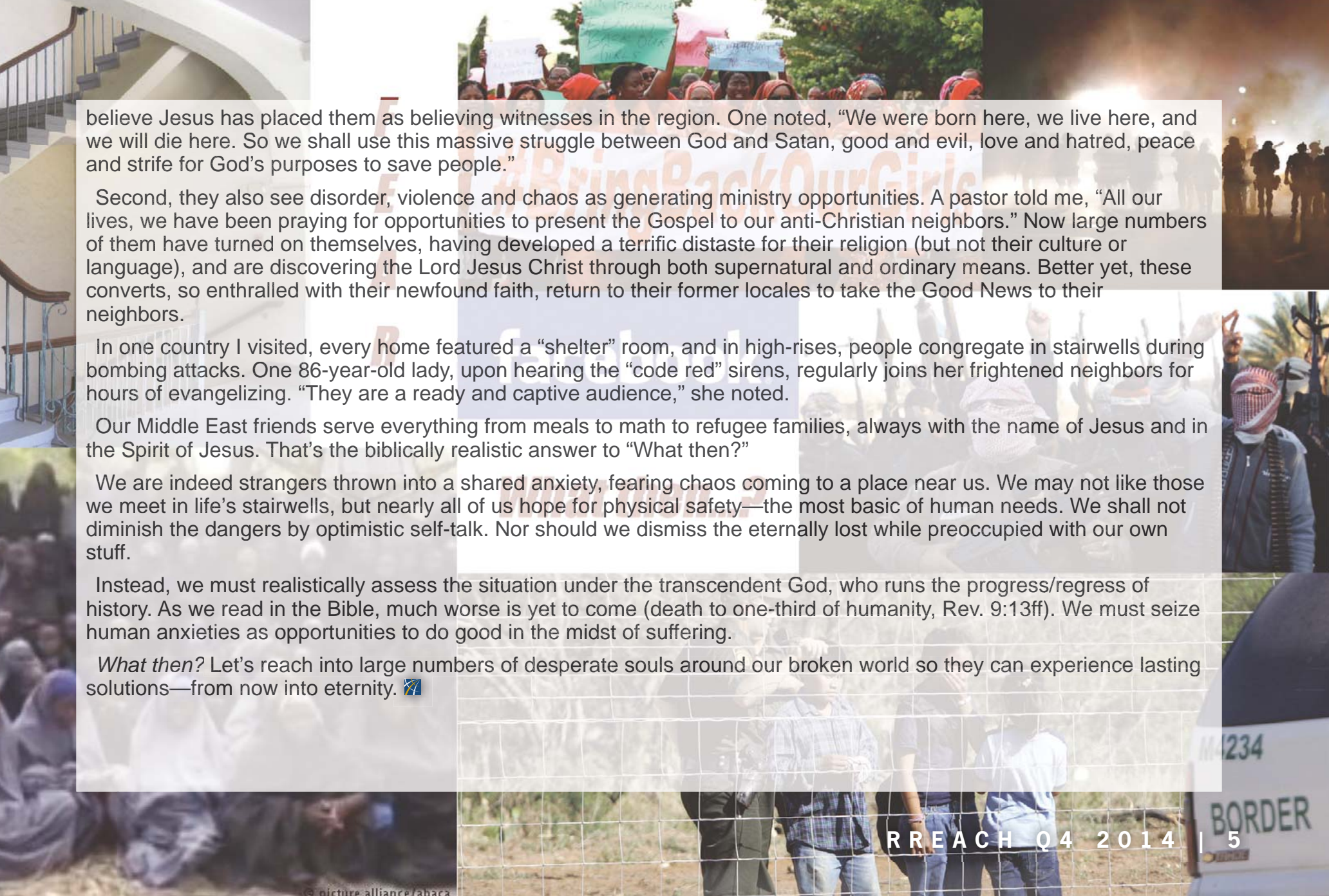
2. To give up on people in *unbiblical pessimism*—a “shake off the dust of our shoes” theology. This way of thinking allows social discord to discredit any possibility for progress. We give up on people's futures. From the safety of our homes and lands, systems and securities, we let them go to hell—literally!

3. To follow a *biblical realism*—a “there will be wars and rumors of wars but the Son of Man will come with great glory” (Matt. 24) perspective. This way of thinking is neither self-attributed optimism, nor situation-defined pessimism, but a biblically-oriented realism. It's a perspective based on an objective assessment of history's progression through the eyes of the Creator and Redeemer and Judge.

Biblical realism was the conviction I sensed repeatedly during my recent travels among believers in some of the most fearful places on the planet. Here is their response to “What then?”

First, they affirm God's sovereignty over human affairs. While “convert, pay or die” ultimatums threaten death, they





believe Jesus has placed them as believing witnesses in the region. One noted, “We were born here, we live here, and we will die here. So we shall use this massive struggle between God and Satan, good and evil, love and hatred, peace and strife for God’s purposes to save people.”

Second, they also see disorder, violence and chaos as generating ministry opportunities. A pastor told me, “All our lives, we have been praying for opportunities to present the Gospel to our anti-Christian neighbors.” Now large numbers of them have turned on themselves, having developed a terrific distaste for their religion (but not their culture or language), and are discovering the Lord Jesus Christ through both supernatural and ordinary means. Better yet, these converts, so enthralled with their newfound faith, return to their former locales to take the Good News to their neighbors.

In one country I visited, every home featured a “shelter” room, and in high-rises, people congregate in stairwells during bombing attacks. One 86-year-old lady, upon hearing the “code red” sirens, regularly joins her frightened neighbors for hours of evangelizing. “They are a ready and captive audience,” she noted.



Our Middle East friends serve everything from meals to math to refugee families, always with the name of Jesus and in the Spirit of Jesus. That’s the biblically realistic answer to “What then?”

We are indeed strangers thrown into a shared anxiety, fearing chaos coming to a place near us. We may not like those we meet in life’s stairwells, but nearly all of us hope for physical safety—the most basic of human needs. We shall not diminish the dangers by optimistic self-talk. Nor should we dismiss the eternally lost while preoccupied with our own stuff.

Instead, we must realistically assess the situation under the transcendent God, who runs the progress/regress of history. As we read in the Bible, much worse is yet to come (death to one-third of humanity, Rev. 9:13ff). We must seize human anxieties as opportunities to do good in the midst of suffering.

What then? Let’s reach into large numbers of desperate souls around our broken world so they can experience lasting solutions—from now into eternity. 🙏


{ OCTOBER 2014 }

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	GPA=Global Proclamation Academy	Pray Daily for...	1 Ramesh's meeting with a strategic GProCongress advisor in Vienna, Austria.	2 Ramesh to be humble before God, sensitive to needs and have clear direction in all areas of life.	3 No technology or software issues as we open registration for the Global Proclamation Congress for Pastoral Trainers.	4 Many to see and share a short, evangelistic video message posted on our LifeRocks Facebook page.
5 Ongoing connection among pastors brought together through the Dallas GPA and national GPAs.	6 RREACH to change the way One Billion Individuals think and hear about the Lord Jesus Christ.	7 RREACH's Campaign Leadership Council as they work toward raising awareness of and funds for the Global Proclamation Commission.	8 Our media outreach campaign to be successful in reaching thousands in 2014.	9 God to continue to empower the ministry of the RREACH staff.	10 Pastoral trainers to hear about the Global Proclamation Congress and be moved by God to attend.	11 The Lord to expand RREACH's programs and products.
12 Inspirational Challenge goal to be met by October 31.	13 Ramesh, his family, and RREACH's board and staff to remain focused on the Lord Jesus Christ.	14 And praise God for our faithful supporters.	15 Ramesh to be humble before God, sensitive to needs and have clear direction in all areas of life.	16 Churches to partner with RREACH by piloting a new curriculum, <i>Soul TransForMission</i> , based on Dr. Richard's book <i>Soul Mission</i> .	17 The right personnel to round out the ministry.	18 Ryan, Robby, his wife, Nathalie, their children, Joshua and Emma, and Sitara, that the Lord will guide their steps.
19 The lost to come to know Jesus through our LifeRocks Facebook page.	20 The RREACH staff's communication with Dallas GPA graduates planning future national GPAs.	21 Dallas GPA graduates, that the training they received would bear fruit in their ministries for Christ.	22 Dr. Richard's books, talks and videos to reach and teach many throughout the world.	23 Additional members to join the GProCongress for Pastoral Trainers team.	24 Dr. Richard's recording of material for a digital seminary curriculum ministry.	25 The love of God to be felt by those who come in contact with RREACH events and ministries.
26 Financial year-end need and year-end goal to be provided by Dec. 31.	27 Dallas GPA referees as they consider who they might nominate for the 2015 Dallas GPA.	28 RREACH staff as they plan and prepare for year-end communications and events.	29 Those who have attended previous RREACH pastors conferences to flourish as leaders.	30 Inspirational Challenge to be fully funded according to God's will by the deadline tomorrow.	31 Dr. Richard to have travel mercies and divine appointments as he and his family travel to Trinidad for a nephew's wedding.	

{ NOVEMBER 2014 }

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>The RREACH staff prays daily for all types of needs. It would be a blessing to pray for you. Yes, YOU! Please send your prayer requests to mary@rreach.org and let us lift you up!</p>			GPA=Global Proclamation Academy	GProCongress=Global Proclamation Congress for Pastoral Trainers	Pray Daily for...	1 Ramesh to be humble before God, sensitive to needs and have clear direction in all areas of life.
2 New media opportunities for Dr. Richard to present the Lord Jesus around our world to arise.	3 The Lord's specific guidance in and quality execution of each operational detail for the 2016 GProCongress.	4 The Lord's guidance and wisdom as we strive to be good stewards of what God has provided.	5 RREACH to have efficiency and wisdom in raising and spending resources.	6 And praise God for our faithful supporters.	7 The Lord to provide RREACH with His presence, provision and protection.	8 Wisdom in utilizing social media for evangelism.
9 GPA NICARAGUA today through 11/19. Pray for the pastors to be strengthened and connected to one another.	10 Wisdom, direction and funding for the Global Proclamation Commission.	11 Potential friends of RREACH to be introduced to the ministry.	12 Dr. Richard as he joins GPA NICARAGUA.	13 Unity among the RREACH staff and for protection against spiritual attack during the busy year-end season.	14 Ramesh and RREACH as by "Only God," we climb this ministry mountain.	15 Ramesh to be humble before God, sensitive to needs and have clear direction in all areas of life.
16 Spiritual awareness to be raised through the use of LifeRocks Facebook posts.	17 Wisdom, gratitude and humble confidence to make the right connections for the 2016 GProCongress.	18 RREACH to do our very best for the very best of many everywhere.	19 The pastors' health and safety as GPA NICARAGUA comes to a close.	20 Potential GProCongress momentum-building meetings in Malawi.	21 The Lord to expand RREACH's products, platforms and partnerships.	22 Qualified candidates to be nominated for the 2015 Dallas GPA.
23 Details for upcoming pastors conferences to come together.	30 Potential GPro-Congress meetings in Ethiopia.	24 The supporters of RREACH to be blessed by their faithful support of Dr. Richard and the organization.	25 Potential GProCongress momentum-building meetings in South Africa.	26 Dr. Richard and his family, and the RREACH board, staff and their families to have a happy and safe Thanksgiving.	27 The Lord to speak clearly through Ramesh at a pastors conference and evangelistic event in Uganda.	28 The Uganda pastors conference to encourage attendees and their ministries.
						29 End-of-year mailings to yield abundant financial support for RREACH programs.

{ DECEMBER 2014 }

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Pray Daily for...	1 Ramesh to be humble before God, sensitive to needs and have clear direction in all areas of life.	2 And praise God for the people and resources He is raising up to provide for the GProCongress.	3 Pastors from at least five new countries to come to the 2015 Dallas GPA.	4 Area churches to be excited to partner with us for the 2015 Dallas GPA.	5 The RREACH board meetings to be visionary and fruitful.	6 Ramesh and Bonnie to continue to grow in their love for God and one another.
7 God to use Dr. Richard's preaching at Christ Church in Plano, TX, to encourage believers in their faith.	8 God's wisdom and favor as Dr. Richard attends meetings with the World Evangelical Alliance in New York City, NY.	9 End-of-year mailings to yield abundant financial support for RREACH ministries.	10 The love of God to be felt by those who come in contact with RREACH events and ministries.	11 Dr. Richard to be well rested as he communicates God's Word at Moody Bible Institute Commencement in Spokane, WA.	12 LifeRocks media outreach to help build up spiritual lives and lead many to the Lord Jesus Christ.	13 Wisdom toward Outsiders to train Christians to reach their international neighbors.
14 Financial year-end need and year-end goal to be provided by Dec. 31.	15 Ramesh to be humble before God, sensitive to needs and have clear direction in all areas of life.	16 God's presence to be felt by Dr. Richard and each of the staff in discernible and energizing ways.	17 God to be glorified by all that RREACH does.	18 Spiritual awareness to be raised through the use of LifeRocks Facebook posts.	19 Details for future pastors conferences to come together.	20 Dr. Richard's books, talks and videos to reach and teach many throughout the world.
21 Dr. Richard's father and extended family, that the Lord will guide their steps.	22 The Lord to raise up new supporters.	23 God to use the RREACH staff to efficiently accomplish ministry strategies.	24 The Lord to provide RREACH with His presence, provision and protection.	25 Praise God for the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.	26 Wisdom in utilizing social media for evangelism.	27 GPA graduates to continue to be profitable for the cause of Christ.
28 Dr. Richard's participation in the Union of Evangelical Students of India's Diamond Jubilee.	29 All needed ministry resources for 2014 to be provided by December 31.	30 RREACH to expand our product offerings to reach new audiences with the Gospel.	31 All projects to be fully funded according to God's will and make great impact worldwide.	GPA=Global Proclamation Academy GProCongress= Global Proclamation Congress for Pastoral Trainers	 	

VISION

RREACH envisions changing the way
One Billion Individuals think and hear about the
Lord Jesus Christ, to the glory of the Father, and by the
power of the Holy Spirit.

MISSION

A Global Proclamation Ministry, RREACH
implements God's calling and gifting on Ramesh Richard
to promote the Lord Jesus Christ worldwide.

STRATEGY

We accelerate our global impact by the wise use and mix
of personal proclamation, media outreach, and ministry
training to evangelize opinion leaders, strengthen pastoral
leaders, and reach large numbers of individuals,
especially of Asia, Africa and Latin America.

THEME VERSE

"And many will come from east and west and from north
and south, and will recline at the table
in the kingdom of God." — Luke 13:29

Thank you for helping us to RREACH into large
numbers of desperate souls around our
broken world with lasting solutions.



17110 Dallas Parkway, Suite 230

Dallas, TX 75248

972-528-6100 or 1-800-RREACH-World

info@rreach.org

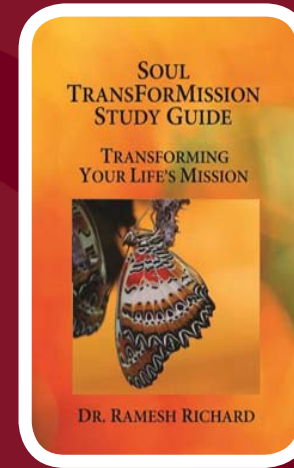
www.rreach.org

www.LifeRocks.org

www.facebook.com/liferocks.org

www.pray4rameshrichard.wordpress.com

Resource



We're looking for small
groups to test the new
Soul TransForMission
study guide based on
Dr. Richard's book
about the ultimate
mission of life, *Soul*
Mission. The study
offers eight weeks of
thought- and action-
provoking questions,
exercises and
journaling prompts. For
example:

- "MISSION answers the question, 'Why do you do what you repeatedly do?' What are the things you repeatedly do? Which would you like to maintain? Which would you like to delete?"
- "God made us so we can glorify God—so we can make Him look good through us. In what ways are you making God look good in your life?"

Contact bob@rreach.org or
972-528-6100 to learn more! 🌍

Partnership Opportunities



You've heard that in less than two years, RREACH will convene a decisive moment in the history of the Faith—a potentially decisive moment for the world. The Lord willing, up to 5,000 pastoral trainers from around the world will gather in Bangkok, Thailand, in June 2016 for the Global Proclamation Congress for **Pastoral Trainers**.

As the timeline before the Congress shrinks, the intensity of preparation and need for resources multiplies. Key RREACH friends have collaborated on an ***inspirational challenge*** to bolster this. They have given \$500,000 toward the Global Proclamation Commission and wish to intentionally inspire others, beyond any regular giving, to add to and even multiply that amount by October 31.

Like you, they are convinced that **pastoral health affects church health, and church health affects societal health**.

Will you, too, prayerfully consider giving above what you normally might invest in Christ's priorities to help meet this wonderful challenge by October 31? Please denote "Inspirational Challenge" on checks. 🙏

Before and After Dallas GPA 2014:

One Pastor's Notes

Before

From: Pastor E.

Date: Friday, June 6, 2014 at 7:23 PM

Subject: Re: Greetings to 2014 Dallas GPA

Dear brother Ramesh,

This is pastor E. from Cuba.

As I get lots better email access after my arrival today in the US and as I'm full of thanks and expectation on my way from Miami to Atlanta and later to Dallas...I want to seize this moment to thank you and all RREACH family for offer me the opportunity to be part of the GPA 2014.

As I leave my family and church in Cuba this morning, I trust and pray that our Father God use this time in a powerful way to multiply the influence we can be in the power of the Holy Spirit through the faithful proclamation and living of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Receive warm greetings from L. (my wife) and my kids, also specially from

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11 >>

pastor R., pastor J. (my father) and my mother, M. (she was praying hard for you during your Brazil trip incident this week).

The influence of your participation among the pastors in Cuba, early on this year, [historic pastors conference for 300] continues to be challenging and fruitful.

See you soon brother!

Serving Christ together,
Pastor E.

After

Pastor E. – Cuba:

I have a desire to express my deep gratitude to RREACH for their efforts and boldness to accomplish this unique experience for the benefit of our lives, families, ministries, churches and countries. I will always remember that God has given me this opportunity.

So my dear brothers from all over the world, pray for me: To keep faithful to Christ, living His Word in obedience at any situation, and to announce all the council of God as I preach, care and train others in the power of the Holy Spirit. 🙏



Ramesh Richard's Itinerary and RREACH Events

OCTOBER

- 1 GProCongress Meeting—Vienna, AUSTRIA
- 24 Third Millennium Video Recordings

NOVEMBER

- 9-19 GPA Nicaragua—NICARAGUA*
- 20-24 GProCongress Meeting—Lilongwe, MALAWI
- 25-26 GProCongress Meeting—Johannesburg, SOUTH AFRICA
- 27-30 Pastors Training Conference and Evangelistic Events—Kampala, UGANDA

DECEMBER

- 1 GProCongress Meeting—Addis Ababa, ETHIOPIA
- 5-6 RREACH Board Meeting—Dallas, TX
- 7 Christ Church—Plano, TX
- 8-11 World Evangelical Alliance—New York, NY
- 11-13 Moody Bible Institute Commencement—Spokane, WA
- 28-31 Union of Evangelical Students of India (UESI),
Diamond Jubilee—Chennai, INDIA

*Dr. Richard attending

Ramesh's role at Dallas Seminary is temporarily restructured in view of increasing demands of the 2016 Global Proclamation Congress for Pastoral Trainers. Instead of semester-long teaching, he now serves in worldwide representation of the seminary as Professor of Global Theological Engagement and Pastoral Ministries. In addition to RREACH's organizational demands, numerous speaking engagements and ministry projects continue to develop throughout the year. Due to the nature of overseas work, all dates, locations and formats are subject to change. Please pray for divine protection, competence and effectiveness on this servant and his family.

There He Goes...Again: Personal Proclamation

"I have been thinking a lot about GPA and the impact it has made," wrote Pastor P., 2014 Dallas Global Proclamation Academy graduate from Myanmar. In a recent note to Dr. Ramesh Richard, he offered another meaning for GPA:

GOD'S PROCLAIMING AGENT

The phrase succinctly captures what Ramesh Richard refers to as his "gifting" and "calling." He fully acknowledges that his gifting is larger than his person, his calling is bigger than his gifting, and that the Lord Jesus is greater than all—calling, gifting and person. Those familiar with Dr. Richard and RREACH will recognize those concepts from the ministry's stated vision and mission (see page 9).

As the RREACH staff gathered material for this newsletter, Dr. Richard was midway through a demanding yet stimulating ministry trip to three countries in the historic and heaving Middle East.

momentous opportunities for this global proclaiming agent.

Dr. Richard may have spent most of the summer stateside, but he was intensely engaged in globally-minded activity. In

less than two years, the Lord willing, the Global Proclamation Congress for Pastoral Trainers will convene. Up to 5,000 pastoral trainers from formal and nonformal training contexts, ministering in 200 nations, are to gather in Bangkok, Thailand, in June of 2016. "This will be the first time in the history of the Faith that pastors are the focus at the roundtable of ministry architecture," Dr. Richard said. The seminal event will give pastoral trainers the chance to build community, explore

opportunity, discover resources and receive encouragement.

He continued to identify key personnel for the Congress, work on scholarship



Ramesh's recent travels

It was his first overseas trip in 10 weeks. Even as we prayed for his safety and effective proclamation of the Lord Jesus Christ, we gave thanks for the

policies, and keep his finger on the pulse of other preparations, such as budget and on-site logistics negotiations.

The two extra summer months without overseas travel also allowed Ramesh time to connect with his itinerant family. Still adapting to his mother's graduation to heaven in late April, he and Bonnie welcomed daughter Sitara from Malawi during her summer break from teaching. Then, son Robby and his wife, Nathalie, moved to South Carolina for a ministry position (for which Ramesh gladly/sadly recommended him). Ramesh has already been able to visit over a weekend. He surprised grandson Joshua, 4, and granddaughter Emma, 2, who kept feeling his face to make sure he was real.

The same weekend they sent Sitara back to Malawi, Ramesh and Bonnie welcomed "Mom" Perry, Bonnie's mother, Joyce. Permanently relocating from Yakima, Washington, Joyce is living with Ramesh and Bonnie while apartment hunting. The arrangement is nostalgically inverse to that of nearly 40 years ago, when Joyce and her husband welcomed a certain young man from India to Yakima, where he lived with them for a summer while attending Multnomah School of the Bible.

As summer 2014 concludes, this particular "God's Proclaiming Agent" is energized! Even as Ramesh returns from his 12-day whirlwind trip to the Middle East, he is spiritually, mentally and physically gearing up for a season full of international travel and strategic meetings. Not only does he carry the gifting to be God's Proclaiming Agent himself, but he also continually answers the call to equip other proclaiming agents around the world. 🌍



Robby and family heading out for their new assignment



Ramesh surprised the grandkids with a visit to their new home

Global Proclamation Commission

Why a Global Congress for Pastoral Trainers?

A Perspective

Rev. Enoch Yattasak Sirikul, chair of the Executive Board of Thailand Evangelism and Church Growth Committee and chair of Thailand Campus Crusade for Christ, has agreed to serve as the national coordinator for the Global Proclamation Congress for Pastoral Trainers. This man of deep faith was a former student communist agitator almost killed in the 1977 coup in primarily Buddhist Thailand; today he leads a national movement linking Thailand churches, agencies and missions with a vision to train volunteers to disciple others. A respected leader in government, business and nonprofit circles in Thailand, Rev. Sirikul graciously took time to share his perspective on the upcoming GProCongress.

The need for pastoral training in Thailand is obvious, as about 50% of the pastors in Thailand have not completed theological training. This is a global problem in that we are lacking qualified leaders who know and apply the Word of God.

In seeing the vision and results

of the GPA in the US, I see the GProCongress as being a catalytic event in the lives of young pastors and leaders in Thailand. The Congress itself is a great vision, and as it becomes a reality, thousands of pastors and leaders will be envisioned and developed. They will go out empowered to train others. This will strengthen the global church. Also, as these thousands of leaders come to Thailand, so will the prayers of the Church for our nation.

This will be a historic event in the body of Christ for this generation, and a multiplication effect will take place as these leaders are trained and more than 100,000 pastors will benefit, causing a ripple effect that will resonate throughout the world for the Kingdom of God.

I have known Dr. Ramesh since my preaching class at Dallas in 1994, and since that time he has come to Thailand a few times. One particular time was during the World Evangelical Alliance General Assembly meeting here in Thailand, and Dr. Ramesh taught pastors and leaders from the Evangelical

Fellowship of Thailand on leadership.

The pastors from Thailand who have graduated from the Dallas GPA have benefited greatly from the training they received. The GPA empowered these young leaders and improved their leadership confidence and competence. They are currently pastoring churches, playing a significant role in the Thailand national plan, and also developing an emerging leaders network in Thailand.

We have seen God bring together just the right people from a local agency as well as Campus Crusade for Christ International to form a team to help administrate all the logistics of the GProCongress. We have received a very positive response from the Thai government as we work to prepare for the international delegates. We are discussing with the Department of Tourism the possibility of them helping with some of the logistics and offerings of this event as well. It is a blessing for us to have the opportunity to be able to bless pastors and leaders from around the world. 

GPA Burundi

“I have decided to change the way I was preaching and I believe that people will be changed through my preaching well-prepared,” said GPA Burundi graduate Pastor D. What’s more, he believes the expository preaching method he learned at GPA will help those he is training to preach. “Both the church members who preach in my church and my students will benefit very soon from these teachings,” he said.

The 30 GPA Burundi delegates gathered July 24 – August 2 in a newly constructed facility graciously made available by ALARM ministries. (Dr. Celestin Musekura, ALARM founder and president, served as a Master Coach at this year’s Dallas GPA.) The organizers, all Dallas GPA grads, expressed thanks for the challenge to hold the event. “GPA has enhanced our abilities,” they said. “At first we were not sure..., but through Rajiv’s [Rajiv Richard, national GPA coordinator] encouragement we have accomplished Burundi GPA. Thank you so much.” 🇧🇩



Burundi national GPA graduates



Burundi delegates are the first to have the RREACH vision on the back of their GPA shirts



REACH

Ramesh Richard Evangelism and Church Health

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www.rreach.org



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- *What Then?*
- **Inspirational Challenge**
- **Interview on the Middle East**