



MISSION TO
Unreached Peoples

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The Unreached Peoples' ADVOCATE

NEWS ON GLOBAL EFFORTS TO REACH THE LEAST REACHED



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The Unreached Peoples' ADVOCATE

A Newsletter of Mission to Unreached Peoples

News on Global Efforts to Reach the Least Reached

Director's View

by David Hupp, U.S. Director



Observations on Our Workers

Deb - Studying Tibetan in Lhasa and continuing to prepare for ministry

in the Tibetan- Buddhist world. She is obeying God's call as a single woman to the top of the world and in a difficult place.

Tim - Member Care Asia Coordinator ministering to a family newly arrived on the mission field. Tim's family recently returned to Asia for another term despite many "reasons" to stay in the US - in simple obedience and in faith seeing God provide.

C & K - Luke 10 partners in China, using recent college degrees to serve China's poor and to study language. They are also trusting God, in faith, to show them the next step for their lives.

At Mission to Unreached Peoples we are "called to champion the potential of the entire body of Christ". I was reminded of this and the beauty of the scriptural teaching about the body of Christ while participating in a recent MUP field conference. In looking around the gathering I rejoiced to see the following (actual names not used in most cases):

Jess - Wrapping up a 6 month Luke 10 term in Nepal, teaching English and ministering to abandoned street kids. She's seeking God for the next step in her life.

E and family - This family left a lucrative career in the computer industry to serve the unreached of Asia - putting their faith in God to provide their needs.

J & R - Just shared the results in one year of reaching their target people group. There are already 15-20 new believers and the start of a church planting movement.

L & M - Another Luke 10 pair teaching at a missionary school and hearing God say that they are to pursue mission careers as teachers.

Paul & family - Now in the middle of their 8th year in China and recently challenged to open an English Language Center using his business background and ministry skills.

Are these special people? Yes! Are they more "qualified" for missionary work than the audience of this Advocate? No! Nor are they a "more important" part of the Lord's body than any of us. But they have been willing to step out in faith and obedience to God's call on their lives - and that's what makes the difference as each one fulfills their role in the body of Christ.

How about investigating your own response to the Great Commission commandment? We'd love to walk that path with you.

Ten Years on the Field

In 1992, Rick and Lisa Watkins moved to Poland in response to God's leading. Here are some of their reflections as they look back on those ten years. More of their thoughts and many pictures can be found online at www.mup.org/Poland.htm.

How can you sum up ten years in a few words? Challenging, rewarding, fruitful, stretching... We embarked on this new adventure with God ten years ago and He has proven Himself to be faithful at every turn. We have gained so much by saying "yes" to His call.

We have changed in these past ten years. Our family has almost doubled in size! What a joy and delight! We have enjoyed raising our family in a small-town atmosphere. Our little Polish town reminds us of the kinder, gentler world of yesteryear. We walk most places. We personally know our doctors, plumbers, mechanics, etc. Friends drop by unannounced. God has blessed our family in these years. We can honestly say that we delight more in our marriage and our family life than ever before. Our home is not the neatest and certainly not the quietest, but it is a happy one and we see the children growing up with a heart to know and serve the Lord.

Poland has changed much in these ten years. Ten years ago, Poland was just emerging from over 40 years of communism. The standard of living was modest; most did not have phones; very few had cars; our bank records were kept in a ledger book; we ordered non-local calls through the operator; and 80% of the inhabitants in large towns were at mass on Sunday. There was little indication of Western influence - malls and fast-food restaurants were nonexistent. Today, Poland is a NATO ally, on the fast-track to EU membership in 2004 and becoming more and more secular and western. Now, almost everyone we know has a cellphone; we can dial direct anywhere in the world; ATM machines, shopping malls and McDonald's are ubiquitous; less than 20% will attend mass on Sundays and there are probably 10 times more cars now than when we came. We have witnessed such an incredible pace of change here.

Our understanding of the world and God's kingdom has changed in these past ten years. The wonderful yet uncomfortable-at-times experience of living in a different culture, speaking a different language, and worshiping with people from different backgrounds has deepened us. We have had countless opportunities to learn much from brothers and sisters from so many different parts of the Christian world. Our Christian faith has deepened and we think that we love Him even more than ten years ago when we came. We have not burned out - the fire is still burning brightly in our hearts - thanks to His never-ending grace! We are truly grateful.

We have enjoyed seeing the Lord touch others through our lives here. It is a special joy to see many of our "children in the Lord" walking faithfully with Him and serving Him. Many of our youth have grown up, moved away and are attending and serving in churches in others parts of Poland. A number have left Poland, either to attend school or because they have married non-Poles. Some desire to be missionaries abroad; others want to serve God full-time in Poland. But that is just part of the story. Sadly, of course, there have been many disappointments as well. We have seen many make an initial profession of faith and then have seen them fall away for a variety of reasons. We have also seen the Lord touch non-Polish people through our ministry here. We have had the privilege of hosting many short-term teams and friends whose lives have been changed, sometimes dramatically, as they too have taken a step of faith to reach out and minister cross-culturally. On a scale beyond our own small town, we have been blessed to see our vision for a national prayer movement begin to be realized.

(Continued on page 3)

Something to Think About

"If you think you are too small to be effective, you have never been in the dark with a mosquito."

Author Unkown

"If you want to walk on water, you've got to get out of the boat."

John Ortberg

1

From the Field:
Ten Years on the Field
Something to Think About

2

Mission Insights:
Reflections on God's Guidance

3

Mission Opportunities:
Luke 10 Outreach
Short-Term Opportunities
Ten Years on the Field(continued)

4

Director's View:
Observations on Our Workers

THIS ISSUE

Mission INSIGHTS

“Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation.” Mark 16:15

Reflections on God’s Guidance and Missions

by Keith Hook

The question that I get asked more often than any other by students at the Bible college where I teach part time goes like this: How do I know what God wants me to do? What is God’s will for my life? How does God guide people? Many people over the centuries have spoken or written on the subject. Let me offer a few thoughts here as it applies to missions.

We oftentimes speak of a call to the ministry or to missions and that terminology has its place. God did give specific “calls” or directions to individuals in scripture. Abraham, Moses, Jeremiah, and Paul are good examples of this fact. But some such as Isaiah apparently volunteered to go. Others such as Daniel were taken to a foreign field because of military conquest. Still others went because of persecution (see Acts 11:19-20) and some of those seem to have voluntarily gone further than what they had to. So although God does seem to use a “call” for some, it is not universal. So let’s be careful that we don’t use a lack of a call as an excuse to not be involved in missions because **we do in fact have a command to follow**. I recently read the following on a website which can no longer find:

This whole business of asking for special calls to missionary work does violence to the Bible. There is the command, “Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.” We say, “That means other people.” There is the promise, “Come unto Me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest.” We say, “That means me.” We say we must have a special divine indication that we fall under the command, but we do not ask any special divine indication that we fall under the blessing. By what right do we draw this line of distinction between the obligations of Christianity and its privileges? By what right do we accept the privileges as applying to every Christian and relegate its obligations to the conscience of the few?

I find it interesting that although the Gospel of Matthew is meant for all of us as God’s people, it was originally written with the Jewish people in mind, to show them in a variety of ways such as fulfilled prophecy that Jesus is the Messiah. Matthew closes his gospel with the command of Jesus to go into all the world and to make disciples. Is Jesus repeating and emphasizing here something that God had been saying to the Jews throughout their history? God’s call in Genesis 12 to Abraham who is the father of our faith includes a statement (repeated 3 times in Genesis) that he would be “blessed to be a blessing to all the nations of the earth.” Psalm 67 repeats that theme. Isaiah speaks of God’s people as a “light to the nations” and a “light to the Gentiles.”

Perhaps rather than waiting for a “call” or saying we do not have a “call”, we would be far better off in our walk with the Lord to simply be obedient and take the initiative in a variety of ways to see that those near and far hear the good news of the gospel. After all, according to the Gospel of John, chapters 14 and 15, our love for God is measured by our obedience to His commands. Read those two chapters and then let the Holy Spirit lovingly evaluate your love for the Lord based on your obedience to His commands. It is so easy in our worship to sing, “I love You, Lord” but then not walk it out in our lives by being obedient to His commands which means change in our lives. I’m not saying it’s easy to do that. It isn’t. It means a heart change and we need the help and power of the Holy Spirit at work in our lives to bring about that change. Perhaps a way we can begin is by simply praying and continuing to pray, “Lord, give me a heart like Yours.” He will!

Ten Years on the field (cont. from page 1)
Ten years ago, we had studied a bit about missions and “stuck our big toe in” on some short-term trips, but now we understand a good bit more about this missions world. And we would like to encourage many of you to seriously consider the possibility of serving the Lord overseas. It is not for everyone, but we do feel many more are “called” than are responding. The needs and opportunities for Christian service around the world are just mind-boggling. There are still so many places where there is no viable Christian witness - so many places where people still have never met a Christian.

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Mission to Unreached Peoples (MUP) is an interdenominational agency helping people fulfill God’s call in evangelism and church planting; often through holistic, creative strategies such as tentmaking and community development.

We would like to hear from you. If you desire more information about MUP or any articles, please contact the editor at the address above.

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P.O. Box 30947, Seattle, WA 98103-0947.

Our Mission

Our mission is to obey the Great Commission of Jesus Christ by investing our lives, gifts, resources, and vocational skills in God’s work throughout Asia and Europe.



WEF
EFMA
AIMS

You might think that you could never be a missionary with all the training needed and the other rigorous requirements. Think again! Most of the original apostles were Galilean fisherman - not exactly graduates from some Jerusalem seminary. You are probably far more qualified than you think and the various skill set needed in missions is very, very broad.

Your age is not a barrier - we have a couple in their 80s serving in China and a number past retirement age in China and India. Your health is not a barrier. We have a blind woman serving in Japan. The size of your family is not a barrier. We have a family with eight children in Budapest and a number of other families with five or

more children. Your educational degree is not a barrier. We have both high school graduates and PhDs serving on the field.

Sometimes, our idea of missions is limited to Bible translation in the jungles somewhere or Bible school in the African plains or a Christian hospital in Asia. But really the world of missions is much, much broader than that. We encourage you to check out the website of our mission to see what current opportunities are available or call and talk to someone who is a missions mobilizer in our home office. Also check out other mission sites on the web or talk to your church’s missions’ committee or your local pastor to find out about other opportunities.

Luke 10 Outreach in Third Year

Do you want to experience more time than just a couple weeks overseas? Or maybe you know of someone who is interested in experiencing something like this. Modeled after the pattern of Luke 10:1-2, this will be Mission to Unreached Peoples’ third year of the Luke 10 Program. Going out two by two, Luke 10 is an internship program where students and young adults can experience and minister in different countries for 3-10 months beginning in August, 2003. Countries of travel include China, Thailand, Nepal, India, Turkey, Poland, and many others. This is a great opportunity for you to learn about missions, and use your individual gifts to minister and share the Gospel to the Unreached. Working alongside mentors, Luke 10 is a great opportunity to serve. The application deadline is May 15th! To learn more, visit <http://www.mup.org/luke10.htm> or call Beth at Mission to Unreached Peoples (1-888-847-6950) or email at mupinfo@mup.org

Short-Term Opportunities

Short-Term Ministry Opportunities in Europe, Asia and beyond! Mission to Unreached Peoples offers a vast array of opportunities to China, Thailand, Cambodia, India, Japan, Turkey, and Russia. Participants will be working closely with the field missionaries in the country to fulfill the field missionary’s individual ministry needs. Length of stay ranges from two weeks to three months. Costs of trips range from approximately \$1900-\$2900. For more details, visit our website at <http://www.mup.org/SummerOpp.htm>, call Sara at Mission to Unreached Peoples at 1-888-847-6950, or email at mupinfo@mup.org.

OPENINGS AND OPPORTUNITIES

BUSINESS TENTMAKERS

China, Turkic World

EVANGELISM/CHURCH PLANTERS

Asia, Eastern Europe, Turkic World

CERTIFIED TEACHERS

Asia, Eastern Europe, Turkic World

LANGUAGE STUDENTS

China, Turkic World

MEMBER CARE PERSON

Asia, Eastern Europe

PRAYER PARTNERS

Everywhere

SHORT-TERM COORDINATOR

Northern Thailand

PHYSICAL/OCCUP. THERAPISTS

India, China

TEAM WORKERS/DISCIPLERS

Cambodia, Thailand, Turkic World

TEFL/BUSINESS TEACHERS

China, Japan, Turkic World, others

WEBMASTER/SYSTEM DESIGN

Seattle, U.S.

YOUTH WORKER

Poland, Cambodia

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