

FROM OUR INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS DIRECTOR

Pray and focus on

We pray and trust that as many people as possible will be able to celebrate together, or from each home, the National Missions Day. We pray and trust that we will focus on the missionaries, the workers, the church members in the many countries where we are currently engaged in, and for those nations that we are desiring to enter into.

COVID-19 lockdown

Since the COVID-19 pandemic and the subsequent lockdown I have been, along with Jeremy Steel and others in several nations, daily doing a large amount of teaching, mentoring and general encouragement of our missionaries, students, national staff and church members through Zoom, and to a lesser degree Viber, WhatsApp and Messenger, in several countries.

Training schools closed

All of our training institutions are closed and students are scattered, but we are able to connect with them through their mobile phones.

Old and inadequate equipment

However, we are battling with old and out of date electronic equipment and there is a crucial need for the purchasing and providing of basic but suitable good quality equipment to enable us to provide better quality presentation and upgrade the reception of our Zoom sessions.

Equipment needed

We are crucially in need of equipment at this stage for at least four countries: Papua New Guinea, Philippines, India and Ghana (West Africa), as well as for Jeremy and myself. I am currently doing seven sessions a week with three more to come online in the coming weeks.

Doing training differently

Also, the way we will need to do training into the future when we are in the new normal will be a multi-faceted approach using local lecturers live, Zoom and pre-recorded teaching into our training schools. We are currently responsible for nine international training schools.

We are currently researching the kind of equipment needed in the respective countries as they are quite different

Monthly connecting costs needed

The other critical need (very pressing) is to upgrade the WiFi connection/server facilities, which would require a monthly fee for that service. So, we are also looking for those who would like to partner with these respective nations to provide that monthly financial cost so the quality of the reception can improve. At the moment it is very poor but we are continuing to do what we can with what we have – doing something is better than doing nothing at all.

So, this is the target and project for the offering to be received for the National Missions Sunday on Sunday 26th July, 2020.

Blessings,
Pr Barry Silverback