

HeartCry

MAGAZINE

PRAY FOR
THE SUCCESS OF
THE GOSPEL



By Lasserre Bradley, Jr.

GREETINGS

Summer has been overtaken by fall, which will soon give way to winter. I sometimes think that God has given us four seasons so that we might be reminded of the passing of time and the brevity of our lives. For the unbeliever, this is a dreaded sign that life is as fleeting as a wisp of smoke or a morning vapor dissipated by the heat of midday. But for the believer, it is a cordial reminder that the night which overtakes us will quickly give way to a swift sunrise and a beautiful dawn. It also serves to plant an urgency in our hearts, to call to mind that we have but one brief life to live for the Savior and to labor in the harvest.

As I write this, I am still weary from my missionary journey with Jeff Shawver to India, where I was reminded by the nation's massive population (more than one billion people) of the immensity of the task that is before the Church in the twenty-first century. Seeing this – more than one billion people worshipping hundreds of thousands of false gods in temples and shrines and grottoes dedicated to “men and birds and four-footed animals and crawling creatures” (Romans 1:23) – is almost enough to devastate a re-

newed heart. In the book of Acts, we read that as Paul waited for Silas and Timothy to join him in Athens, “his spirit was being provoked within him as he was observing the city full of idols” (Acts 17:16). In a small way, we felt the same way as we walked through the cities and saw men, who were created in the image of God, worshipping the very creatures they were called to rule (Genesis 1:28).

This last week, we saw a darkness that cannot be overcome by the strategies and clever methodologies of modern Evangelicalism. God alone can take down a Jericho of this caliber, and He has promised to do so, but only through the means that He has provided – the proclamation of the gospel, intercessory prayer, and sacrificial love.

Oh, that God would raise up an army of men who would strip themselves of Saul’s armor, who would lay aside all hope in the flesh and hold fast to sword of the Spirit! Oh, that God would raise up an army of men who feared nothing but God and hated nothing but sin, who would count it a privilege to lay down their lives in anonymity in a foreign land. Then, even the darkness of a hundred thousand false gods would be swept away and the people who live in darkness would see a great light.

Paul David Washer

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* Real name withheld for security purposes, and so throughout magazine.

PRAY FOR THE SUCCESS OF THE GOSPEL

By Lasserre Bradley, Jr.

Our guest author is the founding pastor of Cincinnati Primitive Baptist Church and the director of the radio ministry, "Baptist Bible Hour." One of the hallmarks of his ministry has been an emphasis on exegetical teaching, with a very practical and personal application. Lasserre and his wife Emily have three grown children and twenty grandchildren!

"Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have free course, and be glorified, even as it is with you." (II Thessalonians 3:1)

The Apostle's burden was that the gospel would move forward rapidly and successfully. His commitment in life was to serve God and honor his Saviour by faithfully preaching the gospel wherever and whenever he had opportunity. He suffered much and faced numerous obstacles as he went preaching Christ and Him crucified.

When we read of his sufferings, we know it was only by the grace of God that he could have survived.

"...in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft. Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day in the deep; in journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; in weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness." (II Corinthians 11:23-27)

You would think that receiving thirty-nine stripes on five different occasions would have killed him. The straps used in those beatings had pieces of metal embedded in them. The pain had to be excruciating. The discouragement had to be significant. But Paul didn't give up. He was willing to spend and be spent. Even when he was in prison and could not travel as

he desired, he was confident that God was at work and the gospel was still being circulated.

"But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel; so that my bonds in Christ are manifest in all the palace, and in all others places." (Philippians 1:12-13)

While in prison he was chained to a soldier; he no doubt presented the gospel to him. On the next shift another soldier was guarding him, and he preached to that soldier. On it went, until the gospel message was being spoken of throughout the palace. How else could the gospel have been circulated there? By providence, God arranged for the gospel to have free course even while the great evangelist was unable to stand before a crowd to preach.

Now the beloved apostle asks the Church at Thessalonica to pray for him. Here was a man with a unique experience, a special gift and a high calling; but he still felt his need of prayer. He knew something of his own weakness and of the strength of his enemies. He knew that success in his labors could only be enjoyed if God poured out his blessings on those efforts, and so he requests the prayers of the humble saints of God. He had asked for their prayers in his first letter and now he repeats the request, revealing a truly humble spirit. He was well qualified as a strong leader and faithful servant, but he wanted the prayers even of those recently converted.

His desire was that the word of the Lord might spread at a rapid pace and that it would be honored. He personi-

fied the gospel as being a runner. He was familiar with the Isthmian Games and perhaps had in mind the athletes who participated in those races. As they would run at great speed, so he envisioned the gospel would be moving on, unobstructed, and that many would receive it and therefore honor it.

This burden for the success of the gospel was always on his heart. In the epistle to the church at Colossae, he wrote:

“Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving; withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds: That I may make it manifest as I ought to speak.” (Colossians 4:2-4)

If Paul was so burdened for the spread of the gospel that he devoted his whole life to it and regularly asked others to pray for the advancement of the message, should not we always be praying that doors may be opened where the gospel can be proclaimed? It is easy to become complacent. We are thankful for the truth of the gospel and for the joy it has brought to our heart, but we often neglect our responsibility to be a witness to others and to pray for those who are laboring in the ministry.

We can become discouraged when we consider how rapidly things are changing in our country. The moral fiber, which helped to hold things together for decades, is falling apart. Christians are viewed as narrow-minded bigots. Disparaging remarks are made about the Bible and those who embrace its teachings. Many declare they want nothing to do with “organized religion,” which is another way of saying, “I am not interested in the Church or its message.”

We need to remember that the fields in which the apostles labored in the days of the early church were not where it would be expected that the gospel would have good success. They labored among Jews who resented the mention of Jesus’ name. They labored among Gentile pagans who were worshiping false gods and living in a culture known for its rampant immorality. But on the day of Pentecost, three thousand souls were converted. And in Acts 4:4, we read, “Howbeit many of them which heard the word believed;

and the number of the men was about five thousand.” Sometimes the gospel was presented to large numbers and sometimes just to one. Paul and Silas brought the message to the Philippian jailor. Philip brought it to the Ethiopian eunuch. The beautiful story of the Book of Acts reveals God preparing hearts to receive the gospel and sending others to proclaim it. Paul writes about what makes this work a success:

“For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: but we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumbling block, and unto the Greeks foolishness; but unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and wisdom of God.” (1 Corinthians 1:22-24)

Here is our source of encouragement. No matter what our background may be – religious with a lot of mistaken ideas, or educated in the philosophies of men considering the truth of God to be foolishness – in whatever case, when the Spirit calls us effectually, the gospel makes sense. Paul said he recognized those to whom he preached at Thessalonica as being the elect of God because “our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance...ye turned to God from idols to serving the living and true God” (1 Thessalonians 1:5, 9).

We can know today that when we present the gospel to someone or when it is preached to a congregation, some will reject it. But we can also be assured that some will find it to be a “savor of life unto life.” The Lord opened Lydia’s heart so that she attended unto the things spoken by Paul, and the Lord is still opening the hearts of his elect to receive the gospel and to embrace Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior. That’s what it means for the Word to be glorified. When it is preached, believed, and acted upon, it is honored and glorified.

May we be diligent in praying that the Word of the Lord will have free course and might run swiftly, without interference. Let us pray that the Word will be glorified as multitudes around the world turn to Jesus Christ, recognizing Him as the only Savior of sinners. ■

A VIEW FROM THE FIELD

REGIONAL REPORTS

NEW COORDINATOR FOR AFRICA

SEAN REECE

Sean Reece rejoined the HeartCry staff in August. Forrest Hite, who previously held the position, has now moved on to coordinate our efforts to translate sound literature into the languages of some of the most needy people groups on the globe. The following was written by Sean.



Now that Forrest has posted his "farewell" to the Africa Blog [bit.ly/hc84-01], I suppose it is time for me to make introductions. For those who have followed HeartCry for some time, introductions are not necessary, but for the rest I will provide some background.

I first came to HeartCry in 2008, as the initial step in going as a missionary to the Lozi people of Western Zambia. During the year-long planning and preparation phase, I served as the Coordinator for Africa. In 2009, my brother Shannon and I relocated with our families to Zambia to begin our gospel work among the Lozi. After almost three years, we felt that the work was ready to become indigenous through the Reformed Baptists of Zambia, and we returned to the States.

Although I felt deep love and loyalty for HeartCry, the home office was fully staffed, and I had a strong desire to join Dr. Nathan Berry (HeartCry Board Chairman) in a church-planting effort in West Virginia. After three years in West Virginia, family circumstances led us to the area of Radford, Virginia. Around the same time, the Lord was stirring Forrest to devote more energy to co-

ordinating the translation work, and there was once again a need for an Africa coordinator. Thus, the winding path of God's mysterious providence has brought me back to the HeartCry office and to Africa.

I am incredibly grateful and excited to be reunited with this ministry, devoting my energy and efforts to the spread of Christ's gospel around the world. It will be different this time, as I am able to give my undivided attention to our missionaries in Africa, without the added concern of preparing for my own mission work in Zambia. Please pray for me that the Lord may grant wisdom and insight in how to best serve those who are faithfully laboring in the vast mission fields of Africa. Please pray that the Lord leads us to new indigenous partnerships and reveals new fields ripe for harvest.

The field has expanded significantly since I was last in the office. Six years ago, we worked only in Zambia, but now Kenya, Uganda, Botswana, Malawi, and South Africa have been added. The Reformed Baptists of Zambia continue their consistent march, planting churches across their nation. Of special interest to those who followed our work

among the Lozi, Kabwata Baptist Church is now planting two churches, led by Lozi mission pastors, just to the north and south of the village where we labored. They are also conducting regular pastor-training con-

ferences in the Lozi capital, Mongu.

Thank you all who give and all who pray, both past and present. Your service does not go unnoticed by our Lord. May His Name be great among the nations!

EVANGELISM AND GROWTH IN MALAWI

BY MALAMULO CHINDONGO

Brother Mala is pastoring Antioch Baptist Church in Blantyre, Malawi, where he has been laboring since 2008.

Our dear praying and supporting friends, I would like to thank you for taking the time to pray for my family and the ministry here in Blantyre. I hope that you will find this update encouraging, that you will be given a better sense of our affairs, and indeed that you will even see in it answers to your prayers on our behalf. We are rejoicing in the work the Lord is doing here in Malawi!

CHURCH LIFE

I have been preaching through the book of Galatians at Antioch Baptist Church for the last two months. We are now in chapter three. We want to grow in our understanding of the gospel as a church, and we want to live lives that are continually being sanctified by the gospel. My applications of the clarification and the defense of the gospel in Galatians has been not so much against the prosperity theology of our world (though that is included too), but more against the prosperity gospels of our own hearts. We are trusting the Lord to sanctify His Church through these messages against the many promises of the world with which God's people are tempted on a daily basis.

There have been surprising and encouraging developments in our ministry in the last few months. At the beginning of the year, several of our members moved away to Lilongwe (the capital city) and to other parts of Malawi, some for work and some as students who had graduated and were returning home. During this time, our numbers dwindled to thirty-five people at most. After this, however, we slowly started to grow again; and now, as of the last four months, our numbers have increased to sixty or seventy on most Sundays. As you can imagine, none of us expected our numbers to double within such a short space of time! We are excited and thankful for answered prayers. We want to see more and more coming to faith in Christ and others being continually transformed by His Word. Those of you who are in ministry can understand what all of this means in terms of work. Please



FAMILY UPDATE

The Lord is sustaining us, and we are thankful. My wife Rachel and our daughter Amelie are both well. Amelie is now more than six months old. She is very energetic and has a very curious mind. People often comment about how extremely aware she is of her surroundings. In our family worship, the Lord has been encouraging us as a family through the book of Acts.

consider praying for us; we are in need of more elders to serve with me, as I am currently the only elder.

CITYWIDE EVANGELISM

We began this year by planning and organizing ourselves so that we might better reach out to the city of Blantyre in our various locations. According to data collected by the Malawian government statistical office in 2012, Blantyre has a population of about 1.8 million people. Our church has people coming from many different areas of this large city, and it therefore makes sense that we send out small groups to preach the gospel within their respective neighborhoods. You might call these, “preaching points.” We are calling them, “evangelistic home Bible studies.” Each small group is focusing their energies within a neighborhood or a university campus.

These evangelistic home (and campus) Bible studies commenced only a few weeks ago. Most of them are well attended by the neighbors of our church members. During these meetings, the gospel is preached, and those attending are given free gospel booklets from Chapel Library in both English and our local language of Chichewa. There are eight groups in total, and all of them are going through Derek Prime’s book, *Bible Answers to Questions on the*

Christian Faith and Life. Through our friends at Chapel Library in Florida and a couple of churches in the U.S., we managed to secure a contract with Christian Focus to translate this book into Chichewa for those who do not speak or read English. Please pray for this translation project, which begins soon. We are all encouraged, and we continue to say, “one soul at a time.”

PRAYER POINTS

- ➔ Pray that my family and I will remain faithful to the Lord in the midst of serving Him. We are seeking to grow both in knowledge and love for our Lord Jesus Christ.
- ➔ Pray for our evangelistic home and campus Bible studies. We believe this is the right time for our church to engage the city with the gospel in this way.
- ➔ Pray that I would preach faithfully and disciple consistently through preaching, visitations, and hospitality.
- ➔ Pray for my preaching within the city and outside of our church. The Lord is using it in many ways, either for the salvation of souls or for introducing people to our ministry.

Grace to you all! Thank you for your prayers!

Members of Antioch Baptist Church in Blantyre, Malawi





THUS FAR THE LORD HAS LED US!

BY MATTHEWS FIKATI

With HeartCry's support, Matthews completed the one-year pastoral internship program at Kabwata Baptist Church in December of 2013. In April of 2014, with the recommendation of KBC's elders, he was sent out to plant a church in Chambishi, Zambia.

Greetings to you in the precious Name of our Lord Jesus Christ! With a heart full of gratitude to the Lord, I would like to update you on the workings of God in the life of the church here in Chambishi.

CHURCH HISTORY

It is humbling and encouraging to realize that Chambishi Central Baptist Church is now more than one year old, as our outreach efforts began last year. I must confess that it was not an easy process, because most of the church members from the sending church had doubts and fears about starting the work here in Chambishi. Thankfully, the Lord gave courage and faith to Pastor Ndonji Kayombo and a few other brethren to encourage and motivate the rest.

In March of 2014, Pastor Ndonji Kayombo and I came to Chambishi to spy out the area. I can gladly say that on this first day of our tour the gracious hand of the Lord was upon us. It was a day to remember! We returned to Kitwe with our hearts warmed and encouraged because the Lord had granted us success. We related the fruitfulness of our journey to the brethren, and they were greatly heartened.

The outreach efforts began slowly but surely, and finally the church was launched later that month. I must confess that the Lord has truly been gracious to us. We have had a number of God's blessings upon the work, some of which I have shared with you in previous newsletters. I

should also confess that we have had our share of challenges, difficulties, and discouragements. Praise God that He has led and helped us this far! We trust Him for what is to come!

CHURCH NEWS

In February, three men and one woman professed faith in Christ Jesus. This came with great joy and encouragement! Please stand with us in prayer as we continue to help them and wait to see the grace of the Lord in their lives.

We continue to have our weekly Bible study every Wednesday, where we are studying the doctrine of the Church. We also continue having weekly Bible studies with individuals on other days, and the various topics under consideration include: the way of salvation, the importance of church membership, doctrine, and the order of salvation.

Young people's meetings are also taking place every week on Saturdays. We recently introduced our morning Bible study on the doctrine of man. It is exciting and encouraging to see people thirsting for the Word of God. Please pray for them, that they might be given understanding of the Scriptures and consequently come to the faith in Jesus Christ. Pray for me also – for grace, wisdom, and strength as I continue to preach and teach them God's Word.

The mobile hospital facility came to Chambishi to offer different medical services to our people. This attracted a number of people in the area from all walks of life. Seeking to make use of every opportunity, I went there to distribute fliers and tracts and to speak to some people whom the Lord made available. Please pray that the words spoken and the resources given might be used mightily of God in the lives of these people.

"The Great Commission is not an option to be considered; it is a command to be obeyed" – Hudson Taylor

GOD'S COMMITMENT TO SAVING HIS PRECIOUS SOULS

BY WEGE SINYANGWE

Wege is a member of Mt. Makulu Baptist Church and a graduate of Kabwata Baptist Church's pastoral internship program (2011). In the early months of 2012, Mt. Makulu sent Wege out to spearhead a church plant in the Chilanga area of Lusaka, Zambia.

There are times when mission work seems difficult, particularly to those of us who are on the ground. There is often a feeling of doubt, as if perhaps we did not hear God's call properly. Our desire is to see results as soon as possible after taking up the challenge. This has been my expectation and I believe an expectation from all of us at Mount Makulu Baptist Church (MMBC) in Chilanga, Zambia. Chimasulo Baptist Church (CBC) is MMBC's first-ever mission work. This explains our levels of expectation.

The work has been slower than we had desired. For the last two or three years, we have had people coming and going, with some sticking around but making no commitment to Christ. However, the Lord of the harvest has proved to us that this is His work and that He is committed to saving His precious souls. On December 14th, 2014, we had our first baptism service. Three people from CBC were baptized that day, alongside four other new believers from our mother church. I remember one statement that our brother in the Lord, Kaumbu Mwondela, made while we were in the changing room after the baptism. He said, "So, the Lord is still saving His people." He did not mean, of course, that the Lord had ever stopped saving people. He meant, rather, that one might think that the Lord had been inactive, for the visible results of people being saved were not coming as soon as we expected.

Here is the testimony of one of those who was baptized that day. His name is Nicholus Mwale.



"When Pastor Sinyangwe first started coming to share the gospel with me, I was not interested at all; I thought he was just wasting my time. There were times when I saw him coming from a distance that I ran away from him or simply hid and told my fellow work-mates to tell him that I was not around. But this pastor persisted, until one day I gave in and told him that on Sunday I would visit their church. Unfortunately, I did not show up that Sunday. On Monday he was on me, and I just excused myself but promised that next Sunday I was going to come. That Sunday came, and I told my wife that she was going to accompany me to church. She thought I was joking! Eventually, I convinced her that I was not, and I led her to Chimasulo Baptist Church. After the service, my spirit was at peace, and I was settled that this would be my church."

Since that time, brother Mwale has never gone back to his former life. He says that the faithful preaching of God's Word Sunday after Sunday continually affected his life until he was brought down to his knees; he realized that he was a sinner and repented of his sins. His wife, who had thought that she was already a Christian, was also truly saved and has shared with us her testimony. She was baptized on the same day as her husband.

Those of us who are in the battle field of missions must not grow weary! The battle is not ours; it belongs to the Lord, and He is committed to saving His precious souls! "I have other sheep, which are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they will hear My voice; and they will become one flock with one shepherd" (John 10:16).

Remember us in your prayers! ■

ASIA

SUFFER HARDSHIP AS A GOOD SOLDIER

BY JAMEY T.

Jamey T. is one of the HeartCry coordinators for Asia. He wrote the following report upon his return from training men in Cambodia and China.

Charles T. Studd remarked, “Difficulties, dangers, disease, death, or divisions don’t deter any but Chocolate Soldiers from executing God’s will.” During my last trip overseas I met men who have experienced difficulties, dangers, disease, death, and division and were not deterred from following Christ. They live in nations where life is difficult, where faithfully proclaiming Jesus Christ is even more difficult, often dangerous! The men to whom I am referring live in Cambodia, Vietnam, and China.

CAMBODIA

Cambodia is located in South-east Asia. Its ancient predecessor, the Khmer Empire, reached its zenith between A.D. 802-1431. It included the land area of the modern nations of Cambodia, Thailand, Laos, and southern Vietnam. The once powerful and prominent Khmer Empire no longer exists and is often overlooked or ignored historically. When Cambodia is mentioned today, killing fields, genocide, child trafficking, and Pol Pot are the horrendous places, names, and activities that we immediately consider and associate with this foreign nation.

Pol Pot was the evil despot that instituted a communistic society after the model of the ruthless Chinese dictator Mao Zedong, ruling as prime minister from 1975 to 1979. Citizens were taken from the cities and forced to work on collective farms in deplorable, frightening conditions by and for the government. During those years

of forced labor, twenty-five percent of the population was either killed or died from starvation and disease. An estimated one to three million lives were tragically taken in death during this period. Schools and hospitals were closed; engineers, teachers, doctors, and other professionals were executed. In addition, monks, religious leaders, and Christians were slaughtered. It is reported that some 10,000 Christians lived in Cambodia at the beginning of the Khmer Rouge, but by the end of Pol Pot’s reign, the church was reduced to only 200 believers.

After the defeat of the Khmer Rouge, the United Nations established democratic elections in the early 1990’s, and the church was given freedom to worship. However, the past barbarity from the Khmer Rouge still adversely affects Cambodian society and the church today. Time may heal wounds; but the elimination of the educated and the professionals, the closure of schools and universities, and the presence of severe malnutrition may take several generations to overcome before the country can see complete restoration emotionally, economically, and theologically.

The religious culture in Cambodia is dominated by Thearavada Buddhism, which makes up ninety-five percent of the 16 million people. The number of Christians has grown since the 1990’s, but there continues to be a great need for theological resources to help train and equip the men in ministry. Unfortunately, when opportunities for the gospel opened for Christian missions in Cambodia, heretical and destructive doctrines were also proclaimed and disseminated.

In May and June, HeartCry had a great opportunity to participate in two pastors’ conferences in which the pastors were able to hear solid expository preaching.



Seven Cambodian missionaries who attended the conference and are currently supported by HeartCry. Please pray for these men as they serve Christ in the midst of great opposition.

The first conference in Cambodia was held in the small town of Stoung. HeartCry missionary Matt G. flew to Cambodia and taught from II Timothy. The theme was, “Enduring Sufferings in the Ministry and Christian Life.” Matt exhorted the men to remain faithful to God and His Word by feasting on the gospel, being strengthened by the Holy Spirit, and obeying the numerous imperatives throughout the letter.

Of the thirteen men at the conference, many have lived through terrible atrocities. They survived death camps as children and have endured many trials as adults. In the midst of the land mines and killing fields, God has proved Himself gracious to these first generation Christians, pastors, husbands, and fathers. The pastors were blessed by the teaching and encouraged to remain faithful so they can join with the Apostle Paul in saying, “I have fought the good fight; I have finished the course; I have kept the faith” (II Timothy 4:7).

The second pastors’ conference was held in the capital of Cambodia, Phnom Penh. Present at the conference were more than thirty pastors, including seven men whom HeartCry supports. HeartCry also provided transportation for three pastors from Vietnam and four pastors who live near the border of Vietnam in the province of Mondulkiiri. Pastor Wei En Yi from Singapore was the invited teacher, and he presented a clear and biblical teaching on “The Order of Sal-

vation.” Pastor Wei focused primarily on the application of salvation: effectual calling, faith and repentance, justification, sanctification, and the perseverance of the saints. The men were attentive, and the question-and-answer sessions proved to be edifying and helpful in clarifying the finer points of sound doctrine.

VIETNAM

Christians are persecuted and abused by the communist leadership in Vietnam. The distribution of Christian literature is forbidden, and Christians are still arrested and placed in jail for sharing the gospel. While in Phnom Penh, we met privately with the three Vietnamese pastors who were able to attend the conference. It was encouraging to visit with these men who have suffered for faithfully following Christ. As I sat and heard their testimonies, I was reminded again that “all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted” (II Timothy 3:12). Pastor Barnabas* was imprisoned for a year and a half for proclaiming the Word of God and gathering with the local church. While in prison he was beaten and suffered broken ribs. Nevertheless, God gave him grace so that he suffered faithfully by proclaiming the gospel to the prison guards. A highlight of the trip was watching and listening to Pastor Barnabas and his associate sing earnestly and joyfully, “This Is the Day Which the Lord Has Made.”

After a long day of sitting and listening to the Word of God at the con-



The Vietnamese pastors who attended the conference asked if the teaching could continue in their hotel room after the conference. There are so many faithful workers like these men throughout the world who have none of the privileges of the Christians in the West. To whom much is given, much is required. We must do all that we can to help those who hunger for a greater understanding of God's Word!

ference, the men from Vietnam and the border town in Mondulkiri Province asked us if we would share the Word of God with them again in their hotel room. We were delighted that evening to meet and worship together in the small space. Matt G. was able to exhort them from John 15 on "The Parable of the Vine" and encouraged them to continue to abide in Christ and bear much fruit for the glory of God.

Matt and I also had the privilege of visiting with Pastor Solomon*, who serves as a pastor of an underground church in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. Pastor Solomon has translated several theological works from English into Vietnamese, including books from the 9Marks series and the 1689 London Confession of Faith. He has a burden to translate sound materials into Vietnamese and help the Vietnamese pastors to understand how critical it is to be diligent to study for the ministry. Pastor Solomon is constantly watched by the Vietnamese government. He has to report to law enforcement officials at two-week intervals and explain to them his activities over that period of time. Thankfully, he was able to travel eight hours by bus to discuss the needs and goals for the translation of materials into Vietnamese and to see if HeartCry might assist in projects related to translation works in the future.

BEIJING

Beijing is the capital of the People's Republic of China and one of the largest cities in the world with a population of over 20 million. Christianity is permitted by the Chinese constitution but only for state-sanctioned churches, where the government strictly observes and controls what is taught. Many Christians have faced arrests, interrogations, fines, and imprisonments; and many have seen their places of worship destroyed by bulldozers. However, the Chinese government is impotent to prevent the power of God from penetrating hearts as believers in the underground churches continue to increase. In spite of opposition, Jesus is building His Church, and neither hell nor the governments of this world are able to resist the expansion of His Kingdom.

For five days, I visited with a local pastor, his beautiful family, the church he oversees, and a number of seminary students. I found the local church to be extremely loving and warm. The members welcomed me when I arrived and earnestly invited me to return as I departed.

I was pleased to observe the purposeful manner in which the local body evangelized unbelievers and edified believers. After two services on Sunday, the believers gathered together at a local restaurant to enjoy a meal together and to disciple one

another. Also, in the corner, believers gathered together and sang hymns while a sister accompanied the singing on a ukulele. The gathering provides an opportunity for the men and women of the body to encourage one another. The conversations ranged from theological questions on the Trinity, Roman Catholicism, and the dangers of easy-believism to practical matters like marriage and parenting.

On a weeknight, the church also has leadership training. This is necessary, since many of the churches meet in houses and have to start a new church when the congregation outgrows the location where they assemble. The leadership training is a two-year program developed by the pastor. Its purpose is to equip the leaders so that they might assist and support a church plant. Aside from the lesson presented by the pastor, the brothers and sisters are also required to read their Bibles, study a book assigned by the pastor, and listen to lectures on systematic theology during the week. On the evening that I attended, the group expressed their burdens for a community in Mongolia where no church exists and where there is no witness of the gospel. The believers fervently prayed that a door might open to evangelize that area of

Mongolia and that God might provide a man with a burden to move there and attempt to start a new church.

The church members are also encouraged to evangelize in their communities and among their families, coworkers, and friends. The church body visits a pediatric hospital each week to sing, pray, and share the gospel with the children and their families. In addition, many of the Chinese are dedicated to exercising in parks, often implementing tàijíquán (or tai chi, a traditional form of Chinese shadow boxing). The church purposefully visits the parks and participates in order to mingle among the health enthusiasts and share the good news of salvation.

The trip to Cambodia and China, including the visit with pastors from Vietnam, was edifying, challenging, and tremendously encouraging. It was a privilege to witness our brothers and sisters serving Christ in the midst of pagan societies and the opposition of oppressive governments. The pastors, members, and students I met are laboring arduously to strengthen believers and churches and to evangelize the lost and dying. Let us pray that God will give them the grace and ability to suffer “for the gospel according to the power of God.” ■

CHURCH PLANT IN CHINA

BY GAIUS

Gaius is married and has one child. He grew up in a Christian family and was converted as a youth while attending a summer camp. He is now working to establish a healthy church in a large urban area of China.*

Greeting brothers and sisters! Thanks be to God for bringing us through this month! Thank you and all those who work with you for your support of my ministry. I give thanks to God for this and pray He remembers your efforts.

I preached two Lord's Days this

month and am still working through Mark. I also taught three Thursday evenings on God's Kingdom in our “Biblical Theology” series. As I was preparing for this, I saw God's plan through history and how He carries it out. It encouraged me again to remember that our God is great, wise, and amazing. I also saw that, though man continually rebels against God and receives God's discipline and examination, yet He still gives grace and has chosen to grow His Kingdom through us.

We constituted our church on April 26th; my tears flowed freely out of thankfulness that God's glorious King-

dom is being established in this city. On the 25th of this month, we gathered for a meeting in preparation for constituting the next day. Our teacher led us through a seven lesson study on how to commit to a church. This helped us to better understand the meaning of commitment. It is not just a ceremony or a term, but it is really taking action and making sacrifices.

The most encouraging thing this month was the formal establishment of our church membership. On April 26th, with singing and worship, we officially planted a Reformed Baptist

church. With the help of two supervising ministers, we had eight people enter into the church covenant. These eight founding members are important for the further growth and expansion of our church. When each of us signed our names to the church covenant, it signified that our church is officially established and that we are officially committed to *this* church. From now on, when we attend outside events, we go as members of this church. This is our glory and blessing. We are clear about our identity, our responsibility, and our duties. ■

THE HARVEST IS PLENTIFUL

BY SUNDER R.

After graduating from Grace Bible College, Sunder primarily worked as a church planter in Gujarat, India. After planting a church, he moved back to his native state in South India in 2004. Since moving, God has graciously used him and allowed him to plant another church.

Last week, I was blessed to visit and teach in a small village church about four hundred kilometers away. This was a very special trip for me, for I was able to reunite with Pastor Asa*. In 1998, God graciously used me to lead this brother to Christ and then later baptize him. After two years of growth, he recognized God's call and committed himself wholly to serve the Lord. After Bible training, he went to a village to plant a church among a particular group of people called the Yadav.

The Yadav people are a caste comprised of milkmen, cow-herders, breeders, and laborers. Their traditional occupation is animal husbandry. They consist of both land-owning and land-less people. According to the Joshua Project, this particular group is one of the least reached, even though they are found in every state in India and in four countries outside of India. This is not a small people group. It has a population of

58,296,000. It is estimated that less than a hundredth of a percent of these are Christian and extremely close to 100% are Hindu. The need is great.

By God's grace, Asa has been used to plant three churches among this people group, each in a different village. This man labors with much zeal for Christ and with few resources. In order to meet the needs of his family, he works during the day. In the evenings, he goes out to proclaim the gospel. So far, the majority of those who have responded to the gospel call have been women. The concept of Christianity among this people is that it is a religion for a lower caste. This prevents many of the men from listening to the message.

Pastor Asa recently conducted two days of Bible classes for the church believers. I was blessed to be able to teach three of the sessions. I covered the topics of the infallibility of the Word of God and the sufficiency of Scripture. The Lord seemed to have blessed our time together in fellowship, prayer, and study.

Please pray for these churches, as all of these believers are first generation Christians. Pray that they have an effective witness in their homes and community. Pray that they will grow in the grace of the knowledge of Jesus Christ, passing these truths on to the next generation. ■

A photograph showing a man in a brown vest and blue shirt standing and speaking to a group of children sitting on the ground outdoors. There is a large black water tank in the background and a white table with items on it. The scene is set in a rural or semi-rural area.

THE MADMAN CURED

BY SETH S.

Seth was raised in a devout Hindu home and was saved from his idolatrous tradition when he was invited to a church in his home village. After his conversion he studied at a Bible school for three years and was then sent to North India for the purpose of evangelism and church planting.*

Praise be to God, who has enabled me and my wife Serah* (along with both our children) to serve the Lord here in the northern part of India. We are thankful and amazed that He is using us for the advancement of His Kingdom. Let me share with you an amazing story that took place in our church.

There was a madman who has been living in our town. This man's life was miserable. He was not only mad but also homeless. He lived on the roads and would beg for food and water from those who passed by. His clothes were always dirty. But the Lord has shown him compassion! A believing brother was moved to bring him to the worship service one Sunday. We prayed for him, and by God's grace, this man was fully restored. Currently, he has a job and earns a good living. He confesses his faith in Jesus Christ and comes to our fellowship. This miracle has caused his parents, sisters, and brothers to take notice. Please pray for the man's family, that they would also come to know the Great Physician of the soul!

Pray for our efforts among the needy. We often teach the neighbor-

hood children who can't afford tuition for school. This encourages the parents and provides for an opportunity to speak of God's glory in the gospel of Jesus Christ. Our plan is to do a Vacation Bible Camp for the children this year during the holiday month of July. We are also planning to host a youth camp for the young people. Please pray that these children will hear the truth about God, the Bible, and salvation. We pray that seeing the love of Christ will cause their hearts to drop the things that so easily entangle this generation.

Other needs for which we request prayer include: Abishai*, who is mute; Benjamin*, who has weak legs and is no longer able to walk; and Unathi*, who for six months now has been suffering from a swelling in her body.

Please pray for Kish*. He is a newcomer to our fellowship and has shown much interest in spiritual things. He is currently reading some gospel tracts and the New Testament.

We are conducting our church services in a rented house. This has caused some problems with the owner of the house and with our neighbors. They often turn on the TV during our services, which makes it difficult to minister. Please remember this in prayer. Lastly, please pray for our family, that God would keep our children safe when they go to school and that He would help all of us to continue to minister faithfully to the people. ■

"The spirit of Christ is the spirit of missions. The nearer we get to Him, the more intensely missionary we become." – Henry Martyn, missionary to India and Persia

EURASIA

STRIVING TO LIVE WORTHY OF THE GOSPEL

BY DIMITRY R.

Dimitry planted a church in the city of Yekaterinburg, Siberia, Russia, in 2010. He continues laboring as their pastor there along with his young family. Dimitry graduated from the Samara Center for Biblical Training and is a part of their fellowship of pastors. He is regarded as being an exceptional preacher and teacher of the Word of God. HeartCry began supporting Dimitry in February of 2012.

I am glad to write to you once again about how the Lord continues His work in our small church community. We began a study of the letter to the Philippians on Sunday mornings. God is addressing us through the Apostle Paul: "Conduct yourselves in the manner worthy of the gospel of Christ" (Philippians 1:27). He is teaching us that we must grow in love and that difficult circumstances are not an obstacle for the gospel.

He is also teaching us about the joy of proclaiming Christ and praising Him through life and death. Preaching through Philippians shows me that God's Word is highly pertinent for our lives today. Sadly, we see how short we fall from being "worthy of the gospel" at times, and it is therefore crucial for us to keep praying that God would further conform us into His image.

By God's grace, we continue with our Bible study group for the deaf people in our community. They are very grateful listeners. They gladly study the Scriptures and even testify about Christ to their deaf friends. Some of them are in church with us on Sundays. Throughout the week I teach them in their homes. I bring an interpreter with me and some-



one else from our church for more fellowship.

Although I really enjoy this opportunity to teach the deaf, I have been praying about passing this ministry onto one of the brothers in the church who is able to teach. The main reason for this is that I must manage my time well, and I get invited into people's homes a lot. Throughout the week, I spend a lot of my time counseling and helping the members of our church. I prayed about this with other brothers and decided to pass this study group (for the deaf) on to two brothers – Pasha and Sergei. At this point, they visit the study group together with me. They have started doing the teaching, while I am there to provide support and help. Soon they will take it over completely. Please pray that God would help them in their new role, that they might be faithful and grow through this ministry.

Recently, sister Luba from our church asked me to come share the gospel with her friends. They are a middle-aged family (Katya and Pavel). Their lives were interrupted with a hardship. Their fourteen-year-old son is in the hospital in a coma. We met with these people to share the gospel with them. I wanted to prevent them from trying to bargain with God – promising to believe in exchange for the health of their son. We called them to follow Christ no matter what happens. The church is praying for them. The boy's mother wants to attend church, but her husband is opposed and does not want to let her come. They also have relatives that are hostile toward us. Please, pray that they would come to believe and that the Lord would show His mercy to this family.

My wife and I also need our relationship with Christ to grow stronger.

We are asking that the Lord would influence us and that we would depend on Him more. I praise God for the people in our church who pray for me and my family regularly. I know that you pray for us as well, and we thank you for your hard work!

I just returned home with a heavy heart from visiting my mother. She is in a lot of pain, suffering severely. I don't know how to help her, and that is a heavy burden for me. Please pray for her, that the Lord would reveal Himself to her. ■

MINISTRY UPDATE AND PLANS TO MOVE SOUTH

BY BAKHID N.

Bakhid is pastor of a church in Northern Kazakhstan. He is a graduate of the Samara Center for Biblical Training and is a part of their fellowship of pastors. In addition to his regular preaching activities, Bakhid is also very active in evangelism among the Muslim Kazakhs in his area, who make up the majority of the population. Due to new government laws and regulations, Christians in Kazakhstan are now losing their religious freedom.



NEWS FROM OUR FAMILY

I thank you all for your prayers. I asked you to pray for my son Damir, and now I can see God acting and slowly changing his heart. Please continue to pray for him!

NEWS FROM OUR CHURCH

I continue preaching from II Kings. I finished preaching on the life of Jehoahaz, first son of Josiah. Then I moved on to looking at the life of the next king Jehoiakim. This was very beneficial, because God was teaching me and the church this important truth: that judgment and shame come upon God's people if they ignore the gracious discipline of the Lord. We learned that God's discipline comes:

- ① When God's people only want to take care of the consequences of sin but do not want to address the root of the problem.
- ② When God's people are tempted to reject those who tell them the truth.

As I mentioned before, God has been teaching me a lot through the

study of this text. It has also been a very applicable passage for solving some current spiritual issues in our church.

MISSION PROJECT IN THE SOUTH

I have been working on my mission project to Southern Kazakhstan whenever I can find the time. The board of elders of our church recently held a meeting, and it was decided that we will create a formal missions outreach project for Southern Kazakhstan. I was authorized to lead this mission. I praise God that the other men in our church are seeing the need for me to serve the Kazakh nationals, who are desperately in need of the gospel. This project will be coordinated by our church, and Lord willing, they will send me out to this needy land in the near future. Here are the three areas of spiritual work that I am preparing to do in the South:

- ① Preach the gospel to the unbelieving Kazakh people there.
- ② Influence the local church through expository preaching.
- ③ Train pastors and men within a specific region, with a special emphasis in expository preaching.

The region to which I will be moving is quite large, with a population over 1.5 million. There are many who have never heard the gospel and many Christians who need instruction. Because of this, we will also seek to begin translating books into the Kazakh language. We are currently developing plans and estimating translation costs for sound literature for evangelization and further education of God's people.

Please, pray for me as I realize my short-comings as a husband and a father. Pray that I may know how to love my wife and children better. This is my greatest personal prayer need. Please also pray for my children and their salvation. I praise God for my wife and her support of my desire to move and serve the Kazakh nationals. She is also learning the language and is trying very hard. Please pray for this opportunity in the South. ■

BIBLICAL CHURCH LEADERSHIP

BY EUGENE M.

Eugene is a graduate of the Samara Center for Biblical Training. He is pastor of a church in Isil'kul, Siberia, Russia. HeartCry began supporting Eugene in October of 2012. He is married and has four sons.

I greet you, my friends, in the love of Jesus! Last month, a man in our church named Sergey was ordained to the pastoral ministry and chosen to work with me as a fellow elder in our church. We rented a café building for this special event. We sang songs, and then I preached on I Corinthians 4:1-5 about the qualities of a true servant of Christ.

"Let a man regard us in this manner, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. In this case, moreover, it is required of stewards that one be found trustworthy. But to me it is a very small thing that I may be examined by you, or by any human court; in fact, I do not even examine myself. For I am conscious of nothing against myself, yet I am not by this acquitted; but the one who examines me is the Lord. Therefore do not go on passing judgment before the time, but wait until the Lord comes who will both bring to light the things hidden in the darkness and disclose the motives of men's hearts; and then each man's praise will come to him from God."

God really blessed the meeting. We had guests from Omsk and Petropavlovsk, and the pastors of those

churches participated in the ordination. Afterwards, we had lunch together. We have been praying for a long time that our church would be under the leadership of a plurality of elders, since we believe that this is consistent with the Bible. We are thankful to God for providing another elder for our church.

In order to prepare brother Sergey for his new role as elder, we prayed and studied the Scriptures. We also studied several books dedicated to pastoral ministry. The books were written by such authors as Alexander Strauch, John MacArthur, Mark Dever, and others. Over the last few years, Sergey has grown in knowledge, godliness, and the ability to teach. Recently, we also started to study a new book, *The Peacemaker* by Kenneth Sande. It reviews the biblical principles for solving conflicts.

We praise God that the warm days of summer have given us more opportunities for outdoor evangelism. We have also visited those people who have previously heard our preaching. We plan to do outdoor evangelism until the Siberian winter returns and makes it impossible. We pray about these things and ask the Lord to bless.

We praise God that the church is doing well! We have started to practice biblical counseling with the spiritually weak members of our church, and the results have been positive. For example: there is a very encouraging testimony from a family that became members of our church two years ago. Through biblical counsel-

ing, the husband has changed his attitude toward his wife and his child and is now dedicating his time to the study of Scriptures. The man has also stopped napping during the sermon and has become a listener rather than a critic. He has even started to ask for counsel from other brothers. We have also noticed tremendous changes in his entire family.

I think it is worth noting that the relationship between our church and

the church we had to leave (some years ago) due to disagreement on fundamental doctrines of Scripture has taken a positive turn. The pastor from that church came to visit me, and we had a very friendly meeting. The members of our church also agreed that there should be no hostility between our churches.

Thank you for your prayers and support. Please pray for our church and our evangelism efforts. ■



A Russian copy of *The Doctrine of God* by Gerald Bray from the “Contours of Christian Theology” series.

TWO NEW BOOKS IN RUSSIAN

BY HOLDEN BARRY

The second volume in the “Recovering the Gospel” series, entitled *The Gospel Call and True Conversion*, has been translated into Russian. Multiple copies have just been printed in Belarus by the Evangelical publishing house, Gospel and Reformation. They are diligently working to complete the series and are now translating the third and final volume, *Gospel Assurance and Warnings*.

In addition to the “Recovering the Gospel” series, we are also currently translating the “Contours of Christian Theology” series into Russian. We have now translated and printed four of the seven books that we plan to do in this series. The most recent, *The Doctrine of God* by Gerald Bray, was just completed and printed at the beginning of July.

Both of these books are now available to the general public and are being placed into the hands of all the Russian-

speaking pastors supported by HeartCry. Belarus is proving to be a useful location for getting such books distributed throughout Eurasia quickly and at low cost. May the Lord use these resources to help grow and strengthen His Church! ■



WESTERN EUROPE

EVANGELISM IN PRATO, ITALY

BY EMANUEL IVAN

Emanuel Ivan pastors Maranatha Church in Firenze (Florence), Italy. Maranatha is a congregation of Romanian and Gypsy converts who came to Italy for work to provide for their families back in Eastern Europe. The following is a portion of Emanuel's April report.

We continued doing personal evangelism in Prato. On April 2nd, I visited with a group of brothers and sisters. One of our sisters talked to several young ladies who were involved in prostitution (the sister who was witnessing to them did not know that at the beginning). One of the girls was crying as she was listening about the love of God, while another one was sad because of the

kind of life she was living.

The same day, I met Maricel and shared the gospel with him. I also participated in a prayer meeting at a Romani church and preached the Word there. The Lord worked in a special way that night as two young ladies, Rebeca (16) and Flori (23), decided to follow the Lord Jesus. On April 9th, I went to Independence Square with our evangelistic team (Emi, Dario, Marian, Alin, Ana, and Vasilica), and the Lord helped us speak to several people while we gave out New Testaments.

On April 10th, we returned to Prato and went to a different square for personal evangelism, but we met no people there. So, we returned to the park near the railway station where we talked to four young Africans and prayed for them. ■

NETHERLANDS UPDATE

BY JACQUES BRUNT

Jacques T. Brunt is an itinerant preacher, teacher, and evangelist in the Netherlands. He was born in 1979 and converted to Christianity in 2000. He is the youngest of five children and was raised in a Dutch Reformed family. He was married to Annette in 2004, and they have three children: Levi, Boaz, and Jesse. Jacques' ministry can be divided into three specific areas. He is a leader and teacher for Heart Cry Netherlands (Stichting Heart Cry), he is a teacher in his local Baptist church in Alblasserdam, and he is an itinerant preacher throughout the Netherlands.

We have a popular saying in Holland: "Yesterday is gone, tomorrow hasn't come yet, and the Lord takes care of today." In that holy state of rest, God allows us to live as children of our heavenly Father. Caring is our duty, but worrying is sin. The Lord constantly trains us to



submit to Him and trust in Him. We experience this not only in our marriage and family life, but also in the ministry that the Lord has entrusted to us. God's promises are "Yes" and "Amen" in Christ Jesus. Time and time again, He provides every need we have as a family. This humbles us and makes us grateful.

We are thankful and pleased concerning the different Bible studies that I am now able to teach in different towns in addition to the weekly preaching engagements. Right now,

we are doing Bible study series on “The Power of Prayer,” on “Spiritual Growth,” and on the letter to the Hebrews. This September, in one of the towns where we are ministering, we hope to start a Bible study series on the book of Romans.

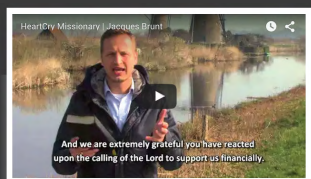
As I mentioned in an earlier report, we have been involved with the planting of the Reformed Baptist Church in Urk (www.refbapurk.nl). This church has now been in existence for seven months, and it is a blessing to see how this congregation is evolving. Each week more than two hundred brothers and sisters meet together. There is a great hunger for the Word of God, and the mid-week prayer meetings are well attended. Lord willing, I will be privileged to lead the first baptismal service there very soon.

Along with the blessings of the church's early days has come intense grief. In January, we were startled by the news that a small fishing boat from Urk sank in the English Channel between Hastings, England, and Boulogne-sur-Mer, France. One of the sailors was a friend of ours. This brother and his family regularly visited the Reformed Baptist Church in Urk. One of the last times that I spoke in this church, I visited him in his home before the service, and he told me about how he had gotten to know the Lord Jesus. It was an awe-inspiring testimony. It was only about two weeks later that we were notified of his drowning in the sea. He leaves behind a wife and seven children. It is heartbreaking. Yet still we may testify with Paul, “We grieve..., but not as those who have no hope” (1 Thesalonians 4:13-14).

Recently, I was invited to speak at a very special meeting of the Welcome Home Foundation. This foundation is dedicated to homeless people in the city of Ede. Their goal is to bring

the Good News to all those who have lost courage in a broken world – widows, orphans, the poor, and the weak – in order to encourage them and to give them new hope. Our whole family went to this meeting. First, there was a moment of conversing with the many visitors being served a free meal. After the meal, I had the privilege of speaking to the group about the cross of the Lord Jesus Christ and about the power of His atoning sacrifice and death. This was a whole new audience for us, and it brought home to us the love and compassion of the Lord Jesus towards people who, for many, have no value. But we know that Christ brought a message of forgiveness and hope especially towards such kinds of people. It was a very special experience and one of the highlights of these last months.

Like last year, we have plans for the coming months for several evangelistic campaigns in the Netherlands. We call them “tent campaigns.” A large tent is set up in the middle of a village in which meetings are planned for the whole week, and the gospel is preached to young and old. These tent campaigns are interdenominational and are very accessible to people who have little or nothing to do with church but still want to know something more about the Bible. During the day, people can walk in, ask any questions they might have, and have a cup of coffee. Biblical literature is available, and people who do not own a Bible can receive one in the tent. After a week, the tent is moved to the next village. We take our children along with us to these tent campaigns, and as a result they become involved early in life with this beautiful and necessary work. In the upcoming months I will be speaking at three of these evangelistic campaigns – in the towns of Tollebeek, Oldebroek, and Waarder.



VIDEO LINK: bit.ly/hc84-02

WATCH JACQUES' VIDEO:

Watch a video introduction to Jacques and the work in the Netherlands using the link provided.

In the upcoming months, we also have plans for a tour with a friend of mine, a brother whom the Lord has graced with musical gifts and talents. Together we'll be traveling through the country four consecutive Thursday evenings (through the Dutch "Bible belt"). I'll be speaking, and he will be singing, both of us focusing on the theme, "The King is Coming!" Our hearts are burdened to awaken people spiritually so that they will come to faith and repentance on the one hand, but also so that they will be preparing themselves for the second coming of the Lord Jesus. We still need to do a lot of organizing in regards to these four evenings, and this takes up quite a bit of time and energy, but we do love the work. We are full of hope and expectation, and we prayerfully await what God might do during this tour.

This summer I have been invited to oversee Bible studies for two weeks on two campgrounds. One is in the northern part of the Netherlands (Groningen) and the other is further

south (Zeeland). Our family will spend both weeks at the campsites. I will lead the Bible studies and answer to any needed pastoral care. These weeks are always fantastic. People are relaxed and purposely pick these campsites for the Bible studies, so we have an enthusiastic crowd. We've been doing this for several years now, and it is always a blessing to be able to give substance to the summer vacation time in this manner.

Through this letter we want to let you know that we are extremely grateful and happy about your support, in whatever way each of you may be involved with this. You are all in our thoughts and in our hearts! We'll honestly admit that our (family) life brings many costs along with it, but to this day there has been enough each month, and we trust that the Lord will be taking care of the future as well. But we do know that you all are His channels through which He provides for us. Thank you for being led by Him in this! ■

UPDATE FROM FRANKFURT

BY PETER SCHILD

Peter is working to plant biblical churches in Frankfurt, Germany. Throughout the week, he and his coworker, Nathanael Armisen, are teaching, preaching, and evangelizing in the streets. Peter is a member of the Reformed Baptist Church in Wetzlar. He and his wife Priscilla have two children: Josiah and Elia.





This month I took several weeks off to stay home while my wife was in her confinement period after the delivery of our second son, Elia. I took care of her, Josiah, and the household. This time that I spent at home helped me to appreciate the hard work that my wife does every day. Since I was at home most of the time, there are not many notable things to report. However, I would like to give you a brief update on my ministry in Frankfurt.

More and more people are coming to our evening services in Frankfurt. Quite a few of them are not yet baptized or members of a church. Please pray for all those who come to listen to the Word of God. One of our young ladies will be baptized soon, Lord willing. Please pray for her.

I developed an extensive church survey for all those who come to our meetings. I wanted to make sure that people are satisfied with the church-planting work, and this is one of the ways I seek to prevent frustration. Thanks to God's grace, the people are grateful and pleased. They say that they are growing in their faith and feel like they are part of the church plant. One person said, "I was never so aware of my utter lostness without Christ." This is exactly what I pray for and hope to see: a greater and greater appreciation of Christ's person and work among the people. Please pray that the Lord might continue to bless His work in Frankfurt so that the saints

might be built up in their most holy faith, sinners might be saved, and we might treasure Christ more and more.

The next step in my ministry is to train a group of five men. Over the next six months, we will only concentrate on spiritual disciplines like Bible reading, prayer, serving, fasting, silence and solitude, stewardship of possession and time, personal evangelism, and so on. It is all about living a godly life and having a Christ-like character.

After these six months, I will begin to train those who proved faithful on how to preach and teach. Please pray for these men, that they might be adequately equipped for a godly life and also for the ministry of the Word. Please pray that God would fill them with the power of the Holy Spirit to live a life worthy of the gospel in every respect.

These past months, I have preached through Philippians 2. This chapter teaches us to think and act like Jesus Christ in humility and sacrificial unselfishness. It teaches us to pour out our life for others so that Christ might be glorified. Please pray that we all are of the same mind, having the same love and being in full accord. Please pray that we do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than ourselves. If there is one thing that we as a church plant (and especially that I personally) need, it is more Christ-likeness.

I greatly appreciate your prayers on my behalf! May the Lord bless you! ■

EASTERN EUROPE

DOING THE WORK OF AN EVANGELIST

The following reports from Eastern Europe demonstrate the evangelistic zeal which marks the ministries of so many of our missionaries in this region. Although many are burden with pastoral responsibilities, they continue to obey Paul's admonition to young Timothy: "But you, be sober in all things, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry" (II Timothy 4:5).

ADRIAN AUGUSTIN

Adrian, who is called Adi by his friends and colleagues, lives in the city of Brasov, Romania. He and his wife Paula have three daughters. Adi serves Providence Church in Brasov as an evangelist. His bold preaching and powerful presentation of the gospel has given him a unique ministry in the community.

I want to praise the Lord for being able to write to you once again from the gospel battle field. The battle is getting fierce; it is like hand-to-hand combat with the enemy.

We continue taking the gospel to the people on the streets of Brasov. The gospel message is still upsetting for lost people. But there are also people who are thirsty for the Word of God, and the Lord is drawing them.

For instance, I preached several times this month in a crowded area called Transylvania Square, a place where people come to buy second hand clothes. I was surprised to see how hardened some people were, and I could see on their faces that they hated the gospel message. On the other hand, I saw Christians there who were praising the Lord for the grace that was being poured over that place by the preaching of the gospel. Pastor Sorin Prodan was with me one of these times, and we had many discussions about the gospel as we gave out many

gospel tracts. Praise to the Lamb for the seed of the truth that was sown!

The third time that I went to preach the gospel in that square, a brother from the church came with me, and we were planning to preach using an amplifying system. But the Lord had us stop in a place where there were two Evangelical Christians and two Orthodox people. As we got there, one of them was telling about the trip he had made to Jerusalem to visit the native place of Jesus. So we stopped, and the Lord put it on my heart to speak to them about the heavenly Jerusalem. We had a great discussion as I explained to them the difference between faith and religion. Please pray for these men and for all those who overheard our discussion. The gospel of grace can't be stopped, and it keeps advancing by the power of the Holy Spirit. Hallelujah!

The Lord also gave us victory in the evangelistic outreach that took place in Fieni and the surrounding area. As I was walking on the street in the village of Pietrosita with a pastor, we met an eighteen-year-old young man who had an occult book in his hand entitled, *Demonic Blood*. We shared the gospel with him, and he told us that he had read about fifteen pagan (or demonic, I would say) books and that if he did not receive an answer from them by the time he was twenty-one, he planned to kill himself. He was interested in the gospel message and gave us his home address and phone number. Please pray for this young man!

As we were giving out New Testaments to some elderly people, a woman came out of a store and asked for several copies. She also invited us into her friend's store. We went there and found three ladies who were eager to find out what we were doing in their village. We shared the gospel with them for about thirty minutes. What a wonderful opportunity!

The next day, we went to a village called Glod, which is several kilometers away from Fieni. The Lord gave us a good opportunity there as I preached the gospel in front of a bar. There were seven or eight men sitting at a table nearby, and many people and children gathered around us. A number of the people in front of me were longing to hear the message of forgiveness. The Lord gave us grace, and after about twenty minutes I concluded my sermon by praying for the entire audience. There were difficult moments when some people yelled at me to try to stop me from preaching, but the others hushed them, and I was able to finish. Please pray for these people from Glod!

Before closing, I would like to tell you that I was deeply saddened by the fact that one of the ex-homeless men

chose to leave our study and return to the street again. However, our church prayed for him, and after three weeks, he came back broken and ready to repent! Please pray for him, as he was sent back to the rehabilitation center in Buzau for two weeks. His name is Gica, and just like all of us, he desperately needs God's grace!

The Lord has also opened some doors for us in the ministry among prostitutes. We talked over the phone to four girls who had given themselves over to such ungodly lifestyles. There is a fierce battle for these souls. I urge you to pray for them and also for us. Please ask the Lord for spiritual protection for us! There are three men and four girls in our group. One of our girls has already been attacked spiritually and has retired from this ministry for a while. ■

ALEX PALADE

Alex Palade, one of our university missionaries, is a passionate evangelist who longs to bring people to Jesus. Fearless in his approach, he faithfully plants gospel seeds wherever he ministers. The following are a couple of his encounters last month.

I recently met an Orthodox man named Eduard. His mother (a Romanian) and his father (a Muslim) are currently living in Syria. Eduard told me that he was feeling lost, and he had this emptiness in his heart. He didn't know how God saw him or how he could be saved. I shared the gospel with him, and he listened to me very carefully. In the end, he told me he wanted to come to Christ. I shared with him my personal testimony, and he asked me about baptism. I explained

to him why we are baptized and that we are baptized after we believe in the Lord Jesus. He asked me about the significance of the cross, and I then invited him to come to Providence Church the next day, as I was going to preach about the cross. He came to church and understood the message about the cross of the Lord Jesus.

That night, my daughter felt very ill, and I had to call an ambulance. I could feel that there was a spiritual battle. While the doctor was seeing my daughter, my wife and I were able to share the gospel with Ms. Felicia, who had come there with her daughter. She listened to me quietly, and when I shared with her from the Word of God, she began crying. It was wonderful to share the gospel with a person who had no idea how she could be saved. ■

RUXI VANDICI

Ruxi is part of a team that evangelizes and disciples students from various universities in Bucharest. Her ministry involves leading evangelistic camps and conducting weekly Bible studies with Christians and seekers in Bucharest. Ruxi is also one of the team translators for HeartCry in Romania. She assists with translation in confer-

ences and proofreads books that are translated and published by HeartCry into the Romanian language. In spite of a physically trying season, Ruxi continues to lovingly engage adults and students with the gospel. This month, she shared Christ with a lady who was pondering eternal things. Ruxi relates the following brief account.

I had an encouraging encounter with one of my neighbors. She is the one who collects the money we owe for the administration of our apartment building. One day when I went to pay, she started telling me that her husband was having severe health problems and how hard it had been for them. She also mentioned that her in-laws were Evangelicals (meaning they had the same faith I do). So I asked her whether she was reading the Bible. She told me she tried to, but she could not understand it. She then mentioned she didn't understand something about forgive-

ness. I took the opportunity to ask her how she believed God forgives sins, and then I shared what the Bible says. It was a very short gospel presentation because the next client came in and interrupted us. But I gave her a New Testament and some books explaining the gospel, and she said she would like to read them. I was very encouraged by this opportunity to share with her. Please pray that the Lord would draw her to Himself and reveal Himself to her as she reads the New Testament. Also, please pray that I would have other opportunities to explain the gospel to her. ■

FLORIN GALATEANU

Florin moved to the city of Tulcea, Romania, in 2011. He is a member of Bethel Baptist Church and is working as a church planter on the Danube Delta and the mountains of Macin. In addition to church planting, he is seeking to revive the small and abandoned works throughout the region. The county of Tulcea has a population of 260,000 inhabitants, and only about 400 people claim to be Evangelical. In the following, Florin shares about his gospel labor in Tulcea.

In April, I continued to go to Sulina and tell people about Christ and His salvation. I spent two days in prayer and fasting specifically for this town. While there, I met Valentin, a teacher in Sulina who is a Christian. We talked for a while and prayed together.

I visited Elena on another day and gave her a Bible. She started reading it and then asked me about the book of Joshua. She wanted to know why God commanded for women and kids to be killed. This was a good opportunity for me to tell her about God's holiness and about the sin of idolatry. But then I also told her about Christ and about His sacrifice on the cross for the forgiveness of our sins. I encouraged her to repent, and then we prayed together. Only the Spirit of God can work in her heart.

I also met Maria and talked to her about Christ. She said that she is very faithful and has never done any harm to anyone. I offered her a New Testament. I pray that God will show her that she is sinful.

I also talked with Andrei and Laura, a couple kids I used to see on the street very often. I told them about Christ and prayed that God would be victorious in their hearts. Another day, I talked to their father, Mr. Silviu. He is very interested in the matters of this world. My prayer is that God will bring salvation this family's hearts.

I also had two great blessings. I was in Fieni with the HeartCry missionaries, and we shared the gospel for two days with people. These types of outreaches are very encouraging for me. The second blessing was a four-day conference that we had with our brothers from HeartCry in Brasov. God searched my heart in a special way. He continues to work in me, for which I am very grateful.

I plan to go next month to Sulina in order to rent a two-room apartment. This way I will have a place where I can invite people in order to read the Scriptures, pray, and learn God's Word. Please pray that the Lord will help me to work through the logistics. I trust completely in God, that He will do this work through the Holy Spirit. ■

ANATOL DUNAS

Anatol is the HeartCry national director for Moldova. He pastors Immanuel Baptist Church in Cahul and oversees teams in Anenii Noi and Cahul. Anatol has also planted four other churches in the area. He and his wife Nadia have three children: David, Paul, and Florin. In this recent report, Anatol shares testimonies from two new converts: Marina and Valentina.

MARINA'S TESTIMONY

I grew up in an Orthodox family, and my mother taught me how to pray the Lord's Prayer as a child. In our neighborhood, there was a house where some Evangelical Christians used to gather for worship every Sunday. I would listen to their music, and with the other children from our street, I received my first Children's Bible from them. I read the whole book in one week. I received other books about different Christians, and each of them left a footprint on my personality. That was the moment when I realized that I had misbehaved. I prayed and went to my earthly father to ask for forgiveness. I was crying, and he couldn't understand what was wrong with me. He hugged me and told me he had already forgotten my bad atti-

tudes. That was my first real request for forgiveness from my father.

As years passed, I started asking myself questions about life and death. When I was in my second year of college, I received a book entitled, *Are You Sure You Are a Christian?* Afterwards, I prayed to God from the depth of my heart and invited the Lord Jesus into my heart to be the Lord of my life. I knew that He answered my plea, and I was so happy and felt a wonderful relief. This time I said "please forgive me" to my Savior, my heavenly Father. The Lord started changing my character. I had many experiences with Him, and He keeps searching my heart and cleansing me. I have become a daughter of the King; and I have received forgiveness, salvation, and meaning for my life.

VALENTINA'S TESTIMONY

My father was an atheist. Many times I would find my mom praying secretly. Although she had faith in God, she never told us about Him. I went to school in Chisinau when I grew up, but nobody told me about God during all those years, and I developed a worldly lifestyle. I married Ivan, and we had two daughters together, Cristina and Silvia. After some time, Cristina started going to school in Romania. One day, when she came home for a visit, she told her younger sister about her faith in God.

The next year, both of our daughters were going to school in Romania. When they came home during their vacation, they started attending the Evangelical church in Gotesti. One Sunday when they were preparing to go to church, I decided to go with them. The second time I visited, God helped me understand the mes-

sage that was being preached, and I began to express interest in finding out more about Him.

My daughters took me to Immanuel Church in Cahul. After they went back to Romania, I kept attending the church. One Sunday, pastor Anatol said that we needed to give ourselves to the Lord totally, and I stood up and said I wanted to do that.

I was afraid to tell my husband that I wanted to be baptized, but the pastor encouraged me to do so. Although he didn't like it at first, he said, "God's will be done in your life!"

Three years ago, I contracted a serious illness, but the Lord has been drawing me nearer to Him in my suffering. While I do pray for health, my heart's desire is to follow Him no matter what. My sins are forgiven, and I am a child of God. I want to be faithful to the Lord until the end. ■

MIDDLE EAST

THE SACRIFICE OF CHRIST

BY LEONID B.

Leonid has planted a small church among the Russian Jews in a city in Israel. Though the church is small, their hope is that God might use them to bring many hearts to His Son. In addition to his pastoral duties, Leonid helps Antony Simon and others with their evangelistic tour ministry, performs evangelistic concerts in cities throughout Israel, and writes articles about Israel that are published in various Christian magazines. He has recently published these articles in a book entitled Around Jerusalem with the Bible. Leonid has been severely beaten for preaching the gospel, and he has suffered much for the sake of Christ. Pray for him as he ministers in two cities in Israel.

We celebrated the Passover on the hill directly overlooking the historical place of the Bible called “Gehenna” – “hell fire.” Among many of our guests was a journalist who writes articles for the regional newspaper. I talked with her about the expiatory sacrifice of Christ and told her that all people who reject His sacrifice will be subjected to eternal punishment, as Jesus Himself taught on more than one occasion. So far, she only listens and nods, but there remains no change in her heart. However, she continues to visit us, and we hope that she will turn from her sins and believe. Please pray that the Lord would change her heart.

I had a very interesting meeting with a man who has the same name as mine, Leonid. He is a Christian Jew from Frankfurt, Germany, but was born in St. Petersburg, Russia. He is a talented programmer, but he previously used his talent with a criminal purpose. He would make major purchases online by means of false credit cards. In Russia he was never caught, but in Germany he was arrested and put in prison. In prison, Leonid began

to read the Bible only to argue with the visiting rabbi and Catholic priest. They did not manage to convince him of anything. Nevertheless, one day, a pastor from a Baptist church in Frankfurt visited him. Leonid was also going to argue with him, but this time it did not work. Every time he tried to argue, the man opened the Bible and answered his questions accurately according to God’s Word. Soon Leonid confessed faith in the great saving sacrifice of Christ: “...and He bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors” (Isaiah 53:12).

It was at this same time that Leonid’s girlfriend was also imprisoned, and by God’s grace, she repented too! The Baptist church began to pray for their early release, and the Lord answered their prayer. Right after release from prison, Leonid and Natasha were married. Now they have three children and faithfully serve in the church. Leonid wants to help with our website on the internet if it is possible. Praise to God that He gives us such remarkable witnesses! Please pray for this dear family.

ANSWERED PRAYER

BY JOSH COBLE

On July 7th, we received an urgent prayer request from Dr. Andrew, who works in an undisclosed location in the Middle East. On August 20th, we received notice that the Lord had answered our prayers. Below are the updates.*

JULY 7, 2015

I just received a phone call that the secret police have contacted our team in order to investigate the funds that we receive from HeartCry and their purpose. Then the bank also contacted us with many questions

asking about the funds we receive. Because of this, I am seeking to find another way to get the funds to our missionaries. I have a few options in mind. Keep us in your prayers.

AUGUST 20, 2015

On July 7th, we requested prayer on behalf of Salam Church in the Middle East. They were experiencing some difficulties with the bank and also with the secret police.

Praise the Lord because He has dealt with both of these difficulties! First, the bank has withdrawn its previous questions and restrictions on the church. And second, when Brother Yuval* went to report to the secret police, they could not find any record of an appointment and told him he could go home.

Please keep praying. There are many difficulties that need to be overcome! Pray that the gospel of Jesus will advance like a flood in this land! ■

AMAL'S STORY

Amal is a woman living in the Middle East. This is her testimony as recorded by Dr. Andrew.

My story started thirty-eight years ago. My mother died six months after I was born, and from then on I was raised by my father. When I turned five years old, my father started working long days without any time off, and so I spent my days with the neighbors until my father came home. My neighbors happened to be Christians, so at their house I would often hear verses and stories from the Bible or Christian music playing in the background. For me, their house was the home I never had.

Three years later, my neighbor died, and the rest of his family had to relocate. Instead of the neighbors', my father would send me to my aunt's house to be watched during the day until he got off from work. My aunt regularly sent me on her personal errands, and it was during these trips that I started to notice a certain church building. It had a cross symbol out front like the one I would see at my former neighbors' house, and I wanted to see inside. Every time I would pass this church, I would stop to gaze at the building for ten to fifteen minutes, watching the people come in and out of the doors.

One day my father's friend saw me in front of this church and told my father. When he got home from work, he beat me and threatened that

if he ever heard that I was standing in front of that church again he would kill me. I am not sure how serious my father's words were, but for a ten year old girl, they seemed very serious to me. I spent the following years trying to find any opportunity to leave the house and go see that church, wishing that I could go inside. That dream never came true.

My father arranged for me to be married at fourteen years old; I married a twenty-five-year-old man, who I never saw until the wedding night. As a little child, I should have been getting ready for school the next morning, but instead I was being married to a strange man. I moved out from my father's house to live with my new husband and his parents. For the first five years of my marriage, I essentially served as their family maid. I would clean the house, cook, and be sure that all the needs of my husband were met.

A year after moving in with them, I gave birth to my first daughter. I was not yet even sixteen years old. I did not know how to take care of my child, and my husband was not helpful. Eventually, my husband and I moved to our own house, but there was no real change to my life. It actually became more complicated, with two children and a husband who did not care about me. He only saw me as his maid and the mother of his children!

I was always curious about that church I encountered before, and as I

grew older, I started to wonder about my faith and the Christian faith. I began to think about the violence and hatred that Islam had produced in this world, and the Imams who taught that husbands should beat their wives and that men should look down on women. All this made me feel uncomfortable when practicing the rituals of such a religion.

Time passed on, until one day my husband decided to get cable connected to our house. I began to watch Christian TV programs all day until the kids came home from school. This was the first time I really heard anything about Christ and what it meant to be a Christian. After finding these programs, my life started to change, and I began to enjoy every single minute at home.

Then one day, while I was in the kitchen, my husband arrived home and saw the TV playing one of those Christian programs. He started shouting and cursing and beating me. He told me that if he ever caught me watching these programs again, he would kill me. I thought it was ridiculous that the two times I was ever threatened to be killed were from the two people who were supposed to be the closest to me; and in both cases, it was because of my curiosity about Christianity!

Finally, in 2012, I ran into a childhood friend. We started meeting together often to talk about a variety of subjects, including her Christian faith. After some time, my friend took notice of my genuine inquiries about Christianity. When she was not able to answer my questions, she referred me to a more learned person in the faith – Pastor Boutros*. I found that he had a gentle spirit and a great heart for the Bible. He and his wife treated me like a princess, cared for me, and answered all my questions about Christianity. They introduced me to Dr. Andrew and his wife, who also were very delightful and sweet. From these two families, I learned a lot about Christianity.

The turning point of my life took place when Pastor Boutros explained to me the meaning of the gospel and

what Jesus did on the cross for me. His words shocked me greatly – especially when he explained the pain and suffering that Jesus went through for my sins! At that point, I fell on my knees and asked God for His forgiveness. That was the moment my whole life changed. For the first time in years, I felt a deep joy and peace like nothing I had ever experienced.

Since then, I have grown in my faith and have started to experience the meaning of having a loving Father. This has changed the way I view life and how I experience joy. My life finally has meaning and hope.

One of the stories that I will never forget in my life happened in 2013 on my birthday. Up until that point, no one had ever celebrated my birthday with me, but that year was different. I was happy because I had a loving Father who cared about me. That day, I bought myself a birthday cake and brought it with me to visit Dr. Andrew and his wife. For many of you, it may seem strange that I would prefer to celebrate my birthday with the Andrews family, rather than with my own husband. But to me, this was an obvious choice. The Andrews and Pastor Boutros's family had become my real family. They were the people who really loved me and cared for me.

During my time with the Andrews, they asked me what I would like for my birthday. I told them that I wanted to go and pray in a church. That day was a Sunday, and despite the danger of taking a Muslim to a church, they were willing to take me to the Sunday service. We went to a church nearby, and Pastor Boutros preached that night. After the service was over, I went back home happy and encouraged that I finally had a family that cared about me.

For many people, Christianity is their cultural religion; for others, it is just one religion among many. But for me, Christianity is the truth about what God did for me more than two thousand years ago and what He has done for me today. For many people, the story of Jesus is just like any other story; but for me, it is the story that changed my life. ■

LATINAMERICA

MISSIONARY REPORT

NICOMEDES SAAVEDRA

Nicomedes is the pastor of a church in Pacaipampa, in the northern region of Peru. While he is devoted to this church, the Lord has also used him and the congregation there to start several other church plants in villages throughout the region.

In the church that I pastor, I am preparing two more men for the pastoral ministry. Two days a week, we meet to study together. Also, as a church we are carrying out a study every Thursday evening on the duties of husbands and wives, as well as mothers and fathers.

Several of us have been visiting the homes in our communities that are without Christ, teaching them about their sin against God and their need for repentance. We carry this ministry out on Saturdays so that we can invite them to attend our church meetings the next day. Many of the people that we have spoken with have visited the church, and some

of them have repented and believed in Jesus Christ.

The elders of our church have been going out together to preach in a little town called Alfonso Ugarte. The people there have been listening to our message each time we have gone to preach. Pray for the salvation of these unbelieving people.

One Friday each month, we are meeting with all of the pastors of the Baptist association in Pacaipampa to study the theme of biblical pastoral ministry. We are reading together though John MacArthur's book. We are also about to begin our courses for the three-year modular seminary that is going to be taught to the pastors in Pacaipampa.

Brothers and sisters, we are worried about the lack of rain this month. Please, pray for rain, since 99 percent of the people in our towns work in agriculture and raising animals. The grass and plants are not growing. ■

WEHRNER PANCORBO

SEEING THE LORD'S FAITHFULNESS IN CUZCO

Wehrner is the pastor of the church Iglesia Cristiana de Gracia (Grace Christian Church) in Cuzco, Peru. He moved from Chiclayo, Peru, with his family and began this new work in February of 2013.

The Lord has shown His faithfulness this month toward all of us in the church, as He continues to sustain us by His grace and

mercy. We are growing in the knowledge of the Lord, and in each of our meetings together we are setting our minds and hearts on Christ and His work on our behalf.

As I mentioned in a past report, there is a family visiting the church that has been at the point of divorce for some time. In the midst of these family problems, their youngest daughter attempted to take her



own life. When the mother found out about her daughter's desire to kill herself, she sought me out in order to talk through her family problems. We shared the gospel with her, along with the rest of her family, and we began meeting together to study the Scriptures and counsel them through their problems. By God's grace, she came to two of our church's Sunday meetings last month. Please pray for this family.

I also mentioned in a past report that my wife met the owner of a perfume store and gave her some tracts. On a second visit, my wife had a more extensive conversation with her and invited her to participate in our

Sunday church meeting. Thanks to the Lord, she came. Please continue praying for her salvation.

The brothers and sisters of the church are continuing to be disciplined, and we are thankful to the Lord, because they are showing a constant desire to learn and know more of God through the Scriptures. At the same time, we are continuing to carry out personal evangelism every Sunday with some of the believers from the church.

Beloved brothers and sisters, I ask your prayers for the church and for my family, that we might be faithful in the work the Lord has given us, resting only in the cross of Christ. ■

TRAINING CONFERENCE IN PACAIPAMPA, PERU

BY LUKE NASH

Recently, HeartCry sponsored a five-day training conference in the region of Pacaipampa, Peru (pictured above). About fifty-five pastors and teachers traveled many hours through the mountains and the rain to a small town in Pacaipampa called San Luis. Throughout the week, the fifty-five men met in a small church building and received instruction on the topics of Expository Preaching and the Doctrine of the Scriptures,

taught by HeartCry missionaries Jose Luis Siancas and Javier Carhuapoma. Along with the teaching, all of the pastors received a John MacArthur book on preaching and Wayne Grudem's *Systematic Theology*.

Please pray fervently for these men and the teaching they received. Although the pastors of Pacaipampa would put most of us to shame by their zeal for the gospel and the advancement of the glory of Christ,



many of them have very limited access to sound resources. This was a rare opportunity for them to sit under sound instruction from the Word of God. Pray that they would grow in their appreciation of the sufficient, authoritative, inerrant Word of God and in their ability to expound and apply it in the churches they lead.

Below is an e-mail from HeartCry missionary Javier Carhuapoma giving us an update on the week:

"I give thanks to God for his blessings in the work of the ministry. It was a great joy in the Lord to be able to travel to San Luis in Pacaipampa. It was a very long trip, and it was wearisome, but it was an encouraging time. God blessed us by bringing fifty-four students from the mountains, and we spent a wonderful week together. We learned a lot from the brothers

that participated in the course as we saw their love for the Lord. Many of them traveled by foot two, four, or six hours to get to the academy.

"The Scriptures say that the harvest is plentiful, though the workers are few, and that we are to pray that the Lord might send more workers into His harvest. We believe that our Lord has answered these prayers. There are many brothers that are willing to study in order to better serve our God. They will be in the future academy modules, Lord willing. The next module will be from August 31 to September 4. We give thanks to the Lord for the books that HeartCry was able to give to the students. We ask you to pray for these men, that the Lord would be guiding them in their studies and that they would all move forward in this work." ■

COMMENTARIES AND STUDY BIBLES FOR PASTORS IN PERU'S JUNGLES | BY LUKE NASH

Last week, pastors from across Peru's jungles came together for a week of training carried out by Reaching and Teaching Ministries, headed by Dr. David Sills. Every few months Reaching and Teaching Ministries travels down for these week-long trainings of jungle pastors, gathering in the small village of Chazuta along the Huallaga River. Since

2014, HeartCry has worked toward providing the pastors that faithfully attend the courses with a basic pastoral library. During the most recent gathering of pastors, HeartCry provided about forty-five men with David Dockery's *Concise Bible Commentary*, to add on to what they had already received – a study Bible, a concordance, and a Bible dictionary.

Some of the pastors that were attending for the first time also received study Bibles and will continue to receive more literature in the future as they devote themselves to attendance of these regular trainings. Please pray that the Lord will bless

these pastors as they prayerfully study God's Word in order to nourish God's people. Pray that the commentaries and study Bibles will prove helpful as they seek to grow in the true knowledge of the Lord. ■

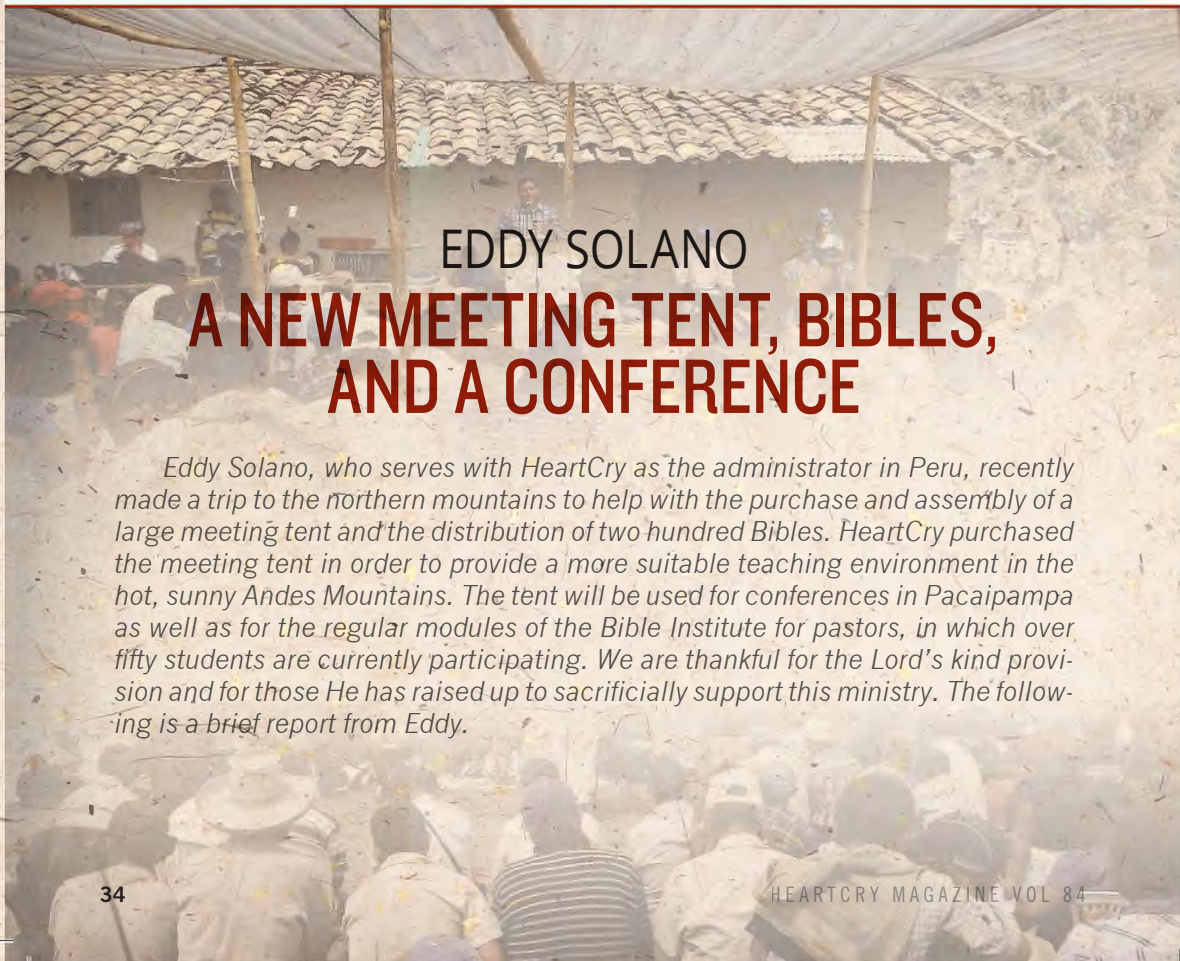
URBANO GOMEZ

RADIO PREACHING MINISTRY

Urbano is serving as a missionary within the association of churches in the region of Pacaipampa, Peru. He travels and teaches in the churches of the association and also helps in the development of new church plants.

By the grace of Christ, I am continuing to preach every weekday from 6 to 7 PM on the radio. I am preaching on the topics of expository preaching (based on John MacArthur's book) and also on the priority of prayer in preaching.

Brothers and sisters, thanks be to God that by the Holy Spirit He is illuminating the minds of many brothers and sisters, and they are interested. They are sending questions to me and are studying the Bible on their own to be able to proclaim the gospel according to the Bible. I ask you to pray much, brothers and sisters, because unbelievers are also becoming interested. They are comparing what they are hearing with what the Bible says, and it is raising questions. ■



EDDY SOLANO

A NEW MEETING TENT, BIBLES, AND A CONFERENCE

Eddy Solano, who serves with HeartCry as the administrator in Peru, recently made a trip to the northern mountains to help with the purchase and assembly of a large meeting tent and the distribution of two hundred Bibles. HeartCry purchased the meeting tent in order to provide a more suitable teaching environment in the hot, sunny Andes Mountains. The tent will be used for conferences in Pacaipampa as well as for the regular modules of the Bible Institute for pastors, in which over fifty students are currently participating. We are thankful for the Lord's kind provision and for those He has raised up to sacrificially support this ministry. The following is a brief report from Eddy.

THE KING'S MESSENGER

Ministry on the Huallaga River [Video]

In 2013, HeartCry donated the boat *El Chasqui del Rey* (*The King's Messenger*) to missionaries Micah Tuttle and Jairo Sangama, who labor in Peru's jungle. In a short clip (which can be seen at the website link provided below) from a recent trip up the Huallaga River, Micah expresses his thankfulness once again for those who made the gift possible and shares how the boat continues to be used for ministry throughout the villages that lie along the river. By God's grace, the boat has been used to reach more people with the gospel and to train up faithful men for the work of the ministry. Please continue to pray for the work in the jungle, as there remains a seemingly endless need for more laborers to care for and shepherd the churches through the jungle region. The following is a short email Micah recently sent:

Just got back from another great trip with the boat. Wanted to say "thanks" again. As we were cruising along I was thinking of what a huge blessing this boat is to us! The Chasqui enabled me to take sixteen brothers up river last week and spend a lot of time investing in them as we preached the gospel and did what we could to make Christ's Name great in this part of the world! I have attached a "thank-you video." Please see thetuttletribe.blogspot.com for more details about the trip. Once again, you guys are a huge encouragement to our family. Thank you for all you do in the Lord's work!



WATCH MICAH'S VIDEO

VIDEO LINK: bit.ly/hc84-03

This past week I traveled to a small, rural village in the northern part of Peru called Frijolito. The community is located in the midst of the Andes Mountains, about an hour from the border with Ecuador. The purpose of my visit was to deliver and assist in the installation of a tent for a biannual conference.

Missionaries and pastors arrived with their families from various surrounding villages, some walking as far as a day's journey to participate in the conference. The conference focused on the pastoral ministry and family. Situated in a very hot climate, the people were able to enjoy the teaching a bit more comfortably with the shade provided by the newly installed tent.

I also accompanied Pastors Javier Carhuapoma and Jose Luis Siancas in distributing two hundred Bibles to twenty-four local pastors and members of their congregations. Many of those who were receiving the Bibles did not yet have one of their own. Their expressions of joy and gratitude were unforgettable. A few local pastors with whom I was able to talk shared that these Bibles were a great tool in expanding the Kingdom of God.

I am thankful for the opportunity to participate in the conference. It was a true blessing to stay among the people and share in their customs and joy as they received the Word of the Lord. ■

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"The world lives in a time of crisis. Christians alone are in a position to rescue the perishing. We dare not settle down to try to live as if things were normal."
- A. W. Tozer

"If by excessive labor, we die before reaching the average age of man, worn out in the Master's service, then glory be to God, we shall have so much less of earth and so much more of Heaven!"
- C. H. Spurgeon



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