



The HFA

BULLETIN

January 2015

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New partnership .02

During the last 6 months we have started a partnership with Voice of the Martyrs and completed our first project.



Opportunities in the Himalayas .03

Have you ever considered the isolated conditions that people can experience in the Himalaya region?

...for those
beyond reach.

Jesus is our greatest gift

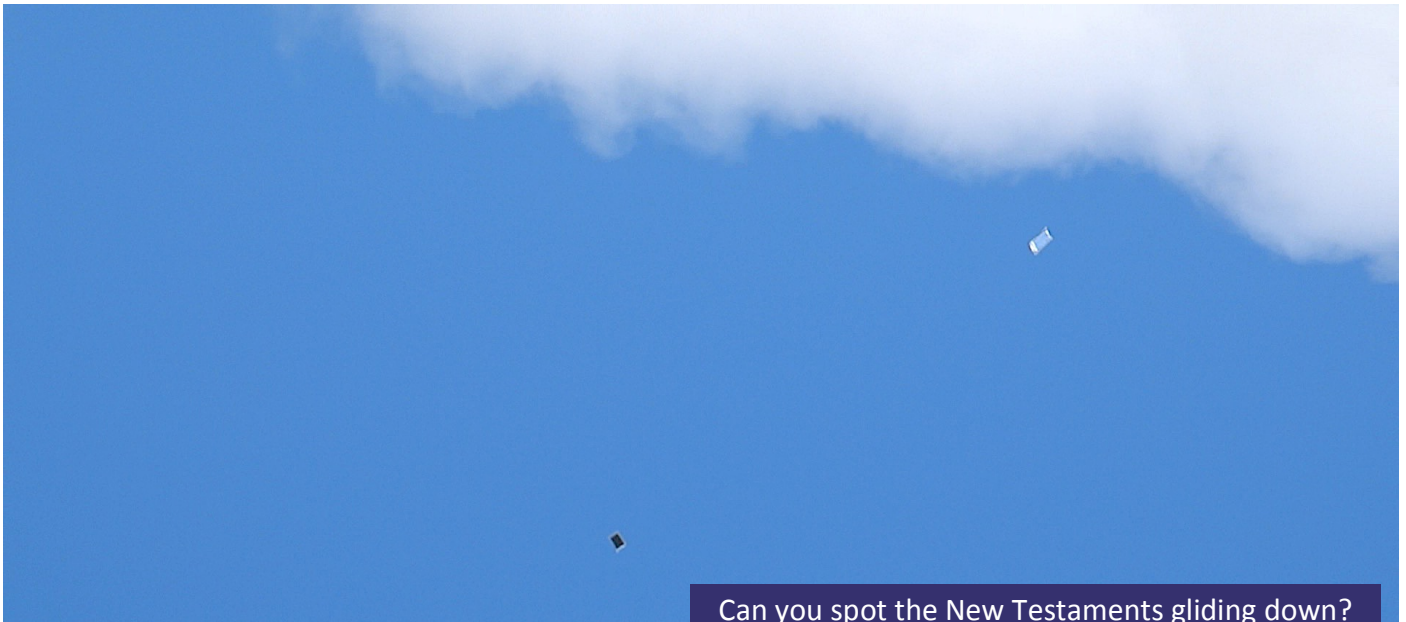
Jesus didn't come to satisfy our selfish desires, egos or appetites! He came to be to the soul, what bread is to the body.

Jesus said: *"For the bread of God is he who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world. Then He declared, "I am the bread of life." "No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him, and I will raise him up at the last day. I tell you the truth, he who believes has everlasting life."* (John 6:33,35,44,47)

Jesus came as the Manna from Heaven to fill our desperate starvation of everlasting life. Angels, shepherds, wise men, all the heavenly hosts and the great star lighting up a stable in Bethlehem pointed to the truth that Jesus is our true and only **Hope From Above**. We discover and experience Jesus being food for our souls. Where we don't just hear about Him but experience inner transformation and are filled with supernatural joy, peace, hope and love for others. At that moment we become a part of God's plan to give this life to people all over the world.

There are people everywhere waiting, watching, hoping, even longing to have their empty hearts filled. Jesus also says that no one can come unless the Father draws him or her. This means there are people all over the world God is drawing in and he is calling you to be a part of it. We don't want a single person missing out on this free gift of life. May it be our goal to be more and more transformed into the image of Jesus so we can use our God-given spiritual gifts to play our part in God's global rescue mission.

Blessings, Richard
HFA Board Chairman



Can you spot the New Testaments gliding down?

Our first completed project

It is with great thanks to God we are able to report on a very exciting year. We have been doing research to find people who are unreached, but also isolated from the gospel. In one place we have come across a large people group with millions of people unable to access the Gospel. Due to the conditions that these people live in, we are unable to disclose their country or the specifics of the work we are doing. However, we still want to share with you a glimpse of this project.

As part of our research we looked into different mission organisations that are in the process of reaching this particular people group and their different methods of doing so. Unfortunately, many of these methods are either very risky, or not very effective for the people.

In this process, God opened up the door for us to work with *Voice of the Martyrs* (VOM). Our aim is always to provide technical assistance to partner organisations (such as VOM), working with them because their expertise, in their particular field of ministry is something we lack. VOM indicated that they do have needs, and that they could use our assistance to make their work more effective. They have provided us with materials for tests and helped us understand their specific needs.

With the goals given to us by VOM our team got to work. The outcome is that New Testaments can now be

taken to places where this was not previously possible. We may never be able to report on results such as how the New Testaments have impacted the lives of these people, however, what we do know, is that these people are aware that they are given a bible as these people are literate and the New Testament given to them is written in their heart language. Their cultural background also allows them to understand the way of salvation based on reading the bible only.

What inspires us to continue to help VOM into the future with their ministry is the fact that these isolated people from the underground church want to receive more New Testaments. They have stated that these deliveries are the most effective way of reaching their people group with the gospel.

As we start this New Year, will you pray with us? Pray that these people receiving a New Testament will have hearts prepared through the Holy Spirit to understand and embrace the liberating Truth of the Gospel. Many in this people group are held captive politically, some physically as well. Yet we know that some of these people are truly free in Jesus, and we praise God for this! Through their testimonies we are reminded that the freedom experienced in Christ surpasses all liberation that this world could ever offer.

You can learn more about what *Voice of the Martyrs* does in your country, for more information on VOM Australia you can go to www.vom.com.au.



One of VOM's ministries involves launching balloons with New Testaments.



Providing air transport to reach the Himalayan people

In 2015 Lord willing, we would like to expand our work to a country of 30 million people in the Himalayas. We are working on finalising the practical arrangements for this to go ahead in partnership with a well-known bible translation organisation.

Many parts of this country are geographically isolated. Difficult terrain, poor infrastructure destroyed or damaged by conflict, rapid deforestation, environmental damage, and susceptibility to natural disasters all weigh heavily against development. Recovery will be difficult so long as current political instability remains. Despite significant hindrances, this Himalayan country, which was effectively an isolated medieval kingdom, has made notable progress in the last 50 years.

About 300 ethnic sub-groups and castes speak more than 120 languages with 49% being literate. Some of these sub-groups remain isolated and have not had the opportunity to hear the gospel.

In 1952 the first church was formed with 29 believers, and by 2010 there were 850,000 followers of Christ, most of who came from lower castes. This evangelic growth was achieved by the willingness of

these people to suffer for the gospel, profound prayerfulness, and a local-driven long-term commitment to evangelism and church planting. Converts from Hinduism to Christ usually become outcasts, even more challenging for converts in the face of increasing fundamental Hinduism.

Our plan is to work in partnership with missions and ministries that are already established in this region. We aim to help them by providing air transport to reach these people groups and castes that are still unreached. Like any project, a lot of preparation has already taken place to work in this area. We hope to make a final decision with the board early this year regarding our commitment to support this project.

- **Please pray with us for perseverance for believers, that neither laws of man nor threats of violence will deter them from sharing the gospel.**
- **Pray also for the unreached groups/castes, that their hearts will be ready and Christ will soon be revealed to them.**
- **Lastly, pray for wisdom and guidance for HFA's board as they consider this project and make decisions for the next steps.**



HFA Thanksgiving Dinner

Mid-November we gathered for a meal with all the staff and volunteers that have been involved with HFA during the last year. Each person has had valuable input in our ministry and it was great to take a moment to thank everyone for his or her contribution.



It is great to reflect and see how God has brought exactly the right people at the right time to come alongside HFA, and it is exciting how many different people have already been involved. We look forward to a new year of working with many gifted people!

Partnering in Prayer

We have been encouraged by the prayer support we have received for HFA's work. We are entirely dependent on God's leading and provision for this ministry, and prayer is the most powerful tool! So thank you for your partnership!

To provide more specific and regular prayer requests to our prayer supporters we have started sending out regular 'prayer updates' in the last couple of months. These are sent out every few weeks or as needs arise. If you would like to receive these emails too, contact Kelsey using the details below.

Some current prayer requests include:

- Thanks for Christ and His sacrifice on the cross, and for the task to bring the good news to the ends of the earth.
- Thanks for our staff and volunteers that have been involved with HFA in the last year.
- Pray for the development and carrying out of the projects overseas that HFA is involved in, and for the partner organisations we are working with.
- Pray for opportunities and conversations in Australian churches about the unreached and God's calling.
- Pray for our daily bread, that the Lord will open the floodgates of heaven and provide the needed resources.

Sharing about the inaccessible and unreached in churches

Alongside our work overseas, our ministry involves sharing the plight of isolated and unreached people groups with Christians in Australia. In the last year we have had displays at conferences, spoken in different women/men's groups and in church services.

Would you like to have a HFA representative come and speak at your church or ministry group?



We have ordained pastors who can come and share a message at your church, or we can do shorter presentations about the unreached and the possibilities in aviation and technology to support pioneering ministry. In these presentations we also aim to raise personal awareness about God's plan for our lives, and how we can serve Him in our daily settings.

If this interests you or your church, don't hesitate to get in touch with us.



Contact Details

For more information or if you have any enquiries, contact Kelsey on:

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If you would like to contribute financially to HFA, there are the following options to make a donation:

1. Online via www.hfa.org.au/get-involved/giving.
2. Cheques, payable to "Hope from Above Inc."
3. Direct deposit to: Hope from Above Inc., BSB: 033 107, Account: 440226

For direct deposit please contact the office prior to making the donation so we can provide a donation number for the reference field.

Please note that gifts for Hope from Above Inc. are not tax deductible.

www.hfa.org.au

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