



Dear Friends,

Happy August! I cannot believe it is August already! It is kind of a bittersweet month for me. I absolutely LOVE summer, the warm weather, shorts and tank tops, and the longer days. I love sitting outside at night, listening to music, and sipping iced tea until the skunks and bats chase us inside. I hate to see it end. But the plus side is that the NFL training camps are up and running, fantasy football drafts are happening, and football season is just around the corner. But as Adessa keeps saying, summer doesn't end until mid-September, so we still have a lot to enjoy. Anyway, August has highs and lows.

This summer has been a little different for us. We've made it intentionally slower and taken some time to deal with some health issues. Don't worry—neither of us received a dire diagnosis. Instead, we are taking some time to address the fact that my disability has worsened over the past three years. For those who don't know, three years ago I had a tumor on my toe that had to be surgically removed. During recovery, I couldn't walk on my foot for a month. While I was off my foot, the disease I live with permanently twisted my foot so that I can't walk on it at all. (Maybe I can take 4-5 steps, but they are wobbly.) Because of this (and because I want to stay somewhat mobile), I have been using a knee scooter around the house and for short distances. For longer walks, I use the mobility scooter.

As you can imagine, this caused some really big changes in our lives. If I can be really honest, we weren't immediately ready to accept the changes. Instead, we chose to ignore and override. Well, you can only do that for so long before your body says, *"Hey, remember me?"*

So this summer, along with our board of directors, we decided that Adessa and I needed to have a slower season. Honestly, it really was needed. The Holy Spirit has been so faithful in showing us things that need to change in our lives and in our thinking so that our ministry can be built to last for the long term—going strong for the next twenty years. So yes, it's been a slower summer, but it's been a good summer.



One thing I'm amazed by is that even as we've followed the Holy Spirit's lead to slow down a little, God has still been moving through the ministry. One example came in June when I got a call from Duane Goodling about a Teen Challenge Center that contacted him about getting books for their men through Light for the Lost. Duane thought of our books and asked if we could partner with LFTL to provide books for the men.

Of course we can! We were more than happy to ship the books so that men could be helped.

We also had the opportunity to donate books to the Bethesda Mission—more hurting men getting help!

Another exciting opportunity came when Adessa got a call from Laverne Weber from Victory's Journey Ministries saying that after receiving a free copy of Adessa's book, *"Whatever Is Lovely"* at District Summit, she wanted all of her leaders to have a copy so they could start recommending it in their small groups. Again, God was opening doors for our resources to help people. We could not be more grateful.

All of this is only possible because of our faithful supporters. The truth is that Adessa and I cannot express enough how much we appreciate them. As we've been taking time to reflect, we realize that without their support in giving, in prayer, and in friendship, we could not do what we are called to do. We rely on them, and we are so incredibly thankful for each one of them.



Guess what?? You can be one of our faithful partners!

If you believe in reaching men, strengthening families, and seeing lasting spiritual impact, we'd invite you to partner with us.

Would you consider:

- Making a one-time gift to help us finish this year strong?
- Becoming a monthly partner, helping us plan ahead and expand our reach into new churches and regions?

We truly believe this is a work worth investing in, and we would be honored to have you stand with us.

Join the team today. Please set up your recurring giving at <https://www.mantourministries.com/partner> and help us reach even more people. You can also make a one-time donation.



I also have a few prayer requests for you to pray about.

We'd be so grateful if you would stand with us in prayer right now. As we continue the work God has called us to, we are facing a current financial need of \$5,000. We believe the Lord provides through His people, and we're asking Him to make a way—opening doors, stirring hearts, and supplying every need in His perfect timing. Specifically, we are praying for the provision needed to reinstate full salaries after our recent salary cuts. Please

pray for provision, wisdom in stewardship, and continued impact as we pour into the lives of men through this ministry. Thank you for lifting us up—we truly couldn't do this without your prayers.

As we wrap up the summer and head into Fall and the upcoming Mantour season, we ask that you continue to pray for us. Please pray for complete healing and restoration in our bodies. Pray that the Holy Spirit will continue to lead and guide us as we lead this ministry. Pray for open doors and lives to be changed through ministry.

Now is also a great time to begin praying for Mantour 2027. It will be here before you know it! I'm excited to say that we've booked all of the locations and hired most of the speakers (we're still waiting for a few replies). The theme is ready to go, and I can't wait to share it with all of you in the coming months.

I've also been busy writing the book for the 2027 Mantours. I have to say, I love the way it's coming together. Here's a little preview of the cover.

Oh c'mon, like you really thought I was gonna show you the cover in August!!! I can't announce the theme yet! (Although, I did hide it somewhere in this newsletter.) But it's coming soon!!!!

Finally, I want to encourage all of you to get your men registered for the Mid-Atlantic Men's Conference coming up in October. We will be there, so stop by the table and say hi. I'd love the opportunity to thank you in person for your partnership and friendship and to talk some football. I'm telling you—with Bo Nix's ankle healed, this is gonna be our year!

Most importantly, thank you so much for all you do to support us and the ministry through good times and difficult times. Adessa and I love and appreciate you so much.

Sincerely,

Jamie and Adessa Holden

