

Vol. 11, No. 4 | Fall 2016

# VOICE & HANDS

SUMMER  
INTERNSHIP  
IN GHANA  
page 4

BATTLING  
SPIRITUAL  
OPPRESSION  
WORLDWIDE  
page 10

## VICTORY **AMID** CHALLENGES

reach  
beyond 



## INTRODUCING

# Steve Harling

I'm so honored to be able to write this greeting to you, our faithful partners, as together we work to reach untold thousands with the gospel—many for the first time.

A great spiritual adventure is ahead—an adventure that, by God's grace, will introduce more people to Jesus than we could ever ask or imagine. As I begin my new role with Reach Beyond, I want you to know some of the convictions that motivate me as I look to the future.

First, we need to inspire, mentor and mobilize a new generation of missional leaders who are willing to go to the ends of the earth to make Jesus known. I love pouring into young leaders who understand how important the Great Commission really is.

Second, we need to encourage local churches. I love seeing congregations get excited about missions, strategically involved in what God is doing in the world. As the former pastor of a couple of amazing churches, I am well aware

“

A great spiritual adventure is ahead—  
an adventure that, by God’s grace,  
will introduce more people to Jesus  
than we could ever ask or imagine.

of the incredible resources of creativity, energy, experience and skill that local churches can bring to the table!

Third, we need to focus on disciple-making. It’s what the Great Commission is all about. It’s the “why” behind everything we do. As I step into the leadership role at Reach Beyond, I hope and pray that these passions will continue to shape and influence the future of this incredible ministry as God enables.

Wayne Pederson has left his handprints on this ministry in ways that have positioned us to move into the future like never before. His wisdom, humility and strong leadership have prepared Reach Beyond to have increasing global impact for His kingdom. Please pray for him and his bride, Willi, as they transition into a new phase of life and ministry.

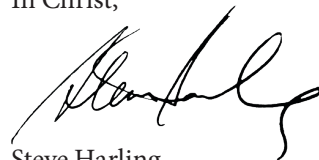
More than anything, I want to thank you. Completing the Great

Commission will only happen as we work together—all believers doing their specific parts whether it’s giving, praying, going or leading. The role you play is the fuel that keeps the ministry moving forward.

As I grow in the position, I want us to take this journey together. I need your prayers, and be assured, you have mine.

I look forward to the day when I can thank many of you face-to-face for all you do to serve Jesus and make Him known. In the meantime, thank you, and may God bless you for everything you do to share His love with those who have never had a chance to meet Him.

In Christ,



Steve Harling  
President, Reach Beyond 



While this summer's interns in Ghana were younger and fewer in number than in the past, their flexibility, work ethic and heart for the Ghanaian people more than compensated for any lack of experience.

In four weeks this July, the *Akoma Ntoso* (Linked Hearts) interns worked alongside 10 additional team members, seeing over 1,800 patients in 12 villages, conducting medical screenings and treating maladies ranging from malaria to high blood pressure.

They served alongside local pastors and partner Theovision—an organization that translates and records the Scriptures in hundreds of African languages—to share the hope of salvation in Christ.

“We had another wonderful group of interns this year—perhaps the two youngest (recent high school graduates Parker Bamback and Zachary Harbin) we’ve ever had—but they were up to the task and did a great job of adapting to a very new life experience,” noted missionary physician Dr. Steve Nelson who serves at Reach Beyond’s Hospital Vozandes-Quito in Ecuador.

“We also had three other students (Grace Hayes, Sarah Larson and Morgan Kruse) who were further along in their medical careers, and everybody fit together nicely,” Nelson added. “In fact, our second-year Ecuadorian family practice medical resident (Dr. Gabriela Quingalombo) also melded nicely with the interns.”

# SUMMER INTERNSHIP

## IN GHANA

### A Transformational Experience

“It was a highlight to see how the interns grew in their abilities to relate to one another and, more importantly, to see them become more confident and comfortable in interacting with the Ghanaians,” added missionary physician Dr. Joe Martin. “It was great to see how intentional many of the interns were in sharing Christ and wanting to help the people.”

Hayes, a biology student and volleyball player at Geneva College in Beaver Falls, Pa., said in a school press release that the internship was grueling but rewarding. Team members spent a week in each of four areas of the country, setting up free temporary clinics, seeing 100 to

150 patients a day, sleeping in hotels and traveling via dirt roads.

Hayes focused on taking vital signs for patients, educating Ghanaians on how to take their medicine and assisting the three doctors. “We would usually work until about 4 p.m., and then we would drive back

to the hotel, eat dinner and then have a Bible study or debriefing time before going to bed,” she explained.

“My favorite part of the trip was sitting with the doctors and shadowing

them,” Hayes continued. “They were really knowledgeable, very willing to teach us and tell us things that we wouldn’t have known otherwise. They really involved us in the patient care.”



She said it was encouraging to work with Theovision which has started Bible-listening clubs nationwide.

“Each night they would play a chapter of the Bible and discuss it,” she said. “We got to attend one of those which was really cool.”

Larson, a nursing student at North Park University in Chicago, said her favorite memory was praying with the mothers of children who had high fevers due to malaria. One Ghanaian pediatrician said the average child in Ghana has malaria about 10 times a year.

She added that prayer was a recurrent theme throughout the internship. “I got to pray with at least two patients a day, and I got to experience the powerful spirituality of the locals as well.”

Sometimes the team encountered patients with more serious diseases such as the Buruli ulcer, prompting additional prayer. Although fairly common in the region and relatively easy to treat, the remedy is time-consuming,

and some patients arrived having dealt with open ulcers for years.

“With each case it was easy to feel hopeless as there was no guarantee they would go to the specialist or be able to pay for the treatment,” Larson said. “Each time, though, we gathered and prayed for a long time for their health and wisdom in what to do next.”

“THOUGH WE OFFERED MEDICAL HELP TO THESE PEOPLE, THEY HAD SO MUCH TO OFFER US IN HOW TO LIVE FOR CHRIST.”

Larson added that the experience transformed her worldview on treating people holistically. “Though we offered medical help to these people, they had so much to offer us in how to live for Christ,” she said. “You may not always know what to do in regards to medicine, the new culture or what to say, but if you let yourself live and love humbly—letting God lead—He will do much more through you than you could have ever done on your own.”

## BE AN INTERN

If you or someone you know has a passion for serving and is seeking an awesome, exciting summer internship, check out Reach Beyond's programs for 2017. Visit [reachbeyond.org/go/internships](http://reachbeyond.org/go/internships) or contact Andy Mazzella at [amazella@reachbeyond.org](mailto:amazella@reachbeyond.org). Application deadline is March 1.

# serve the lost

**S**omeone once told me that Scottish missionary John Keith-Falconer was afraid to give his whole life to Christ because he was afraid God would send him to Africa. As he grew in his faith and passion for Jesus, guess what...God did send him to Africa! Despite difficult conditions, he never regretted his decision to go.

That may not be true for you. Not everyone is called to go. But some are prompted to go and serve those who have never heard the name of Jesus.



## FOR MORE INFORMATION

visit [reachbeyond.org/go](https://reachbeyond.org/go)  
or contact Reach Beyond at [jking@reachbeyond.org](mailto:jking@reachbeyond.org)

“I have but one candle of life to burn, and I would rather burn it out in a land filled with darkness than in a land flooded with light.”

— John Keith-Falconer

---

## Here are some questions for you to explore:

- ① *Does the idea of being in remote lands among new people spark your imagination?*
- ② *Are you saddened when you hear about people who have never heard the gospel?*
- ③ *Are you tired of the status quo and want to make your life count for eternity?*

If you answered “yes” to any of these questions, God may be tugging at your heart to reach out to the lost people of the world. We invite you to prayerfully consider how God can use you to share the love of Jesus with others who have never heard His name.

---



**T**he tiny West African nation of Benin seldom makes the news. Most North Americans would have trouble finding it on a map. It's a nation lost in obscurity—except to God.

Benin is also among the poorest nations on earth. On a typical day during the dry season, temperatures exceed 90 degrees F, water wells often dry up, and the only hope of finding drinkable water is a miles-long journey to bug-infested watering holes or to see if the surrounding villages have any water to spare.

Seke, a believer serving with Reach Beyond partner *Soleil d'Espoir* (Sun of Hope), was determined to bring help to such a village. But he was warned

in advance that the community was entirely Muslim and would not accept help from a Christian.

Undaunted, Seke resolved to do whatever he could regardless of the potential risks, knowing the community's need for both physical water and Living Water.

On a sweltering summer day, Seke ventured into the village along with one of the local residents. As is tradition, they offered him “welcome water,” a gift to provide refreshment from the hot, dusty road. Just one problem—the welcome water was filthy, bacteria-riddled liquid from a nearby watering hole. But it was from the only source of water they had.



Most people would have rejected the cup, knowing the consequences of drinking it. But not Seke. With gratitude, he sat with the villagers and drank the polluted water.

This simple act of faith opened the door for Seke to bring transformational change to these people. At first he befriended a young man in the village.


"I WANT  
TO WORSHIP  
THAT SAME  
GOD."

Eventually he was introduced to the village elders and became a welcomed guest in the community. It was obvious to the villagers that he genuinely cared for them.

Within several visits, Seke was able to share some audio recordings with the people, introducing

the gospel message and discussing with them what they heard. At the same time, he and his ministry, using funds supplied by Reach Beyond, began to dig wells that would address the village's need for access to clean water.

Today the women of the village no longer journey miles for polluted water. They don't worry about how to bathe their children, clean their dishes or wash their clothing. Now they only have to walk a few yards to a well that yields a steady supply of crystal-clear, clean water, and it will for years to come.

There are many more details to this story. But the response of one of the villagers says more than another 1,000 words could tell. He said, *"If there is a God who put so much love in Seke's heart that he would come here doing this for us, then I want to worship that same God as the only one."* 

## FUND CLEAN WATER

To help fund a clean water well for people in countries such as Benin, Burkina Faso, Ghana and Ecuador, visit [reachbeyond.org](http://reachbeyond.org).



# SPIRITUAL WARFARE: BATTLING SPIRITUAL OPPRESSION WORLDWIDE

by Sheila Leech, vice president  
of global healthcare

**T**he medical clinic in the small Ghanaian village was running smoothly. Registration beneath the trees was going efficiently as doctors examined patients, made diagnoses and prescribed medications.

I smiled to myself, *This was going to be a good day on our annual summer internship program.*

Then an ear-splitting shriek alarmed everyone present. A young woman was

writhing on the ground, apparently suffering from an epileptic seizure. Two Ghanaian pastors who were assisting the medical team stood above her, speaking loudly. *What was happening?* I wondered.

“Scenes like this are not uncommon in West Africa,” the pastors told us later. They deal routinely with demonic activity. For our North American interns, this was a perturbing incident. At our daily debrief,



**“Fear can paralyze believers, rendering them powerless by taking over their minds and gripping their hearts, keeping them from doing God’s work.”**

we carefully walked through what had happened, getting insight from our pastor colleagues and a biblical perspective on what we’d witnessed.

The troubled young woman was brought to the pastors by her mother, believing she was possessed by an evil spirit. The pastors discerned this was the case and prayed in Jesus’ name for the demon to leave. Later we learned that the woman got up and prayed with the pastors before quietly, calmly returning home.

*Wow. West Africa is weird!* I thought, remembering the biblical accounts of Jesus and His disciples casting

out demons. *I’m glad we don’t really have that stuff in the West.*

On further reflection, I recognized that we also confront spiritual opposition across the developed world. That opposition may manifest itself in different ways in different places as we have a common enemy—Satan. He and his minions are intent on opposing and destroying the works of God.

At Reach Beyond we’re often made aware of the enemy’s attacks. Recently in one of our regions the very day our IT person left for vacation, the

whole system controlling the automatic uploads for the radio programs went down amid mysterious circumstances.

I later learned that equipment breakdowns and malfunctions like this happen much more often than they normally should. It’s hardly surprising since hundreds of thousands of people hear about Jesus each week via our broadcasts in one of the world’s least-reached areas.

Such spiritual opposition may be more subtle in the West: mistrust, division and interpersonal conflict among team members and churches. Burnout, stress, physical illness, depression, discouragement



and despair may also be evidence of spiritual opposition.

casts out all fear”  
(1 John 4:18). When we understand the magnitude and power of God’s love, we cease to live in fear, trusting a loving heavenly Father.


Missionaries are also susceptible to Satan’s attacks. Many serve on the “front lines”—some in isolation. What better way to render a missionary impotent than through discouragement and depression? That’s when they’re most vulnerable to the devil’s lies: *You’re wasting your time here. You can’t even speak the language well. Your teammates don’t like you. Your kids are a mess. Why don’t you go home?*

What can we do in the face of the enemy’s attacks? Ephesians 6 tells us about the spiritual armor God has given each of us to wear daily as protection. We must take God’s promises and believe them, trusting that God hears and answers our prayers. Like Job, we don’t always know what God is doing, but we trust Him.

Satan also demoralizes God’s people by propagating fear—fear of terrorism, economic collapse, violence, war and the future. Fear can paralyze believers, rendering them powerless by taking over their minds and gripping their hearts, keeping them from doing God’s work.

When we despair and our prayers seemingly go unanswered, we should remind ourselves that there are battles in the “heavenly places.” I’m reminded of how Daniel cried out to God for his nation, waiting for His answer (Daniel 9). God had responded immediately and sent a messenger, but he was delayed because of a strong battle in the heavenlies.

In the Bible we’re commanded 365 times, “Do not fear”—once for every day of the year. God’s strategy against fear is love because “perfect love

We know that the battle may rage, but Jesus has already won the victory at Calvary. We stand against a defeated foe. Satan is vanquished! Jesus is Lord! 

# IMPACT ON LISTENERS

**“S**o faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ”  
(Romans 10:17, NASB).


Radio seems so “yesterday” in our culture, but in today’s fast-changing world, radio broadcasts can often be accessed online or via your smart-phone just by downloading an app.

Here’s a recent example of a letter from a listener in an undisclosed country of Central Asia who responded to a program he heard online:

*I was Muslim, not because I pray five times a day, but because I was born in this country. Almost my whole life I thought that was right. But I had some questions: Why must I be a Muslim? Why is my family telling me that I have to attend Friday prayers? Why must my people be Muslims only?*

*Once when I was seeking some answers to my questions, I found the link to your service, and I heard a program about where your heart is now.*

*Even now, after some time, I still remember every word of this program! I’ve found where my heart is. I’ve found the truth. You are great guys. My heart is ready to burst from my chest when I listen to your radio programs. God bless you!*

Because of your prayers and investment, millions of people in unreached parts of the world are able to hear what this man heard. Radio broadcasts can make an eternal difference in listeners’ lives because God can use them to reach people’s hearts. 

**PRAY**



Uphold the many who find Christ through Christian broadcasts in security-sensitive countries, especially if it means facing persecution from their families and communities. Pray that they would be bold in sharing their faith and find others with whom they can worship.

# —young NōMADS with a —purpose

by Ben and Lottie

**W**hen Dad first suggested the idea of the whole family going with him on a medical team to Central Asia in August, we were a bit apprehensive. You don't hear much good news from the countries that end in "stan." However, we've both lived overseas in Ecuador where our parents served with Reach Beyond. And we're both used to traveling, so curiosity got the better of us and we said, "Yes!"

However, this was our first time inside a *closed* country, yet we found that the people to be *open and friendly*. One of the highlights of our time was interacting with the kids while their parents saw the doctors. In addition to doing crafts and games, we taught them about handwashing using glitter and fake flies!

At the end of our stay we learned during the debrief time that the children's work had really helped build bridges with the community and reduced the fears that kids had about doctors. We also noticed that



the older children were treating the younger ones much better than when we first arrived. It made us realize that although we only spoke a few words of Russian, play and love are international languages. Now we understood more about how you can share about God's kingdom even before you open your mouth.

We also helped the nurses by weighing the patients and measuring their heights. The adults on the team were so much fun and inclusive, helping us feel part of the work. The clinic buildings where the medical team served were very basic and had no running water or proper toilets. We saw people arriving with illnesses that could be treated

very easily back home. Experiencing all of this is making us think about what we should do with our lives.

Another highlight was the day we went to the mountains with the local believers. We made traditional food and spent the day living like nomads in *yurts* (round tents covered with skins or felt and used as dwellings by nomads). It was so humbling to

spend time with the locals, getting to know about their lives and helping with their projects rather than doing *our* projects. Mum and Dad say that's what partnership is all about.

By the end of our time in Central Asia we really didn't want to leave. It already felt like home! The people, the food, the mountains, the children, the needs—these will stick in our minds forever. We're so glad we spent part of the summer being nomads with a purpose.

Ben and Lottie's parents serve with Reach Beyond-UK, coordinating community development projects in the Europe/Eurasia Region. 🚩

“...play and love are international languages.”

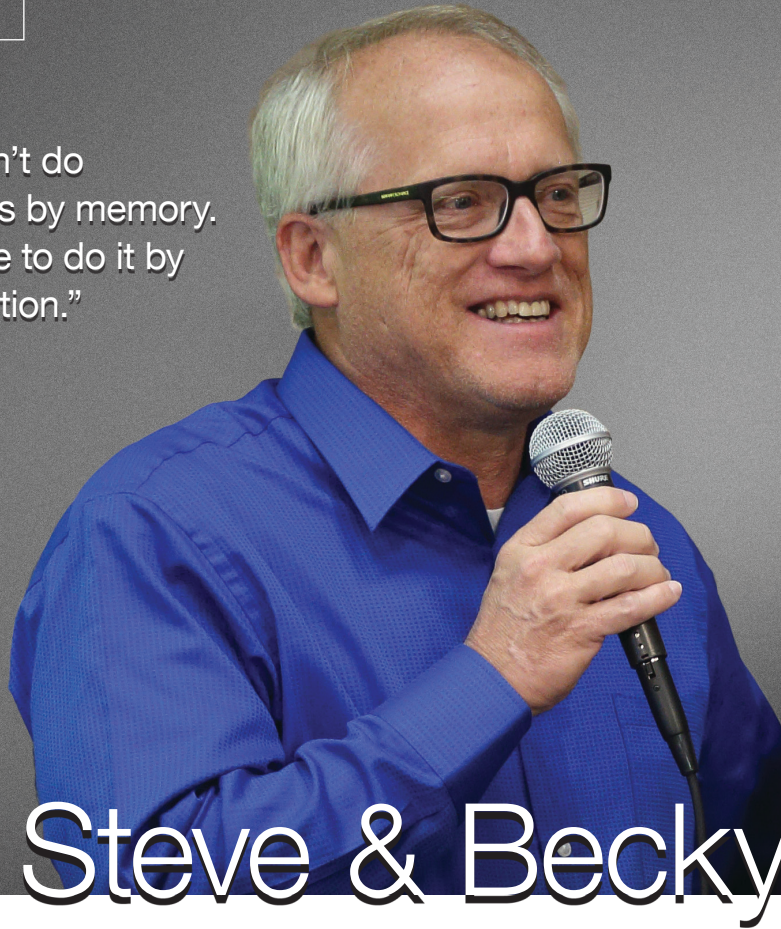
### get involved



Consider serving on a short-term team in Central Asia or some other country in the world such as Nepal or Ecuador. For more information contact Andy Mazzella at [amazella@reachbeyond.org](mailto:amazella@reachbeyond.org).



“We can’t do missions by memory. We have to do it by imagination.”



# Steve & Becky

**R**eaching those who have never heard the gospel is literally woven into Steve Harling’s DNA, dating back two generations.

“My grandparents were missionaries in Africa for 40 years. My parents carried on with that legacy, and most of my childhood was spent in Nigeria,” shared Steve.

In 1925 Steve’s grandparents received a call from the Lord to devote their lives to sharing Christ with an unreached tribe of primitive headhunters. On a number of occasions, that calling almost cost them their lives.

The chief spirit worshiped by the Tangale tribe was the god of fertility and rain. One year the rainy season was late in coming. The fields were parched; food was scarce. Early one morning, Steve’s grandmother was met at the door of their pan-roofed hut by an army of naked warriors with spears in their hands. The leader told her, “Your bright roof has offended our god, and that is why the rains have not come.”

“Fearing for her life, my grandmother asked for a few hours that she might pray to her God,” Steve recounted. “Later that afternoon, there was an incredible downpour. The





headhunters marveled, ‘Could it be that the God of the missionaries is more powerful than the spirits we worship?’ That rain shower was one of the early spiritual breakthroughs that ultimately led to the formation of a powerful church composed of thousands of vibrant believers.’

For Steve and his wife, Becky, this story and many others like it helped to shape their view of God’s faithfulness and their passion for taking the gospel to all peoples.

The Harlings have an unrelenting passion to reach the lost and train

others to do the same. From serving as missionaries in Sudan to pastoring churches in North America, participating on mission boards and mentoring young leaders, Steve and Becky now bring that calling to Reach Beyond.

“It’s exhilarating to see what God is doing in the world today,” shared Steve. “To be at this point of history is an extremely exciting time. What will it take to finish the Great Commission? Humility on the part of the Western Church, a commitment to radical partnership and a willingness to make tough decisions on the reallocation of resources to reach the unreached.”

“We can’t do missions by memory. We have to do it by imagination,” he commented. “There are over 86 countries that have placed restrictions of mission activity. We need to get creative and be willing to take risks for the gospel. One of the things that drew me to Reach Beyond was the legacy of bold faith.”

Since 1931 Reach Beyond has been taking the good news to the furthest reaches of the planet. Steve is the eighth president in a line of courageous visionary leaders who have served tirelessly to help complete the Great Commission. 🏁

## PRAY



Join us in welcoming and praying for Steve and Becky as they lead Reach Beyond into the mission’s next era of ministry. May the work we all do together serve to help reach everyone on earth, and may the Lord return soon!

# news

## WAYNE PEDERSON: AN 8-YEAR LEGACY

*Wise. Humble. Courageous. Gracious. Visionary.* These are just some of the words that describe Wayne Pederson's leadership of Reach Beyond during the last eight years. Pederson expanded the mission's global reach, helped the 85-year-old organization to become more "nimble," and more importantly developed media and healthcare partnerships that continue to make an eternal difference for God's kingdom. Pray for Pederson and his wife, Willi, as they enter a new phase of life, ministry and family. *Thank you, Wayne. May God bless you for the countless lives you have touched. Only eternity will reveal the full impact of your life and ministry.* 📌



## LAUSANNE YOUNG LEADERS GATHERING HELD IN INDONESIA

Matt Parker, director of new media for the Latin America Region, and Joseph Kebbie, a radio trainer in the Sub-Saharan Africa Region, had the opportunity to attend the Lausanne Young Leaders Gathering 2016 in Jakarta, Indonesia, this summer. This was the third such event convened by the Lausanne Movement. Previous gatherings were held in Singapore in 1987 and Malaysia in 2006. "I considered this to be a once-in-a-lifetime experience that I would have not missed," Kebbie said. "The willingness of the older generation to mentor the next generation to be world influencers in all aspects of life using our Christian values is greatly appreciated. This conference gave us as younger leaders the challenge to influence our households, our communities, our nations, and more importantly, our world in a positive direction." 📌

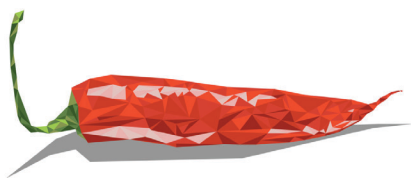


## TEEN CONFERENCE FOCUSES ON RELATIONSHIP BOUNDARIES

More than 450 teens filled Radio Station HCJB's Larson Center in Quito, Ecuador, earlier this summer for a conference sponsored by Control Z, Reach Beyond's web platform aimed at Spanish-speaking young people. The event focused on relationship boundaries—a timely subject in light of the teen pregnancy rate that has increased dramatically in Ecuador in recent years. The event featured special speakers, praise music and a panel that answered questions which had been submitted via the ministry's website ([controlz.fm](http://controlz.fm)). The conference emphasized setting priorities, putting God first followed by family, the church and others. "What an amazing conference!" exclaimed Matt Parker. "We have reached a point where we feel led to continue the outreach to teens in a more personal way." 📌

## CHILI LAUNCHES IN ECUADOR

Reach Beyond launched the Community Health Intercultural Learning Initiative (CHILI), a two-year training program, on Thursday, Sept. 1, with five students. Based in the jungle community of Shell, Ecuador, the program began with six months of hands-on studies in community development. Participants are learning, for example, how to make tippy taps—simple handwashing devices suitable for remote villages. The training will be followed by 1½ years of practical experience in countries that are less than 2 percent evangelical. "It's exciting to see the potential of these candidates as they crawl under a car, spend time in God's Word and work on team-building skills—all during their first week of CHILI," said Sheila Leech, vice president of global healthcare. "They're young, gifted and enthusiastic, ready for what God has for them. I believe CHILI will produce outstanding, well-prepared kingdom workers who will really impact the world." 📌



# CHILI

*Devotional Thoughts:*

# A Wondering Eunuch

by Theresa With, Reach Beyond

**I**t must have been a lazy, hot day as the eunuch from Ethiopia traveled along the desert road from Jerusalem to Gaza (Acts 8:26-40). But his mind wasn't on the heat. He was both intensely enthralled and puzzled by the words he was reading from the book of Isaiah the prophet.

Then, as if out of nowhere, Philip appeared next to him. "Do you understand what you are reading?" he asked the eunuch. "How can I, unless someone instructs me?" he replied.

Ah, therein lies the rub to the story. Nobody within the eunuch's sphere of influence or daily living believed in a God like the one he was reading about in Isaiah. Who would go to him to explain the Scriptures? Who would reach him with this message of the good news?

God in all His wisdom, grace and love that propelled Jesus to the cross, sent Philip that day to reach the eunuch. Through his obedience and going, the

eunuch understood, was saved and baptized—all in the same afternoon!

---

Who would go to him to explain the Scriptures?

Who would reach him with this message of the good news?

Today there are millions of lost "eunuchs" around the world, waiting to hear the good news, waiting to be reached with the transforming love of Jesus.

Reach Beyond is committed to making the gospel message accessible to them, using the resources of media, medicine and mentoring. The ministry is equipped to serve as "voice and hands" of Jesus to those who have not yet heard about Him.

*We are the "Philips" of today.*