

2013
SUMMER



Voice & Hands

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a word
from
Wayne



HCJB Global President

Dear Friends,

The contrast between spiritual light and spiritual darkness is quite stark in Thailand and many other parts of Asia. For more than 100 years missionaries have been working in this predominantly Buddhist country with little fruit. Suicide, sex trafficking and hopelessness are more prevalent than ever.

But now, radio and modern communication are multiplying the work of missionaries many times over. In fact, HCJB Global is driving an initiative to blanket Thailand with at least 100 radio Christian stations by 2020.

An HCJB Global radio trainer told me about the ministry of one of the stations north of Chiang Mai. A woman, financially destitute and spiritually desperate, called the pastor who was broadcasting at the time. "I'm going to hang myself," she said. "This is where you can find my body tomorrow."

But God had other plans.... The pastor asked her to come to the station so he could share the love of Jesus with her, and she did. Believing that what he shared was true, this precious woman gave her life to Christ. Several months later, our trainer went back to the same village. To her delight, she visited the pastor's church, and there was the woman, with a smile on her face and joy in her heart. She literally passed from death to life because God spoke to her through the local station.

That's the difference that radio is making in this challenging part of the world. But it only happens as people like you give so that others can hear. Please join us today in reaching the unreached and unengaged with the life-changing message of Christ.

Serving Him together,

Wayne

Wayne Pederson
President, HCJB Global

To learn more visit
www.hcjb.org

Optimism overcame skepticism a decade ago when Thai church leaders decided it was time for the national church to take responsibility of evangelizing their own country. Thailand, a predominately Buddhist country, is just 0.5 percent evangelical. Few residents have met a Christian or even heard the name of Jesus.

Undaunted, they set a goal to plant 80,000 churches nationwide, one in each district, by 2020. Eight businessmen then launched the Thailand Christian Radio Network, agreeing to start 100 community radio stations to complement the church leaders' vision.

Ten years later, the lofty goal no longer seems so far-flung. Thousands of churches have been planted along with 25 radio stations as HCJB Global has been helping with equipment, technical matters, training and ongoing mentoring.

The ministry of the current stations has prevented suicides, expanded local churches, strengthened families and taught preventive healthcare. But more importantly, they have launched the growing effort to blanket Thailand with the power of the gospel by 2020. Here's some of the impact the stations are having:

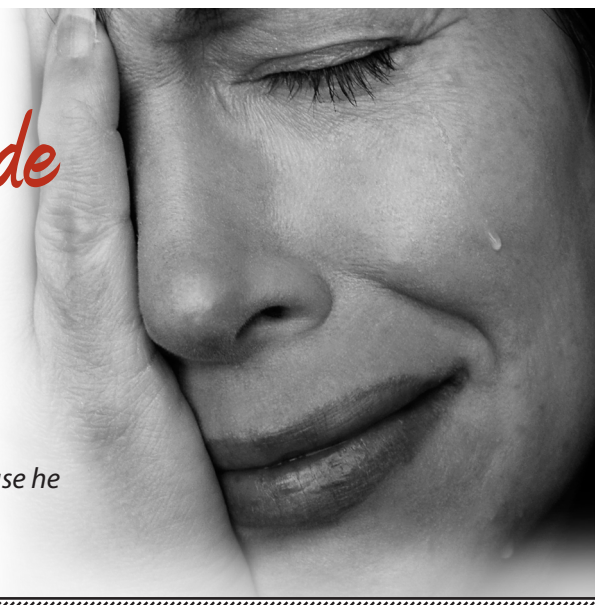
- A construction worker helping build a community radio station was so impressed with the acceptance he felt from the pastor that he brought his family to church where he and his entire family came to Christ.
- A Muslim listener called to say the broadcasts "changed his life."
- A teacher was so full of anger that her students were afraid of her. But after responding to the broadcasts, her demeanor changed, much to her pupils' delight.

Please give today. Your gift will help reach the nation of Thailand with the life-changing message of Jesus Christ.



Averting Suicide

*Christian Radio Making a
Difference Worldwide*



"Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you" (1 Peter 5:6-7, NIV).

Suicide Rates Worldwide

1 - Lithuania	35.6
2 - Russia	31.7
3 - South Korea	31.0
4 - Sri Lanka	30.7
5 - Belarus	28.8
6 - Guyana	26.2
6 - Kazakhstan	26.2
8 - Hungary	25.3
9 - Japan	24.7
10 - Latvia	24.1
40 - Canada	11.4
42 - U.S.	11.1
Worldwide average	10.1

*Source: World Health
Organization (deaths per
100,000; stats from 2011; 105
countries surveyed)*

"I was getting ready to commit suicide," explained *Manuel, who lives in Mexico near the U.S. border. "I had the noose prepared and was about to hang myself. I had no hope or motivation to live."

Like countless listeners in Manuel's situation, he did what he called a "rare thing." He turned on the radio and heard a Christian broadcast. "At that precise moment someone was speaking about the hope we have in Jesus," he shared. "This message touched my heart, and I didn't follow through with my plans to kill myself. Instead, I picked up the phone and called you. Now I listen every day because the programming inspires me to live and to have hope."

Similar stories have emerged from across all five of HCJB Global's regions. "Suicide is the result of hopelessness, and our world is becoming more hopeless by the day," explained Jim Allen, HCJB Global's pastor. "As people

see no way out, they are often driven to take the only way they know—ending it all.”

A suicidal listener in the West African country of Sierra Leone hears a message on the Believers Broadcasting Network in Freetown and gives his life to Jesus.

“
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In Indonesia man wants to kill himself after discovering someone had stolen his identity, running up a huge debt. A counselor leads him and his wife to Christ, and when they return home they find their debts are paid off.

A depressed listener in Russia gets daily encouragement from the broadcasts after choosing life.

A Thai woman wants to hang herself, but she agrees to talk to the radio pastor the next day. He leads her to Christ, she joins a church, and today her face radiates Jesus’ love.

A North African youth is suicidal after leaving his high-paying job and losing his friends and fiancée. Today he depends on broadcasts for guidance and hope.

“What a joy when God steps in to bring hope through a local radio partner,” Allen said. “These are miraculous stories of ‘accidental’ tuning in and hearing ... with amazing results.”

** Pseudonym used to protect the person’s privacy.*



VOICE ACTIVATED



OVERCOMING A COUP IN AFRICA

When rebels in the Central Africa Republic began raising havoc in mid-March, staff at HCJB Global partner Integrated Community Development International (ICDI) did what they'd done before. They moved the transmitters and other broadcasting equipment to the safety of the ministry's walled, guarded headquarters in the capital, Boali.

But this time was different. Heavily armed troops from Séléka, an alliance of militias, were orchestrating a violent coup that ousted President François Bozizé on March 24 and placed Michel Djotodia in power. Troops ransacked ICDI's headquarters, stealing generators, computers, radio equipment, vehicles, fuel and even mattresses, dishes and linens. Losses totaled more than \$300,000. Sadly, two sons of the ministry's 100-plus staff members were killed in the fighting, and four employees' homes were looted. Radio ICDI was forced off the air, and the ministry's water well drilling and maintenance program came to a standstill.

Yet not all was lost. God protected the shortwave station and many other facilities were untouched. Donors have given \$130,000 and three stolen vehicles were retrieved. CEO Jim Hocking traveled to CAR with \$10,000 worth of donated broadcast equipment from the HCJB Global Technology Center in Elkhart, Ind., to put the station back on the air.

"We're up to about eight hours of daily programming," Hocking explained. "Thankfully, there have been no repercussions from the new government. " Programs focus on community development and

the gospel message. The ministry has also resumed drilling water wells on the outskirts of the western town of Berberati. And the employees have offered to take a 35-percent pay cut, avoiding layoffs.

"We're thankful to be on the road and on the air again so we can minister to people," Hocking concluded. "Keep praying. Things in CAR are calmer, but the problems are far from over."





HOSPITAL SALE ANNOUNCED

The celebration was bittersweet in late May when the staffs of Hospital Vozandes-Quito and Radio Station HCJB along with expatriate missionaries learned that a buyer had been found for the facility.

For nearly 60 years, the hospital was operated by HCJB Global. But now, as the mission implements a new global healthcare strategy, the facility is moving into a new era of ministry under new ownership, committed to maintaining the Christian values and the heart for the poor that have been the cornerstone of HVQ since its founding in 1955.

Speaking in a packed auditorium May 31, Dan Shedd, Latin America regional director, revealed his initial doubts that a buyer would be found to meet the stiff requirements for a like-minded buyer. When the offer arrived earlier that month, Shedd said he sensed an abiding peace as board members unanimously approved the sale to Ginsberg Ecuador, S.A. He read aloud a letter from President Wayne Pederson stating that “the process of seeking a new owner has been disciplined, complete and bathed in prayer.”

Representing the new parent company, Marco Serrano pledged that the new owners would maintain Christ-centered care, chaplaincy services, medical education and help to Ecuador’s poor. Foreign missionaries have been invited to continue helping after the sale is completed next June.

As two screens portrayed HCJB Global’s ministry regions worldwide, Shedd listed countries where HVQ staff have already served on three continents. Recounting God’s guidance and protection of the Ecuador-based healthcare work, he sees a new era of global expansion.

“We must focus forward on the great work awaiting us—that of caring for the neediest people in Latin America and in other parts of the world,” Pederson added. “We believe that without the restrictions of managing a hospital, we will be more effective.”



Missionary Family Portrait

Lee & Michelle Sonius

Crisscrossing the Land

From the shores of New Jersey to the palm trees of California ... from the heartland of Missouri to the plains of Texas ... from the rolling hills of South Carolina to the beaches of Florida. What might sound like new lyrics for "This Land Is Your Land" is actually the partial itinerary for missionaries Lee and Michelle Sonius.

Lee, executive director of HCJB Global's Sub-Saharan Africa Region, and his family recently completed an 11-month home ministry assignment, speaking in churches, meeting with friends and family and raising support for their ministry in Ghana.

"One of our big problems is geographically how widespread our support is," Lee said. "However, you can't replace one-on-one contact." At one church he met a 94-year-old lady who said she prayed daily for his family.

Lee added that prayer support is critical as he and Michelle use their God-given leadership skills, working alongside dozens of radio and healthcare partners across this vast region. In some cases, broadcasts and medical ministries are making Christ known in areas with little or no Christian influence.



If God is calling you to partner with Lee and Michelle in helping fulfill the Great Commission, please visit www.hcjb.org and click on give/give to missionaries.

From a Brother in Africa

"I enjoy listening to your station all the time. There are great Bible studies to give people wisdom and strength. There is also wonderful music that talks about the greatness of our God. Whenever I can, I listen both in the morning and evening. Because of the excellent teaching and music on your station, I'm begging you to stay on the air. Through a specific message that you broadcast in 2008, I accepted Christ as my Savior. Because of this, my heart is now at peace."

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