

## **Richard and Geradine Akers**

### **2024 ZEMA Annual Report**

The original ZEBs lesson on the book of Deuteronomy showed how Moses recounted for the new generation the word of God given to Moses regarding the law and occupying the promised land, and like any good preacher he seems to have divided his message up into different parts which would help the people to remember what he is saying. In these 34 Chapters Moses calls on the people to

- LOOK BACK and give thanks
- LOOK UP and obey
- LOOK AROUND and be compassionate
- LOOK FORWARD and be confident,

and we would like to use that outline as we share this annual report.

#### 1. LOOK BACK AND GIVE THANKS:

While there have been things through 2024 which could have left us disappointed and feeling thwarted by circumstance, the reality is we end the year rejoicing. God has protected us, provided for us, encouraged us and made us realise again and again....this is a good work of God.

#### 2. LOOK UP AND OBEY

How glad we are that ZEMA belongs to no man, it is God who directs us, who opens and closes doors, who raises up people who can carry the load alongside us, all we need to do is remain in close fellowship with Him and obey His word. ZEMA missionaries are sometimes scattered, sometimes uncertain as to which path to take, where to start, when to stop. May God keep us in that place of obedience

#### 3. LOOK AROUND AND BE COMPASSIONATE

One of the most urgent lifestyles of missionaries is to be able to see the world as Jesus sees the world. In Matthew 9:36 we are told that 'when Jesus saw the crowds, he had compassion for them for they were harassed and helpless like sheep without a shepherd. We give thanks to God each time we can be among people who need to come into a relationship with God, and being part of ZEMA is an ideal channel for that.

#### 4. LOOK FORWARD AND BE CONFIDENT

The goodness of God in the past year gives us great confidence that He will continue to walk with us. There is no indication that ZEMA or the ZEMA ministries are in any danger of 'running out of relevance'. May God continue to use and bless ZEMA.

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