

...FOR
THOSE
BEYOND
REACH

NEWSLETTER

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WELDING WITH GOD

Recently I had the opportunity to help in the workshop with some welding while building our second water drone. It was amazing!

Everything fitted together perfectly - a tribute to our engineer who designed the craft.

The pieces prepared for assembly matched the drawings exactly.



Metal Inert Gas (MIG) Welding

Through the visor of the welding helmet, I watched the metal of the two work pieces liquify and, much like waterdrops, merge together before cooling off as one united work piece. All the while sparks were flying, smoke rose and the air was filled with the calming sound of the perfect arc, a tribute to the correct settings on the machine.

The welds were rather long. Several meters long in fact!

In my mind I found myself back in Switzerland during a mechanic apprenticeship, where my boss required me to do an exceedingly large amount of welding. At the time I hated it. It was not my favourite task. But now I thought it was actually amazing! So what had changed?

In between there was a prayer: ***"God what do you want me to do with my life?"***

There was also a promise: ***"I will do it, no matter what it is."***

Not once did I think of participating in missions! After all, what could a mechanic do?

But the Lord always answers prayer.

- First, He answers in His best interest, to achieve His purposes.
- He also answers in our best interest, for He loves us.

Today I find myself in a demanding role at HFA. Everything is not always easy. I enjoy some parts of the role more than other parts. But there is always purpose!

Through tasks as simple as welding, unimaginably hard places can be reached with the gospel of Jesus the Messiah!

With the sizzling sound of the welding torch in my hand, I thought to myself that God sure never wastes anything.

A painful experience as an apprentice had turned into a valuable and enjoyable skill to serve God! I felt privileged and started to thank God that He allowed me to go through that apprenticeship.



Welded Water Drone Structure

Other things soon came to mind to thank the Lord for:

- The people who prepared the design and the perfectly fitting work pieces for me to weld.
- The guy who donated a good welding machine - the same brand I used as an apprentice.

Welding for God sure seems to be rewarding! But then is that what we are doing? Welding **for** God?

Our experience in *HFA* is that we can do nothing **for** God, except maybe one thing - to submit under the Lordship of Christ.

If we do that, we seek to serve Him according to His will. In the process, we recognise our limitations and start to depend on God more.

God created the needed resources such as iron, copper, nickel, carbon, etc. to produce steel. He determined the laws of physics, such as the use of magnetism to generate electricity for the welding arc.

We are actually “**welding with God.**” Sometimes, more than we realise!

Hans
CEO

LOOKING BACK

Considering the circumstances, we look back on 2020 as an incredibly good year and we would like to thank our staff, volunteers, partner organisations and you – our precious prayer warriors and supporters!

God listened to your prayers and, despite Covid and restrictions, we were able to continue our mission:

To help bring the gospel to unreached and inaccessible people groups, overcoming their isolation through aviation and technology, where no other alternatives are available, and without which, these people would remain unreached.

In previous years we would have travelled more to do tech projects overseas. Instead, last year we produced a lot more equipment in our factory in Melbourne and then shipped the finished goods overseas to our partners.

Research and consulting with partner organisations continued online, just as we have done in previous years.

We are thankful to report that again thousands of paperback, digital and audio Bibles have been distributed to the most inaccessible and hostile places on the planet.

The water drone development is nearing completion with version #2 currently being assembled.

Thousands of Bibles are currently being packed and prepared for transport via the water drone to a restricted and hostile location in Africa, where there is currently no known access to the gospel.

We have continued to upgrade our workshop with a plasma cutter, a bigger trailer and two gantry cranes.

To God be the Glory!



Gantry Crane Assembling



MIG Welded Part



Water Drone Launch Dolly

WHAT'S AHEAD

At HFA we take great comfort in God's promise in Matthew 24:14 where it says:

"And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come."

Nevertheless, there is a great risk of distraction. For example, we could be distracted by Covid and the differing opinions people hold, or distracted by many other ministry opportunities.

However, we aim to keep our focus on reaching isolated people groups in hard-to-reach places where situations are often hostile towards the partners we support with aviation and technology.

We continue to support our partners in Asia and Africa, who work in locations where faith in Jesus can cost you your life! Perhaps these places are a less attractive ministry opportunity. These places demand for us and our partners to be intentional about our ministry. We have to try things, fail at things, try something different, adapt and alter. Ultimately, it is God who builds His kingdom, and we are only invited to come along as tools to be used.

What encourages us most is when God grants breakthrough and lets us become witnesses to how the above scripture is being fulfilled, one location at a time!

Perhaps Christ's call to the believer, to "go and make disciples of all nations", found in Matthew 28, is less about disciple-making and more about us witnessing Christ the Lord having "all authority in heaven and on earth" and to experience "I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

What better gift could we have received this past Christmas than finding purpose and comfort in going to share Christ the Lord with the nations.

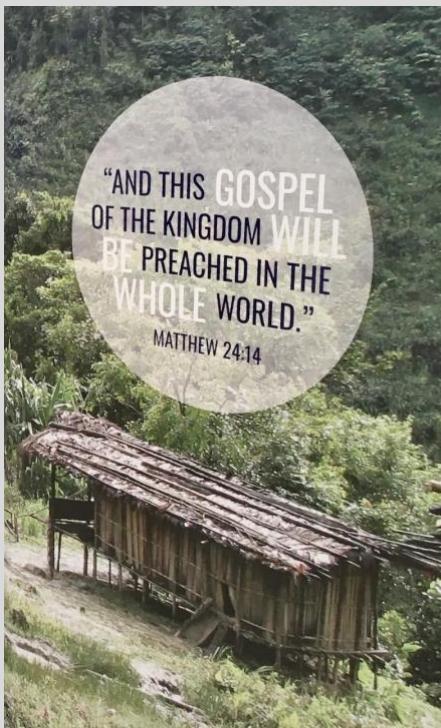
Maybe you too would like to pray:

"God what do you want me to do with my life? I will do it, no matter what it is."

May Jesus not only be the Saviour, but also the Lord of our lives!



Volunteers Packing Bibles for Africa



Vision Statement:

To declare God's glory among the nations, his marvellous deeds among all peoples.



THE IMPACT

At times, people ask about the impact of HFA's aviation and technology solutions – a good question that should always be asked!

Our partners report to us how the gospel has been received when information trickles out of isolated and hostile places. One such testimony:

“Who could send God’s words to such people like us? We are writing letters to good people of God who risk their lives to send us this audio Bible. The first word that is penetrating my heart is that Jesus came down to earth to be crucified and resurrected and ascended and now is in heaven.

*I have come to have this question: What would our lives be without the presence of God? **It looks like everything in my life is transforming into a new creation.** Thank you for those who are sending the ‘new world’.”*

Sometimes we ourselves are impacted too, like a new volunteer who commented after the first two hours of packing Bibles:

“This is the first useful thing I’m doing this year.”

Another said:

“After packing all these thousands of Bibles, if one of them is leading a person to Christ, it was so well worth it!”

Later we realised that even if no one received a Bible and the project utterly failed, it would still be worth trying to bring the gospel to the nations, as an act of obedience and worship to Jesus.



Endless jungles in South America

FUEL FOR PRAYER

- Pray with us for a more permanent mission helicopter in South America. So far, we have helped a local partner organisation in renting one and we now need wisdom on what to do next. There is actually a need for multiple helicopters.
- Pray together with South American believers for 1000 workers to join the harvest.
- Pray for HFA and our Network partners *HiL* and *Hin*.
- Pray for our partners working in Asia, the Himalayas, Africa, and South America.
- Praise God for the appointment of a Chief Operation Officer. Ask God to help and equip him to do this work.
- May God receive the glory in all we do.



Rental helicopter for missionaries

May the Lord bless you and keep you throughout the year 2021!

Your HFA Team

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If you would like to contribute financially to HFA, please use one of the following options to make a donation:

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Please send to:
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Account Name: *Hope From Above Inc.*

Bank: Westpac

BSB: 033 107

Account Number: 440226

Reference Field: *Your Name*

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