

KOINONIA PARTNERS

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The ideas and
Dreams about which
I wrote last fall . . .

. . . are taking shape. Millard Fuller has revised our corporate charter to bring it in line with the new purposes and to qualify it as a non-profit charitable organization. This gives form to the undertaking which we've decided to call KOINONIA PARTNERS. See the enclosed brochure for full details.

Progress has been made in all three phases of the work - communication, instruction, and application. Since last October we have traveled extensively, presenting the radical ideas of the gospel to youth conventions, college campuses, churches and conventions. And our schedule is booked for months ahead. As you read this, my wife and I will be on an international trip seeking to spread these ideas in other lands as well as trying to learn from Christians there. We'll report on this in our next letter. Spreading the word through books and records is also being stepped up. This week the first direct mail campaign will be launched for giving mass distribution to these items. THE COTTON PATCH OF LUKE-ACTS will be published this year. (The full Cotton Patch of the New Testament is scheduled for publication in 1970.) This summer a new record will be cut.

Several "Schools of Discipleship" have been held and are bearing fruit. These intensive sessions are invaluable in helping people focus their lives upon Christ and his claims upon them. We have learned that these groups must be small (twelve to fifteen), limited to those who are really serious and sensitive, and gathered by invitation only. Perhaps these schools will prove to be the most vital and crucial aspect of our mission.

In the area of application much has been happening. An able black farmer, because he chose to send his eight children to the white schools, was subjected to such economic pressure by the white establishment that he was facing imminent foreclosure on his farm. A church in New York responded to his need with a loan of \$40,000 and saved him from the ghetto. The partnership industries -- pecan shelling, fruit cake bakery, and candy kitchen -- have had unprecedented sales this season. Your continuing support of this business will make possible more growth. There has been a tremendous response to the FUND FOR HUMANITY, with more than \$50,000 in gifts and non-interest loans already in. This has made possible the purchase of another Partners Farm and getting the Partners Housing underway. As you read this, construction of several houses will be in progress. Winter plowing has been done for 185 acres of crops in the first partners farming program.

Besides all this, new partners -- capable and dedicated -- are joining us and sharing the dream. Naturally, we are encouraged, but are aware of the enormity of the task ahead. There is hope, but is there time? Frankly, I don't know. But I'd rather light candles than curse the darkness. How about you?

Yours in partnership,

Clarence Jordan
Clarence Jordan

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