



Dear OCC,

Recently, one of our supporters asked specifically, "How can I pray for you?" I was so encouraged to be asked; here is what I said:

1. For our son, Colin, to return to the Lord
2. For our daughter, Fiona, to continue serving the Lord wholeheartedly.
3. For Becky and I to grow deeper in love with each other and the Lord, as we grow older.
4. For the recurring health complications from my skin cancer and pre-cancer treatments (six months of hives + other issues; I've been at 75% capacity some days but doing better now)
5. For the ministry of PreVision Partnership, especially as we are working with a lot of stressed out pastors and church leaders dealing with differences of opinion Covid, politics, and race/social justice issues. We're seeing a lot of division and disunity in churches in the USA on these issues. Pray that we can encourage leaders to keep the focus on all we have in Christ.

Others in our ministry circles also need your prayers (see below).

Enjoy our Ministry Updates and keep us in your prayers.

## **MINISTRY UPDATES**

**Tragically, Franklin Nandigam, one of our partners in India lost nearly one hundred pastors and evangelists in their network to Covid** (Indian variant); his mother died in May. He heads up the church, an orphanage, a mercy ministry, and the church planting network. This hits home personally; I've visited him many times, he's been in our home too. I mentor him and have taught many of their pastors and evangelists. Becky and I also support his daughter at medical school and sponsored a child at the orphanage. God willing, we will get to see him and his people again some day.

**Sadly, Dr. Nico Bougas, one of the greatest men I have ever had the privilege of knowing, died in February.** I don't mind admitting I shed a few tears. I first met him after I spoke at an event during the Athens Olympics in 2004; he introduced himself as a Chelsea supporter (because I had praised Manchester United from the stage) and he was one of the first to respond with an enthusiastic "YES!" when I asked him to serve on the Board of Reference for Prevision Partnership in 2006. We served the Lord together sharing the Gospel in the U.K., Greece, and South Africa. He was an encourager and a quiet, godly influence on almost everyone he ever met (he was also hilariously funny). For all who heard me say, "I know a little Greek" (when explaining a New Testament word) this is the "Nico" I referred to! Nico loved the Lord, His Word, the church, evangelism,

but most of all he loved people---and he was a networker. When I get to heaven, I'm going to find him so he can introduce me to all the people he's networked with. Farewell, my dearly beloved brother, until we meet again. Please keep his wife, Bee, and his family in your prayers.

**Disappointingly, some prayers are not yet answered. You may remember our prayer request on behalf of our friends, Rich and Jane Berry;** Rich was a pastor I got to know during my Buckhead days. Their son, Jayson, is serving 50 years in federal prison. We joined Rich and his family in sustained believing prayer that President Trump would pardon Jayson and commute his sentence; that never happened, although the appeal reached the President's desk in January. However, other doors opened since then. So, please join us in praying specifically, persistently, believingly, that Jayson would receive a Presidential pardon soon. With God all things are possible! You can read more about Jayson Berry here. "Remember those in prison, as though you were in prison with them,..." (Hebrews 13:3).

**Meanwhile, I've fully adapted to life and ministry under Covid** and am hoping things may return to normal soon (Becky and I are both vaccinated). Overseas travel has been totally curtailed, in the USA events have been few and far between, and Zoom calls have replaced many face-to-face ministry meetings. Some of this may continue; Zoom calls are quick and cheap and very productive (for me). On Zoom, I dialogue on a weekly with groups of leaders, have conducted several events including missions conferences by sending recorded teaching or messages and continue to mentor a number of leaders. Most recently, I had a wonderful time teaching and having fellowship with the church in India that I mentioned above; the service (for me) was on last Saturday from 2 a.m.-4 a.m.; it was probably the earliest I have ever attended church! Thankfully, I've always been a very flexible sleeper and caught up on rest the next day. I'll be doing their service again and also a Pastors Conference for their network later this summer.

**A frequent topic of these discussions is the distrust, division, and disunity coming from misguided attempts at racial reconciliation and social justice in the church.** Justice and reconciliation are worthy concerns but the church has an answer that does not involve wholesale adoption of the world's methods. If your church's attempts at justice and reconciliation center around "diversity, equity, and inclusion" with phrases and solutions lifted straight from politicians, secular authors, and movements directly opposed to Christianity, then perhaps these resources and books might help. And call me, I'll be glad to discuss it.

- The Center for Biblical Unity
- "We Will Not Be Divided" Facebook Group
- Podcasts with Shenvi
- Book: "Why Social Justice Is Not Biblical Justice: An Urgent Appeal to Fellow Christians in a Time of Social Crisis" by Scott D. Allen
- Book: "Confronting Injustice without Compromising Truth: 12 Questions Christians Should Ask About Social Justice" by Thaddeus J. Williams
- Book: "Beyond Racial Gridlock: Embracing Mutual Responsibility" by George Yancey
- Book: "The Third Option: Hope for a Racially Divided Nation" by Miles McPherson

**We welcome two new Board members to our Board retreat this year, Ken & Catharine Cotogno.** They were members of Buckhead Community Church where I pastored for many years. Despite moving all over the East coast, they kept in touch and support PreVision Partnership faithfully. We'll add more later about the Cotgno's and our longest-serving Board members, Shane & Cortney Lyle. **I am so grateful for them all and looking forward to our upcoming Board retreat July 26-27, 2021. Please keep them and the Board meeting in your prayers.**

**In Christ's Love,**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter J. Grant". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P" and "G".

**Dr. Peter J. Grant**  
Founder & President, PreVision Partnership