

## Ms. Glenda McNew testifies how easy it is to give and how including a gift in her will is so satisfying knowing IM ministries will continue.



Glenda McNew, a life-long American Baptist, gave her life to the Lord when she was nine years old. She grew up in the Meridian Avenue Baptist Church of Wichita, Kansas, of which she is currently a member. “The church was the center of our life,” said Ms. McNew. She credits her parents and her church community for instilling in her a deep value for giving and for mission.

“My parents were tithers,” Ms. McNew said. “They were always so pleased when they could give a tithe, so I always gave. It seemed basic to me, that if you have been fortunate enough to have been employed all your life, and able to make a living, you would want to share it.”

Ms. McNew learned about mission and American Baptist missionaries in her church community. She recalls special offerings, including ones with videos featuring the work of International Ministries (IM). “The best thing is when missionaries visited and we learned about their work,” she said. “They bring the Gospel of Christ to the world, but they also do more than that. They go and work with people and help people in practical ways. I’m so glad IM has this emphasis—they really care about the people.”

“I’ve always been frugal,” said Ms. McNew, who had worked as a teacher and then as a high school librarian prior to her retirement. “I saved money so that I could travel.” Ms. McNew has visited several countries in Europe, Asia, Australia, and North America. “These trips were wonderful, broadening experiences,” she said. “As Mark Twain said, ‘Travel is fatal to prejudice.’”

Her frugality has also enabled her to leave a gift to IM in her will. “Toward the end of my life, in estate planning, I knew that I wanted to give to the work of the Lord,” said Ms. McNew. She looked into IM’s work and is especially interested in supporting IM’s women’s ministry and anti-human trafficking ministry.

“What I’ve always thought about giving,” said Ms. McNew, “is that everything belongs to the Lord anyway, so it’s easy to give. I’m grateful for IM and for the people who go into the mission field. My hope is that my gift will allow them to continue taking the gospel message to the world, especially during these difficult times.”

