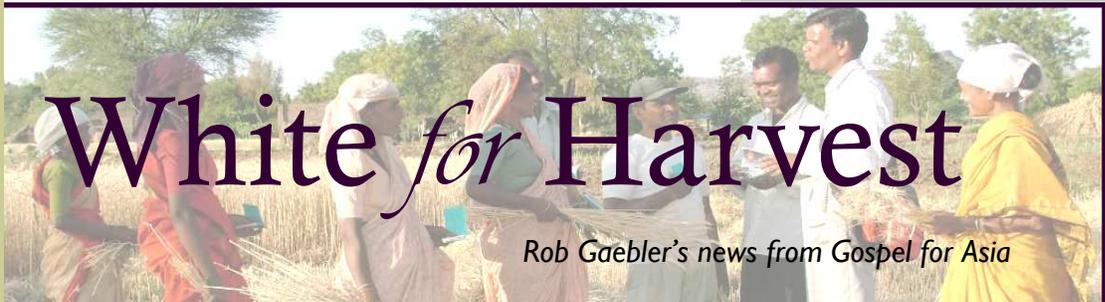


Do you not say, 'There are still four months and then comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest! (John 4:35)



White for Harvest

Rob Gaebler's news from Gospel for Asia

April 2010



In March I went camping for a personal prayer retreat. It was a good time of refocusing on the Lord and being refreshed.



Above: A woman like this one was so desperate to find inner peace that she actually sacrificed her two young children in a river

Below: Hindu devotees celebrating the Kumbha Mela festival in Haridwar, India



My dear friends,

Recently I contemplated this question: Why do I serve the Lord? Why do I give everything to reach the lost? My answer is simple: *Because Christ is worthy!*

There is a famous story

about two young Moravian missionar-

ies who sold themselves into slavery, never to return, in order to take the Gospel to the slaves on some island. As their boat pulled away from their weeping families on the shore, one of the young men cried out, "May the Lamb that was slain receive the reward of His suffering!" Christ's reward is the souls of men and women who are now lost in darkness but who will come to know Him through our witness. This saying became the call of Moravian missions.

How can I talk about my "sacrifice" when I think about Jesus pouring out His blood for me on the Cross? David Livingstone, who endured great hardship and suffered great loss to take the Gospel forward in Africa, said, "I never made a sacrifice." The Lord is indeed worthy of all I have to give!

I recently heard a story that put things in perspective. Some of my friends went to India in January, and a national missionary they met, "Kumar," told them about an encounter he had with a woman. It brought tears to my eyes when I heard it.

The story is about an Indian woman who had no peace in her life; her soul was deeply burdened. In her desperation, she went to her Hindu priest. This woman asked the priest how she could find the peace she was so earnestly seeking. Imagine her

"Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory" (2 Tim. 2:10).

heartbreak when the priest told her that in order to find inner peace, she had to make a great sacrifice.

The woman took her two young children and waded out into the river, until it was too deep for them to stand. Then she let go. As the river carried them away, they cried out, "Mommy, mommy, save us!" She watched them float away around the corner, then she returned, weeping, to the shore. Our missionary Kumar met her there and found out what she had just done. Then he shared the Gospel with this woman, about God's love for her and how she could only find peace and forgiveness of sins through Jesus. She had never heard of Jesus before.

I wish I could tell you that this woman's story was the exception. But the reality is that over 2 billion people alive today don't know our Savior's name, and many of them are just as desperate to find forgiveness of their sins.

Right now, a Hindu festival called the Kumbh Mela is taking place in Haridwar, India. An estimated 60 million Hindu devotees have made their way to the banks of the Ganges River over the last three months. There, they wade into the filthy brown waters to

"cleanse" themselves of their

sins.

"Hundreds and thousands of people daily come here believing their sins will be washed away by bathing in the Ganges," writes GFA's correspondent in the area. "Please pray that they would know the real Savior who has the power to wash away their sins."



Above: Millions flock to the Ganges river to cleanse themselves of their sins

Below: Missionaries supported by GFA are sharing the good news of Jesus with these precious people





Front: Tony
Top to bottom: Rob, Joe, Troy, Pam, and Sandy

“As an Engineer I was trained to look for ways to improve systems, but there is nothing that I could suggest to improve the way this worked. Thank you.” — Pastor S.Y., Andover, MN



Nick visiting me

*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.*

Yours in Christ,

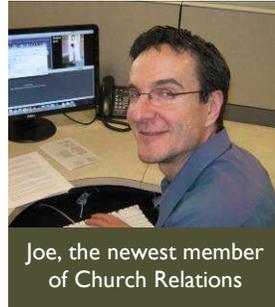
Rob Gaebler

Church Relations

Church Relations has been hopping with activity lately! In February, Joe and his family arrived on staff at GFA, and he was placed in CR. Joe is a fun guy, and it's great to have him with us. He has been training on how to call pastors to set up church meetings. In March, Tony, who has served in Church Relations for almost three years, was chosen to be our new department coordinator. Tony has a lot of vision and discernment, and we are all excited to have him leading our department.

Sandy, Pam, and I continue to handle the administrative side of Church Relations. By God's grace, over time we have perfected our system of letters, phone calls and literature that we send to churches when we have a speaker scheduled to go there. Several churches have commented on how well organized GFA is. After we sent a speaker to one church, the pastor commented,

“As an Engineer I was trained to look for ways to improve systems, but there is nothing that I could suggest to improve the way this



Joe, the newest member of Church Relations

worked. Thank you.” I have also been learning some new things, as Sandy has been cross-training me on how to register for pastors conferences and make the travel arrangements for our representatives who speak in churches.

One very exciting new development in Church Relations is what we call the “Speaker Video.” It is five minutes of clips of GFA staff representatives speaking in churches, interspersed with endorsements from pastors whose congregations have been greatly impacted by our message. The DVD is powerful!

You can watch it at www.gfa.org/church. In just the last couple weeks, we have already booked meetings at four churches as a result of emailing them the link. Pastors are emailing back and saying, “Sure, come speak to our church!”

when they had been saying no. Troy and Tony are practically giddy about having this new tool—it's like adding a whole new person to the department. Praise the Lord!



Watch what Francis Chan and other leaders have to say about Gospel for Asia.

Watch the 5-minute Speaker Video at www.gfa.org/church to see why so many churches have been deeply impacted through GFA's message.

Other News

I had the privilege of helping represent Gospel for Asia at the National Religious Broadcasters Convention (NRB) in Nashville, TN, from Feb. 25 to March 3. NRB is an opportunity for leaders in Christian media to make connections. We gave materials to over 800 people who came by GFA's booth, and Taun (GFA's media man) had dozens of important meetings. This is my fourth year at NRB, and I love it. I enjoy working together on a team, and the excitement of sharing GFA with people.

In March, my friend Nick drove down from Oklahoma to

visit me for a couple days. We first met in 2005 when we worked a summer at the Center for Talented Youth in Los Angeles. He recently started as a math professor in Oklahoma City. He served in the GFA office for a day, we explored Dallas for a day, and he visited my church on Sunday. It was great to see him again after these years.

Thank you so much for praying for my mom. Your prayers are a very

real help (2 Cor. 1:11)! She has been feeling great since last month, when she was taken off chemo treatments for the time being. Please keep praying for her – she really needs them. I want my family to experience God's refreshing mercy and love. Another things that's on my heart is for more young people to apply for GFA's School of Discipleship, especially guys. The deadline to apply for August is April 30. Please pray for more applicants.



Above: Telling people about Gospel for Asia at the NRB Convention in Nashville, TN

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I would love to hear from you!