



MISSION TO
Unreached Peoples

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The Unreached Peoples' ADVOCATE

NEWS ON GLOBAL EFFORTS TO REACH THE LEAST REACHED



Published by Mission to Unreached Peoples (MUP)

Fall 2005

Vol. 8, No. 2

The Unreached Peoples' ADVOCATE

News on Global Efforts to Reach the Least Reached

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Director's View



Light the fire again!

David Hupp,
U.S. Director

I was challenged recently by a series of stirring messages that asked some tough questions. I heard, "Is my heart 'dislocated' for the lost, for unreached peoples, and for God's purpose in my life and family. Am I still willing to risk it 'all' to follow him? Is Mission to Unreached Peoples as an agency of missionaries above all seeking to hear his voice? Are we willing to let God change us? And what levels of risk in following His leading are we comfortable with?"

Following the Lord and choosing to "step out" to fulfill God's clearly defined will always involves great personal and corporate risk and sacrifice. Does that fire still burn in us for Unreached Peoples?

I was reminded this week of a long-forgotten time when I was in the 8th grade. Now, that's a long time ago and I don't remember the exact details. But I do remember making a vow that I would not talk beyond minimum classroom participation so

that I could really focus on the basketball season. I'm not sure how that went, at least at home, but I was certainly serious about the vow. We had a good team and I remember an ambition that we would win all of our games. It was important to me. It was a focus and a goal. And while in looking back now I realize I didn't understand what drove me to do this, I knew enough to know that something that I wanted badly needed focus, commitment, and, yes, sacrifice.

Now, about 45 years later, that focus on a basketball season seems frivolous. But perhaps I need to remember that passion and commitment. In the following years, the Lord has challenged me with the cause of the Great Commission, unreached peoples, and the fulfillment that comes from following him. We've seen His hand work miracles in our lives and in Mission to Unreached Peoples. We're seeing unreached peoples come to the Lord and the Gospel going forth broadly in many fields. But I'm stirred to ask again of us all, "Is the fire burning brightly"? Do we want His way in our lives and ministries regardless of the cost? Are we willing to risk our "comfort zones" at His voice? I challenge myself and I challenge us all, taking the words of a current song to ask the Lord: "Don't let my love grow cold. I'm calling out; light the fire again. Don't let my vision die. I'm calling out; light the fire again."

How Is Your Vision?

Why do you do what you do? Why do our people on the field do what they do? Why does our office staff do what they do? Each of them could easily be doing something else. Many have come from other professions and given up much to work with Mission to Unreached Peoples in some way. Why? Many reasons could be given but one that surfaces frequently is that God has given them a vision in some way; a vision of how things could be different for a people group where very few have heard the gospel, where no churches exist, where there is no Bible in their language. The vision may have begun with seeing a need, asking a question, reading the



scriptures, receiving a word from the Lord, or seeing the lostness on peoples' faces while on a short term trip to some country. Visions begin in many ways. Check out the article on page two of this newsletter.

Read thoughtfully and prayerfully about one family who had a vision to reach a people group they became aware of high up in the mountains of a particular Asian country. The nickname they gave to this group

was "The Rainbow People". The vision started with an idea. Many obstacles had to be overcome but much prayer and plodding have resulted in the following:

"Finally, after one year, our translation team has nearly completed God's Story in the Rainbow language! Over the past year, God has provided us with an office, four committed Rainbow translators, experienced Bible translation consultants, and about 15 different non-Christian Rainbow people who came out to help us test the translation. Praise God for how He orchestrated everything!

God was truly working in the hearts of the Rainbow people, even as we tested the translation on them. After one of the testing sessions, I stopped by the office to say good-bye to our visitors. As I got up to leave, a 70 year old Rainbow man asked me if he could be baptized. I wasn't sure why he was asking me that. I thought, "Maybe he's

confused about Christianity after all the testing." So I asked him, "Do you believe in Jesus?" He said, "Yes!" "When did you believe?", I asked. He said, "Since I came here and learned about God." I was truly amazed. Here we were testing the translation, and this man was being convicted of sin! I then explained to him that being baptized wouldn't save him but his faith would and that being baptized is

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THIS ISSUE

Something to Think About:

"Missions exists because worship doesn't."

Quote by John Piper in his book, Let the Nations by Glad. John Piper is a prolific and great writer. Check out some of his other books such as Don't Waste Your Life, Desiring God, When I Don't Desire God, & A Godward Life.

OPENINGS AND OPPORTUNITIES

BUSINESS TENTMAKERS
 China, Turkic World

EVANGELISM/CHURCH PLANTERS
 Asia, Eastern Europe, Turkic World

CERTIFIED TEACHERS
 Asia, Eastern Europe, Turkic World

PROJECT MANAGER
 China, Mongolia

MEMBER CARE PROVIDERS
 Asia, Eastern Europe

PRAYER PARTNERS
 Everywhere

FINANCE DIRECTOR
 Seattle Office

PHYSICAL/OCCUP. THERAPISTS
 India, China

TEAM WORKERS/DISCIPLERS
 Cambodia, Thailand, Turkic World

TEFL/BUSINESS TEACHERS
 China, Japan, Turkic World, others

PERSONNEL DIRECTOR
 Nepal

**MEDICAL ADVISOR, PERS. DIR.,
 ENGLISH TEACHERS**
 Mongolia.

BIBLE COLLEGE TEACHER
 Mongolia

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Mission INSIGHTS

Finding Your Vision

The following is taken from the Sep/Oct 2005 issue of Momentum, a new emagazine edited by Justin Long. The emagazine's purpose is to build the ability to reach the least-reached one-fourth of our world. You can read the entire issue at www.momentum-mag.org/.

Does vision come in a flash – or is it something sought? Are you waiting for something; a vision, a dream, or even “writing on the wall” before you do something about the unreached? Here’s one take on actively searching for something you can do.

Do we need to have a vision before we reach out to those who have never heard of Jesus? Do we need to have some blinding, straight-from-heaven calling – like Paul’s encounter on the road to Damascus? We have Jesus’ command in the Great Commission. Is that enough? What is “vision,” anyway? Is “vision” something that can be actively sought rather than passively waited on? To get an answer to that question, start by looking the word up in a dictionary. There we discover that the word “vision” is used to mean a number of different things. First, it can mean “perception” or “eyes, eyesight, faculty, perceiving, perception, seeing, sight, view.” In other words, when we say “he has vision” one of the things we mean is “he has the ability to see.” People who are blind have no vision, no capacity for seeing. People who are “spiritually blind” cannot perceive spiritual things. People who are “blind to trends” are often caught unaware by new things that are happening in the world.

Second, a vision can be an “image.” In this sense, words we use for vision include “daydreams, fancies, fantasies,

foresight, ideas, ideals, imaginations, insights, intuitions, mental pictures, nightmares, and pipe dreams.” In other words, when we have “vision” we have the ability to “imagine.” Futurists and science-fiction authors often imagine things before they ever occur. For example, Leonardo da Vinci was a scientist and artist who lived in the late 1400s. He studied broadly and had sketches for helicopters, hang-gliders, bridges, machine guns, tanks, cluster bombs, a submarine, a car, and the use of solar power – long before any of these were practical.

A third meaning for vision can be an “apparition.” Other words we use for this include “apocalypse, illusion, oracle, phenomenon, presence, prophecy, revelation, or spirit.” Some of these words can have negative meanings, and some positive. Clearly, a vision can be a supernatural revelation, given to us either by God or the enemy. This is the “lightning bolt.”

So how do we seek a vision? Consider each of the options above. First, vision is about using our rational mind to see what is going on. We begin by reading the news, magazines, books and reports. We visit places and examine first-hand what is happening. We analyze trends happening over long periods of time. We use our minds to understand the situation: to “see” it.

This kind of analysis is Biblical and important. God endowed us with minds so that we could develop solutions to problems. When God gave plans for the construction of the tabernacle, He specifically called for people whom He had given skills to use their gifts to create beautiful things – the carvings and the like – with which to decorate it.

Second, we use our heart, our spirit,

(cont. from page 2 - Finding Your Vision)

our imagination to dream about what could be. We see the problems facing us – what kinds of solutions could be dreamed up? Have others faced similar problems, either today or even in the remote past? What kinds of solutions did they develop? What does that suggest for us today?

Looking rationally and imaginatively also applies to ourselves. What skills do we have? What are our passions? Our giftings? These things can give

The Unreached ADVOCATE
www.mup.org/AdvocateMain.htm
 September 15, 2005 / Vol. 8, No. 2

a newsletter on activities of
 Mission to Unreached Peoples and other
 mission efforts published by:

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Mission to Unreached Peoples (MUP) is an inter-denominational 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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 Mission to Unreached Peoples

SUBSCRIPTION: Printed copy is free upon request. The Advocate is also available electronically at the web address above. Let us know at mupinfo@mup.org and we’ll send you a reminder as each issue is published or we can send it to you as a pdf attachment.

MUP is a non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization. Tax-deductible donations to the general fund, designated missionaries, and projects are greatly appreciated and can be sent to: Mission to Unreached Peoples
 P.O. Box 30947, Seattle, WA 98113-0947

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.*



us an indication of what God’s plan for our life is. If we see a need that can be met by our skills, is it something we should take action on? We should at least be praying about it.

Using our imagination is Biblical. The word “imagination” is used numerous times in the Bible. Often we are warned that “as a man thinks in his heart, so is he” – but we are never told to stop thinking! As we seek after God and work to become more like Christ, our dreams will become more and more Christlike as well.

"Call to Me, and I will answer you, and I will show you great and mighty things, which you do not know." Jer. 33:3

(cont from page 1 - How Is Your Vision?)

a witness to others around him that he is choosing to follow Jesus. Since he was getting on the train to head back to his village in the evening, we decided to baptize him that afternoon before he left. Please pray that he will grow daily in his understanding of God and be a powerful witness to those around him.

Now we are beginning to make preparations for the distribution of God’s Story and are asking God to guide us in making the best use of this tool. Pray that we will develop a proper and effective method of follow-up and discipleship for seekers and new believers among this people group. We are asking God to raise up nationals to lead these new believers. In the meantime, we hope to continue with the translation work and would like to put the Jesus Film in the Rainbow language by next year.

Finally, we can pray for God to give us a revelation. It is very important that our spirit is focused on Him and His will, and that we check any revelation, vision or dream with the Bible, multiple wise counselors and with the other two aspects of vision. That’s how we know we are hearing the voice of God and not the voice of the enemy.

As we grow in knowledge, we can pray specifically for God to show us things to do. However, I don’t think we need to wait for a “bolt from the blue.” In Genesis 2 God gave mankind a mandate to steward the Earth; they didn’t wait for Him to give them step-by-step instructions. In Genesis 12, God promised Abraham that he would be a blessing; Abraham began acting on that promise right away. When we see something good to do, we should set about doing it immediately. As we are faithful in these first, little things, God will give us vision to do even more.

We desire to build a team to reach the Rainbow people because there is still so much to be done. We are asking God for a few bold individuals to join us. We are looking for language students, English teachers, community developers, linguists, and church planters.”

Could/would you be one of those they are looking for? Could/would you let God use you and your giftings in teaching, medicine, agriculture, business, language, etc for the furthering of the gospel? Do you have a vision? Will you ask the Lord to give you one that will last into eternity? Contact us and let us know what you think the Lord is saying. We would love to work with you in fulfilling your vision. We would love to put you in touch with others who have a similar vision.