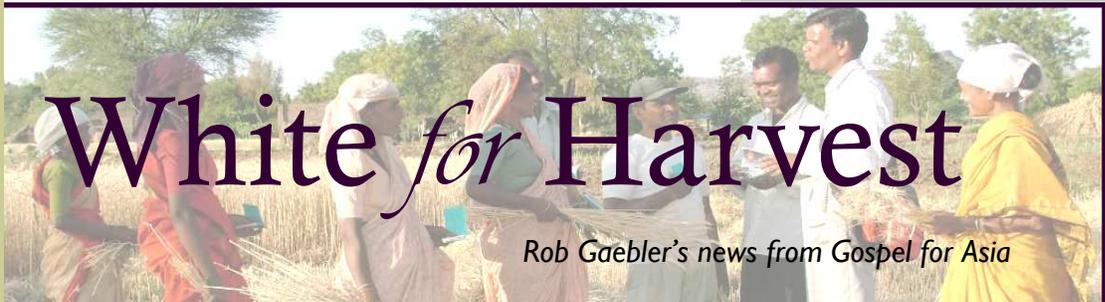


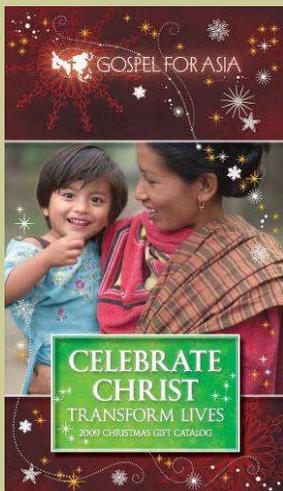
Do you not say, 'There are still four months and then comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest! (John 4:35)



White for Harvest

Rob Gaebler's news from Gospel for Asia

November 2009



Above: We can celebrate in the spirit of Christmas by sharing the love of Christ in tangible ways to the most needy. If you would like to find out more about giving gift to bless a family in Asia this Christmas, you can visit www.gfa.org/gift or call 1-800-946-2742.

Dear friends,

I hope you are doing well as you read this letter. I thank God when I think of you and your love for Him. Thank you for your prayers for me and for my mom's health. She has been doing well.

Christmas is a time of joy and celebration for us. However, for many millions of people in countries like India and Nepal, they do not have this joy. They live in desperate poverty, or have never heard of our Savior.

Here at Gospel for Asia, we have been working hard the last couple months to bless the people of Asia this Christmas. How are we doing that? Through the Christmas Gift Catalog! This catalog is a great way for us to give selflessly to show Christ's love to people who are truly in need. You can give chickens, goats, water buffalos, or a rickshaw to a poor Dalit family. Or you could donate a bicycle or Bibles to help a missionary with his outreach.

It is mind-boggling to think how great a difference even a simple gift can make to someone who is poor. Gowri, a struggling widow with three children, received a hen from the Christmas catalog. When it produced chicks, she sold five of them to pay for a life-saving medical treatment for her daughter. In her gratitude, she gave a portion of the proceeds to her local church as well. She was left with five chicks at home to meet the needs of her family. Gowri is deeply grateful for this chicken, which has blessed her family so much.

One man who was given a cow from last year's Christmas Gift Catalog broke down weeping when he received the gift. There had been no crops to harvest that year, and thus no work for him from the land owner. He just couldn't watch the suffering of his family anymore. "Today I was planning to commit suicide," he told our missionaries. "But now I have hope. I know that there is a God who loves me and cares

about me." This precious man and his entire family opened their hearts to the Lord Jesus.

You can look at the catalog online at www.gfa.org/gift. We are praying that we can extend hope to 100,000 families in Asia this year. Wouldn't that be a fitting way to celebrate our Savior's birth!



Above: Gifts like blankets and cows can make a big difference to poor Dalits—even the difference between life and death!

Christmas in CR

The Church Relations Department is playing a major role in getting the catalog into the hands of people who might be interested in giving. Last year, we sent 12,100 catalogs to churches to distribute to their people. This year, Troy and Tony spent most of October calling churches to offer

them our catalog, and as a result we have sent over 28,000 catalogs for church distributions this year! The churches give one catalog to each family and show the 3 1/2 minute DVD during the announcement time. I enjoyed organizing this campaign for CR, which involved coordinating between the people in CR and other departments at GFA, organizing "work parties" to



Above: I helped organize a "work party" for people to individually stamp 16,000 catalogs with a special "church" tracking code



hand-stamp all these catalogs with a special code for churches, and entering the orders in the computer.



Family Time

I drove up to Iowa for a week in October to visit my family. I mainly wanted to spend time with my mom and encourage her. We went on some walks together, I bought her a juicer so she can juice carrots for nutrition, and we had some good times talking. It has already been 2 months since she was diagnosed with cancer, and she has gone through three rounds of chemo treatment, but she feels good. I am grateful for God's mercy to my family. I believe that God will heal Mom.

I also met my nephew Timothy, and visited Dave and Leslie. Timothy is cute!

Birthday Reflections

My birthday was on Sunday, November 8th, and the pastor preached on Psalm 90, which is about the eternity of God and the brevity of human life. **"The length of our days**

is seventy years—or eighty, if we have the strength; yet their span is but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away... Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom" (Psalm 90:10,12). My birthday was my 10227th day on earth. How many more days do I have? Today might be my last. The pastor, not knowing it was my 28th birthday, mentioned that Keith Green and David Brainerd both died at age 28.

So I have been thinking about my mortality, especially since my mom has cancer. *If I knew this were my last day on earth, how would I live it?* My first idea

was to squeeze the most out of the day by talking to as many people as I could and urging them to give their all for Jesus. But then I realized that it would be far better for me to listen quietly to the Lord, and

just do one or two things in His power and guidance. After all, on Jesus' last day, He didn't go gather a huge crowd and deliver His most urgent and powerful sermon; He spent it quietly with a few disciples.

As William MacDonald said, "The true effectiveness of our lives lies not in rushing madly about on self-appointed missions, but in Spirit-directed activity that

is ascertained by patiently waiting on the Lord." That's something I can do every day of my life!



Top: Kissing babies—at least, my nephew Timothy

Above: Dave, Leslie, and the newest Gaebler



Mom and I. It was good to see her.

"The true effectiveness of our lives lies not in rushing madly about on self-appointed missions, but in Spirit-directed activity that is ascertained by patiently waiting on the Lord." — William MacDonald

"Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom" (Psalm 90:12).

School of Discipleship Is a Blessing

I have enjoyed living with Tim and Judah, who are serving at GFA for a year. I admire Judah's eagerness to dive in and learn new things, and Tim's knowledge of everything tech and his eagerness to help people. God has helped us work through some things and grow closer as brothers.

Everyone in the School of Discipleship recently went camping along with three GFA families. We had refreshing times with the Lord individually and together. We were taught about the Father's intimate

love for us, and how He loves to see His children seeking Him as their treasure with all their hearts. God wants us to give Him our whole hearts.



School of Discipleship camping trip.

Below: Me with Judah and Tim, my housemates



*Dear friends,
I thank you from the bottom of my heart for your partnership in the work of the Gospel. May the joy of Christ fill your hearts during the holidays, and through us I pray that Christ's love will be shown to many people in Asia. I am grateful for your faithful support and prayers.*

Yours in Christ,

Rob Gaebler

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I would love to hear from you!