



BY HIS STRENGTH FOR HIS GLORY

October 2020

Dear Faithful Supporter,

When you opened this letter, I am assuming the first thing you noticed was the logo at the top of the page. How could anyone miss it? The logo is for this year's Annual Fundraising Event that is scheduled for the weekend of November 13-15. This will be our first *virtual* fundraiser! The presentation will be shown at different times each day to make it available from coast to coast at a time convenient for everyone. The program will be a 45-minute, nonstop, online presentation featuring greetings from all over Africa and will be highlighting ITEM's exciting future.

As we have mentioned in previous letters, the pandemic has made businesses, churches, and organizations look for new ways to conduct business or ministry and we are no different. We have learned how to use video conferencing to connect with, support, and train pastors in Africa. Dr. Nathan Chiroma, our special assistant who lives in Kenya, is using live video conferencing technology for both evangelism and discipleship, with great success. Pastor Chris McMillan, ITEM Associate, gave a live lecture to a group of pastors in Kenya, using video technology. We also had our first Zoom meeting with several of our country coordinators, giving us a chance to hear from them, mentor them, and pray with them, and it gave them a chance to see each other.

In the past, meeting with ITEM teams occurred when one of us from the States traveled to Africa, which happened, on average, once a year with each team. But now, using video technology, this can happen more often.

This is a good start. But using this technology has its challenges. They must have the right equipment and must purchase the "data" in advance. Other variables include potentially slow internet speeds and weak connections that drop video calls often. So, there is still a lot to be learned but the coronavirus has provided us with the motivation to start researching what it will take to be able to contact and mentor our ITEM teams without having to travel to Africa to do so.

Another positive outcome of the coronavirus restrictions that has resulted from the two trips that I had to cancel this year is that I have been sending Dr. Chiroma to minister in my absence. He has been conducting seminars in Kenya, where he lives, and will be traveling to Burundi and Nigeria to help our teams there with their mentoring ministries. And now, with the successes we are seeing with Dr. Chiroma's expanding ministry, we are considering ways to involve other ITEM team leaders to do similar things.

We thank the Lord for the way He is using the pandemic restrictions to broaden the scope of our ministry and increase our long-term effectiveness. That brings me back to our upcoming fundraising event in November.

The funds raised this November will not only move us into the new year with enough in our account to maintain the same level of ministry that we are now engaged in, but we are praying it will also provide the additional financial resources needed to strengthen ITEM's base, take mentoring to the next level, buy technology for the teams in Africa, provide Nathan with additional ministry funding, provide printed booklets to be used to give answers to difficult doctrinal questions, and get ITEM registered in many of the countries where we have been ministering in for 15 years.

Putting this year's event online gives us the fantastic opportunity to nationalize ITEM's ministry, and this is where you come in! There are two ways you can help us to expand our reach to others who would be interested in supporting our cause:

The first way to help is to promote the event on your social media pages. The presentation will be broadcasted on Facebook Live and YouTube Live. Getting the word out is vitally important for the event to be successful.

The second helpful thing you can do is to host a viewing party for friends and family (within your local COVID guidelines). Any of you who want to host a viewing party in their home or church needs let us know so we can get you a Host Packet with instructions and resources.

Of course, a third way you can help is to do BOTH! Spread the word AND host a party! You will be hearing more details about the event very soon.

Don't wait! You can help get the word out about ITEM now! You can begin to help make this online event a major success by promoting ITEM on your social media pages, which will increase our visibility even before the event begins.

If you have not "Liked" ITEM on Facebook, please do so. Go to www.facebook.com/iteministies and "Like" our page and "Share" ITEM with your Facebook friends and family. You can do that on Instagram as well, @iteministies. If you are a YouTuber, subscribe to our channel, /iteministies.

Thank you for Liking, Sharing, and praying! To God be the glory!

By His grace,



Dr. Steve Van Horn

