

## Russ Hodden

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My Dear Friends and Family,

I am writing you during the Christmas season, which I hope will be a joy-filled experience for you, even through the troubled times in which we live.

On a personal level, I find myself in a stage of transition. Failing eyesight and physical strength are gradually robbing me of the ability to do the ministry that I was called to do 54 years ago while a student at Biola. I am not going to use the word "retirement" yet, as I am still looking for options of how to remain actively involved in the work of ministry.

After 42 years, I am still active in the Townsend Street kids ministry. Just a couple of months ago, Edgar and Roberto, who were in our kids club 20 or more years ago, came by to encourage "Mr Russ" and to express how glad they were to see I was still there. Another lady, who was a 30-year-ago member of our club, "re-discovered" us and has been sending kids to us. As I write this, we will be on Townsend Street tomorrow.

**Pray that God will provide** new ways for me to be active in ministry, as I really don't like that word "retirement"!

## Possibilities for future ministry?

- Renewed teaching ministry?
- Writing up my experiences in ministry, which could help those who follow me?
- Your suggestions?

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