

A New Mission Field

Continued

stage lighting, and his wife, Deb, formerly a producer and host on national television, had recently begun attending BCF. At the same time, Brother Russell Terry, who is gifted in initiating projects, research and organization, moved to Lima from Arizona. When asked to help all of these people enthusiastically agreed.



Brother Lonnie & Brother Ed Byskal

the set was built and furnished, and by March 19, 2004 the first four programs, entitled "What is God Doing Today?" were recorded.

For the next year, the *Global Answers* team got together to produce programs, and in the spring of 2005 they began to air on local stations throughout the United States. By the

time Brother Erik began to broadcast *Global Answers* on the Gospel Channel, he was using three satellites to reach forty-five million homes from Western Europe all the way to the Chinese border.



The GA crew: Rick & Deb Johns, Russell Terry, Franco & Amy Grillo

the United Kindom, and here in the United States.

We are so grateful for the opportunity God has given us. The satellite broadcast is a vehicle which enables us to reach a vast mission field in a way that we never could if we attempted to visit them in person. Ultimately, our focus is not on the broadcast itself, but on the commission to go into all the world and preach the Gospel.

Graduation Day

Continued

Brother Rashid in the early 80's. He was just retiring as a warrant officer from his years of military service and spoke English well. A lovely and gentle man, his cooperative heart made it obvious he would be a great help in our efforts to reach the Bride in his own home nation. For more than twenty years, he was our contact man in Pakistan. In recent years he suffered off and on with poor health. His night vision was worsening, yet he continued to do all he could to reach the Urdu speaking elect-lady.

As our heavenly Father, the Great Coordinator, would have it, before taking Brother Rashid off the scene of mortal life, He raised up other younger men to carry on the work of spreading the Message through the ministry of the Word and translation onto tape and into print. Our dear Brother has gone to his reward, but we will see each other again. What a wonderful thought.

GLOBAL MISSIONS

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Visiting New Believers on Sakhalin Island



Deaf/Mute Believers with Bro. Slava (back row, right)



Bro. Eugene with a sister who signs his words to the believers



Foot washing for the very first time

The Summer 2005 issue of *Global Missions* contained an article about a new group of Believers located on Sakhalin Island between Russia and Japan. No one had witnessed to these people; no one had preached to them; no one even knew the group existed until two men from the island showed up at last year's spring meetings in Donetsk, Ukraine. However, what is even more amazing is that all fifteen people in this group are deaf and mute.

Immediately brothers made plans to help this new group of Believers. They began transcribing sermons, including those from the convention in Donetsk, so that this deaf group would be able to read the messages. Two ministers from Russia, Brother Eugene Yakovlev from Orenburg and Brother Slava Rodionov from Kazan, agreed to visit the island.

When they reached the Believers, they found them hungry for the Word and desiring fellowship with believers able to help them understand the Bible,

much like the Eunuch who asked Philip, "How can I understand except some man teach me?"

During the meetings, Brother Eugene and Brother Slava performed all three Biblical ordinances, baptizing the Believers and then conducting their very first communion and foot washing service. But one of the most moving events of the services, according to Brother Eugene, was the singing. The brothers and sisters knew that there is generally a song service before the preaching begins, and so they also sang. Brother Eugene said that their groaning sounds were one of the most beautiful things ever heard.

Now, since they can only read, we are sending them as much reading material as we can, and, although at this point no date has been established, Brother Barry is also planning to visit the island. Please pray for these Believers and for us as we endeavor to meet their specific need.

Graduation Day For Brother Abdul Rashid Gill

Brother Lonnie Jenkins

Precious in the sight of the LORD [is] the death of his saints ~ Psalms 116:15

In February, Brother Rashid (he never seemed to use his first name) had gone, as his habit had been for several months, to assist, in ministry and encouragement, the group of believers in Wah Cantt, Pakistan, about thirty miles from his home city of Rawalpindi. While visiting in the

home of one of the believers, Bro Rashid suddenly pitched to the floor with chest pain. He was taken to a hospital, but the medical staff could not revive him. A massive heart attack had cast him from this dimension to the next, into a body that will never again feel pain.

I had been making trips in and out of Pakistan for about ten years when I met

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A Look At Missions

One year ago, the first issue of *Global Missions* contained an article looking at the history of BCF outreach and looking ahead to the future. At that time we were in the middle of transition. Brother Lonnie, who had spent nearly half of his life traveling the world as a missionary, was recovering from open heart surgery and had decided to reduce his travel. As a result, while he is still involved with oversight of missions, a new and unique mission field has opened to him (see "A New Mission Field" on page 3), and Brother Barry has taken on the role of full-time travel. In addition, Brother Jim Crook, a deacon at BCF, now helps to manage the funds that support ministers, translators, printing, travel, and equipment purchases around the world.

This local redistribution of the work load has created greater efficiency and new opportunities overseas and much has happened in the last two years. Groups have been established in areas never previously visited, such as Kazakhstan and Sakhalin Island. Printing books in the Russian language is now an in-house operation at churches in three different nations, and five distribution centers have been established to reduce mailing costs. Brother Branham's sermons are being translated and printed with a goal of distributing two new titles every month. Tracts for outreach have also been translated and made available to the Believers.

Thankfully, we do not work alone. Brothers from Canada, Germany, Norway, South Africa and the United States have also helped. They joined ministers from Belarus, Latvia, Lithuania, Russia and Ukraine for four conventions in Alushta, Ukraine, with 500 – 600 believers from all over the former Soviet Union attending each one. Other work that your generous contributions supported last year in Russia was the distribution of more than \$6000 worth of Bibles, the reprinting of the poster, *The Revelation of Jesus Christ*, and printing the 1200 page book of fifteen sermons in *The Revelation of Jesus Christ* series.

Progress has been made in other nations, as well. After thirty years since the Message was first introduced in Pakistan, there seems to be a fresh fervor for the Word, and the torch which has been



Praying over handkerchieves in Ukraine



Singing in Peru



Worshiping in Pakistan



Baptizing in Malawi



Enjoying the Word at the Autumn convention in Ukraine

Funding for Ministry & Translation Around the World



Above: Holding *Revelation of Jesus Christ* books in Ukraine carried by incredibly faithful men, is being passed to a new generation. As in the Russian-speaking nations, Pakistani translators also aim to produce two messages a month.

Modern communications make keeping up with what is happening around the world much easier, but it is still necessary to visit areas where we are working to truly understand how we can be the most helpful to the saints of those nations. While Brother Lonnie, Brother Jim and Brother Barry work together in oversight of the missionary work, all of the travel is done by Brother Barry. In 2004 and 2005, he made nine overseas trips to the nations of Kazakhstan,

Russia, Siberia, Lithuania, Norway, Peru, Honduras, South Korea, Tanzania and Ukraine. So far, Brother Barry has several trips lined up for 2006 including Lithuania in March, Germany, Ukraine, Russia, Tanzania, Israel and the Sakhalin Island of Eastern Russia.

It is encouraging to see the Believers in these nations multiply and mature in their walks with the Lord. As we watch world events unfold, we are reminded now, more than ever, that this is the end-time. While we have the opportunity we must continue to help our brothers and sisters around the globe, whether that means aiding the saints in established churches, or visiting new areas to introduce the truth of the Gospel.

A New Mission Field

Missionary work has always been a central part of Believers Christian Fellowship. For more than thirty years Brother Lonnie Jenkins traveled the world introducing the Message in nations such as Pakistan, Malawi, Korea, and Russia. Then, as the churches in those countries became more established, Brother Lonnie began to feel the burden for them lift as the Lord placed another group of people on his heart: those in Muslim lands.



Brother Lonnie & Brother Jeff on the GA set

However, sharing the Gospel with people in such extreme societies would be difficult, even dangerous; but the Lord opened the perfect avenue to reach not only the Islamic community, but also a world-wide missionary field.

Since 1997, the local services here at BCF have been broadcast on Scandinavian television from the island nation of Iceland. Gradually station owner, Brother Erik Erikson, expanded the coverage, and by 2003 he was broadcasting via satellite into Europe. At that time Brother Erik approached Brother Lonnie about the possibility of BCF producing a new program for his satellite Gospel Channel.

Church services are common on all Christian stations, and often when people are looking for something to watch they will pass up a man standing behind a pulpit. But when they come across two



Brother Lonnie & guest, Brother Eugene Braun, prepare for a broadcast

people having a discussion, they will often stop and listen in on the conversation. It was this format that Brother Erik proposed we use.

As we considered this new venture we were amazed to discover that the people with the experience necessary for this undertaking were already sitting in our assembly. BCF has been sending videos out since the early nineties, so equipment and an experienced crew were already in place. In addition, Brother, Rick Johns, who does professional

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