

Do you not say, 'There are still four months and then comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest! (John 4:35)



White *for* Harvest

Rob Gaebler's news from Gospel for Asia

June 2011



Above: I went camping and canoeing with some friends at Caddo Lake State Park

Dear friends,

I hope that you will be encouraged as you read about how God has brought about great things in India even in the midst of great persecution (see back). Praise God that we can always hold onto the promise that Jesus gave us in John 16:33 – **“In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.”** Thank you for making it possible for me to serve here at GFA; together we will accomplish the Lord’s purpose for the advancement of His kingdom.

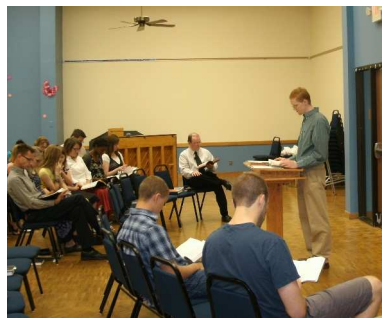
Thank you for praying for me. I have been doing quite well. During the last several weeks, I have taken part in a number of weekend activities. On Easter weekend, I attended a Fellowship Conference with my church and other churches from around the country. It was a wonderful time of teaching and fellowship with like-minded believers who are passionate about the Lord and proclaiming the message of salvation. I felt like I was in a room of 500 friends who I just didn’t know yet. The teaching was great, but the sweetest part for me was making new friends who shared similar passions, and sharing with them about GFA. I carried around a bag of GFA materials to give out wherever I went.

In April, I went camping with some other young men at Caddo Lake State Park. We enjoyed canoeing and exploring the huge cypress swamp together.

On May 22nd, I spoke at my church for about 20 minutes to give an update on GFA and my work in the ministry. I had been praying for weeks for this opportunity and for the Lord to give me the words to say. I gave a brief exhortation from John 12:23-25 about dying to ourselves so that others can have life, and I shared stories from the mission field. I have spoken at my church before, but several new people have joined the church recently, so it was a great opportunity to encourage those already involved with GFA as well as introduce some new people to the ministry. The Lord gave me grace, and people were encouraged by the message.

Last time, I mentioned that I started physical therapy for a hip injury. Praise God, I am doing very well and have started running again without problems. I had forgotten how much I love running; sometimes after going for a good hard run, I have a feeling of exhilaration for the next two days.

Thank you for praying for my mom. Praise God for the work He is doing in her body. She recently had another cancer scan which showed improvement on all fronts, and the doctor said she can go off chemo for a while. The Lord has been very good to us, and I long for more—to see Him give her a divine touch and completely restore her.



Above: Me speaking at my church, Providence Chapel. The people in my church are earnest in following the Lord and have been very supportive of my work at Gospel for Asia.



Above: I had a wonderful time making new friends, sharing about GFA, and listening to great teaching at the Fellowship Conference my church attended in April



Above: I met several of the DonorDirect staff that we work with regularly. Here I am with Christian.

DonorDirect Conference

On May 1st-4th, I attended the DonorDirect Client Conference with 7 other people from GFA and over 100 people from other ministries who use the DonorStudio database software. I enjoyed the time and found it beneficial. I was finally able to put faces to the names of the DonorDirect staff that I have exchanged emails with over the last several months. Another benefit of the conference was networking

with other clients that use the software.

Some of the conference sessions gave me more in-depth insight into areas of DonorStudio that I have been working with, and other sessions gave me a bigger picture of the product as a whole. I was asked to share for 6 minutes during one of the break-out sessions, on "Segmentation," to highlight how we have been using one of



I shared for a few minutes during the session on "Segmentation" to highlight the "SQL Override" feature

the more advanced features of the program.



Above: Haroon led a destructive mob like this one against Christians
Below: Haroon damaged this church, where he now worships

Orissa—Place of Persecution

You may recall that in 2008, believers in Orissa, India, suffered intense persecution at the hands of anti-Christian extremists. They destroyed thousands of Christians' homes and burned churches to the ground. They also beat, raped, and burned believers. More than 100 Christians were martyred. According to Operation World, Orissa remains the state of India where persecution is most intense, and I have read several reports of ongoing attacks against Christians there.

Haroon Das helped lead this brutality against Christians. When the riots against believers in Orissa began, he traveled throughout his district to stir up violence. After Haroon returned to his home village, he led a mob that damaged the church building of a Gospel for Asia-supported missionary. Haroon was one of the extremists who shattered the windows, broke the cross on top of the building and set fire to the contents of the building.

The riots subsided, but Haroon himself began experiencing a problem. One of his legs became weak and caused

him great pain. Eventually, one side of his body was completely paralyzed. He went to doctors and spent lots of money on medical treatment, but to no avail.

Someone was brave enough to tell Haroon that when Christians pray, a person can receive healing from any kind of sickness. He thought about going to church, but then talked himself out of it. "I have persecuted these people very badly, and if I go to them, how can they pray for me?" he asked himself.

Haroon finally mustered up the courage to go. He showed up at a prayer meeting on a Tuesday night. He was shocked when the believers happily joined in prayer for him—the man who destroyed their church! Haroon and his whole family started coming to church regularly. After some time, as the whole congregation prayed for him, God completely healed him! Thankful and repentant, he confessed that the Lord had done this miracle. Haroon and his family decided to give their lives to Jesus.

Now Haroon is facing opposition from his older brother and from some of the other villagers, but he refuses to turn his back on Christ. His brother is threatening to cut him off from the rest of the family, but Haroon says he will stand firm in his relationship with Jesus regardless of the consequences.

Whenever we hear about persecution against Christians, we pray for the Lord in His mercy to save their persecutors. How wonderful to hear of this answer to our prayers!

Many of the believers in Orissa still have nothing and live in great danger. Gospel for Asia has been working hard to help them by rebuilding homes. As of December 2010, GFA had already completed or begun work reconstructing 1716 homes in Orissa.



*Dear friends,
I thank you from the bottom of my heart for your partnership in the work of the Gospel. I pray that through you, Christ's love will be shown to many people in Asia. I am grateful for your faithful support and prayers. May the Lord bless you and provide all your needs.*

Yours in Christ,

Rob Gaebler



GFA is working hard to rebuild homes for persecuted Christians in Orissa

Rob Gaebler • PO Box 116203 • Carrollton, TX 75011 • (214) 300-5741 • robgaebler@gmail.com
Gospel for Asia • 1800 Golden Trail Court • Carrollton, TX 75010 • (972) 300-7777
I would love to hear from you!