

And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him.

Hebrews 5:9 NKJV

September 2020



The Harvest Times

A Publication of World Missions

The Author and the Story

A sweeping tale. A grand saga where the rightful king rescues those he loves from the clutches of the enemy. Restoration out of devastation. Freedom from captivity. Victory instead of crushing defeat.

Would you like to learn more about this story? Hint: it is playing out all around you. You are a part!

The Book of Hebrews refers to God as the “author.” In one sense, the original word tends more toward the idea of “chief leader” or “forerunner” in addition to “originator.” Hebrews 12:2 uses the word in this sense when it calls Jesus “the author and finisher of our faith.” But another word in Greek is also used that tends even more to our traditional understanding of the word “author.” Hebrews 5:9 says Jesus “became the author of eternal salvation.”

The idea of God as the eternal author, pen in hand, is striking. The earth is the setting, ultimate evil threatens mankind, and you and I hang in the balance. Then God Himself—the Author—steps into the story—becomes one of the characters—to turn the tide of evil and bring the story to a glorious conclusion.

There is a reassurance in this idea of God as the Author. This year is more than just a series of unfortunate events. Our lives, our families, and this world are moving at the direction of an infinite mind. And when we are involved in missions, we are playing a role in seeing God’s Kingdom come, His will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

We are not to be simply bystanders, but God has called us to be active, promising to work through us as we share His Word with those lost and enslaved. We want to be partners with Him, working toward and ever mindful of that grand scene in heaven where a multitude from every tribe and every language give praise to the Lamb.

Our annual report for 2020 is filled with stories, glimpses into the ways God is working around the world. We would like to share this with you. If you have not received one, please contact us, and we will send one to you.



Gang Activity Near Mother Church in Haiti



Pray for those enduring continued unrest in Haiti.

Gang members in Port-au-Prince have moved to the area of Delmas 6 and taken over, forcing our mother church not to meet for a while. The police were called in to help, but they could do little because the gang members own more powerful firearms. Gang members have also been in the area of our Cite Boston church.

The church has been able to meet again, but please pray for protection for our brothers and sisters.



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Prayer Requests

Remember workers home from Asia who are planning to attend a debriefing conference in October. Afterward they plan to make decisions about their work after home assignment. Praise the Father for providing extra funds to cover the cost of the conference

Larry and Christy Doyle now have their future ministry 59% funded, leaving about \$3754 in monthly pledges to raise. Please pray for God's provision and guidance. We believe Bible translation is necessary, and we know the Father is able to work His plan in His time.

Ask God to continue to bless **David and Zenia Woods** and their family in Grand Cayman. Restrictions due to COVID-19 continue to be lifted in Cayman. Pray for a special move of God in the Red Bay church and a touch on the entire Woods family.

And as you read it, consider how you or your church might want to be involved. God invites us to have a part in His story.

In the short term, this might mean giving to World Missions' Annual Harvest Offering. In the long term, this means your continued prayers for our fields, our missionaries, and for more workers.

We know the Author, and we know His purpose will be accomplished in history. It is a privilege to play a role with you in seeing His story completed.



Video Chat With Myanmar



A Zoom call the end of August saw the computer screen filled with small squares of smiling faces as Andrew Bawi Ceu, members of his family, and close to 20 church planters and teachers in Myanmar met with members of the World Mission Board. We were able to hear a devotional and pray together. We were able to get updates in person on what ministry during the coronavirus shutdown has looked like for them. In fact, Andrew shared that they are finding people more open to hearing about Christianity during the pandemic. Andrew meets monthly with church planters by Zoom for a prayer meeting. Andrew's wife, Marilyn, meets weekly online with church planter's wives for prayer.