Global Ambassador's Report - R.S.

As 2020 began, there was a great deal of optimism with the work in Asia.

- The Minority Worship Project, was progressing, with a total of eight recorded songs, just shy
 of the ten that I had hoped to have for distribution to the underground churches and remote
 villages.
- A young pastor, who I had the privilege of mentoring, was selected to lead a new underground fellowship on the other side of the country.
- The Bible study, English, and Guitar / Worship classes were at an all-time attendance high.
- The underground congregations were beginning to make short and long term evangelistic plans, something which isn't normally found in these cultures.
- My new visa was working well with travel and reentry.
- Even with increased pressure, surveillance, and moving to a small group model for security purposes, the church was continuing to grow and mature.

Then, we began to hear rumors of a new pneumonia virus, This virus, which later would be called COVID-19, began to put various areas of the country on lockdown. When lockdown was put on our county, I viewed this as a terrible waste of time and put a halt on most of these projects.

To my amazement, I suddenly became busier. Several families in my apartment complex, which consists of over seventy high-rise buildings, asked if I would lead them in times of prayer, Bible study, and worship. Suddenly, I was doing at least three sessions each day.

After four weeks of this schedule, I was forced to leave due to the health crisis. I was extremely saddened by this, also feeling so guilty about leaving these people during a time of need. Definitely, I could seen God's hand in arranging for my departure, but I still struggled with these feelings.

As I have said numerous times, coronavirus was not a surprise to God. Not only did He provide me with one of the last seats on the last Delta flight out of the country, but He has blessed me and my Asian friends in such wonderful ways.

- The Lord provided me with a caring, loving church family. They gave me a place to
 quarantine, stay, and wait, while the country's borders remain closed. Not knowing much
 about the virus, they even relocated their offices while I was in quarantine. Praise God that I
 was never sick.
- After leaving Asia, the local people stepped up to continue the times of Bible study, prayer, and worship. The Lord had them ready for this new step.
- Most of my financial supporters continue to give. Their understanding of my situation and the situation of many missionaries is such a blessing and amazes me.

I remain hopeful at returning at some point this year. I hear that governments are saying that the vaccine may open this door. Ultimately, our futures are in the Lord's hands. I trust these hands. Thank you for your patience and understanding. Most days are good, but I occasionally have struggled with this time of waiting. Thank you for your grace on the days when I'm not my best.

PCF is a wonderful family. Your kindness and acceptance is just another gift from our Father.

Blessings, R.S.