

DECEMBER 2018

**“For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore,
and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.” Galatians 5:1**

Dear Friends,

Answered prayers are always a great encouragement. Your prayers for the 6th Advocates Caribbean Conference in St. George’s, Grenada, were answered in a big way. Praise God and thank you.

First, one of the biggest answers to prayers—especially of the Advocates Caribbean leadership team—is that the next generation of Christian lawyers are quickly becoming ready to take the mantle of leadership when it is their turn. A number of these young attorneys and law students shared what God put on their hearts regarding the conference theme, “A Time to Stand,” and each was a powerful testimony.

Second, Advocates Grenada was officially launched during this conference and is the newest Christian lawyer fellowship to join the AI network. Although only six attorneys, they did a fantastic job hosting the conference and were encouraged to play such an important part.

Third, each of the national fellowships shared what God is doing in their nations. Each country is facing significant legal challenges regarding marriage and life issues. I am especially encouraged that Advocates Guyana, the host of the 2016 conference, now has 40 members, and are incredibly active across their country—doing pro-bono legal aid and helping to provide legal and spiritual guidance to young incarcerated people, among other amazing ministry.

Finally, on Sunday morning we closed the conference with a powerful time of worship and commissioning. Each one present was anointed with oil and prayed over. Please pray with us for our sisters and brothers across the region, but especially that God will raise up more men to join the mostly female fellowships. Of the 40 in attendance, only three are male attorneys.

As the end of 2018 is upon us, we are grateful for your prayers throughout the year. On the back of this letter are some highlights of those answered prayers. Thank you for your continued prayers and financial support that allows us to encourage, equip and enable Advocates to stand firm against the challenges they face as we move into 2019.

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

Grace and Peace,



Brent M. McBurney
President & CEO



2018 Praise Highlights

JANUARY – Fiji hosted the inaugural conference of Kingdom International Legal Network with 107 in attendance from across Oceania.

FEBRUARY – Following up after our 2017 Supreme Court *amicus* brief in the Ting Xue asylum case, AI was a key part of an effort—led by board member Ken Starr—to help bring changes to U.S. immigration policy in regards to religious freedom and asylum seekers.

MARCH – Brent McBurney attended the 15th European Religious Liberty Forum, joining together with colleagues from across the continent to discuss the challenges they face in regards to religious freedom. Brent also attended the 10th Global Kingdom Partnership Network gathering in Dubai, continuing to work closely with church leaders from around the globe.

APRIL – The Religious Liberty Partnership Consultation was held in Washington, DC, where the new Ambassador-At-Large for International Religious Freedom, Sam Brownback, was one of the keynote speakers. We held key discussions on the number of martyrs, as well as women and persecution, and the ongoing efforts to fight apostasy and blasphemy laws.

JUNE – Praise God for answered prayers: Vietnamese Advocate Nguyen Van Dai (“David”) was released from prison. Unfortunately, he was exiled to Germany. Please continue to pray for David and his wife that God will make a way for them to return to Vietnam, and for other religious freedom advocates to also be released.

JULY – 20 years after the passage of the International Religious Freedom Act the first ever Ministerial to Advance Religious Freedom was held in Washington, DC. Brent McBurney represented AI at this historic event hosted by Secretary of State, Mike Pompeo. There are now plans to make this an annual event. Even more exciting, AI hired Professor Pat Talbot as our new Vice President.

AUGUST – Brent McBurney was a speaker at the 3rd annual law student conference, co-hosted by our friends at Alliance Defending Freedom and Handong International Law School, in Bangkok, Thailand. Professor Jeff Brauch, AI’s new board Chairman, was also one of the speakers. AI VP, Pat Talbot, was one of the speakers at the Indonesian CLS Justice Conference in Bali.

OCTOBER – What amazing joy to be together with over 200 Christian legal professionals from across Europe and around the globe at the **50 Nations/1 Fellowship** conference in Berlin, Germany. With the focus of unity, repentance and forgiveness, this gathering broke spiritual chains.

NOVEMBER – Read about the 6th Advocates Caribbean Conference in St. George’s, Grenada on the front.