

Happy New Year

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS OF 2020

1. Increased receptivity to the gospel is evident worldwide during the pandemic.
2. Christians are discovering practical ways to love their communities in Jesus' name.
3. Globally, churches helped to deliver over a million meals to hungry communities.
4. Coaching is uplifting indigenous pastors fatigued by their hurting congregations.
5. Virtual conferences are bringing training to more leaders right in their homes.

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR 2021

1. Deepening intimacy with Jesus from which to minister to others.
2. OC donors blessed in health, family, and work as they navigate the pandemic.
3. OC workers protected as they serve in countries with limited health care.
4. For God's financial provision for One Challenge; especially under-supported workers.
5. Wisdom to encourage indigenous pastors and leaders who are weary in the battle.
6. Creativity to develop new ministry methods bearing fruit long into the future.
7. Resilience to "run with perseverance the race marked out for us."

2020 was a trying year for many. All of us experienced disappointment in one way or another. Our hearts go out to those who have lost income, mobility, health, and even loved ones. People everywhere are yearning for hope.

Hope in who God is and his intention for our lives unleashes confidence that is robust, tough, and enduring. It is shaped by the crucible and deepened through difficulties. Biblical hope doesn't shy away from hardship but rather moves in love toward a world that's suffering and in pain.

In the midst of global disruption, we're seeing God work in unprecedented ways.

Followers of Jesus, inspired by hope, are pressing through the pandemic to care for hurting communities. This is happening through churches in every nation, serving in thousands of languages, impacting literally millions of communities.

In *The Message*, Eugene Peterson points to our hope in 1 Peter 1:13: *"So roll up your sleeves, put your mind in gear, be totally ready to receive the gift that's coming when Jesus arrives."*

Biblical hope calls us to roll up our sleeves! Confidence in what is to come equips believers with resolute faith, gritty perseverance, and

courageous love, no matter the difficulty before us. Hope in Christ motivates us to join him in what he's doing in our world. We know that disciples **will** be made of all nations. God's glory **will** cover the earth as the waters cover the seas. Jesus **will** return to reward his people.

As you enter into 2021, remember the rock-solid hope you have in Jesus, ask how God is at work around you, and roll up your sleeves. God may surprise you by how he works!

Your teammates in serving Jesus,

Dean Carlson

Dean Carlson, OC President