

MARCH 2018

“...And you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria and even to the ends of the earth.” – Acts 1:8

Dear Friends,

Advocates uses the acronym **L.O.R.D.** to describe what we do. Based on Acts 1:8, we encourage our Advocates to engage in **L**ocal meetings that lead them to **O**rganize nationally, work together in **R**egional cooperation and then we **D**isciple to the *ends of the earth*. It is a blessing to see how God works through advocates across the globe.

Last year we learned about the Kingdom International Legal Network (KILN) of Christian law firms, birthed in 2016 through the prayer and fasting of Christian lawyers in Oceania. The inaugural conference of KILN, held in Fiji in January 2018, was a great success. Thanks for praying with us for the conference. Here are some of the highlights shared by conference coordinator, Heilala Tabete, a lawyer from Brisbane:

107 delegates from five different countries—Fiji, Australia, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu and Kenya—attended the conference. The Chief Justice of Fiji, Anthony Gates, opened the conference and remained for its entire duration. We received feedback regarding the conference and how it’s been life changing for lawyers.



One lawyer wrote that she suffered a reputational blow early in her career and was suffering depression and anxiety but that the KILN conference taught her not only that mistakes are made, there is God whom she can trust and that He would never

leave her. From the opening music strands of a dance performance (to open the Conference), the lawyer found herself in tears as well as being reconciled to God. She said the Conference saved her life.

In one elective session regarding reconciliation and restorative justice, the questions for the speaker were so robust regarding improvement of the Prison Fellowship model that a Fiji senior practitioner in the audience stood up and asked to pray for the speaker, the Queensland and Fiji Prison Fellowship and victims of crime. It was unprecedented in a legal conference to see approximately 50 lawyers in agreement for those concerns with heads bowed in prayer.

The conference also included several non-legal attendees, including business leaders and medical doctors who registered out of curiosity. One outcome: the medical doctors are thinking of hosting a similar conference in Fiji that will fuse faith and medical practice. They are aiming to hold their first seminar in April 2018.

I wanted to thank you all for your prayers. I have seen this living God and He is a God of abundance. Blessings abound—Heilala

What a blessing to be a part of what God is doing around the world and to see how Christian lawyers are meeting to encourage one another, literally at the ends of earth.

Thanks also for continuing to pray with us for our colleagues in Nepal. The team there just filed an appeal in the case of three Christians charged with “attempting conversion” to Christianity, in which a pastor received a three-year, and the other two a one-year, prison sentence. The ultimate outcome of this case could have enormous implications going forward and AFN have not seen a case like this in over 30 years. Moreover, they will soon file a writ petition to challenge the new anti-conversion law set to take effect on August 17, 2018, and they are planning a training seminar to teach the churches there how to work together in a religious trust.

This month I travel to Dubai for the 10th GKPN gathering and to Europe for the 16th European Religious Liberty Forum, where I will be standing in for Latcho Popov who is recovering from a recent surgery. Finally, I will stopover in Frankfurt to meet with our colleagues planning the *50 Nations/1 Fellowship* conference in Berlin next fall. Thanks for your continued prayer support and your financial support for all of this work.

May the Lord bless and keep you in His perfect . . .

Grace and Peace,



Brent M. McBurney
President & CEO

