The Journey Home

APRIL 30, 2012

Mark Baxter wrote in his book, The Coming Revolution: Because Status Quo Missions Won’t Finish the Job: “In the last 40 years, over 1 billion people have died who have never heard of Jesus, and around 30 million people this year will perish without hearing the message of salvation.”

Pondering these sad figures, we must ask ourselves, have we become so jaded by death because of the media that these statistics no longer wear any faces? Indeed, these were people who probably did not have the opportunity and joy of knowing about Jesus! We can do something to give them this opportunity to hear about salvation.

I am convinced that this “status quo” Baxter talks about should not be a part of our church and particularly of AWR!

Our team is continually searching for ways to spread the gospel faster, more effectively, and for less money. Recently our engineers examined our Guam Shortwave operations and determined that the 25 year old facility has been doing a good job of winning souls BUT it can do far better with some upgrading and additions.

What did they find? We have 4 big antenna arrays on Guam that are used to broadcast dozens of languages across Asia. Over the last several years we began to use more of our antenna time to reach all of China but it takes 3 of our antennas to do the job. And they were not all designed to blanket China at one time.

This causes two problems:
1) Using antennas that are not designed to reach specific locations means that the signal does not offer optimal coverage and listening enjoyment.

2) Using 3 of our 4 antennas to broadcast 10 hours a day into China robs us of broadcast time for Vietnam, Korea, Muslim Indonesia, and other mission-critical regions of Asia.

We have studied this problem and decided that we must optimize our transmission abilities to reach people in a more effective way. God is already at work; let’s join Him! Veteran correspondent, John Allen, said, “Ten thousand Chinese are becoming Christians each day.”

What does this tell us about China? It’s clear—the fruit is ripe and it’s time to pick! God is preparing hearts for a mighty harvest that has already begun and Seventh-day Adventist must be the head gatherers. We must pick the fruit before it rots or is gathered up by others! Nor can we allow people to go into a Christless graves without doing all we can to broadcast the message of life to them!

“Those who place themselves under God's control, to be led and guided by Him, will catch the steady trend of events ordained by Him to take place.”—R&H, Aug. 5, 1902. AWR does see the hand of God in the events of Asia and the world so we are moving forward in faith and construction has already begun.

The Plan

On the island of Guam, we are removing an older antenna array and replacing it with a new one designed to reach China and other regions of Asia with a more powerful and effective signal. In addition, we are adding a 5th antenna array which will enable us to, not only broadcast to China more powerfully for 10 hours a day, but it will free up 2 antenna arrays which will allow us to reach many other regions simultaneously that must hear the Advent message soon.

You’ll notice that I said, “Antenna Arrays.” These are not like the single antennas you see standing in a field here in North America. Let me paint a picture for you. If you go to a football field and lay out one antenna at the goal post that measures 236 feet long and then walk 260 feet across to the other goal post and do the same—you will have a start on construction for an average curtain antenna.

Then you need to string a vast configuration of cables, all engineered for size and spacing, between the two antennas. Now it’s time to stand it up on end and anchor it in with massive concrete and guy wires solidly into the earth. Remember, it must be able to withstand typhoon strength winds of up to 175 miles per hour on the island too!

What does the major project cost? Not as much as you might think: $2.9 million dollars. As I said, we are moving out in faith and have already started construction due to the upcoming rainy season on Guam. We did so also because we were able to save $180,000 by ordering materials now rather than waiting.
I’m sure you agree with me that we have been in this world far too long and that our actions must equal or surpass our profession of faith.

Current Status

Because many donors already heard about the project and were excited to help, we have received over $1,200,000 to date. This means the project completion goal is 1.7 million dollars. One AWR partner has given $50,000 as a matching gift so for every dollar you give; our donor will match it, effectively doubling your gift!

When completed, the Guam facilities will have the capacity to powerfully blanket over 3 billion people in Asia with the word of God; 90% of them are not Christians nor have most of them ever heard of Jesus Christ.

As many AWR partners have said, “For your mission dollar, AWR gives the greatest bang-for-your-buck!”

Just think about this: If you divide the cost of the project by the number of potential listeners in Asia, it equals to less than .001 cent per person, or $1 per thousand people. Imagine, for $1,000 a million people can be blanketed with the Advent message! This is the opportunity of a lifetime.

I’m sure you can see why we had to move forward and could not hesitate. We are on our way home to heaven and our goal is to take as many listeners as we can with us. Here is just a taste of what listeners are saying about AWR programs:

• “I got changed by the word of God.”

• “I have been greatly blessed by listening to AWR every day. It has given me hope, and peace, immeasurable. I thank you for this.”

• “There is so much superstition in my village, idol worship, and worship of the devil is everywhere. Let this program continue with its truth, so that many will come to know about True God.”

• “So many people here are listening to your AWR programs and their number is growing every day. They have been very encouraged to follow Jesus.”

Your gift of love for the Guam upgrade will speed the return of Christ by helping to blanket Asia with the news of Jesus’ soon return and will encourage each person to follow Him.

Please respond today by clicking the "Join the Guam Campaign" button If you would like to make a larger commitment spread over several months or even a year give us a call at 1-800-337-4297.

No matter what way you choose to partner with AWR, you can be assured that your gift will save souls and will speed the Lord’s return—He has promised!
Your partner in mission,

Dowell Chow

AWR President

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