

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

February 2010

Dear friends,

Another year has come and gone, a year of great trials and great victories. I believe that God's hand has been at work in every situation, and I am grateful to serve such a wonderful master. All praise to Jesus!

- In 2009, we saw an acceleration in the harvest in Asia as multitudes of people put their faith in Christ. By the middle of the year, we heard reports that there was as much fruit in the first five months of 2009 as in all of 2008!

- Here in the U.S., GFA staff representatives spoke in 110 churches, resulting in 3,600 missionaries and children being sponsored. I helped make this possible through my work in Church Relations.

- At the same time, 100,000 street children struggle to survive each day in Mumbai, India, and nearly 400 million Dalits, or "untouchables," are despised and crushed by their society. These are the people our hearts break and long for.

Thank you for helping take Christ's love to them through your prayers and support. Truly I could not serve at GFA without you.

Some Memories from 2009

One of the major events of 2009 was Manja's release from prison in May. Manja is a national missionary in Nepal who was imprisoned for nine years for a crime he did not commit. While in prison, he still led many people to Christ. His release was an answer to years of prayer.

Also in May, the GFA staff went on a retreat for a time of fellowship and refreshing. I remember it well, because it coincided with a time of personal trial in my life.

Gospel for Asia celebrated our 30th anniversary on July 3rd. Praise God for His faithfulness these 30 years! The ministry started with one man with a vision, and now we have grown to over 16,500 missionaries in Asia, 67 Bible colleges, and radio broadcasts in 110 languages.

I continued to serve on the Discipleship Team. In July, six students graduated from the School of Discipleship, including Danny and Shawn who had lived with me. Three of the students are coming back on staff at GFA. In August, Tim and Judah arrived and came under my roof.

but we are trusting the Lord. Many people are praying for my mom.

In October, massive flooding in the states of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh, India, left 10 million homeless; 170 GFA-related churches were destroyed or damaged. GFA responded by providing relief supplies to over 10,000

people. Many of the Christmas gifts this year (cows, chickens, sowing machines, etc.) were given to the flood survivors. My first nephew was born on October 4th, making me an uncle. What a blessing!

I constantly get asked, "How is your mom doing?" Thank you for praying, and for asking. Mom has been feeling good for the most part, though the chemo treatments wear her down some. She has gone through 8 out of 12 rounds of chemo. She has also been teaching five classes at a Christian school. It was a real blessing for me to get to visit home in October and December and spend time with my mom and the whole family. Please keep praying for God to do a miracle and heal her completely.



This national missionary was attacked because of his fruitful Christian witness



GFA-supported missionaries gave out thousands of Christmas gifts to help the poor in Asia

Titus, a GFA-supported national missionary in Assam, India, suffered severe head injuries when he was attacked by a man with an axe. He was attacked because he has led many people to Christ. He was in a coma but he miraculously survived and is recovering. His wife extended mercy to the attacker and decided not to press charges.

"Without

God's knowledge nothing happens, and I know the Lord will heal my husband."

September 22 is a day I will never forget. Dad called me at 7:57 in the morning to break the news: Mom has cancer. She went through surgery to remove a tumor, then started chemotherapy. She has stage 4 colon cancer. This is a major trial for my family,



Above: Our prayers answered! Manja released after nine years in prison

Below: Massive flooding in India that left 10 million homeless. The top picture is a GFA-supported church.



Below: The Discipleship Team with Brother K.P.

Me with Judah and Tim
The Discipleship Team with the wonderful young people we get to work with



Gaebler family portrait. Aren't we beautiful?



Four Common Questions about Rob

People ask me a lot of the same questions, so I decided to address the most common ones to satisfy your curiosity:

1. How long are you going to be at GFA?

This is what I want to do with my life. I have now been serving at Gospel for Asia for four years, including one as an intern and three on staff. When God called me back on staff, I believe it was a call for life. Since then, I have never wanted to do anything else. The souls of men and women in Asia are my treasure. As C.T. Studd wrote, "Only one life, 'twill soon be past, only what's done for Christ will last."

2. What do you do at GFA?

By serving in the U.S. office, I am raising support and awareness for the national missionaries in Asia, who are doing the work of evangelism and church planting. I work in Church Relations as an Administrative Assistant. I arrange travel and communicate with churches about GFA speaking engagements, do conference prep and follow-up, and do special projects. I am also involved in the School of Discipleship, working with students who come to GFA for the one-year program.

3. Is there a special girl in your life?

No, I am not courting anyone. I trust that God will provide a

wife for me if and when that will be best for my ministry. Christ is my great love, and I want to serve Him with all my might whether single or married.

4. Do you need more support?

Thank you for your generous support and concern for my welfare. God has met my needs, and I am doing very well. Some people had to drop their support recently, while others started. Overall I received 88% of my needed support in 2009, and right now I am at 94% of my goal of \$1939 in monthly pledges, or short by \$117 per month. Your support definitely goes a long way and I greatly need and appreciate it!

Top: I am living with the Johnson family now.

Parents Jonathan and Michelle; boys Cody (10), Andrew (4), and Kyle (8).

Middle: Playing with the boys

Bottom: "Helping" Kyle clear the table

Quotes from School of Discipleship Graduates

"This was the hardest year of my life...and the best." - Haley

"The GFA family lives out a radical devotion to the Lord. I picked it up from them." - Rob

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. May God bless you this year!

For His glory,

Rob Gaebler

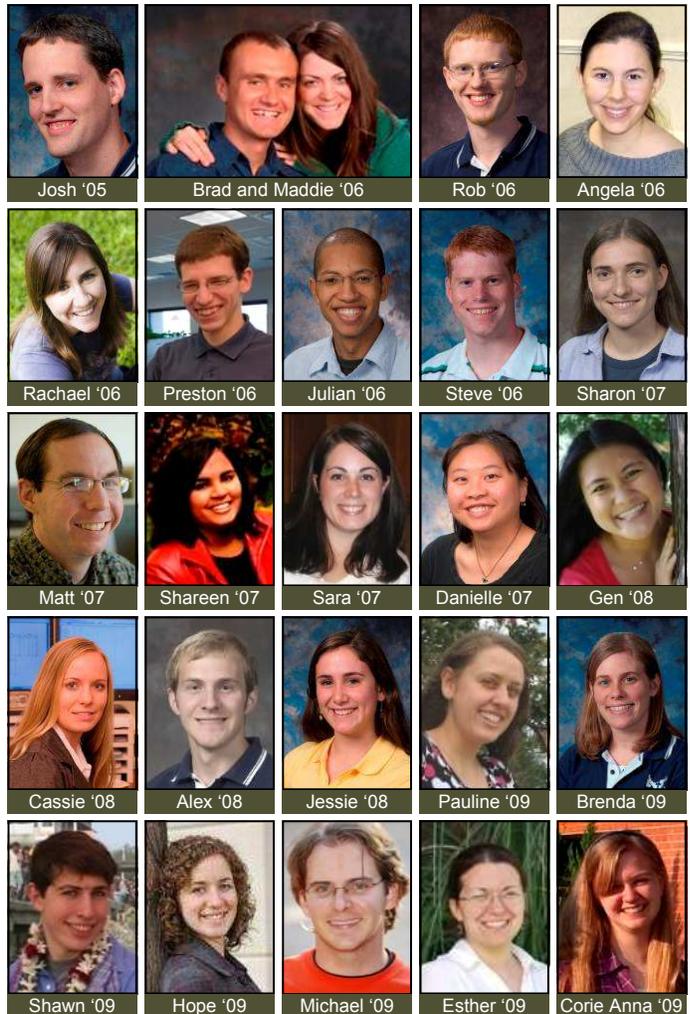
Faces of God's Goodness

For two and a half years, I have served as a house leader in the School of Discipleship, mentoring younger guys who come for a year. Due to a decrease in the number of male students, I transitioned out of that role in January, and I am now living with the Johnsons, a family serving at GFA. I continue to serve on the Discipleship Team and help with student activities. Lord willing, I want to lead a household again when more students come, but for now I love being with the Johnsons! They are showing me great hospitality. I enjoy playing with the boys and hanging out with Jonathan – a goofy, yet very insightful guy.

God has done great things through the School of Discipleship over the years, breaking and molding and changing numerous lives, including my own. Of the 45 students who have graduated, 25 have come back on staff at GFA or are raising support to come, and others are serving the Lord elsewhere.

Please pray for me, that I can redeem the time God has given me, now that I have more freedom. Also, please pray that God will continue to bless the School of Discipleship, that He will bring tons of new students, and that He will continue to radically change their lives.

School of Discipleship Graduates Who Have Returned to Gospel for Asia



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 I would love to hear from you!