

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)



Rob Gaebler's news from Gospel for Asia

March 2013

Dear friends,

May the grace of the Lord Jesus be with you. Thank you so much for your prayers for me and for the ministry of Gospel for Asia. Last week I spent a couple hours with a missionary visiting from China, and one of the things he said was that the real battle for God's kingdom is fought and won in the secret place of prayer. God's people around the world experience real and vital help from God when we pray. I find that it is difficult to continue steadfastly in prayer. But let us press on and not give up praying! The reward is well worth the sacrifice.

I enjoyed Christmas with my family in Iowa. This was the first time without Mom, so that made it harder, but the Lord helped us come together and have a special time. I also visited some friends, made new friends, and went to a high school youth group reunion.

Can you believe I have already been on staff at GFA for six years? And by His grace, I hope to continue here for sixty more years. Thank you very much for

your financial support; without you I could not be here helping to reach the lost in Asia. By God's grace, I received 100% of my support goal in 2012. If you would like to help reach the lost in Asia by making a one-time donation or become a regular supporter, you can do so at [www.gfa.org/ht/roga](http://www.gfa.org/ht/roga). And thank you so much!

I am very grateful to you who gave to my "100 Languages" campaign for GFA Radio. I was praying to reach my goal of \$4500 to fund radio broadcasts in 100 languages by December 31<sup>st</sup>. Well, someone sent in a donation on the 31<sup>st</sup> that put the amount over 100%! Praise the Lord! I was very excited about that specific answer to prayer.



**Above and right:** Christmas with my family. For breakfast we sought out the recipe for our traditional cinnamon rolls and worked together to bake them.



In December, the staff had a Christmas card "signing party" to thank our donors and sponsors





**Right:** Mennonite youth group  
**Above:** Brenda and Megan went with me to speak to the group

## Mennonite Youth Experience an Indian Village

On December 8th, I had a really neat opportunity to speak at a Mennonite youth group banquet along with Megan and Brenda, two young ladies serving at GFA. We



got creative and did a simulation to tell the story of an imaginary unreached village in India. Each of the youth received a card with the first part of their story saying what their life is like in that village and what their needs are. Then a missionary comes to their village and they read the

next card to see how they respond. Finally there is a GFA Christmas gift distribution in the village, and they read the third card to see how their family is helped. The youth were touched by the message and gave generously to make this story become real life for a village in Asia.



**Lower Right:** 100 million devotees went to the Ganges to dip in the river and wash away their sins  
**Above:** A massive temporary tent city to house the pilgrims

## What Can Wash Away Their Sins?

What was probably the largest gathering of humanity in history just took place. Over the past two months, an estimated 100 million pilgrims — including 30 million on a single day — gathered at the convergence of the Ganges and Yamuna rivers to take a dip and wash away their sins and break the cycle of reincarnation. This is called the Kumbh Mela festival and takes place every three years in India.

Despite the festive atmosphere, there is a desperate reality. My heart breaks for them because their religious fervor is futile — they do not know the One who said, “the water that I shall give him will become in him a fountain of water springing up into everlasting life” (John 4:14). Please pray that these precious people would know the true Savior who can wash away their sins.

ger to himself. As he went along, he saw a woman kneeling beside the river, sobbing and beating on her chest. Moved with compassion, he asked her what was wrong. She began to explain, “The problems in my home are too great, and my sins are many. So I offered the best I have to the goddess Ganges — my firstborn son.” She had thrown her six-month-old baby boy into the river.

The missionary gently told the woman about Jesus, how God loved her and sent His son to pay for her sins. Through her tears, she said, “Why couldn’t you have come 30 minutes earlier?”

*Dear friends,  
I am very grateful for your partnership in the work of the Gospel. I know that through your prayers and support, Christ’s love is being shown to many people in Asia. May the Lord bless you richly and draw you closer to Himself.*

*Yours in Christ,  
Rob Gaebler*

### Baby in the River

Years ago, one of Gospel for Asia’s missionaries was witnessing for Christ at the Kumbh Mela, despite the dan-



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*I would love to hear from you!  
If you would like to make a donation, you can do so at [www.gfa.org/ht/roga](http://www.gfa.org/ht/roga).*