

FRONTLINE

MISSIONS INTERNATIONAL

February 14, 2020

Pastor Charles Bias
Elkview Baptist Church
1150 Main Street
Elkview, WV 25071

Dear Pastor Bias and church family:

Often in my travels while speaking in churches in the States, I meet Christians who are committed and active in praying for missionaries and for Gospel advance. I remember one church that had “holding the ropes” groups. It’s a wonderful name from a phrase that dates back to the earliest days of the modern missions movement.


In 1792 a dozen men met in a widow lady’s home, where they organized a mission board called The Baptist Missionary Society. One of the pastors passed around his snuff box for the collection, and that day they raised the equivalent of \$23. And they had one missionary volunteer. Although their resources were small, their vision was not. That missionary was a 31-year-old shoemaker named William Carey, who was bound for India. Carey described the Gospel work ahead in unknown India as “penetrating a deep mine, which had never before been explored.” Carey went on to say, “Well, I will go down, if you will hold the rope.”

My friend, would you hold the ropes for *us*? There is eternal treasure to be mined; but there is also darkness, difficulties, and even dangers. As we are down in the mine, the Lord gives strength through the supply of your prayers. Here are some specific needs to pray for:

- Chinese Pastor Wang Yi, who has spent a year in prison for his courageous Gospel ministry, was sentenced in January to nine more years. Persecution and pressure toward the Church in China are intense in some areas. Pray for Wang Yi—pray for grace and Gospel advance. Also, pray that Christians will embody the hope and peace of the Gospel during this season of fear and uncertainty because of the coronavirus crisis.
- Our Frontline Experience interns will soon begin their preparation for service in Morocco. Pray for them in the coming months.
- The Frontline team in Indonesia is continuing to reach the Riau Melayu, an unreached people who live on scattered islands along eastern Sumatra. Pray for endurance and effectiveness for Jonathan and Sarah, Jared and Sharon, and the rest of the team.

Thank you for your partnership in the Gospel and for all the ways that you are extending the reach of the Gospel to the ends of the earth. May God bless you and give you confidence and joy as you hold the ropes.

Grace and peace,



Tim Keesee
Executive Director

TK:dck