

Barnabas International

The Barnabas Trail

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Dear Pastor Cruse & members of SLBC,

I write this letter with mixed emotions. I would rather be with you during the World Mission Conference in person but I don't have that blessing and option as I did last year. It is hard to believe that another year has come and gone. What a blessing it was last year to have those men of God from Australia and the other various ministries that were presented. I will never forget the message "Who's In Your Field."



First and foremost, I want to thank my Pastor, Tim Cruse and his family. I have a ministry to pastors at home and abroad. I know they have a tough job but their families need to be thanked as well for allowing their husband and father to perform his calling. Just the occasional calls I get from Pastor Cruse asking how things are going is a real encouragement to me. I also want to say a hardy amen to my church family. It seems like just when I need the encouragement the most, I will receive a letter, a card or an e-mail from one of you. Last but not least are those who handle the finances, correspondence, prayer letters, etc. of Barnabas International. I cannot imagine being in this type of ministry without having my pastor, his staff and my church family behind me. The love, prayers and support you all have given me is second to none. It is also a blessing to have a church you can recommend anyone to attend. I don't have to worry about the music, the standards, or the Bible version that will be used. I can also assure them they will be encouraged and challenged as my pastor preaches the Word of God. I also appreciate that God has given SLBC a love for missions. I just celebrated my 10th anniversary of being on the "Barnabas Trail." I wouldn't try to tell all the Lord has allowed me to do. However, no matter where I have been, no matter how many souls have been saved, no matter how many lives changed and rededicated back to the Lord, you have been right there with me and you have had a part of each decision. Last year alone SLBC was in 6 countries and 20 states. The Bible explains in detail in 1 Corinthians that we are all a part of the body and we cannot function alone. 1 Corinthians 12:22 says, "Nay, much more, those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary". My friend, we can't function alone, we are definitely a team.

I am a blessed man and count it a privilege to be a part of the body, working together, to accomplish the heartbeat of God. MISSIONS. May God put His hand of blessing on my pastor, my church family and this World Mission Conference.

Love in Christ,
Your Barnabas
Gary L. Norris
1 Tim. 1:12