### **REACH BEYOND**



#### VOICE AND HANDS

3

VOL. 19 NO.1

### STORIES OF GOD AT WORK AROUND THE WORLD

RADIO • DIGITAL MEDIA • HEALTHCARE • COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



#### I FTTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

ear friend,

Khalid is a 42-year-old man from North Africa who was weary and burdened. His wife died a few years ago and he was devasted by her loss. He attempted to "move on" and be a good father to their son, but he only made things worse. In the midst of his grief, Khalid made some bad decisions—ones he would later recognize as desperate cries for help.

Khalid was unable to make sense of all the turmoil in his mind. Looking for help, he contacted our Arabic media ministry through one of its digital media sites. It was there that he heard about God's love for him. Before long, Khalid discovered peace and new life by deciding to follow Jesus.

As believers, we are surrounded by people who are hurting. The world is filled with billions of people who are tired and weary and don't even realize that there is a God who cares about them. They are suffering needlessly simply because they have never heard Jesus' open invitation, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest."

Thank you for your faithful prayers and support of our missionaries and ministries, and your commitment to help share the Gospel with every people and nation!

#### May you be blessed by how God is at work.

aniel A

**Daniel Enns** | President



Voice + Hands Magazine is written, designed, and produced by Reach Beyond through the generosity of friends of the ministry.

#### **REACH BEYOND**

P O BOX 39800 | COLORADO SPRINGS | CO 80949-9800

TOLL FREE 1-800-873-4859 | T: 719-590-9800 F: 719-590-9801

DONOR SERVICES: T: 800-545-9394 GENERAL INQUIRIES: info@ReachBeyond.org LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: editor@ReachBeyond.org

#### FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

- /voiceandhands
- /voiceandhands
- (O) /voiceandhands
- - in /company/voiceandhands

# ENCOURAGING TESTIMONIES

FROM PEOPLE YOU ARE HELPING REACH FOR CHRIST!



#### - Youssef, from North Africa

"I'm 27 years old. After giving up Islam, I considered Christianity for a long time.

#### "A religion of love" is all I knew about it. I came across your Facebook page that discussed Christ in an engaging manner. So, I contacted the counselor. Initially, I assumed that he was an evangelist. He explained the

"We got our hope back..."

"I am listening to your audio program regularly. It is a real blessing to us. Last week I was very tired of what is going on in our family and was so vexed. One problem after another was coming our way and as a family we were broken. At the right time, the Word of God came through WhatsApp. It was like God himself speaking to us. We got our hope back and are looking forward to more such Words of God." – Padmanaban, from South Asia

meaning of the word "Gospel," which means the "Good News." On our journey, he began to explain the Good News, which began with Christ's first coming on earth. From that point on, I began to understand the Gospel's message of salvation. I realized that what the Lord had done was within His authority and control. I discovered answers to my questions as well as a wealth of real-world knowledge about Christianity. Finally, I decided to accept Christ as my Lord, and now I'm embarking on an exciting discipleship journey to get to know Jesus better."

"One of my friends in Kerala wants to hear the Word of God. Please help her with Malayalam programs. My friend Mohini also is listening to your program with me once a week – pray for her also. She is praying to the Lord. None of us are able to go to church. We depend only on these radio programs. Please do continue to pray for us as we need guidance and blessing from the Lord."

– Vanitha, from South Asia

# **GLOBAL SNAPSHOTS**



#### LATIN AMERICA Celebrating 60 Years of God's Faithfulness

On May 1, 2024, more than 160 current and former staff, volunteers, listeners, and ministry partners of HCJB Brazil gathered to praise God for 60 years of continuous ministry to the Portuguesespeaking world.

Reach Beyond (HCJB) began airing Portuguese radio programs in 1944. After a long pause, God led Victor and Helena Arndt and their young family to Quito, Ecuador to restart the Portuguese language service in 1964. Twenty-two years later, HCJB Brazil opened its own office and recording studios in Curitiba, Brazil. Their programs were broadcast by Reach Beyond until 2008, when our Pifo shortwave site had to be dismantled because of the new Quito airport. Local funding challenges led HCJB Brazil to end all shortwave broadcasts in 2014 and shift focus to sharing programs through their website and other means.

In 2015, God opened a new opportunity for HCJB Brazil to distribute their programs on a microSD card they've nicknamed, "Card from Heaven" (Cartão do Céu). Users insert this tiny memory chip into their mobile phone or audio player to listen to radio programs. They can also access the Bible, the Jesus Film, and other Bible study resources—usually in various languages.

Praise God that HCJB Brazil has already distributed over 40,000 of these cards (about 1,000 per month) through missionaries working in Brazil and other parts of the world, who are providing follow-up and discipling new believers! •





READ ABOUT OUR HISTORY REACHBEYOND.ORG/1944

### LEAVE A LEGACY OF HOPE TRANSFORM LIVES FOR CHRIST

You can leave a lasting impact for God's Kingdom. Your legacy gift to Reach Beyond can transform lives and bring hope to those in desperate need of Jesus Christ. Here is what your support can do:

- Expand the Reach: Your gift will extend ministry around the world to reach even more people who don't know Christ.
- **Transform Lives:** Through our radio, digital media, healthcare, and community development ministries, we witness miraculous changes as people find hope and come to know the saving power of Jesus Christ.
- **Ensure Your Vision Lives On**: Leaving a legacy gift means you will be investing in reaching the unreached for Christ into the future. By making a planned gift, you can continue the work of Reach Beyond during and after your lifetime.

Please contact us so we can answer questions and talk through the options. Have you already included Reach Beyond in your estate planning? Let us know!

#### CALL 1-800-525-8857

EMAIL US AT give@reachbeyond.org

VISIT US REACHBEYOND.ORG/PLANNED-GIVING



# ■ SHARING THE GOSPEL IN THE DIGITAL AGE:

Social Media as a Tool for Jesus Christ



The potential to reach Latin Americans through digital media is enormous. Like much of the world, nearly everyone has access to a cell phone and uses at least one social media platform.

Just as Reach Beyond (HCJB) used the 'latest technology' of radio in 1931 to proclaim the Gospel to all the world, today, God is moving young Latinos to reach their generation using digital media.

Over one hundred young people recently participated in a "Misiones Digitales" (Digital Missions) conference at HCJB Ecuador, Reach Beyond's radio and multi-media partner in Quito, Ecuador. Speakers from Latin America and the United States led workshops involving videography, photography, branding, and the use of artificial intelligence for evangelism and missions.

#### "It was heartwarming to see how people come together for God's kingdom."

#### **PEOPLE COMING TOGETHER**

Reach Beyond missionary Geoff Kooistra helped with logistics for the conference. He said his favorite part was how everyone involved from the different agencies who organized the conference just wanted to help wherever they were needed. "It was heartwarming," he recalled, "to see how when people come together for the idea of advancing God's kingdom, it does not matter who does what. We are going to come together and we are going to work together, and God works through us." He added that, with this conference, "Nobody was saying, 'This is our ministry.' We all worked together to move this thing forward. That was very refreshing."

Christina, one of the conference's attendees who serves in digital strategies with another ministry organization in Ecuador, said that she gained many resources they were not using in her work. She said, "The tools and the space we were given to create content was very inspirational. Personally, I was surprised at the talent that came out when we were able to share together in our groups. I am excited about the idea of continuing to be part of these events and continuing to learn."

#### **HEARING THE NEEDS OF OTHER PEOPLE**

Another attendee, Alexandra, was moved to use digital media to spread the Word of God after the conference. She explained, "Since I was little, I wanted to study journalism. But it never happened. So I studied sociology, and daily I hear the needs of people." After the conference, Alexandra said God put a specific challenge on her heart. She was to "start a podcast and a webpage to support people who have emotional needs and guide them

#### "God works in people's hearts and we're there helping and watching it happen."

the best way that I know." Additionally, she and a fellow attendee of Misiones Digitales decided to write radio scripts for a podcast. Alexandra said, "They would be directed to listeners with epilepsy and share the testimony of what God has done in our lives."

Because the conference was so effective, Geoff believed they would have Misiones Digitales next year. He said, "Praise God that this conference went so well and has created a whole bunch of relationships that God can use in the future. God works in people's hearts and we're there helping and watching it happen."

Below: One hundred Ecuadorian young adults participated in the two-day "Digital Missions" conference held at HCJB Ecuador in May.





### TUNING IN TO TRANSFORMATION

The Story of Mary Moshoeshoe and Christian Radio in Africa

In the heart of Southern Africa, Mary Moshoeshoe's life story unfolds like a tapestry woven from threads of faith, resilience, and love for her community. Born in Lesotho and now living in South Africa, Mary is following her God-given calling to serve her community through Christian radio with Reach Beyond.

Mary's journey to becoming a key player in Christian media was neither straightforward nor easy. Mary recalls, "When the Lord spoke to me about the radio, I was studying in Australia. I was just a young girl... but I felt in my spirit that I needed to go to Bible College to learn more about God."

This divine nudge led her to an unexpected path: "The Lord spoke to me about radio and wanted me to be involved in Christian radio. I tried to resist... but to cut a long story short, I eventually agreed."

Under Mary's leadership, Harvest FM in Lesotho became more than a radio station; it became a lifeline for the local community.



"The Lord spoke to me about radio and wanted me to be involved in Christian radio."

"We believe that Christianity is about helping people. We normally build houses and give food parcels to vulnerable families," Mary explains, highlighting the tangible impact of the station's work beyond the airwaves.

#### REACHING CHILDREN THROUGH THE LITTLE HEROES

The 'Little Heroes' project, conceived by Mary, is a brilliant example of her innovative approach to fostering a sense



of national pride and leadership among children. By enabling them to experience roles like 'Little Prime Minister' or 'Little Chief Justice,' she not only entertains but also educates and empowers the next generation.

Mary passionately describes this initiative as a great way to teach children about leadership, to teach them to love Lesotho, and to change their mindset about their country.

#### **A BIGGER VISION FOR THE FUTURE**

As Mary begins her new role with Reach Beyond, she carries with her a vision for Christian radio stations across Sub-Saharan Africa: "I realized that many Christian radio stations are not growing... they rarely look at how their stations can be financially stronger." Mary is eager to help Christian radio station managers learn to be better leaders, become more financially sustainable, and produce impactful programming.

Our ultimate goal is to help stations become vibrant voices in their community that people will want to tune in and listen to, and as a result, discover for themselves the life-giving transformation that comes through following Jesus.

#### "Our ultimate goal is to help stations become vibrant voices in their community..."

# REACHING BHUTAN WITH UNLIMITED HAPPINESS



The nation of Bhutan has been called 'the happiest country in the world.' More than 93% of its people say they are happy. The nation's seemingly carefree lifestyle and landscapes have attracted tourists from every continent.

However, as part of their "National Happiness" goals, Bhutan's citizens are expected to help preserve their cultural and religious traditions. All Christian gatherings are illegal, and anyone who converts from Buddhism to Christianity will be watched with suspicion and face pressure to 'reconvert'.

Despite severe restrictions, there is a growing network of underground churches all across Bhutan. Local pastors are traveling throughout the country sharing the Good News and encouraging believers.

A few months ago, a Reach Beyond worker met one of those pastors who said, "Radio could really help us accelerate the spreading of the Gospel. Can you please train us on how to create radio programs?"

The pastor shared how Bhutan's internet is unreliable outside of the big cities, "So

radio offers a steadier way to deliver the Good News of Jesus to people living in rural areas."

After prayerful discussions with our team, the pastor began to assemble a small group of local believers that Reach Beyond would train in radio production. This whole process was challenging because of the precautions needed to ensure the security of everyone involved.

Since the training, this dedicated team of Bhutanese believers has been working hard on writing and recording audio for their new radio program, which they are calling, 'Unlimited Happiness!'

These programs, recorded in the Dzongkha language, are then broadcast to Bhutan from our international shortwave site in Australia.

By working together with local ministry partners, Reach Beyond is now able to share the Gospel with the people of Bhutan and help them discover the joy that can only be found in Jesus.

"...radio offers a steadier way to deliver the Good News of Jesus..."

# VOICES OF

**Q:** When did you first hear God's call to become a missionary?

Rusty\* and Rose\* are new Reach Beyond missionaries who are serving as teachers at an international school in an undisclosed country.

2&A with Missionaries <u>Serving</u> Overseas

**Rusty:** "I first felt the call right before Rose and I were married. I was excited about it, but I was concerned about Rose's possible reaction, so I waited to tell her until after we were married. Fortunately, God had been speaking to her. She was excited to tell me that she had been feeling the same way! We recognized this as a sign of God's calling for our new marriage."

**Q:** What have you learned in preparing to go, and what would you say to someone who is considering going?

Q: What are you most looking forward to as you embark on this new chapter of your life?

\*Names changed for security purposes

"This journey to the field, from February to now, has been wild. It has been filled with mountain-top highs alongside moments of feeling crushed, but we have experienced God's love and faithfulness so powerfully through it all!

"We have learned a lot about time management and the definition of busy! But most importantly, we have learned the reality of the verse, 'With God, all things are possible.' God provided our financial and prayer support in an amazingly short period of time—in less than six months. He has truly prepared the way for us and continues to show us His faithfulness.

"To anyone who is considering going, we'd tell them that the process of preparing to serve overseas can be arduous so be patient with yourself and your fellow believers that are supporting you. However, it is also an exciting process where God will grow and stretch you in unexpected ways."

"We are excited about the challenge of embracing a new language and culture and are looking forward to serving in our new community. We cannot wait to see what God does in this ministry! We know the road ahead will not be easy, but we will hold on to the moments that God has shown us, knowing that we are walking in His will."



TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES WITH REACH BEYOND, VISIT: REACHBEYOND.ORG/CURRENT-OPPORTUNITIES

# **REACH BEYOND**

1065 Garden of the Gods Road | Colorado Springs, CO | 80907-3405

# DONATIONS

**MAILING ADDRESS:** 

PO Box 39800 | Colorado Springs, CO | 80949-9800

# **DONOR SERVICES:**

T: 800-545-9394

# DONATE ONLINE:

ReachBeyond.org/give



# **GENERAL INQUIRIES**

E: info@reachbeyond.org T: 719-590-9800