Looking forward to 2015, but first

let's not forget 2014



We shared the Gospel with over 67,000 individuals and gave bibles and scripture portions to almost all of these precious people. (Can you find Waldo in this picture?)



God enabled us to participate in the starting of 100's of new churches and "preaching points" in West Africa. (Pastors Mark Chase and Craig Barker are seated in the second row with Director Sammy Lartey.)



Our pastors in Ghana are now more functionally organized under the leadership of our Executive Leaders pictured here.



Not all that we accomplished was in Africa. These two grandsons bring untold joy to my heart. (Can you tell?)

STRAIGHT FROM MY HEART...



Here we are again. Another year has past and a new day has dawned. 2014 holds nothing but memories and

with the theme of moving forward. "Forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead ... press on toward the goal ..." (Phil 3:13-14) It is our privilege and responsibility to dream about the future rather than dwell on the past. You are not defined by your past you are defined by your future.

I hope as you look at this New Year you will see the possibilities and potentials that are in front of you. 2015 can be your greatest year ever, but ONLY when you decide it will be so. You must make the choice to live in reception or rejection of God's purpose in your life. He DOES love you and wants to give you everything you need to succeed in life. Your success in life (your real success) comes as the result of your being grounded in truth and this grounding only comes by committing to pouring truth into your life.

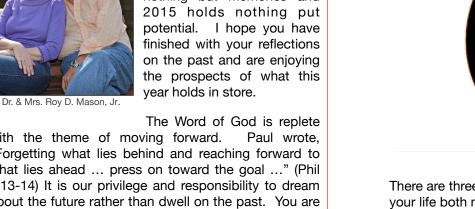
Regardless of what you do, I assure you that God's word supplies you with everything you need to make every decision you face. I want to challenge you to commit to these four things as you enter this New Year:

- Read your bible every day (His word is truth). Set aside some time each day to read and absorb God's love as expressed through His word.
- Find a way to stay accountable with a spiritual mentor. We all need someone with whom we can talk. This might be your Bible teacher, pastor, or someone else. Ask someone to be this person.
- Determine to live with a heart of love rather than a heart of fear. Make the commitment to living a life of faith rather than fear.
- Demonstrate ALL THREE G's everyday. Look for (and find) ways to express Gratitude ... Graciousness ... and Generosity.

2015 should be the greatest year of your life. Let's look forward to it together.

Now, until Jesus returns, I remain

Yours, in the fulfilling of the Great Commission,



There are three little words that can wonderfully impact your life both now and forever. When we begin to filter our lives through these three words we will see a balance

Gratitude

develop in us.

Do I live my life with an attitude of gratitude? Am I consciously aware of God's activity in my life? Do I look for opportunities to express gratitude to God and to others. When we acknowledge that we not owners, but stewards of everything then we will begin to understand the blessings and bounty of God. Do I express gratitude today?

Graciousness

Gracious, by definition implies, "being marked by kindness and courteousness." It is imperative that we show kindness to those who need it more than to those who deserve it. This is after all a matter of GRACE. God showed us grace, not because we deserved it, but because we needed it. Who is in our circle of influence that needs to hear a kind word? Graciousness means that we have learned the secret of responding rather than reacting. Will I be gracious today?

Generosity

Generosity certainly includes the way we handle money but it is much more than that. Remember, God owns it all. Proverbs 3:9 says, "Honor the Lord with your wealth ... then your barns will be filled to overflowing..." Giving unto the Lord is not an investment strategy but it is a promise. We are also called to be generous with our time. The millionaires in eternity are the givers in time. One of the most meaningful, yet difficult, thing for us to give is our time. It seems like everyone wants to talk. Some of our conversations are meaningful and fulfilling to me but at other times they are not. However, I must always remember that even the time belongs to the Lord and if He has so deemed it. He has the right to interrupt my schedule! Am I being generous today?