

INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATIVE
OF MILITARY MINISTRIES
THE **ALVERSONS**
MINISTERING TO OUR MILITARY PERSONNEL
AND THEIR FAMILIES



Winter 2022

Dear Prayer Partner,

Today is Tuesday, February 22, 2022, and Joyce and I wish you all a very Happy "Twosday" (2/22/22). Just a little humor I couldn't pass up on this "once in a lifetime" day/date. On the serious side, we hope this winter correspondence finds you all well and happy in Christ.

These past two years have been most difficult for many churches. When the COVID-19 virus was detected in America and the country shut down for fear, many churches shut down their church services. This was most unfortunate because a good number have not returned to church since, and many local churches have suffered in a number of ways. Many pastor's hearts are hurting because they see the devil using this to hurt and cripple many weak believers. Excuses I hear is that they are fearful of being "contaminated" at church and catching the virus. However, many of the same people have no problem going to work and are seen often at Walmart and other businesses seemingly having no virus fears of any kind. Some have completely quit serving the Lord.

Unfortunately, we are also witnessing a number of missionaries coming off the field and quitting mission work altogether. (I just got word this afternoon that another family has come home). The attrition rate is steadily increasing. This is difficult to see happening because the Bible says that "the gifts and calling of God are without repentance" (Romans 11:29). I fully understand that God sometimes moves His servants but never to quit. I used to have a professor in Bible College that used to often say, "*It is always too soon to quit!*" We may have to rest and regroup from time to time but never should we quit what God has called us to do.

Abraham Lincoln was the 16th president of the United States and is often said to have been the greatest of all presidents to lead our nation. When we review some of his life previous to coming to Washington, it is amazing to see so many *defeats* in his life but yet he kept going. In the year 1832 he lost his job, then ran for the state legislature but was defeated. 1833, he started a business but it soon failed. In 1835 his sweetheart died and left him heartbroken. Then in 1836 he had a nervous breakdown; 1838 defeated for Speaker in Illinois legislature, 1843 defeated for nomination for Congress, 1848, lost re-nomination; 1849, rejected for land officer; 1854, defeated for US Senate; 1856, defeated for nomination for Vice-President; 1858, again defeated for US Senate but...in 1860 **elected president of the United States**. He just refused to quit. The old saying is still true, "*Quitters never win and winners never quit.*"

Next week, I will begin my 54th year in the ministry of preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ and will soon begin my 38th year in Military Missions. This is Joyce's 43rd year in missions, having spent 27 years in New York City serving the Lord in the inner-city work of Brooklyn and Queens. A pastor recently called me and asked how much longer we were going to be doing this to which I replied, "As long as God gives me strength to do it and will continue preaching as long as God gives me breath." We hope to be serving our Lord when the Trumpet sounds and He takes us Home.

God is still working through our military missionaries to reach our service personnel and their families for Christ. The Ropers, Nortons and Lavenders still continue their Deputation and the door has just opened for Fred and Roma Rojas to soon leave for Japan. This is a huge answer to prayer. We believe they are going to be great military missionaries.

We want to thank all of you for standing with us, praying for us and supporting our efforts as we continue serving our Lord in this **great endeavor** of Military Missions. God bless you as you **serve** our Lord in your labor of love. We love you and remain...

In Christ's Service,

Jeff & Joyce Alverson

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