

October 6, 2019

oday we're going to Jamaica — but not the island one. This Jamaica is a neighborhood in New York City that is part of the borough of Queens. That's across the East River from Manhattan, where the Empire State Building and the like are located. About 217,000 people live in this Jamaica.

Our missionaries serving in Jamaica are Romeo and Marietta Gonzales. They have planted a new church which has been reaching mostly people from the Philippines like Romeo and Marietta themselves are. Our church is supporting them through our Cooperative Program giving. They named the church Lighthouse Church International. It got started by getting families together for Bible study and worship. Then the new believers invited people they knew and gave out Gospel tracts in grocery stores, flea markets and restaurants around the neighborhood — and the church grew. One woman had attended another church, but when she heard Romeo explain the Gospel she realized she had not been truly saved. She accepted Christ and now is a faithful member.

New York is a huge city, where more than 500 languages are spoken by people who have come from every part of the world. It is a missions field that is also a gateway to most of the nations of the world. That's why Southern Baptists have sent a number of missionaries like Romeo and Marietta to New York.

Today let us pray for Romeo and Marietta and their son there in Jamaica, New York. Let's ask God to bless their ministry and help their church become a truly bright and visible lighthouse for Jesus.



Missionary Highlight

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October 13, 2019

oday we're going to pray for two of our missionaries who serve in a Muslim country in Central Asia. So you can understand why we will not use their real names or even say specifically where they serve. It is risky to be a missionary where they are.

We'll call them David and Kelly — we call them OUR missionaries because our church's Cooperative Program contributions help support them. Of course they are doing many things to get the Gospel out in the city where they live. But today we're going to focus on one conversation they had with a Muslim man named Tamar and his wife, Nadia. We must say here that Tamar is Deaf.

Now the two ladies, Kelly and Nadia, were friends and talked often. But Tamar had no interest in these Americans and kept his distance. One day after a Muslim service, David had tea with Tamar and a group of Deaf men. They talked in sign language about this and that, but then they talked about faith. David said he prays regularly for Tamar. This was stunning news for Tamar! David thought enough about him to pray for him! Tamar was greatly moved.

Now Tamar considers David a friend. He has not yet given his life to Christ, but over time, let's pray that salvation will come to Tamar, his wife, Nadia, and many, many others there where David and Kelly are serving.

Let's pray now about that.



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October 20, 2019

Our story today sounds like what we read about in the New Testament. A woman we'll call Kate was suffering from demons. They attacked her non-stop. She had trouble talking with her family, working or even eating. Demons always work for evil.

Kate's husband, Abe, went to visit our missionaries, Paul and Doris, and asked if they would come to his home and try to help his wife. When the missionaries arrived, they presented Jesus Christ, the answer to all problems, including being possessed by demons.

During that visit Abe, Kate and their daughter confessed their sin and yielded their lives to Christ. The demons are gone now, because when Kate feels threatened, she calls on her powerful personal Savior, Jesus Christ, and help is immediate.

Folks, our church's Cooperative Program giving helped train and equip Paul and Doris and helped them get to Africa. We continue to help them live and serve there. Aren't you glad that the Gospel is real and that it makes a huge and positive difference in the lives of people!

Let's pray now for Paul and Doris, that they will see more victories as they present Jesus Christ to people. Let's pray for this new family of believers and ask God that they may grow in their new Christian faith.



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October 27, 2019

oday we head to Clarkston, Georgia, which is a suburb of Atlanta. Clarkston is on the east side, just off the 285 Beltway that circles Atlanta. This is where two of our missionaries, Trent and Elizabeth DeLoach, serve as Send Relief missionaries. They have four children. Our church helps support them through our Cooperative Program giving.

That "Send Relief" label means they are involved in ministering to the physical needs of people, even as they share the Gospel and baptize new believers. Clarkston is where many of the refugees coming to America are placed to start their new lives. Nearly 2,000 refugees settle here each year. People from more than 60 nations and speak more than 100 languages now call Clarkston home.

Trent and Elizabeth are right in the middle of this resettlement program. Trent is lead pastor of Clarkston International Bible Church, which is a multi-national, multi-ethnic church. The church provides newly arrived refugees with food or helps meet other needs they have. The church also hosts seven churches and 12 mission groups on their campus.

Some of these folks are coming from countries where we are not allowed to send missionaries, so these refugees may not have ever heard of Jesus. Ministering to refugees is how we can reach the nations — right in the state of Georgia! Let's thank God that Trent and Elizabeth are passionate about ministering to refugees. Let's pray for them now.



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