HAVE FAITH & STAND FIRM IN CARRYING OUT THE MISSION

"*Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: "All nations will be blessed through you." So those who rely on faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.*" (Galatians 3:8-9 NIV)

On October 16-18 2026, some of the GMI extended family in Germany & the Netherlands, by His grace, were able to take part in the "Retreat Encounter & GMI Family Days 2026" in the city of Göttingen. "Faith without deeds is dead" was the main topic of this year's Retreat Encounter and our Sub-Topic is Evangelism Explotion (EE) which was delivered by God's servants from the GUP in Bandung, namely Bp. Rev. Gideon Setiabudi and Mrs. Rev. Siauw Ming Yen. Through this year's retreat we have been equipped spiritually to prepare ourselves to face various crises and major shocks that will continue to occur before the Day of the Lord arrives. The Bible says, "Surely darkness covers the earth, and darkness covers the nations" (Isaiah 60:2 a). Darkness, which in the original language is called chôshek, figuratively means distress, sadness, destruction, death, ignorance (without understanding), pain, weakness. Gross darkness, which in the original language is called ărâphel, describes a hopeless situation. That is the reality of the world situation before His second coming. The more this earth is covered by darkness and the nations are covered by darkness, the more we need to have faith and stand firm in completing the Missionary Commission of the Lord Jesus for the salvation of the nation(s). Completing the task of mission and world evangelization is the responsibility of all His disciples who are alive at the end of this era. God wants us as His church to complete this mission task. The mandate and task of this mission can basically only be completed by His grace, because God's grace that saves all humans is already real (Titus 2:11). And since the time of the early church, "God strengthened the message of His grace by giving them power to perform signs and wonders" (Acts 14:3 c). So, how important His signs and miracles are revealed in the task of mission and evangelization among the nations that are being overwhelmed by this darkness. And it is our primary responsibility as His church to introduce God's grace to those who have not been saved as long as there is "today", that is, as long as this grace lasts. And to be able to introduce His grace, as the apostles advised the early church, every congregation must continue to live in His abundant grace. A successful church is a church that wants to always bring the news of His grace to anyone, anywhere and at any time. That is the simplest method that needs to be practiced by every disciple of God who longs to experience God's signs and miracles in carrying out his mission and evangelism duties. The Apostles Paul and Barnabas told of all the signs and wonders that God performed among other nations. We can call this experience a "breakthrough mission". Carrying out the task of missionary service and evangelism without signs and wonders will make the task of completing Christ's Great Commission less relevant and ineffective. The Gospels give a very accurate report about how God carried out His Father's will and also the history of the Acts of the Apostles reports about how the apostles believed and stood firm in carrying out Christ's Great Commission accompanied by many signs and wonders. This is what created the mission explosion of the early church and also the church in all ages which can be a light for the nation(s) wherever we are today. Mission greetings! Amen!

By Ps. Silwanus Obadja