



Reformation Christian Ministries

Introducing Pastor John Otis

September 29, 2014

An Introduction to the New Ministry Work of Pastor John Otis with Reformation Christian Ministries

Pastor John Otis recently affiliated with Reformation Christian Ministries (RCM) having received the permission and blessings of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in the U.S., (RPCUS) in which John is a teaching elder. During the 1990s RCM was supported by some churches in the RPCUS where he met Pastor Geoff Donnan (RCM's director) and made a team trip with him to Nicaragua.

We are soliciting especially your prayers, but also your financial support for Pastor Otis in this significant world-wide outreach. We also invite the support of churches to this ministry.



What is Reformation Christian Ministries?

Ministry Objective: *Gospel-centered education and outreach aimed at Reformation.*

RCM began in 1978 in Suriname, South America, under the name Caribbean Christian Ministries. It is church-run and is tax-exempt in both the United States and Canada. Its purpose is the preaching of the gospel with the intent of making disciples from among all the nations, and then teaching them to make disciples from within their respective nations. In Suriname this began in 1978-79 by planting a church and Christian school, both of which are self-supporting and continue to this day.

RCM also established an international college and seminary program which provides courses for students from various mission fields (as well as North America). But along side of this, the **Good News Bible Study ministries** began in 1980 and reaches into over 45 countries around the world offering both printed and on-line courses. Over 10,000 students have graduated with an estimated 40% expressing their faith in Christ through taking the course with hundreds enrolling each month.

What will Pastor John Otis be doing with Reformation Christian Ministries?

John Otis is known to RCM as someone who has both the experience, passion and zeal for the gospel, but who also has a strong ability for writing. He has joined RCM with the primary purpose of writing new Bible courses for the Good News Bible Study ministry and assisting

with the oversight of their translation into other languages and other aspects of this outreach as time and support permits. He shares the same enthusiasm and vision as RCM. He has a strong commitment to the need for the Good News Bible Study Ministries' approach to spreading the faith and resulting world and life view and faith found in the Bible consistent with the Reformation. He agrees that such an approach is needed and should prove to be of tremendous benefit to the community of like-minded churches committed to the historic Reformed creeds and confessions.

More about the Good News Bible Study Ministries

The purpose of the Good News Bible Study is to bring solid Reformed theology to a world of people both Christian and non-Christian. Many who call themselves Christian have taken the course, but it is a very common expression for them to say after completion: "I have been a Christian for many years, but I never realized what a sinner I was." Clearly there is much work to do.

Having said that, the specific purpose of the Good News Bible Study Ministries is to present biblical teaching that is thoroughly and biblically Reformed. While the language of the courses is intentionally simple, the concepts are for adults and thus these courses are not normally recommended for those under the age of 18.

The ministry began by offering printed courses to guide Bible study with neighbors, but quickly resulted in mailing of courses. Eventually they were translated into Spanish, Italian, Dutch, French, Albanian, Russian, Urdu, Punjabi and now Chinese. Ten years ago, we began to offer the courses on-line in English. As programming for that improved, we were able to start adding additional languages on-line. At present, we are developing a grading interface which will allow churches to continue their involvement with printed courses, but also offer them on-line utilizing our on-line database and grading system. Currently, English and Albanian courses are offered on-line, with Chinese and Russian near ready to go. French, Italian and Spanish are in process.

Churches may now offer these courses for outreach locally as well as internationally. With the additional language translations, the same course can be offered to immigrants and international students along with overseas requests enabling participating churches to do real missions without leaving home.

Lord willing, our aim is to offer a full spectrum of courses for local and international outreach and education for average people from all walks of life.

We start with a series of introductory courses. These courses will establish from Scripture the necessary foundations for sound doctrine contrary to false "Christian" teachings and all false religions including humanism and atheism. These introductory courses are as follows:

- **Basic Course**—About God, Sin, Jesus Christ, Faith & Repentance, Obedience & Holiness (*completed*)
- **Light's Victory over Darkness** (*in progress*)
- The Authority of the Word of God
- The Authority of God's word for today's world
- Who is God? (to undermine the concept that we all worship the same god in different ways)
- God's Covenant throughout Scripture
- Biblical truth and "experience" (experience must be controlled by biblical truth, not the opposite).
- The Lordship of Christ in all areas of life.
- The concept of government: of myself, my family, my employment/business/recreation, my church and the various levels of the civil magistrate
- World views (contrasting a biblical world view with all others)
- Building a World & Life View
- Applying a World & Life View

Once those are completed, we would ultimately like to offer courses on every book of the Bible, most theological themes, most major religions, and most counseling subjects. Armed with such a program, like-minded churches around the world will have a program not only useful in discipling and educating their own members, but also in reaching their community and the world.

Obviously, this vision is far grander than anything we can do by ourselves. God must do it and as usual, He does such things through His people. We hope you will be one of the people or one of the churches to be involved in supporting Pastor Otis in his new role at RCM of *Proclaiming, Evangelizing, Training, Educating* and *Reforming* people and churches around the world through these Bible courses.

Our greatest current need is for a continual supply of new courses (and translations of these courses into other languages) as well as the necessary programming and administration to keep up with the continued growth and expansion of providing them in both on-line, electronic and printed formats.

How Can You Help John Otis?

In order for Pastor Otis to devote himself full-time to this ministry, he needs to obtain \$60,000 annually, or \$5,000 per month. He currently has received commitments approximating \$700 per month. There may be additional expenses required on occasion for travel purposes, but our initial focus is on this need.

What is Project P.E.T.E.R.?

Project P.E.T.E.R. is the name RCM has given to the ministry being fulfilled by Pastor Otis. It stands for "**P**roclaiming", "**E**vanglizing", "**T**raining", "**E**ducating" and "**R**eforming", which is the intended work of the Good News Bible Ministries division of RCM. All donations intended for Pastor John Otis should be designated for the **Project PETER**.

Donations can be made by Check or Credit Card.
(See coupon on next page for details.)

Reformation Christian Ministries

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A Call to Enlist In the "Vanguard"

The church of the Lord Jesus is a mighty spiritual army with King Jesus as its head. He has given this spiritual army a glorious task and empowered it with spiritual weapons of warfare as we read in 2 Corinthians 10:3-5.

What are these spiritual weapons of warfare that accomplish this glorious task? Scripture shows us the major weapons to be that of preaching and prayer. As the church faithfully preaches the gospel and earnestly prays for this success, then the Great Commission becomes a reality among the nations of the earth.

Where does prayer enter in as a spiritual weapon? Ephesians 6:18-20 states we are to always be praying for the Lord to empower His preachers to be bold in proclaiming the gospel.

Isaiah 42:6-7 is a magnificent call for prayer where we are commanded to give God no rest until He makes Jerusalem (His Church) a praise in the earth.

The value of intercessory prayer is that of Romans 15:30 where Paul said that those who prayed for him were striving together with him in the cause of Christ. When we pray for those who are preaching and teaching the gospel, we are engaged in spiritual battle with them! What an incredible reality! There are no geographical or age limitations. Many Christians, especially those advanced in physical age, wonder if they can be actively involved in missions. Here is the biblical answer. The advance of the gospel desperately needs *Prayer Warriors*.

This brings us to our call for people to become part of the *Vanguard for Project Peter*. A vanguard consists of those soldiers (elite fighters) who are at the head of an army, who are the first to engage the enemy. A spiritual vanguard would be those who are indeed *Prayer Warriors*. They are those people who will be persistent in prayer with our Lord until the Great Commission is

fulfilled. A genuine *Prayer Warrior* yearns to see God's kingdom advanced on earth as it is in heaven as Jesus taught His disciples to pray. A *Prayer Warrior* is relentless in pleading with God. This *Prayer Warrior* is one who perseveres in prayer. And, a *Prayer Warrior* firmly believes in the power of prayer, having faith that the Lord will do mighty things through prayer.

Project Peter seeks to bring great biblical truths to the masses of the world through bible courses that are translated into various languages. Lives are transformed by the Holy Spirit as they diligently study God's word. Only the power of the Holy Spirit changes people; only the Word of God is the power of God unto salvation (Romans 1:16). Thoughts are brought into obedience to Christ by the power of the Spirit who applies biblical truths to a person's heart. The bastions of darkness are brought down by the advancing army of God, the church, and the lead soldiers in this battle are *the Vanguard*, who are praying the promises of God into reality.

RCM is recruiting *Prayer Warriors* to be a part of this *Vanguard*. Trusting in God's enabling grace, we urge you to make a pledge to be a part of this great prayer company. Strive together with us as we seek to bring bible courses to the nations of the world.

For those of you who pledge to be a *Prayer Warrior* as part of RCM's vanguard especially for Pastor John Otis, you will receive a complimentary copy of his booklet entitled *The Praying Christian: God's Warrior*.

The Praying Christian: God's Warrior



By John Otis

To: Reformation Christian Ministries (Please include this completed coupon when responding.)

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I COMMIT to being a Prayer Warrior for Pastor John Otis's work. Please send me his booklet on the *The Praying Christian*.

I am interested in staying on your newsletter list. Please remove my name from your newsletter list.

Enclosed is a contribution of \$10 \$25 \$50 \$100 \$500 \$ _____

METHOD OF DONATION: I plan to contribute per mo. qtr. year

Check or money order is enclosed payable to REFORMATION CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES for *Project Peter*.

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