



# Celebrating 35 Years of Gospel Ministry

April 10, 2014

Dear Friend,

I have often read God's messages to the seven churches in Revelation, chapters 2 and 3. I can't help but wonder: What if God sent a message to **FaithSearch** International? What would He say?

I can't pretend to "see" what our all-wise God sees and knows—particularly in identifying where we have failed. Based on His comments to the seven churches, however, it seems to me there are several specific areas where **He would be pleased with us.**

### Persevered for the Name of Jesus (2:3)

This year **FaithSearch** is celebrating **thirty-five years** of obediently proclaiming the Good News of Jesus. We love Him and faithfully proclaim His name, which is "above every name" (Philippians 2:9). It has not been anything like a "cake-walk"! God might well say to us, as He did to the church in Ephesus, "You have persevered and have endured hardships for My name's sake, and have not grown weary." As a result, God has blessed us with **70,000 reported faith commitments** to follow Jesus on four continents.

### Not Left Our First Love (2:4)

In contrast to the church at Ephesus, however, I think God would also commend **FaithSearch** for *not* forsaking our "first love... the things you did at first." Spiritual ministry in the United States of America was the first and only focus for our first twenty-plus years. **FaithSearch loves and cares for the people of the USA!** They are our Jerusalem and our Judea (Acts 1:8):

- God's people here are the **primary financial supporters** of the Gospel with evidence which we proclaim to reach the lost
- God's people here are **prayer warriors** who have connected with our heavenly Father to move this ministry to victory through several crises
- God's people here **encourage us** with notes; **help us** by volunteering; and **serve faithfully** on committees and Boards

A majority of our resources, most of our evangelism events, the primary focus of our discipleship activities—all continue to be directed to **reach and serve the people we love here in the USA!**

### Have Kept His Word (3:8)

There has been an erosion of recognition for the authority of the Word of God, both inside and outside the church. Several practices accepted today would have been viewed thirty-five years ago as a clear violation or compromise of the teachings of the Bible.



**Equipping new presenters:** Dr. Bierle spent a day training Daniel Boehm, who was about to leave the area, and planned to use **FaithSearch** resources in his personal ministry.

[A lady new to our church came up to me and] "said she had been struggling with the concept of God's Word being true... and could we sit down to discuss it? ... I pulled my copies of your **[FaithSearch]** works from my shelf [including the] *Participant Guide for FaithSearch Discovery...* Once again, just as I have in every church I have pastored, and in camps where God has allowed me to speak, and in a Bible college in northern Romania ... I will share from those truths..."

— **Pastor Scott Stinson, Saratoga, WY**



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## Celebrating 35 Years of Proclaiming the Gospel with Evidence

**Yes, Don and Joe, I/we want to help FaithSearch continue with a strong ministry of evangelism and discipleship.**

Enclosed is my donation of:  \$25  \$100  \$50  \$250  Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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Thank you!

**FaithSearch** has not only resisted that erosion, but is a ministry leader for providing **scientific and historical evidence** to support the final authority of God's Word. As a result, many unbelievers have come to faith in Jesus; thousands of believers are being strengthened in their faith; and many have been equipped as more capable witnesses.

### Responded to His Open Door (3:8)

God also loves the people in the "uttermost part of the world" (Acts 1:8)—and so do we. It wasn't our initial intent to minister the Gospel with evidence outside the USA, but God put before us an undeniable opportunity—and we **faithfully follow His command** to go beyond our Jerusalem and Judea. As a result we now have **FaithSearch** Discovery ministries throughout **Russia**, in the **Philippines**, **India**, **Nepal**, **Canada**, **Ukraine**, **Mexico**, **Latvia**, the **Czech Republic**, and several countries of **Central and South America**. God has blessed our obedience with incredible spiritual fruit:

- **FaithSearch** Discovery is being proclaimed by our evangelist **Reuben David**, and by pastors, school faculty, and lay ministries in many cities, churches, and schools in **India**—in several regional languages and both national languages (Hindi and English)
- **FaithSearch** evangelist **Oleg Voskresensky** has now trained over **25,000 public high school teachers** who are presenting our **FaithSearch** Discovery in their **classrooms throughout Russia**—in their native Russian language (Did you catch that: *in public school classrooms!*)
- **FaithSearch** Discovery has been translated into **Tagalog** in **The Philippines** and the impact of the Gospel continues there, carried on by faithful nationals trained and supported by **FaithSearch**
- A **French translation** of *Surprised by Faith* is being readied in order to reach out to French-speaking people of northern Africa, France, Canada, Haiti, etc.
- I just returned from **Quito, Ecuador**, where I introduced **FaithSearch** Discovery in both English and Spanish to leaders and other Christian ministries there

### Ears to Hear!

At the conclusion of each of God's messages to the seven churches He says, "He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says..." (Revelation 2:7,17,29; 3:6,13,22). This expression tests our humility and willingness to submit to His truth and follow Him obediently.

In this short letter I have briefly outlined some strengths of **FaithSearch** International. This is not to boast or flatter ourselves. Rather, as we celebrate thirty-five years of ministry, I do this to give evidence for your sake; that is, so **you can justify beginning to share with us** some of the financial resources God has entrusted to you. God will ask for accountability from each of us, and I want you to know **we are using your gifts effectively**, in a manner that is consistent with God's own priorities as revealed to us in His Word.

Finally, you are invited to **celebrate all of this with us** at our annual **Friends of FaithSearch Benefit Dinner and Silent Auction** on the evening of **May 17** (info is on our Web site at [www.FaithSearch.org](http://www.FaithSearch.org)). I hope you'll come—and bring a friend or two so they can see and hear why you support this ministry. If you cannot attend, please consider "participating" by sending a financial gift this month. The spring is when we try to "get a jump" on the (typical) financial slump of summer. **Please help enable FaithSearch to continue with a strong ministry of evangelism and discipleship.**



Hearing and obeying what the Spirit says,

Dr. Don Bierle  
President and Evangelist



**Reuben David** presented a series on world religions in New Hope, MN. One participant wrote, "[U]nderstanding these religions also confirms my faith in Christ, and helps to create more confidence in my testimony and being a witness."



**Teacher's Conference in Perm:** "For teachers who are not believers and are simply assigned to teach the class in their school, the training in **FaithSearch** Discovery becomes a real eye-opener to the reality of God, to the role He played in human history, and to the role He may also play in their own lives. We often start on a very formal and academic note, but it gets personal once we lay out the facts. It gets **very personal** as my teachers are led to the question of **what these facts mean to them.**"  
—**Oleg Voskresensky**, **FaithSearch** Russian evangelist



It can truly be said that the sun never goes down on **FaithSearch**, with active ministries in Russia, the Philippines, India, Nepal, Canada, Ukraine, Mexico, Latvia, the Czech Republic, and several countries of Central and South America. Countries colored beige (above) have been targeted for potential future ministry, as God provides.