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## RGEM International

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**THE YEAR IN REVIEW - 2024**



**REV. DR. GIDE DEMOSTHENE, FOUNDING PRESIDENT**

**DECEMBER 31, 2024**

**REDEEMING GRACE EVANGELISTIC MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL  
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# Redeeming Grace Evangelistic Ministries International

Redeeming Grace Christian Fellowship | Theological Institute for Ministerial Education | Technical Occupational Learning Center

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## *The RGEMI Year In Review ~ Annual Report*

*“By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God,  
So that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.”*

Hebrews 11:3, NRSV

Nehemiah’s undertaking to rebuild the walls in Jerusalem was an act of prodigious faith within the borders of Susa, the capital of the Persian Empire—a place where he was held captive, and faithfully serving his God and King Artaxerxes ca. 445-444 B.C. His succeeding action is almost reminiscent of the children of Israel’s departure from Egypt. They left and entered Canaan, conquered the land under Joshua, and build a majestic temple for the name and glory of the LORD God of heaven and earth ca. 962 B.C. Hundreds of years later, individually and nationally powerless, empty-handed, subservient to a pagan monarch as his cupbearer; Nehemiah, nonetheless, conceived a dream of restoring the walls of the city of Jerusalem which fell in 586 B.C. to the Babylonians. The last time he lived in there as a servant of the Most High God.

The inspirational paradigm Nehemiah used in conceptualizing, planning, designing, and implementing the project invites every godly leader to go and do likewise. Nehemiah wept, mourned, fasted, and prayed before the God of heaven, confessing his personal sins, and his ancestors’ failures. Indeed, every God-centered mission must be founded upon those spiritual disciplines if some degree of success is to be achieved. Nehemiah’s personal success in getting King Artaxerxes to acquiesce to his request was built on compassion, great faith, prayer, resolve, and absolute trust in God. So, God blessed him with abundant favor; yet, for His glory’s sake.

RGEMI’s approach in executing its mission embraces a similar model as Nehemiah’s not only in the Year 2024, but also in the years before. We have an imposing God-given, God-designed, and family-centered vision and mission that we commenced with measurable, achievable, relevant, and time-bound goals, in collaboration with professional colleagues. Through the eyes of faith I saw from afar those things that are yet to be, from *“things that are not visible”*: thriving families living holistic lives and worshipping God in oneness of heart, mind, and spirit through effective learning. And with the humility of Jesus Christ, I followed in His redemptive footsteps toward our destiny. It took great determination, resilience, commitment, personal sacrifice, watching and prayer, and the intensive pursuit of an all-inclusive community life for the common good to achieve a successful year-long program at the fellowship, and to impart God’s blessings to our constituency. And with God’s help, the former years and 2024 have come to pass because the gracious hand of our God has been with us. Praise be to our God!

Consistently, the LORD God strengthened and sustained our ministerial team through the year. Nehemiah chapter three and four teach us it takes an army of devoted teams of people united in heart and mind, and embracing the vision provided by the leadership, to achieve multiple successes, overcome hostility, with a common desire to “build” for God’s glorious praise. Notwithstanding that they were despised and mocked

as feeble by opponents. Assuredly, God always use the feeble, the meek and lowly, the reviled poor remnant to achieve His purpose. Through faith in God alone, and secure trust in His mighty power, Redeeming Grace was led to execute its projects and programs throughout the Year 2024, some of which are noted below.

In the beginning of the year 2025, on January 11 precisely, the RGEMI Board met and discussed the Year 2025 agenda, programs, budget, current directors, restructuring implications, the accomplishments of the year 2024, and voted by motion unanimously to accept and approve them all, as well as the President's annual report on operations which emphasized:

- An upgrade to the surround sound system was added to the rear of the congregation.
- Our Gentlemen's bathroom downstairs has been updated.
- The acquisition of an emergency generator was completed.
- CCTV Monitoring and Recording warning signs were added with organizational policy.

RGEMI achieved also the subsequent spiritually and socially empowering programs:

- Weekly Prayers, Formation with the Worship Team
- Bi-Weekly Reflection and Updates via Digital Publication
- RG ESL Program, January – April 2024
- Bi-Weekly Pastoral Care Sessions until April-May 2024
- Women's Day of Prayer: May 11, 2024
- Community Day Event and Outreach in July 20, 2024, sharing dozens of pamphlets.
- Youth Festival Event: August 17, 2024 – Hallenah E. Demosthene, Main Presenter.
- Baptism Classes thru Oct 12, and the Baptism Service on October 19, 2024
- RGEMI Annual Event: Nov 3, 2024.
- The Christmas Night of Worship presented a special with our worship team and guest singer; an event that saw many coming forward surrendering or rededicating their lives to Jesus Christ.
- Organizational Restructuring Board Meeting and General Info Session: November 10, 2024, with Board approved RGEMI Bylaw Revisions and Amendments, and production of the *Membership Basic* pamphlet for members.
- Quarterly board meetings, Leadership meetings with the congregation, Special meetings, plus a second language worship service proposal meeting were all held to ensure organizational alignment and potential development.
- The Theological Institute's offered one Directed Study *Reading in Church History* course in SP24.
- End of Year Worship Service, December 31, 2024, and fellowship.

With all these achievements, we recognized that the journey of faith, and the faithful ministry of the church is never without struggles, staunch perseverance, or a fight for complete victory until everything is done. Nehemiah's prayer in 4:4-6, in the face of demoralizing ridicule regarding his building the wall, proves to be a lifetime lesson in the work of the LORD when facing discouragement: *"Hear, O our God, for we are despised; Return their reproach on their own heads and give them up for plunder in a land of captivity and let not their sin be blotted out before Thee, for they have demoralized the builders."* Interestingly, it happened that Nehemiah's people understood the obligation to have a shared vision, in following their leader, to work in teams collaboratively—and doing so diligently, selflessly, with zeal and confidence. His personal life example in

5:14-19 is a terrific model of service with self-sacrifice that I have adopted and applied personally during the period of development at RGEMI. A model that keeps us in good financial position as we move forward in ministry in 2025 and the years beyond.

Redeeming Grace's effective stewardship of its resources is perhaps one of the best amongst organizations of its size and kind. In the last four years, we have chosen to preserve very conservatively our endowment to ensure continued ministry of the church. As previously reported, in sacrificial service, the pastoral stipend was deferred to provide for a more solid financial sustenance, should a crisis arise. Our weekly, monthly, and bi-annual donors have incessantly stepped forward to bless and sustain the vision and mission of the ministry—and we are grateful for their generosity. In that same spirit, RGEMI extended financial support to three organizations in 2024: Friends of Regional Ministries, Grottonwood Camp; Boston Military Outreach; and Anointed Baptist Church, and its missionary enterprises. This represents the diversity of collegial ministries that embody the mission of our organization.

Furthermore, we recorded the baptism of two people in 2024. We also had painful departures due to administrative decisions taken against substantial interferences toward organizational standards. Likewise, two successful attempts to recruit faithful administrative support volunteers were later met with snags. Accordingly, we continue to ask for continuous prayers before the Head of the church, Jesus Christ, that by His Holy Spirit, we may be blessed with the discovery of workers who will faithfully advance the ministry.

Remembering 2024, in ministry, are moments of great joy in between turmoil, sadness, and victorious praise for the completion of a tremendously difficult season. Lessons garnered from Nehemiah include what can be done when there is unity, understanding, collaboration, mutual respect and honor, and zeal for the work of God, in the fear of the LORD. I read with great delight in Nehemiah 6:15-16:

So the wall was completed on the twenty-fifth day of the month Elul, in fifty-two days. And it came about when all our enemies heard of it, and all the nations surrounding us saw it, they lost their confidence; for they recognized that this work had been accomplished with the help of our God.

Voilà, a conquering faith in God, beyond the gates of spiritual, mental and physical captivity, is what it took for Nehemiah to perceive what could be achieved with resolute trust in God and collaboration. He did it all in just fifty-two days. Praise God 2024 is quickly followed by the New Year which allows for more opportunities to stand firm and execute every kingdom work set before us for His glory. I have noticed that beyond erecting the wall, Nehemiah, because of his fear of God, implemented many great changes, ecclesiastically, administratively, and socially by doing what no one before never considered to do (chapters 8-13). Consequently, we too are inspired to go forth with steadfastness of hope and a mountain moving faith to witness the mighty hand of God leading us in awesome triumph in the year 2025. May the LORD our God remember us, and be greatly magnified in the fulfillment of all his promises to us at RGEMI!

In Him,



Rev. Dr. Demosthene, Senior Pastor

Founding President & CEO of RGEM International

CC: Leadership Board Members  
Andrelyn Demosthene, Clerk

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