

Stamatis Status – November, 2008

Tomorrow we begin our final term of the first year. There are different criteria we try to use to measure the progress of the students and the school. But, in the final analysis the growth must be the product of God and not our human effort. If it is of God then there is no true way to measure spiritual quality by quantifying it according to physical standards. Nevertheless, we do see traits of growth on several levels and in different areas.



Usually each term we have an International Day where our final meal of the term comes from a menu of a nation in which we have focused on what God is doing in His church in that nation. This term our last day was not a feast. Instead we shared a fast. Our focus was on all the nations that either do not have work by the churches of Christ or nations that have less than five congregations or less than 500 members of Christ's church in the nation. This was a very sobering month. For an hour, during what would have been our meal time, we viewed a power point presentation with the flags of all these nations, sang songs about our mission, read scripture that clarified what our mission as disciples of Jesus is and prayed about the lost and how we should commit to be part of God's desire for more workers in the harvest. It was a sobering month.



We are grateful to each of you for your continued financial and prayer partnership with us. We pray that as the end of this year is approaching you will renew your commitment to continue on with us in this endeavor.

We will continue to feed them God's Word. I will begin to emphasize to them that they cannot accomplish the mission to the world until and unless they allow God's Word to accomplish its mission in their hearts, minds and souls. We must be people of integrity. We must be Christ's disciples before we can effectively share God's Word with others. We must be His hands and feet. We must go where He would go and serve as He would serve.

We do ask that you pray for the students. Please pray that they will have the resolve to finish what they have started. Please pray that they will develop more of a single minded focus and not be distracted by all the "siren" calls of the world. Please pray for Niri and some health concerns he is having.

We continue to try to push forward. We want to be a good training institute, but we do not want to be satisfied. We want our good to become better and our better to become best. We need wisdom, discernment and humility to follow where God leads.

We deeply appreciate your partnership,
Steve Stamatis