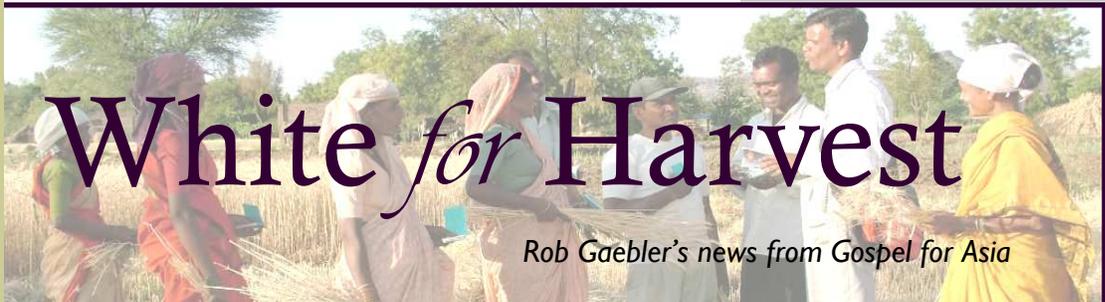


Do you not say, 'There are still four months and then comes the harvest'? Behold, I say to you, lift up your eyes and look at the fields, for they are already white for harvest! (John 4:35)



# White for Harvest

Rob Gaebler's news from Gospel for Asia

February 2012



## My prayer for 2012

*O Lord, I pray that You will give us the faith daily to take up our crosses and follow our Lord Jesus who shed His blood for us. Teach us to lay down our own desires and ambitions and humbly identify ourselves with His life and sufferings. Make our lives very fruitful as we devote ourselves, through Your power, to prayer and to winning the precious souls Christ died for. May our great aim in life this year be to delight Your heart and to bring You glory by accomplishing Your will. You are our life and we love You. In Christ's precious name I pray, amen.*



Camping with friends Michael and Nick in October

Hello dear friends,

Happy new year! What do you look forward to in 2012? During our first extended prayer meeting of the year, Brother K.P. shared some thoughts with us. His message was for us to lay down our lives and embrace the cross. People want to expect wonderful blessings and rise above their difficulties in 2012. But Jesus didn't promise His followers happiness and success. His disciples followed His footsteps and were martyred. Over and over again, when GFA-supported missionaries experience persecution, their response is to say, "Oh Lord, thank you for the privilege to suffer for Your sake." The way we find strength isn't to escape hardship but to identify ourselves with Christ and find our life in Him.

Brother K.P. said, "I pray that this year will be one of renewed commitment to the cross, the blood, the suffering. To identify our lives with Him... Second, as a ministry, I pray that we will have a renewed focus and passion to see people repent and turn from sin and come to know the Lord Jesus Christ and follow Him as His disciples. We can give food to a hungry man, but if he dies without Jesus, he is lost."

Some memories from 2011:

In **June** we began to distribute Brother K.P.'s new book, *No Longer a Slumdog*. It is a gripping narrative about how God is bringing hope to chil-

dren in crisis through GFA's Bridge of Hope program. (You can order the book for free at [www.gfa.org/book](http://www.gfa.org/book)). We have prayed many times that God will use this book powerfully. Praise God, we have already distributed 200,000 copies of the book.

In **June** I began having unpleasant health problems. I am grateful that the Lord took me deeper in my faith in Christ during this time. In November my condition improved greatly when I began taking medication. Thank the Lord!

In **July**, in answer to four years of prayer by GFA leaders on the field, we started the first six Bridge of Hope centers in the nation of Myanmar. This is one of the nations where child labor is the most rampant because severe poverty leaves families with no other option. In the words of our correspondent on the field, "There are uncountable children whose lives are going toward hell without knowing the love of Jesus." The new BOH centers will meet a great need.

In **September** and **December** I visited my family in Iowa. My mom is feeling fine though she continues to undergo chemotherapy treatments, so please continue to pray for her. Four of my siblings are in college or grad school, and one just finished his master's de-



Me with my roommates Andy and Michael at an ugly sweater Christmas party. Michael will be getting married on April 7th!

gree. I am proud of them!

In **December**, in a wonderful answer to prayer, one of Gospel for Asia's missionaries was released from prison after 12 years. He had been imprisoned because he was so influential in his country and had helped start a Bible college. During his imprisonment, we weren't even sure where he was or if he was still alive. On being released, he said, "I thank God for leading me to a deeper spiritual life. My faith in the Lord grew by reading the Bible while I was in prison."

Thousands of gifts were given to help families in Asia through GFA's Christmas gift distribution (goats, chickens, rickshaws, Bibles, etc.), thanks to many kind donors here in America and around the world.

Throughout the year I grew in my skill and knowledge in IT. I enjoy the variety of my work, the collaboration with colleagues, and the challenge of problem solving. Plus I am delighted that I am helping save souls through this work.

**I Have Been Reading...**

The third class of blessing consists of spiritual treasures which are ours by blood atonement but which will not come to us unless we make a determined effort to possess them. These are deliverance from the sins of the flesh, victory over self, the constant flow of the Holy Spirit... They are to us what the Promised Land was to Israel, to be entered into as our faith and courage mount.

—That Incredible Christian, by A. W. Tozer

*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. May the Lord draw you closer to Himself and provide all your needs in 2012.*

*Yours in Christ,  
Rob Gaebler*

**The Gospel Advances in Enemy Territory**

Gospel for Asia-supported missionary Murli Ghulam was arrested on July 2 as he was leading a prayer meeting in a believer's home, and charged with bribing and forcing people to convert to Christianity. The charge was brought by anti-Christian extremists in his village. Murli lives in an area with strict laws that make it difficult to share the love of Jesus with people from the area's traditional religions. These statutes, which are often used as a basis of arresting Christian pastors, are known as "freedom of religion laws" and outline what steps must be taken to legally change one's faith.

Several local anti-Christian extremist groups were horrified at the changes they were seeing in their villages as many people abandoned their traditional religions and chose to worship Christ as a result of Murli's ministry. Murli has seen dramatic answers to prayer in his ministry, which may have riled up these groups. Here are some of those stories.

**Panjit's Story**

Panjit Lukkise was the target of a witchdoctor's wrath. The witchdoctor summoned evil spirits to attack Panjit with the goal of ending his life. It seemed to be working; Panji's health started to fail. The 40-year-old man went from doctor to doctor, spending all of his family's money seeking



Sunil was in great pain until Murli and his church fasted and prayed for a week for his healing

a cure. He was incredibly weak and could barely keep any food down. His health continued to go downhill. But then the family heard about Murli and carried Panjit to the missionary's doorstep. Murli cried out to God on Panjit's behalf, and this suffering man experienced full healing. He ran back to his village and shared the wonders Christ had performed in his life. Because of Panjit's testimony, 80 people chose to follow Jesus in that one village!

**Sunil's Story**

Sunil Andamimad was in the hospital with a painful ulcer that perforated his stomach.

When the doctors failed to provide any relief, Sunil begged his family, "Please take me to Pastor Murli; he can heal me!"

When Murli heard Sunil's request, he prayed and Sunil got a little better. Then Murli asked his church members to pray and fast for seven days for Sunil. At the end of that week Sunil was healed.

**Their Testimonies Free Him**

When they heard their pastor had been arrested, believers from several villages rushed to the jail and began telling the police their testimonies. "Jesus has healed



GFA-supported missionary Murli Ghulam and his family are shown here. Murli spent a day in jail after being accused of forcing people to convert to Christianity.

me."

"Jesus has blessed me."

"We ourselves willingly come to worship Him."

When the police heard the testimonies of these believers, they granted Murli bail, and he was released within the hour, though he was restricted from traveling outside his village.

Murli is back teaching God's Word to an average crowd of 250 people on Sundays. Since they don't have a church building, Murli leads Sunday worship in his home.

Murli asks that you continue to pray for him, that God would protect him and his family from danger and opposition. He also asks for prayer that those who brought the charges against him would embrace the love of Christ.