

*"The Lord is my portion," says my soul,  
"Therefore I have hope in Him." Lam 3:24 NAS*

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## ***30 Years of Praise ministry! 1979 to 2009***

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### ***Greetings from Dave...***

Thank you for your prayers and your encouragement as I step into this role as General Director of Praise International. It is an honor for me to serve the Lord in this ministry. For 30 years God has been directing Praise. Our resolve to actively and faithfully walk in His daily leading has never been stronger than it is today. We are committed to move forward as He leads.



Praise was established in 1979. That was also the year my wife (Debbie) and I graduated from Bible College in preparation to become missionaries. Over the last three decades, God enabled us to learn two foreign languages and work together with ministries on five continents. What a learning opportunity it has been! In those thirty years we have seen major shifts in the types of challenges faced in missions. Indeed, the whole world has changed. We are excited about helping Praise International face the challenges of today and prepare for the future.

### **Compelling opportunities and priorities...**

Supporting national pastors and indigenous ministries is one of the most powerful mission's strategies in use today. Most of my missionary experience has involved the "field" end of ministry. I have seen both the risks and the exciting potential of linking U.S. donors to indigenous ministries. During my tenure as director of Praise, we will make the field-end of our ministry more robust so as to assure that the funds donated through Praise result in strengthened national churches that are a transformational presence in to their communities.

*In order to do that, it is also important to strengthen our base of prayer and financial support.*



### **BELT TIGHTENING and other necessary adjustments**

I suspect that all of you have been impacted in tangible ways by our current economic recession. Times like this cause us to adjust our spending decisions so as to assure that we use our resources in the most effective manner. In that respect, times like this are a gift from the Lord. God uses them to help us

to clarify what matters most and to make tough decisions to align our spending decisions with those priorities. Our hope is in the Lord. In that confidence, we listen for His voice and seek to be wise stewards of the opportunities and resources He has given us.



Together with Jim and the others who work in the ministry of Praise, we have been seeking God's direction as to how to be the best stewards of this ministry. Praise International is already very "lean". We have only one employee (and she is part-time). The rest of the work is carried out by volunteers who generously give of their skills and time to keep the ministry functioning well. However, in spite of having a low overhead, our cash reserves are nearly depleted because of low levels of donations to our general operating expenses. Please pray with us about that need. If God prompts you to give to this need, thank you in advance!

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**Monthly Sponsorship: \$35**

As we prayerfully take into account the challenges faced at all levels of the Praise International ministry, we have recognized the need to **increase the monthly sponsorship rate for pastors and national missionaries to \$35**. We realize this may come at a difficult time for you, but we also recognize that you will understand that it is perhaps an even more difficult time for the pastors and national missionaries on the receiving end of your donations to Praise. Your faithful prayers and financial support for them has been critical to their day to day lives and ministries. Thank you.

*In the future you will be hearing about additional steps we are taking to provide you with information to help you pray more effectively for the ministry of Praise International.*

**MORE SPONSORS NEEDED**

*Please help spread the word...*

God is opening new doors and we have a growing backlog of pastors and national missionaries from many of our fields who need sponsors. Please tell your friends about the opportunity to support the ministry of national pastors through Praise. Contact us and we will help you get started in our Indigenous Ministry Assistance Program (IMAP).



Thank you for being part of the Praise International ministry. Without your prayers and financial support, this ministry would not exist. I look forward to communicating with you over the next few months about the ways God is leading us to prepare Praise for many more years of effective ministry.

**Praise International  
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