

VOL. 14 NO.4

# SERVING THROUGH WINNE DO VOICE AND HANDS STRATEGIES

WHY WE DO VOICE AND HANDS STRATEGIES TOGETHER TO REACH THE UNREACHED

Bible



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## We want to be more like Jesus

Dear friend of Reach Beyond,

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Gospel writers tell us that a 'great crowd' was following after Jesus as he passed through Jericho. In the midst of all the excitement and hullabaloo, Jesus spotted a short guy sitting on a branch up in a sycamore tree. Zacchaeus was a tax-collector. Despised and distrusted by the law-abiding people in the crowd, Zacchaeus was an 'outsider.' But he was curious about Jesus. Some of the people in the crowd got pretty rattled when Jesus stopped and talked to Zacchaeus. They got even more bent-out of shape when Jesus stopped by the tax collector's house for tea. Zacchaeus was a 'sinner.' Saints aren't supposed to talk to sinners.

Along that same road, there was a blind beggar named Bartimaeus. When he heard that Jesus was about to pass by, he loudly yelled, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" The people in the crowd rebuked him and told him to be quiet. But he cried out all the more. Amazingly, Jesus noticed his voice above the noisy commotion. He immediately stopped and commanded, "Call him here." A handful of guys went over to the blind beggar and said, "Cheer up. He's calling you." Throwing off his coat, Bartimaeus sprang up and came to Jesus. When Jesus asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?" the blind man replied, "Rabbi, I want to see." Jesus said to him, "Go your way; for your faith has made you well." Immediately, Bartimaeus recovered his sight and followed after Jesus.

## "And Jesus answered them,..."

"And Jesus answered them, 'Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance.'"

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There were three kinds of people along the Jericho road:

- 1. There were the tax collectors and blind beggars. They were real people with real feelings, thoughts and longings. They looked to Jesus for help.
- 2. There were the people in the crowd. They were fans of Jesus; loved His teachings and thought His miracles were cool. They considered themselves followers of Jesus, but they were oblivious to the Zacchaeus' and Bartimaeus' beside the road. Even worse, they judged hurting people and treated them as if they were a distraction.
- 3. Lastly, there was Jesus. He noticed the 'outsiders.' He heard the desperate voices of the lost and broken, above the din of the crowd. When he heard those cries, he stopped, gave His full attention, and took action. The guys who followed Jesus' command to call Bartimaeus joined Jesus in His mission and became participants in His miracles of transformation.

### "We want to stop and give our full attention to those in need. We want to be like Jesus."

I suppose that there's a bit of Zacchaeus and Bartimaeus in all of us. We all have great needs that only Jesus can meet. There's also something of 'the crowd' within each of us. We can easily be put off by the overwhelming neediness and brokenness in our world. Yet hopefully, we all want to be a little more like Jesus. We want to hear the cries and notice the longings. We want to stop and give our full attention to those in need. We want to be like Jesus.

Thank you for praying and giving toward the people and projects of Reach Beyond. Your sacrifice and generosity enables our people to be the voice and hands of Jesus among those living in some of the world's most needy and broken places. When you give, you become a participant in countless miracles of transformation.

In this edition of V+H Magazine, you'll read about some of the great ways that our teams are reaching out to the Zacchaeus' and Bartimaeus' of this world. Thanks for joining with us!

You are Loved,

Steve Harling President



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# GLOBAL SNAPSHOTS

#### WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE MINISTRY

#### AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND

Reach Beyond Australia and Reach Beyond New Zealand, along with its international partners, are collaborating to develop a new internet radio ministry to the people of Pakistan.

Set to launch in mid-October, Sachai Radio is the brainchild of Reach Beyond New Zealand's Bob Arend.

This Urdu language radio station will broadcast the message of Jesus Christ to the people of Pakistan directly to their mobiles phones, computers and smart TVs.

"Sachai Radio is an app-based radio station which utilizes a completely cloud-based server and station infrastructure," said Bob. "Anyone with an internet connection and a device like a tablet, smart phone and even smart TVs can listen to this radio station. It's like traditional radio, but on the internet."

Urdu is the national language of Pakistan. It is also spoken in parts of India, Bangladesh, Nepal and the Middle East. In Pakistan alone, there are 100 million Urdu speakers from 290 people groups.

A joint project between Reach Beyond New Zealand and Australia, along with Pakistan's Gospel Youth Mission, Sachai Radio's programs will originate in Pakistan but will stream from New Zealand. Gospel Youth Mission is especially known in the Faisalabad region for its sports evangelism programs, featuring 'Kabaddi' tournaments (a popular local game). Through this program, many have come to know Jesus Christ and His unconditional love for them.

Beyond sports and broadcasting, Gospel Youth Mission also actively reaches out through children's Sunday school programs, live drama, village video screenings, and a Bible literacy correspondence program.

"Cloud based and app-based radio is making it possible to spread the Gospel to areas that are culturally and politically difficult to access. All you need is the app," said Bob.



Please pray for this exciting new joint initiative, as it is hoped that many more Christian internet radio stations will utilize this cost-effective method of broadcasting.

#### CANADA

This past June, Reach Beyond Canada's Proclaim His Word (PHW) studio team travelled to Northern Iraq in the Kurdish region for two purposes. One was to meet the people who have been watching our programs through ANB Satellite, and the other was to serve the physical needs of the Syrian refugees there.

Reach Beyond Canada was warmly welcomed. Our volunteer, Pastor Dankha Koshaba, preached at an event that hosted about 500 people, including refugees who were bused in from the nearby camps. The Holy Spirit was present, and we thank God that 77 people stood up and gave their lives to Christ! We handed out food kits to the refugees, containing basic needs such as rice and beans. We were able to give food to 210 families over the course of the trip. We only wish we had more to give out.

Our PHW team met with many people who recognized our on-screen speakers and informed us that they have been watching our Arabic and Assyrian programs on a

#### PSALM 96:3 (NKJV)

"Declare His glory among the nations,..."

"Declare His glory among the nations, His wonders among all peoples."



The Canadian team handed out food kits and solar-powered audio Bibles during an event in Northern Iraq to serve Syrian refugees.

regular basis. We were also able to establish a partnership with Ishtar TV, who will be broadcasting our programs through their TV station worldwide. Our PHW team was interviewed on this station and had people calling in from Egypt, Lebanon and more.

Praise God for these advancements for bringing Jesus' love and message into the Middle East.

#### ECUADOR AND SPAIN

After months of prayer and paperwork, we celebrate the creation of two new independent legal entities: *Voz y Manos* (Voice and Hands) in Ecuador, and *Misión Evangélica Puentes de Vida y Esperanza* (Bridges of Life and Hope Evangelical Mission) in Spain.

As the world becomes more complicated with tighter regulations on how you can send and receive workers, Reach Beyond has been looking to expand options in key areas of the world. These new entities will create more opportunities as we work together to proclaim and demonstrate the Gospel among the unreached.

In Ecuador, Voz y Manos will help us mobilize and send Ecuadorian missionaries wanting to serve internationally. We rejoice at what God is doing in the Latin American Church and through the legacy we have in Ecuador. We are excited to see how God is building on that legacy and sending the next generation of missionaries from Ecuador. Ecuadorians are particularly poised for fruitful ministry among Muslim and Arabic populations. Because of Arabic influences on the Spanish language and culture, Latin Americans can more easily assimilate, learn Arabic and gain access to serve.

The new *Puentes* organization can now receive missionaries in Spain. As other global missionary organizations are establishing themselves in Spain, this Spanish entity will give Reach Beyond opportunities for greater collaboration overseas.

While international law might not be the most exciting part of doing missions, we are thankful for the doors that God continues to open and the way He is preparing us for future work.

#### ENGLAND

In addition to sending missionaries and resources overseas to reach the unreached, Reach Beyond UK also has a thriving ministry at home in Bradford, England. The Millside Centre provides tools and programs for the community's vulnerable population, including many refugees and unreached people.

This summer, the Centre provided their first ever summer program for children and young people. The Millside Summer Mix offered five weeks of food, fun and creativity, designed especially for kids who receive free school meals and would go without during the summer break. Events included "cook and eat" workshops, dance sessions, arts and crafts, youth cafe, creative writing and radio production.

Other programs also included personal coaching for women who have experienced domestic violence, a mentorship and support group for men and various family programs. They also offered English language clubs, help with resumes and employment skills, and refugee and asylum seeker support from the British Red Cross.

### Welcome to the Millside Centre

The Millside Centre, located on the first floor of the Reach Beyond UK office building, serves underserved populations in the Bradford area, including many unreached people groups.



These new entities will create more opportunities as we work together to proclaim and demonstrate the Gospel among the unreached.





Top photo: The team helped repurpose pallets into benches, to make waiting in the long food lines more comfortable for the women. Bottom photo: In the midst of so much pain and frustrating in the camp, the team was able to stop and celebrate a birthday for one of the young food volunteers.

#### GREECE

In July, a team from Reach Beyond went to the Greek island of Lesbos to minister in the Moria refugee camp. The team was a unique mixture of people coming together for a singular purpose: to serve and love unreached people living through tragic circumstances. Yet, among the uncertainty, frustration and boredom in the camp, the Lord is at work in powerful and exciting ways.

The Reach Beyond multicultural team included a missionary in Romania, a missionary in Spain, missionaries and staff from the U.S. office, and Ray and Kitty Everett, missionary appointees fundraising to live and work on Lesbos. There were two main goals for the trip: to work with Remar, an organization tasked by the Greek military to run the food distribution line for women and families, and meet with and learn from other Christian organizations working with refugees on the island to determine how Reach Beyond can best provide future support.

There were many profound and life-changing experiences for the team. In particular, the team enjoyed getting to know the refugee volunteers who helped Remar distribute the food. One of the volunteers was 13-years old. He was from Egypt and was in the camp with his dad and younger brother. The group learned that his 13th birthday was about to happen, so they decided to have an impromptu birthday party to help him celebrate. For 20 minutes the group of about 10 refugee volunteers, along with our team, danced, sang, cried and celebrated life together, shunning cultural differences and the stressful reality of their lives in the camp. Lindsey recalled, "We all started singing, 'Happy Birthday,' and then he started crying, his dad started crying, and we all started crying because it was such a sweet and significant moment. Even the women already lined up early for the lunch distribution were crying. They couldn't see what was happening, but they could hear it. The celebration continued with music and a dance-off between the birthday boy and his brother. I don't know what his 12th birthday was like, or what his 14th birthday will be like, but it was such an honor to be a part of his 13th and to bring joy, love, and celebration to his special day."

#### PSALM 5:11 (ESV)

## "...let them ever sing for joy,..."

"But let all who take refuge in you rejoice; let them ever sing for joy, and spread your protection over them, that those who love your name may exult in you.

Reach Beyond's work on Lesbos is truly an international effort: missionaries and church partners from Romania, England, Canada, New Zealand and the United States have all gotten involved. The next team from the United States will go in October to work to solidify partnerships, expand our connections, and bring alongside new people and churches to get involved. A New Zealand team is planned for November, and we hope to soon be able to send the Everett's back to Lesbos to coordinate ongoing teams and projects.

#### SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Last quarter, we told you about an opportunity to work with a local pastor from Togo to plant a radio station in his community. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we were able to raise the funds needed for all of the studio equipment, plus a 300-watt transmitter and broadcast antenna, which is now up and running! The station's reach includes some of southern Burkina Faso and northeast Ghana, but it will mostly be focused on unreached villages in northwestern Togo. The partner's heart is to use this radio station to reach into communities where he is already working as an evangelist. Check out the before and after photos below! We are praising God for this new radio station and praying that many lives will be transformed.



#### By Sheila Leech

Walking along the narrow dusty trail the lady approaching appears to be struggling. She is limping. Her face is contorted with pain as she fights to make the distance to where the pop-up clinic is situated under the shade of the leafy green mango trees. Her face drips with perspiration in the hot sun. She is tall and elegant, beautifully dressed and, aside from the pained facial expression and limp, could easily be gracing the catwalks of Paris.

In this remote region of Ghana, healthcare is not readily available and Ruth (as her name turns out to be) has suffered a long time. With the grimacing determination on her face, it is plain that she feels the painful walk will be worthwhile and she has hopes for healing.

Later that morning, after waiting her turn in the long line of patients waiting to see the doctors, Ruth finally takes her seat in front of Dr. Martin and his translator. She tells her story. She is embarrassed and ashamed and although she has nothing to feel shame about, she insists that the doctor looks at her foot, which is causing her suffering, in complete privacy.

In the seclusion of a dark dusty abandoned schoolroom, Ruth reveals a horrendous massive open sore which goes from the top of her foot, all the way up her ankle, and onto her leg. She is clearly afraid of anyone seeing this. Her face shows unbearable sadness and one wonders how this sore is affecting her life. Does her husband no longer want to be with her? Does her family shun and reject her? What are the beliefs in this community where animism is rife, concerning these things? Do her friends and neighbors believe she is cursed? Do they think she is paying the price for some wrongdoing? Do they think she needs to see a fetish priest to be released from some kind of spell? These and so many other questions.

One thing is painfully clear; Ruth is ashamed of this condition and does not want anyone to know about it. Her shame only compounds her physical suffering.

The wound is cleaned and dressed. The health authorities are contacted. We suspect a Buruli ulcer, a condition caused initially by an insect bite, which needs specialist treatment and close monitoring by the Ghana Health authorities. We make arrangements for Ruth to attend the district hospital in the closest town. They will make a definitive diagnosis and advise on specialist treatment. Finally, she has a glimmer of hope; a hope that things will change, that things will get better, that she will be well once again, no longer to live in hiding, no longer to feel shame. "Madaase" she says with a shy smile, as she raises eyes full of hope for the first time to look at us. "Thank you."

We met many people like Ruth. ulcers, or open sores, or painful conditions. Many keep their conditions hidden, and they feel the same shame. They do not want anyone to see what is underneath the covering of their seemingly respectable lives. They know they are all suffering from similar conditions. Maybe it isn't physical but perhaps worse: domestic violence, alcoholism, spirit worship and more. The things that the Bible refers to as sin. Sin is like an ugly ulcer which mars and disfigures, damages, and destroys lives. Sin brings shame. Sin makes us hide.

Ruth received help when she came to the doctors, acknowledging her need and being willing to ask for help. Many people in her village received physical healing those days at the clinic. Some even asked for deeper healing. They received prayer and counselling as they brought their wounded and sinful hearts before the Lord Jesus Christ, to ask for His help and forgiveness.

We are grateful to God for the opportunity to bring health care to this village. We are even more grateful for the opportunity to invite its people to receive the gift of God in Christ Jesus—eternal life, forgiveness, salvation and a place in heaven.



In July, our team of medical professionals and interns traveled throughout the remote villages and towns in Ghana, to provide medical care and children's ministry programming. Nearly 2,000 patients were seen, and 70 new believers came to faith. We celebrate what God is doing in the region!

Off the coast of the island of Lesbos in Greece, there is a mountain of discarded life jackets, representing the thousands of asylum-seekers who have arrived by boat from countries like Afghanistan, Syria, Iraq, Iran and Somalia. They flee war, violence and persecution in search of a better future.

But what they find is an overcrowded refugee camp, a temporary shelter in a country that doesn't want them, and a shortage of water, food, sanitation and safety. Moria, the largest of the refugee camps on Lesbos, was built to hold 3,100 refugees, but it is now overwhelmed with more than 13,000 people. The Christian NGOs that support the Greek government by processing new arrivals are given one rule: do not turn anyone away.

Reach Beyond has been taking groups to serve in Moria since the spring. The teams help with food distribution and small construction projects, while meeting with other agencies to explore potential partnerships. At one point, a refugee approached one of our missionaries and asked, "Are you a Christian?" It is illegal to proselytize in the refugee camp, but our missionary answered the question honestly, to which the refugee responded, "Why else would you be here?"

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WE DO VOICE AND HANDS STRATEGIES

GETHER TO REACH THE UNREACHED.

Just the act of showing up and serving a felt-need helps people to see Jesus.

"In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:16 (NIV)

"If you heal the body without healing the soul, what was the point?"



We do mission in partnership, together with others. But we also do our voice and hands strategies together, including media, medicine and community development.



#### FOLLOWING THE EXAMPLE OF JESUS

The tagline for Reach Beyond is "Voice + Hands, Together." The word "Together" is important. We do mission in partnership, together with others. But we also do our voice and hands strategies together.

You can't truly proclaim the Gospel without also demonstrating it. Words without deeds are empty. It is hard to hear and accept a message of salvation until the more immediate physical needs are met. On the flip side, if you heal the body without also healing the soul, what was the point?

As one of our medical missionaries says, "We have the technology to improve someone's life, to heal them, to even bring them back to life if their heart stops. But, if we bring them back physically and leave them dead spiritually, we actually did very little."

We do missions with a holistic approach. Matthew 9:35 (NIV) tells us that Jesus "went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness." He did both.

Reach Beyond has a long history of proclaiming and demonstrating the Gospel, together. Reach Beyond started as HCJB Radio in 1931, but by 1949, medical professionals had joined the team to also address the physical needs of the people. Today, we continue to leverage our strengths in media, medicine and community development so that unreached people everywhere can hear about Jesus, see Him in action and learn how to follow Him.

## "Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching..."

"Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness."



#### WHAT IS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT?

The United Nations defines community development as "a process where community members come together to take collective action and generate solutions to common problems." Community development can happen within a community, or with outside help, but it is important that the outside help come with a learner posture, ready to engage with the community to help address their felt-needs together.

There are as many expressions of community development as there are people working toward creative solutions. It can include, but is not limited to, medicine, clean water and sanitation, construction, agriculture, emergency relief, business as mission, teaching, and English as a second (or another) language.

While there are many secular organizations providing for these needs, a mission organization is the only one that can truly treat the whole community – physically, emotionally, mentally and spiritually. Only Jesus can bring full healing. Holistic evangelism is a long game, coming alongside a community to build trust and bring total healing.

"When you are going to love someone, you love them all the way, and not just with a short-term fix."



"When you are going to love someone, you love them all the way, and not just with a short-term fix," says Roger Basick, VP of International Ministries at Reach Beyond. "It isn't just about the project. We truly try to see what they need and help them help themselves. This is the difference between just installing a well or sending a missionary with a water engineering background. We are in it for the long haul."

#### INVESTING IN SYSTEMIC CHANGE

In the former Soviet Union, Reach Beyond missionaries have been working for years to build trust with local people groups by learning their languages, living among them, and identifying the felt-needs of the region.

One particular country struggles to provide adequate healthcare to its people. Medical protocols are nearly 50 years outdated, and people still rely on traditions and superstitions to "treat" different disorders. There is little incentive to become a doctor (even taxi drivers are paid better), and those who do get training often times choose to leave their country to practice where the standards of living are higher.

One of our missionary doctors (whose name must be withheld for security) has worked with a local partner to make systemic changes to the country's medical training and practice. Under Soviet control, people did not go to family practice doctors, but rather only saw specialists. When a person is only seen by doctors who specialize in one part of the body, they are not able to get holistic treatment. It leads to higher medical costs, unnecessary tests and treatments, and misdiagnosis.

Our doctor established a family practice clinic in the city, and began working with our partner to train other doctors, and increase awareness of the benefits of family practice medicine. The clinic employs Christian doctors, however since evangelism in the country is illegal, the doctors have to witness through how they live their lives, and treat their patients. They have done such a good job, the government has designated the clinic as one of the official residency programs. Their work has helped change the perspective of family practice medicine in the country. They are now looking at opportunities to expand the clinic model in nearby communities, with missionary doctors working side-by-side with local family practitioners.

Recently, over 300 medical students, family medicine residents and family medicine doctors from around the country participated in the country's annual Family Medicine Day Conference. A team from the U.S. presented workshops on a variety of topics, and at the end of the conference, everyone came together for a dinner. One of our doctors said that the most moving part of the conference came when the residents in attendance stood and thanked the foreigners for their participation.

## "...let your light shine before others,"

"In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

"One of the residents stood and sang a song for us, an adapted version of the song, 'Wind of Change' originally sung by a German band in 1991. The song was written to describe the changes that were happening in the world as the Berlin Wall came down, and the Soviet Union with it," he said. "For these young doctors, however, the 'wind of change' refers to the latest healthcare reforms in their country, which emphasize family medicine as the foundation of the public health system and the key to providing access to healthcare for all citizens. Salaries are being increased and training programs are being decentralized, to encourage new doctors to go and work where they are most needed. And the young people are excited by this wind of change."

He continued, "But there is another 'wind of change' that the staff of our clinic are praying for. It is described in Acts 2:2. May that wind blow ever stronger in this region!"

#### REMOVING THE OBSTACLES

Sometimes God only opens a door for either media or community development ministry. There are some places we cannot send missionaries, but we can still broadcast the Good News across borders. In other places, we may not be able to proclaim the Gospel freely, but we can send skilled workers, like doctors and engineers.

As a radio ministry, Reach Beyond is able to broadcast the Good News of the Gospel into the homes of unreached people groups. But what happens when the communities we want to reach do not have electricity? How can they hear the Good News?

That question inspired Reach Beyond Australia to launch the "Light Up a Village" project. "Light up a Village" is an on-going project which provides solar panels, LED lights and shortwave radios to people in remote and rural villages throughout the Asia Pacific region, with a particular focus on India. The need is great. Over 700 million people in India alone do not have reliable access to electricity. They are forced to live in darkness. "'Light Up a Village' will not only bring natural light to millions of people, but spiritual light too," says Dale Stagg, CEO of Reach Beyond Australia. "It will reach unreached people groups and those who have limited access to the Gospel."

The project works by placing a solar panel with multiple charging ports in each village, including LED lights and robust portable shortwave radios. The LED lights have a small battery like those in mobile phones. The villagers recharge their batteries during the day so they can use them at night. A 20-minute charge will provide light for up to 8 hours.

"By packaging a shortwave radio with a light, we are able to give them two things: the message of hope--spiritual light, and the benefit of natural light. Effectively, an entire village is 'lit up' and can hear the message of Christ," says Dale.

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#### PLANTING SEEDS, SOMETIMES LITERALLY

The Bible uses many agriculture metaphors. Jesus gave us the parable of the farmer who scattered his seed among the path, the rocky ground, the thorns and good soil. He calls the seed the "Word of God." Paul says we are fellow workers with God, planting seeds and watering, while God makes it grow, and bear fruit.

As a mission organization, we plant seeds of spiritual truth through our media ministry and interactions with unreached people. But, sometimes we plant literal seeds, too. Agriculture is another way we can come alongside and help improve a community. It also happens to be a tool with a great metaphor.

In 2017, Reach Beyond launched a greenhouse project in Shell, Ecuador to grow cocoa beans, oranges and vegetables, in order to reach people groups living among the Amazon rain forest east of Shell. The produce can help people improve their diet, and provide them with a new source of income.

Reach Beyond's greenhouse outreach came in response to a failed agricultural program which flew in thousands of cocoa trees to remote jungle villages to help boost people's incomes. Well-intentioned, the effort was not accompanied by training on keeping plants alive amid the region's drenching rains.

"In our community development mindset, we saw a niche that we could fill and do some training," said Wim de Groen, a Reach Beyond missionary. "We can help the people learn how to take care of the plants, and we can help educate them on how to grow the plants better and faster."

Staff members provided weekly training to villagers initially on how to grow the trees. Eventually, the plants were distributed to remote areas. As the trees matured, they were better able to tolerate the torrential downpours in the rainforest.

The project has since delivered thousands of cocoa trees to many communities and individual families living in the jungle. The project is now managed by Pedro, a local believer who is passionate for Jesus and runs the project as a business as mission model. Reach Beyond works alongside Pedro to impact the communities through training and teaching. The project is a thriving ministry, with an end goal of more than just growing trees.

"Our desire is that we can see changes in people's hearts changes on the inside," added de Groen. "Although we hope to help a number of communities with planting projects, we want to see the fruits of a change from within."



Reach Beyond missionary Hermann Schirmacher, who heads up projects in Ecuador, tours a grove with tree project manager Pedro, and a local beneficiary of the tree project. The planted cocoa trees grow together with papaya fruits and other vegetables.

Agriculture opportunities go beyond Ecuador. In Spain, Reach Beyond has partnered with a local pastor who established a hydroponics project to support refugee communities. In Africa, we have a partner interested in planting fruit trees, to help push back the advancing Sahara Desert. These projects, and many more, provide a way to support the local communities we hope to reach.

As Reach Beyond continues to develop strategies for reaching unreached people throughout the world, the tools will include every expression of media, healthcare and community development. We want people to hear about Jesus, see Him in action, and learn how to follow Him. Voice + Hands, Together.

#### HOW CAN YOU HELP?

## GIVE, CO, PRAY.

**GIVE:** If you are passionate about seeing Jesus known and loved among the least reached, join us as a +partner. Your recurring monthly donation will go where it is most needed to make discilples among unreached people groups, using both voice and hands strategies. **Sign up today at reachbeyond.org/+partner** 

**GO:** Would you like to use your skills in medicine or community development to serve among the unreached? We have both short-term and long-term opportunities. **Visit reachbeyond.org/go to learn more.** 

**PRAY:** Pray for our missionaries serving longterm where Jesus is least known. Pray that the unreached would be able to see Jesus through their actions and would come to accept Christ as their Savior. Pray for God to raise up more workers to go into the harvest field, using their skills to proclaim and demonstrate the Gospel in hard-to-reach places.



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REACH BEYOND

## WE GO WHERE THE UNREACHED ARE

"We are looking to go into Ecuador to reach the unreached."

No, that's not a quote from 1931 when Clarence Jones first started a Christian radio station to reach the unreached in Ecuador. It's a statement that was shared this week, in 2019.

The Church in Ecuador is thriving. The country is considered reached. But a curious thing is happening in the world. As unreached places become more difficult to access, unreached people are beginning to move. And we want to follow them.

As a missionary-sending organization, we send workers to where Jesus is least known. We want unreached people everywhere to hear about Jesus, see Him in action and learn how to follow Him. Sometimes this means sending workers to hard-to-reach places in Asia, Africa and the Middle East. But it also means looking for where God is opening doors.

When Jesus instructed His disciples (and all of us) to "go therefore and make disciples of all nations," (Matt. 28:19a ESV) the word He used for nations was not referring to countries. He actually was talking about ethnicities, or specific people groups. We define people groups based on their ethnolinguistic uniqueness.

Joshua Project says, "for evangelization purposes, a people group is the largest group within which the Gospel can spread as a church planting movement without encountering barriers of understanding or acceptance." Within one country, there may be hundreds of individual people groups. Due to language, religion, location, caste or cultural differences, there is a barrier for the Gospel to spread from one group to another.

However, you can also find one people group spread across many countries. The current refugee crisis makes this even more of a reality. To reach an unreached Afghan, you can try to send evangelistic resources into Afghanistan, or you can look for the Afghan refugee populations closer to home.

Which is why, years after considering Ecuador a "reached" place, we are now looking at sending missionaries back.

Ecuador is an open-door country. There are no visa requirements to enter, making it an attractive option for refugees. Within Ecuador, you can find an emigrational path of different self-contained communities, or safe houses, of displaced people groups. People groups from the Middle East, Central Asia and the former Soviet Union can't travel through Europe, so they find other ways.

Not only is Ecuador an attractive option for these diaspora populations, but we have an established network of places where we can send missionaries.

### "I have but one passion: It is He, it is He alone..."

The English Fellowship Church (EFC) in Quito, Ecuador is a church that serves an international and intercultural population in Quito. The church was "born" in the hearts and minds of D.S. and Erma Clark, a British couple from Jamaica who had come to Ecuador as missionaries with Christian Missionary Alliance. They wanted to minister to people who were far from home and had a desire or need for Jesus-focused fellowship in their native language. Their gatherings moved to the HCJB office building in 1939, and then eventually HCJB built a new church for them on their property. Although EFC is now an independent entity in Quito, there is a long-standing relationship with Reach Beyond/HCJB.

Today, EFC serves many diaspora populations, both in Quito and around the globe. One couple attending EFC came from a closed-access country, and through the help of Reach Beyond and EFC, they are now able to broadcast the Gospel message back to their country in their heart language. It is a thriving ministry opportunity. By sending more missionaries into Quito, there is an opportunity to share the Gospel with even more people groups.

In addition to serving the diaspora groups in Ecuador, there is also an opportunity to train up Latin missionaries to serve overseas. Because of Arabic influences on Spanish, it is easier for Latinos to learn the Arabic language and culture. While there are many opportunities to serve Arabic populations in Quito, there is also an opportunity to train up missionaries to serve in Arabic countries. By sending U.S. doctors to work alongside our colleagues and partners at Hospital Vozandes and other medical clinics, we can help train and mentor other young doctors to serve in missions.

As the world gets smaller and more diverse, the task of reaching unreached people groups also becomes more diverse. Whether we serve in the field or at home, we simply need to look for the doors God is opening and obey.

"I have but one passion: It is He, it is He alone. The world is the field and the field is the world; and henceforth that country shall be my home where I can be most used in winning souls for Christ." –Count Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, an 18th Century Christian missionary pioneer

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Fall is in the air, and soon it will be Christmas. Those of us who know Christ are filled with hope and wonder this time of year, but what about the

# 3.14 billion people who do not yet have that hope?

As we approach the year end, we invite you to prayerfully consider joining us in sharing the gift of a first Christmas with the unreached.

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