

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

May 2013



**Above:** The four-hour prayer meeting was one of the high points of the conference.

**Below:** Gisela, Brother K.P.'s wife, shared at the conference about the Women's Fellowship in Asia



## From an RYP Attendee...

"We loved every minute of our time during the RYP conference. ...RYP has 'ruined' our normal lives forever. There is something about RYP that has lingered inside of us - and normal isn't normal anymore."

Dear friends,

Thank you for joining us at Gospel for Asia in our struggle to rescue perishing souls. You are an important part of our work through your prayers and support. I am "doing well" – I am happy and healthy and my circumstances are favorable. Yet I also daily need fresh help from God to be effective in my labors, to stay spiritually keen and humble, and to maintain intimate fellowship with Christ. May I never start "coasting" in my Christian life! I pray also for you, that the favor of the Lord will rest upon you daily.

### Renewing Your Passion

On March 15 - 17, Gospel for Asia held a Renewing Your Passion (RYP) conference here at our headquarters for 250 guests from around the country. It was truly a delightful time of fellowship with like-minded believers who have a passion for the Lord and a similar perspective on life and understanding of God's kingdom. Most of us on staff served in some capacity at the conference. I helped man one of the resource tables, where people could find information on how to start a prayer meeting or buy a world prayer map. But more importantly, I made it my goal during the conference to meet and make new friends.

The conference sessions had a two-fold focus. First, to renew our hearts in love and dependence on the Lord. The Lord calls each of us to walk humbly with Him, not bustle about "doing stuff for Jesus" on our own power. Secondly, the speakers shared updates from the mission field and highlighted some very exciting

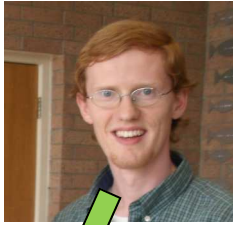


People from all over the country came here to GFA's main office for three days of worship, hearing missions updates fresh from the field, messages from God's Word, and prayer.

ministries of GFA and new things the Lord is doing in Asia. Some of GFA's leaders in Asia came over to speak at the conference. It was wonderful to hear from them.

### International Leaders

Right before the conference, the international leaders of GFA's supporting offices came for a week of training and mutual fellowship. You may not have known this, but GFA has offices like the one in Dallas in eight other countries, including Canada, South Korea, New Zealand, U.K., and others. I really enjoyed making friends with some of them, whom I had only heard about and prayed for until that time. I admire their examples of godliness and hard work. Some of these other offices only have one or two families serving on staff, whereas in the U.S. we have about a hundred. They really need our prayers for more staff.



The work I do in IT helps missionaries and children be sponsored

## Year of Sponsorships

At Gospel for Asia, we have dubbed 2013 the "Year of Sponsorships." Although missionary and child sponsorships have always been the bread and butter of GFA, we are putting special emphasis on them this year because of the desperate need in Asia for more missionaries to be sent out and for children to be brought to Christ, coupled with unprecedented open doors for the Gospel to go forward mightily even in the face of ongoing persecution.

Some of my work in the IT Department ties in with the "sponsorship" theme. One of my main roles in IT is to test enhancements and bug fixes created

by LaMott, one of our senior software developers, before we put the changes into production. In the last several weeks we have made several improvements and fixes to the pledge statements that GFA mails out to our sponsors keeping them informed about their giving commitments. That might not sound complicated, but it involves lots of detailed programming and problem solving to make sure we are accurate. By God's grace we were able to implement several improvements. I am praying that our sponsors will be blessed and that hundreds who have fallen behind on their giving will be reminded and encouraged to keep going.



Enemies of the gospel used a stolen goat as a reason to oppress the Christians — but God turned it around for good

## Stolen Goat Brings Opposition to Church

We often pray for favor with local authorities in areas where our missionaries are serving, because they influence how easily the Gospel can go forward. This is one story of answered prayer.

When local witch doctors and villagers realized their powers were no longer working, they immediately blamed Gospel for Asia pastor Ghalib. Ever since Ghalib had started sharing about the God of the Bible, men and women were leaving the traditional religion of the community to follow Jesus, which was frowned upon by their neighbors and leaders.

Lomash, the head of the village, got a group of people together to harass Pastor Ghalib about a recent theft in their community. Two goats had been stolen, and the already-irritated villagers accused Pastor Ghalib and his church of stealing them. Although Pastor Ghalib calmly explained that his congregation had nothing to do with the crime, the furious villagers did not back down. "We need our goats returned immediately. Otherwise, none of your believers will escape our harm,"

the group said to Ghalib. The group also told everyone else in the area the church was responsible for the missing goats.

Pastor Ghalib and his congregation were disgraced, and they continually asked God to intervene in the matter.

Finally, after about a month, the truth came out. Much to the village leader's surprise and dismay, his own son was part of a group that had taken the livestock to sell in the market for personal gain. The villagers were enraged by the lies their village head had been spreading. They fined Lomash's son severely and held him and his father responsible for the thefts.

Broken and repentant toward Pastor Ghalib and the believers, Lomash begged for their forgiveness. He promised to begin supporting the church instead of opposing it, and even asked the believers to pray for his son. Because Lomash was the biggest instigator of problems for the church, things have been peaceful between the believers and villagers since his heart has changed, and he has kept his promise.

*Dear friends,  
I am very grateful for your partnership in the work of the Gospel. I know that through your prayers and support, Christ's love is being shown to many people in Asia. May the Lord bless you richly and draw you closer to Himself.*

*Yours in Christ,*

*Rob Gaebler*

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!*

*If you would like to make a donation, you can do so at [www.gfa.org/ht/roga](http://www.gfa.org/ht/roga).*