

A Century of Faithfulness

Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds. - Psalm 36:5

Your faithfulness endures to all generations - Psalm 119:90a

These passages speak of the never-failing faithfulness of the Lord, and we in the office are giving praise to our God for His faithfulness in sustaining us for an entire century as an incorporated nonprofit! As we have considered the Lord's faithfulness to us as an organization, we have also considered the faithfulness of our name's sake, Daniel Miner Stearns, of the faithfulness of the hundreds of missionaries who have been a part of this ministry, and of the faithfulness of the thousands of donors who have made it possible for the missionaries to spread the gospel all over the world.

We give praise to the Lord for Dr. Stearns' faithfulness. The Lord gave Dr. Stearns a passion for missions. Dr. Stearns raised money for missions as he preached and taught Bible classes in the late 1800's and early 1900's. By 1896, he had 20 Bible classes he taught regularly throughout Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, and Maryland. A vital part of these classes was gathering money for missions. He saw to it that the money was gathered "without any deduction for office expenses to help make Him known, hasten the completion of His church and bring Him back to set up His kingdom of righteousness and peace on earth." After his death in 1920, many donors were still giving to missions through his influence, and the D. M. Stearns Missionary Fund Inc. (DMSMF) was officially incorporated in July of 1922.

We give praise to the Lord for the faithfulness of the hundreds of missionaries and organizations who have been a part of DMSMF. These dear ones have faithfully served in the midst of war, famine, persecution, sickness, and uncertainty. From a church planter serving in Japan right after WWII, to an organization dedicated to getting Bibles to those who do not have them, to a couple sharing the gospel with truck drivers in Canada, to the hundreds of others, these missionaries have ministered to countless people, caring for their physical and spiritual needs.

We give praise to the Lord for the faithfulness of the thousands of donors over the last 100 years. Their donations and prayers have enabled the missionaries to continue Jesus' call to "make disciples of all nations." DMSMF was incorporated during the "roaring twenties," but donors over the years have made great sacrifices to continue to give in the midst of crises such as the Great Depression, World War II, the Vietnam War, the Cold War, the Recession, and the coronavirus pandemic. Not only do the donors enable the missionaries to continue their call, but they enable us in the office to continue ours. DMSMF has carried on Dr. Stearns' philosophy of not deducting anything from donations given for missions. The office has been sustained by donors who have faithfully given directly to the office. If you are interested in giving to the office, please include a note with your donation that you would like your donation to go toward the "D. M. Stearns general fund."

We have only scratched the surface of the Lord's faithfulness to us in this ministry. We encourage you to consider His faithfulness in your life as you end 2022 and anticipate His faithfulness in the coming year!