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### May 2023 Prayer Letter

Dear Prayer and Fasting Partners,

Thank you for your continued partnership in prayer for Ignite. The first four months of the year have been filled with opportunities and answers to the prayers we have been praying. In the past two days, I have had two churches tell me that they are willing to be parent churches. With the three who have already begun the parenting process, this brings the total number of parent churches to FIVE! This is the number we have been praying for in 2023! This is just one example of doors the Father is opening for us as we pray, so thank you for praying for Ignite!

Here are the things I would like you to focus your prayers on during the month of May:

1. **Pentecost offering:** We have been busy talking about this offering to minister gatherings, to churches and individuals. We are excited to have opportunities to start 4 Hispanic focused churches in 2023 (three of these will be daughters of parent churches) and from the responses, others are excited about this also. We are praying for 48 churches to participate in this endeavor, so please join us in these prayers. Pentecost is May 28 and with a generous \$20,000 matching gift, we are looking forward to seeing what God does.
2. **Ecuadorian Church in Chicago:** Our prayers continue to open the doors for new churches to start. This people group is meeting together in a large setting in Albany Park on April 30. Please pray that we can help them find a permanent week to week meeting place in Chicago.
3. **Parent Churches:** As I mentioned earlier, it is wonderful to have churches state their willingness to become parents to unreached people groups. I would like you to pray for leaders for these daughter churches to come forward. We are open to starting churches that will reach diverse people groups in the region. We ask for prayers for discernment and wisdom as we recruit planters, then coach and partner with parent churches.
4. **Lilly Grant for our Healthy Church Network:** We have been invited to submit a proposal for a grant from the Lilly Foundation focused on helping create healthy churches. Ignite has a ministry that is already doing this and a grant would allow us to grow this ministry so more churches can benefit from the process. The grant proposal needs to be submitted by June 23 and we are busy in the writing process. Please pray that we will get it completed in a timely manner and that God's will be done for Ignite.
5. **Praying in Chicago:** I was convicted during my personal prayer time last week of the need to get back to praying in the city. During the next 5 months, I plan to spend a day monthly prayer walking different parts of Chicago. If you are interested in joining me, send me a text: (815) 685-1939.

Thank you for helping Ignite through your prayers. As you can see, they do make a difference. We are blessed to have so many people praying for us each month. Have a great month of May, Lance