



Gaza: The only evangelical church in the 25-mile coastal strip used to draw hundreds of worshippers to its two Sunday services. Last January less than 10 souls attended. Hundreds of Palestinian evangelicals have fled to the West Bank after the Islamic extremists took over Gaza with increased threat to their lives. Last October the manager of the only Christian bookstore was kidnapped and murdered. And last February a group of masked gunmen broke into the YMCA offices, set off a bomb in the library burning thousands of books.

<Christianity Today, April/08>

Roman Catholic: Last December a Vatican document said that missionaries should aim to convert people and not restrict themselves to humanitarian good works. It aims to correct a "growing confusion" among theologians who argue that "it is enough to build communities that strive for justice, freedom, peace, and solidarity." The Catholic Church also faces increased competition from Pentecostals and evangelicals, particularly in the third-world countries.

<Christianity Today, February/08>

Qinghai: This western Chinese province is sparsely populated and riverheads of major rivers like the Yangtze, Yellow and Mekong. 44% of the 5.4 millions people belong to 55 minority groups: 22% Tibetans, 16% Huis, Tus, Salars, etc. Most are under the influence of Lamaistic Buddhism. It is one of the poorest Chinese provinces. Recent survey showed 12% of children under 5 are seriously undernourished. Estimated 40,000+ are Christians. Besides having to struggle for daily living, they also seriously lack of spiritual resources. For some Christians broadcasting is the only avenue for biblical teaching and growth.

<Far East Broadcasting, www.liangyou.net, 12/07>

Bosnia: A mission worker who used to play hockey was inspired by the way children who suffered much in the war took sticks using them as guns. He started a hockey school and clubs in the capital that have evolved into a national sports foundation. The teams afford opportunity to share the love of Christ and one-on-one relationship with the boys. Some have become Christians.

<Mission Network News, www.mnn.gospelcom.net, 3/6/08>

Audio Bibles: Thousands in a US city are listening to the Bible while driving, doing dishes or any other daily task. An agency has distributed 40,000 Audio Bibles to 100 churches of 55 denominations. Signed up to listen 28 minutes a day for 40 days, a person will hear the entire New Testament. Pastors have noticed quite a positive change in their people for growth, commitment and outreach.

<Mission Network News, www.mnn.gospelcom.net, 4/11/08>

Buryatiya: Close to 1 million people live in Buryat Republic of Russia just north of Mongolia. They practice a hybrid of Buddhist and shamanist faiths and Russian secularism. The young people try to be irreligious, yet cannot escape the status quo and become hopeless. A young woman converted after seeing the great change in her parents' lives by the gospel is working with FEBC to begin on May 1 a radio broadcast aimed at youth.

<Mission Network News, www.mnn.gospelcom.net, 4/8/08>

India: A four-man film team were jailed for showing a film on the life of Christ and falsely charged for forcing people to convert. They were beaten the first day. Later the officers wanted to see the film. They then explained the gospel and prayed for the officers who began treating them kindly the next 3 day before their release.

<Mission Network News, www.mnn.gospelcom.net, 4/11/08>

Togo: A group of 2 orthopedic surgeons, a nurse and their families spent 10 days in a mission hospital. Without an orthopedic surgeon for 8 years, the hospital filled their schedule with appointments 2 days after their arrival. Due to the need for longer post-operative care, the doctors were able to spend more time with the patients concerning their physical and spiritual status. In the 3rd day one doctor led a woman to the Lord.

<Mission Network News, www.mnn.gospelcom.net, 4/11/08>

Ghana: An agency has developed a manual press for making interlocking building blocks without the need for mortar. Not using electricity, they only need sand, water and cement to make blocks anywhere. Each block costs about \$0.5 and they can be used to build a small building nearly 10 times faster than usual.

<Mission Network News, www.mnn.gospelcom.net, 2/29/08>

Teaching English: It has been a key tool in every mission field. Cornerstone University in US is in its 3rd year of offering a Masters Degree in Teaching English as a Second Language (TESOL). Students can do most of the work on-line with just 2 weeks of on-campus instruction, so missionaries in the field can take part. All instructors have done overseas teaching. It is practical training.

<Mission Network News, www.mnn.gospelcom.net, 3/31/08>

Mission Hospitals: Due to equipment breakdown and the lack of proper repair/maintenance technicians, some say that within 10 years there will be closed. A Christian agency responds by creating a training program for national workers. Another problem is the difficulty in getting repair parts. They are building a relationship with an organization in southern California that supply these parts.

<Mission Network News, www.mnn.gospelcom.net, 4/10/08>