



## Vision Challenge: To be a Son of Encouragement

In Book of Acts (4:36) we read and understand of a certain man called Joseph the Levite from Cyprus, who because of his character came to be known by the apostles as, Barnabas. His calling was to be an encouragement to the apostles, to the gentiles, to the church and even to those who fell short as did John Mark. He was a traveling companion and a strong defender of the faith to the extent where he was also martyred according to tradition. By being an encouragement, we come to know that the Apostle Barnabas so influenced the lives of those whom he partnered in ministry and they would attribute their success to him. Encouragement is something that every human needs. It

brings a positive attitude and motivation to go further. In Christian life, we are required to encourage and build each other (1 Thess 5:11) and this is a ministry to which all of us have been called. We would be held accountable if we fail to see a brother or sister who needs a pat on the back to continue life's journey carrying the cross.

Like Barnabas there are others in the scripture that have also been encouragement as in the cases of - Hur who held the hand of Moses in the battle against the Amelekite, Jonathan who strengthened and supported David and Andrew who brought Peter to the Lord. In each of these cases, the encourager comes to the limelight but for a moment and



fades into the background. His work is seen and recorded in Heaven and we will see rewards upon rewards bestowed upon them.



**V2M takes the opportunity to wish its readers a blessed new year 2012. The Vision challenge for this new year is to be that encouragement like Barnabbas, Hur, Jonathan and Andrew.**

# Mission Challenge: Supporting the Missionary's cause



V2M is pleased to write this month on the ministry of Brother Fred and Jenny Kosin, who have been in the service of the Lord since 1966! In the last 46 years they have ministered to, in over 85 countries worldwide, sailed the seas and spoke the message of the Lord at times at several places in a single day! Yes the Lord has used them to be an encouragement to the Churches, to would be missionaries and leaders.

In all that they do, they strive to encourage the missionaries

that they visit. In many instances, as Bro. Fred shared, a personal visit may be the best form of encouragement. On most occasions opportunities for teaching and preaching has been a blessing not only to the people missionaries are serving but the missionaries themselves.

Their ministry started with a vision to establish an assembly every year and this has developed and transformed in these 46 years to ministering to churches in Africa through participation in conferences held in Zambia, Congo, Kenya and other African countries, in South America, India, Pacific and other parts of the world. They are known for their honest, direct and undiluted delivery of the word of God and hold a world view as summarized below:

1. There is much compromise in the world today, with sin
2. Christians must learn the need to sacrifice
3. A bolder declaration of faith is required
4. Conflict and opposition to the Christian faith must be expected in all ministries, and this is only bound to grow
5. The Younger generation must realize that they too are set apart for God's glory!

There are three issues that are considered by the Kosins in deciding on missionary

service, namely an invitation, health and finances. The Kosins undertake missionary service only on specific invitation from missionaries, or local assemblies. Following which depending on health and availability of finances they undertake the mission trip. As Brother Fred mentions "we serve under the local church, do not deputize but trust the Lord for our ministry".

Just like Barnabas of old, the Kosins are always looking for someone to encourage in the ministry. "If you provide a place for us to stay and a few meals, we will make the arrangements to come to your country", says Bro. Fred.

The Kosins are ordinary people who have touched lives of hundreds of missionaries across the globe. Theirs is a truly inspirational story, yet what they do is something each one of us can do, if only we had the same vision.



Fred and Jenny Kosin with their children and grandchildren

V2M is grateful to Bro. Fred for the opportunity to write about his ministry. Let us uphold him and sister Jenny as they continue to serve the Lord. Specific prayer requests include:

- God's guidance in selection of ministries to participate in
- God's guidance in selecting passages of scripture to share from
- Good translators in the places where they visit
- Spiritual growth and sensitivity in spiritual conflict
- Their children who are all in the Lord with their families
- Their 9 grandchildren
- Translation of the book titled 'Blessings All Mine With 10,000 Besides' to Spanish