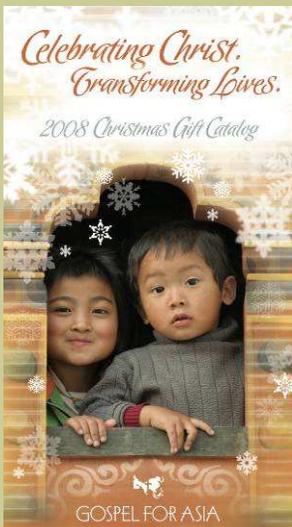


Do you not say, "There are still four months and then comes the harvest"? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest! (John 4:35)

*But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."*

*(Luke 2:10-12)*



Above: Give a gift that will change lives this Christmas! Visit [www.gfa.org/gift](http://www.gfa.org/gift)



Goats are just one of the many gifts that GFA gives to needy families in Asia each Christmas. The goats provide many resources for the low-caste people who receive them like milk, cheese, butter and wool.

# White for Harvest

Rob Gaebler's news from Gospel for Asia

December 2008

Dearest friends,

This is a wonderful season for rejoicing in the gift of our Savior. I am very thankful for you and for your faithful prayers and support. You are doing an amazing thing—by faith, you are enabling me to serve here in Texas, trusting that God is using me to help win souls to Christ all over Asia.

I know that some of you are really struggling, with health crises, financial difficulties, and family hardships. I invite you to take a moment to think upon God's love and faithfulness to you. Through all these uncertain times, one thing is certain: God is still on the throne!



**Church Relations Department**  
Back: Strat, Pam, Sandy. Front: Rob, Tony, Megan, Troy

## Working to Give Asia a Wonderful Christmas

Christmas started four months ago here at Gospel for Asia. At least, our preparations did. You see, we are trying to make this a wonderful Christmas for thousands of families in Asia who are struggling to get by, by giving people in America the opportunity to give them a gift that will change their lives. For Christmas this year, you can give a pair of chickens or goats that will boost a needy family's income, or Bibles or a bicycle that will help a missionary's ministry, or much more. I heard

of one destitute family whose income was doubled last year by the simple gift of a pair of chickens!

This year GFA has Christmas radio campaigns on over 1800 stations, we've sent out over 100,000 Christmas Gift Catalogs in the mail, and we have a Christmas web site. We are praying that Americans will think not only of their own families but Asians who are in great need as well. If you would like to give a Christmas gift, go to [www.gfa.org/gift](http://www.gfa.org/gift).

In my department, Church Relations, we have sent out over 13,000 of the Christmas Gift Catalogs to about 150 churches that are distributing them to their congregations. I have spent much time recently coordinating all these catalog orders for churches, in addition to my regular duties.

I enjoy my work, but it is challenging. One of my greatest challenges is dying to myself and setting the right priorities. Please pray for me.

## Two Goats Changed Their World

In Uttar Pradesh, India, GFA missionary Harish Kumar was able to reach out to the lost by distributing goats. And through seeing the love of Christ demonstrated in a tangible way, some people have received Christ!

Sharat Debjit was penniless. He and his wife tried everything they could to provide for their family, but because they were low-caste, they couldn't get good jobs. Their children were scrawny and malnourished. The family's outlook was bleak.

Harish and his church found out about Sharat's situation, and during the annual Christmas gift distribution, they

gave Sharat's family a pair of goats. A short time later, two baby goats were born.

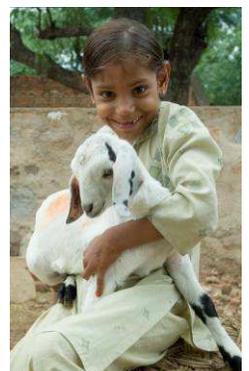
For the first time, the family is free from the bondage of poverty. Sharat's children have plenty of nourishing milk to drink, and they have plenty of leftover milk to sell in their community.

Being touched by Christ's love through the goat distribution, Sharat and his family wanted to know about the Savior who truly cared for them. As Harish shared the Gospel, Sharat and his wife knew they wanted to follow Jesus. Now the family is faithfully walking with Him.

In Punjab, India, one GFA

missionary gave blankets to 200 slum dwellers in his area. Now, many are eager to hear what he has to say about the God of the Bible.

"As people received these gifts, their faces were overwhelmed with joy, and a few shed tears of happiness," he wrote.



The mission of the GFA School of Discipleship:

**“To train young people to be devout followers of Christ and to live their lives in light of the Great Commission both during their time of service at Gospel for Asia and in the rest of their lives.”**



**Above:** Witnessing on the streets in Dallas

*Thank you so much for your loving support and prayers, which are precious to the Lord. You make it possible for me to serve the native missionaries who are laying down their lives to advance the Gospel in unreached lands. Thank you for standing with me!*

*For His glory,*

*Rob Gaebler*

## GFA School of Discipleship

Half of my service at Gospel for Asia is working in the office, and the other half is as a mentor in GFA’s School of Discipleship (formerly the “Road to Reality Internship”). Ten young men and women are here for a year to serve in the office and grow in their relationship with the Lord. The goal is to infuse their lives with Jesus Christ and train them to be His disciples. My life was greatly changed during my year as a student in the program, and during that time God called me to join staff full time. I am now in my second year as a mentor in the program.

I have the incredible privilege of discipling Alex, Danny, and Shawn this year. The four of us live in a rented house

activities with the rest of the students and discipleship team. These have included evangelism, camping, worshipping and giving thanks and praying together, watching a movie, and doing a service project.

I really enjoy the close-knit community in our house because we help each other stay on track following Jesus, and we get to practice love and unity. A verse God put on my heart at the beginning of the



**Above:** We went camping with a couple GFA families in October



year is Col. 3:12-14, which says, “Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in



perfect unity” (Col. 3:12-14). God has been leading each of us to make difficult sacrifices this year, but we have been greatly helped by the love and joy that prevails in our house. Each of us is able to share our burdens and receive prayer anytime we need it.



**Above (top - bottom):** Danny leading worship on camping trip

Enjoying chess with Shawn during lunch break

Alex making dinner

Alex came here in January, and he will graduate December 19th. He is from Iowa, so of course he’s a great guy! Alex adds a lot of fun to the house, but he’s also very earnest. He has grown a lot, and also gone through some hard times, especially the death of his father in August. One of the things that touched Alex the most was

near GFA. During the day we serve in various roles in the office at GFA, and the rest of the time we share life together. The four of us pray together most days, for Asia or each other. Every week we also cook our meals, clean the house, go shopping, and have Bible study together. And at least once a month we have

the way the GFA family gathered around him during his time of grieving. For the last couple years God has put missions on Alex’s heart, and just recently he made the decision to join GFA full time after he graduates!

Danny and Shawn are both from Washington state. They started in August and I have already seen them both grow a tremendous amount and make some very painful, deliberate choices in obedience to God. I have been amazed by Danny’s continual commitment to obey what God is telling him. He is fully embracing the hard lessons of brokenness and submission to leaders. Shawn has blossomed being away from home for the first time. He brings transparency and openness to the house, and has a real heart for evangelism.

I love these guys. Please that I would grow as a leader, especially in leading Bible study well, becoming less self-centered, and setting a good example at all times.



**The Guys:** Danny, Rob, Shawn, Alex