The HFA BULLETIN

July 2015

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God's Rescue Plan

Our world has 196 countries, with 16,350 people groups, who speak approximately 6,900 different languages. What a wide variety of culture, customs and families! And each person is created by an awesome God. But not every person knows about his or her Creator.

We know that from the day Adam and Eve had to leave the Garden of Eden God is on a mission to redeem his people and call them back to him. His rescue plan included sending His son Jesus Christ to dwell among us, die on the cross and defeat death, for the salvation of our sins! We now have hope for eternal life. Hope comes when we find our salvation in Jesus, when we call on him, when we come to him, and pray in his name. What about those who haven't heard of this message of hope?

This is where you and I come in. We are called to partner in God's rescue plan, to deliver the news of the gospel to the ends of the earth. Jeremiah was called to be a prophet to God's people, despite his fear of being too

young for the job. Moses was called to bring the Israelites out of Egypt, despite his lack of confidence in speech. Paul spread the gospel after an encounter with Jesus shifted his zeal from persecuting Christians to sharing the good news. God works in miraculous ways, and uses people like you and me. These guys had no high qualifications to do God's work!

HOPE FROM ABOVE

It is an honour that God would choose to use us in His plan! And as we go out, we can hold onto the promise that He will guide us as we depend on Him (John 15:5,16).

Kelsey

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing... You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit-fruit that will last-and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you." John 15:5,16 (NIV)

South America

And the Gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations,...

Matthew 24:14

Recently I returned from a trip to South America, where I had the opportunity to catch up with our local co-workers.

We were invited by a mission with a ministry in the Amazon to do some consulting work for them. The objective was to learn from their leaders and get a taste of their ministry in order to give some advice in return. For 60 years now this Amazon ministry is doing a terrific job in reaching unreached people with the good news about Jesus.

We were personally convinced of this when we visited one of the villages by speedboat, where an outreach was started, resulting in the first believer about 7 years ago. Despite much opposition, more people in the village have since joined the first believer in the faith in Christ. Currently land is being cleared to commence with the construction of a small church. The health of the community has also improved, which is evidence of the holistic ministry they have received. The ongoing bible studies are being nurtured with solid teaching and this Amazon ministry is providing the necessary training for the leaders.



It was then our turn to offer suggestions on how aircraft can be utilised to overcome the isolation, and what strategies would have to be followed to make it happen. As I listened and learned from the conversations, I recognised that there are people



located 'beyond the river'. These people are outside our visibility, too far away to call for help and beyond the reach of the speedboat.

I later asked if we could somehow fly over one of these isolated people groups 'beyond the river', to take a look for a better understanding of the situation. Although there is documented proof of the groups' existence, I was told that we do not know yet where we would have to fly, as the locations are still unknown.

This has resonated with me since my return. I'm imagining the people living in the unknown locations. They might be calling out for our help, but no one can hear them. How can they ever be reached?

For us at HFA we desire to assist missions such as this Amazon ministry in their vital work of finding and reaching the people 'beyond the river'. We concluded the meetings with the decision that a strategic plan will be formed, including the required survey work.

Since then our local co-workers have already set out to negotiate hiring a floatplane for a few months. This plane will be repositioned in the area for a trial run to overcome the large distances.

Thank you so much for helping our ministry! Please keep praying for the people 'beyond the river' and

for Hope from Above...

...for those beyond reach.

Hans Executive Director



Partnerships **Wycliffe**

HFA recently has formed another partnership, this time with Wycliffe Bible translators, which enables us to start working in the Himalayas. Through such partnerships we cannot only keep the costs down, but also



fast-track the time it would take to setup HFA overseas.

Networking paves the way to achieve the goal of reaching the isolated, and allows organisations and individuals to complement each other. To give you just one example, our staff members T & C are currently studying a Himalayan language under the supervision and guidance of Wycliffe, which is an organisation with incredible language expertise beyond the grasp of our technical mindsets. The goal is to provide aviation and technology support to Wycliffe and other ministries in the region after the language learning is achieved.

Sharing about the unreached

May we invite you to hear more about the unreached in isolation?

We have fantastic speakers that would love to come and share with your Church or Christian group.





You can book appointments for speakers, presentations or even sermons by emailing info@hfa.org.au.

HFA Website

We are continually updating our website. One of our latest additions is our Frequently Asked Questions section. Being a brand new organisation, and one with a very specific purpose, we have encountered many different questions.

Here is a sample of some of the questions:

Is HFA an international organisation?

No, we are an Australian not-forprofit organisation based in Melbourne. We work overseas by partnering and networking with existing ministries, whom we consider the experts on the ground. Sometimes we simply support them with technology for their own use. On other occasions we send our staff (e.g. a pilot) to alongside the existing work organisation long term. This saves us the time, effort and costs, as we avoid registering and setting up HFA overseas. Currently we are involved in projects in 3 countries overseas, from Asia to South America.

How many people work for your organisation?

HFA presently has about 17 staff volunteers and working worldwide, with numbers fluctuating based on the current needs. Additional people assist on specific projects as and when needed, for example with specific research.

> For more FAQ go to: www.hfa.org.au

Contact Details

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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 <u>www.hfa.org.au/get-</u> <u>involved/giving</u>.
- 2. Cheques, payable to "Hope from Above Inc."
- 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 <u>not</u> tax deductible.

Partnering in Prayer

We are entirely dependent on God's leading and provision for this ministry, and prayer is the most powerful tool! So we thank you for your faithfulness in prayers!

- We do covet your prayers for the ongoing work in the partnership we have with Voice of the Martyrs. This ministry is vital and we ask you to pray fervently for isolated people to receive the hope of the gospel, for healing of their body, soul, and spirit, which they so desperately seek.
- We are thankful for the partnership with Wycliffe and pray for T&C to succeed in their language studies.
- Pray for the remaining isolated tribes in South America, that these will be located and will be transformed through the power of Christ.
- Please pray with us for the renewed desire of the Christian Church to reach those who are suffering and remain unreached until today, with no option or hope.
- Can you please pray that the Lord will send more labourers in to the harvest, for we can see that the harvest clearly is ripe.

If you would like to receive prayer points for HFA on a regular basis, you can sign up to our *Prayer Updates* that are emailed every couple of weeks. Just email your details to info@hfa.org.au.





www.hfa.org.au

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