



Vol. XXXIII

March/April 2010

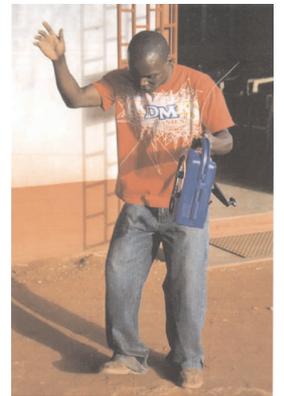
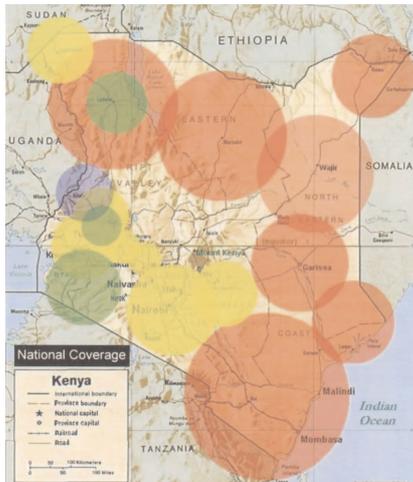
No. 2

Swahili Broadcast Contract Signed!

The following is taken from the contract we signed with Trans World Radio for the Swahili broadcasts.

The NEED: There is great need in Africa for Christian discipleship teaching in order to strengthen the African church. Some Christian scholars have described the Church in Africa as “one mile wide and one inch deep,” clearly showing the need for believers to grow in their Christian walk through Bible teaching and discipleship programs. There is also the category of people known as “least reached” people groups, people who have had little or no exposure to the gospel. These are people living in remote villages where church planting has been weak or non-existent due to the challenges of even traveling there. For such, radio remains one of the most important means of sharing the gospel.

The VISION: Radio broadcasts are a particularly effective way to reach many people in Kenya and neighboring nations. Trans World Radio has established a network of six FM radio stations which reach a large percentage of the population of Kenya around Nairobi, and through a partnership with an independent FM station in Nairobi, the capital city can be reached with TWR broadcasts as well. Heralds of Hope is a well-established and respected radio ministry which can provide effective discipleship teaching programs that can be translated and adapted into the Swahili language of Kenya. Placing Heralds of Hope discipleship programs in Swahili on the TWR FM network in Kenya will build up and deepen the faith of many African believers, both in urban and rural areas.



The MINISTRY: Speaking fluently in more than 200 languages and dialects, TWR exists to reach the world for Jesus Christ. Our global media outreach engages millions in 160 countries with biblical truth. Since 1952, God has enabled TWR to help lead people from doubt to decision to discipleship. Together with international partners, local churches, and other ministries, TWR provides relevant programming, discipleship resources, and dedicated workers to spread hope to individuals and communities around the globe. Whether using high-powered radio to reach people in the Middle East and Latin America, streaming content to Internet users in Asia and Europe, or visiting face-to-face with listeners in Africa, TWR leaves a lasting spiritual footprint.

Your PART: Please join us in praying that God will use these broadcasts to turn many from the darkness and bondage of sin to the glorious light and liberty of the Gospel! Praise God with us for those who have already given to help make these daily broadcasts possible! If you want more detailed information on the specific cost of these broadcasts and how you can help, please call Bob Kauffman at 717-485-4021, Ext. 203. Your partnership is greatly appreciated and is touching lives with the HOPE of the Gospel.

HOH PR Team Schedule

Tue. Mar. 2 7:00PM Hartwell Mennonite Church Hartwell, SC

Wed. Mar. 3 7:30PM United Covenant Mennonite Church Etowah, NC

WATCH THIS SPACE FOR OUR UPCOMING SPRING DINNER PROGRAM DATES!

Sermon of the Month

After Pentecost the fire of evangelism spread. Acts 2:47 tells us the Lord was adding to the church daily, such as were being saved. That must have been a tremendous experience!

The rate of population increase demands renewed effort in evangelism. Our Lord's word is "Ye shall be witnesses unto me, to the uttermost." Therefore, we must revitalize our witnessing ministry. But we must ask how can we revitalize our witnessing? What constitutes EFFECTIVE WITNESSING? We find the answer in Acts 8:26-39.

Several **COMPONENTS** must be brought into proper relationship for effective witnessing.

THE EVIDENT CONTROL OF THE SPIRIT is necessary for effective witnessing. Here was a clear leading of God. The Spirit said, "Arise, and go toward the south unto the way that goes from Jerusalem to Gaza." That is 65 miles southwest of Jerusalem. There could be no question in Philip's mind where he was to go at that precise moment, so he went.

When he got to the place and saw a lone chariot come down the road on its way back to Ethiopia, then the Spirit said, "Go near, and join yourself to this chariot." The control of the Spirit leaves nothing in doubt. Each step was absolutely clear. The Spirit of God directed each detail of this experience. There must be the evident control of the Spirit.

Now the Spirit controls in motion. He cannot direct you or me when we're standing still. It was clearly evident in the precise directions to Philip that the Holy Spirit was in control.

Any witness experience must have this component in proper relationship. There must be the evident control of the Spirit.

THE APPARENT COMMISSION OF A MAN is necessary for effective witnessing. Philip the

Effective Witnessing

Evangelist was chosen for a specific occasion. Earlier in the 8th chapter of Acts we find Philip in Samaria, north of Jerusalem. He was having a great evangelistic campaign. The people of that city came to know Christ because Philip preached the Gospel with power.

But Philip was not only an evangelist to proclaim the message from the pulpit, but he was also a personal worker. So he was chosen for a specific occasion.

Philip gave an immediate response. When the Spirit said to him, "Arise, and go," he arose and went. Philip had farther to this meeting point than the man did who was going from Jerusalem. But they met at precisely the right junction. Philip was a man commissioned by the Lord. He followed God's direction precisely and without hesitation.

And there was a direct question to the Ethiopian eunuch as he was riding along. Philip heard him read aloud and said, "Do you understand what you are reading?"

You see, the commission of a man takes on progress bit by bit, step by step, direction by direction. This helps us to understand there is a difference between a vision and an idea, a commission and a thought. Here the man was apparently commissioned of God. And he followed through. He did what he was asked to do. That is very important.

THE ABSOLUTE CENTRALITY OF THE SCRIPTURE is necessary for effective witnessing. Notice that the Ethiopian eunuch was reading the Scripture on his way back from Jerusalem. He had gone to Jerusalem to worship and he

was reading the Prophet Isaiah and the 53rd chapter. It could well have been he was in Jerusalem for the Day of Atonement. So on his way home he was reading the great atonement chapter where the Prophet foresaw how Jesus Christ would die for the people, that He would take upon Himself the chastisement of our peace.

Evangelist Philip was familiar with this chapter and asked the eunuch, "Do you understand what you are reading?" The reply was, "How can I unless somebody guides me?" He had before him the Scripture. It was a puzzle to him at that moment. He needed somebody to open up its great truth. Philip, started right there and preached unto him Jesus.

Witnessing is all about the centrality of the Word. It brings scope and power to the witness that nothing else can do. While they were going along Philip expounded unto him clearly what Isaiah 53 was all about. The Ethiopian responded, "Here is water, what hinders me from being baptized?"

Do you see what the Scriptures will do? Do you see what God's man will do? Do you see what control of the Spirit will do? It will make an effective witness.

In every witness occasion we need the proper mix of these components: the control of the Spirit, the commission of the man, the centrality of the Scripture. This is an inseparable trilogy if our witness is to be effective. God will then bless us with souls saved. What the Lord has done once, He can do again! Will you go where He wants to send you?

J. Otis Yoder

Vol. XXXIII

March/April 2010

No.2



HOPE HORIZONS is the monthly newsletter of HERALDS OF HOPE, INC. A non-profit corporation proclaiming the living HOPE in the living LORD through the living WORD. It is mailed free to all those who will care and share. Write: PO Box 3 Breezewood, PA 15533-0003 Phone: 717-485-4021 e-mail: hope@heraldsofhope.org. In Canada PO Box 371 Fort Frances, ON P9A 3M7



The President's View

Dying and Living

The coming of Spring is one of my favorite times of the year. While the month of March, here in south-central Pennsylvania, can bring cold and leftover snow, there are signs of the inexorable changing of the seasons.

One of the amazing realities of Spring is the simply stated, but little understood, equation that death equals life. Jesus stated this so clearly in John 12:24; *"Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit."* In the verses immediately following, he went on to illustrate how this truth applies to His followers.

To refuse to die to one's self ensures that no life will ever spring forth. It's like a seed that says, "I'll just refuse to let the warmth and moisture of the soil crack my shell." While the seed will retain its individuality, its shape and appearance, there will be no resulting reproduction; it will abide alone. But dying to self ensures life. As the seed cracks open and the germ of life receives warmth and moisture, new life springs forth. Now this new plant, pulsating with life, has the potential to reproduce itself an hundred fold!

This is the message of Easter. Jesus demonstrated what He meant with His very life. He went to the Cross, allowing His human "shell" to be broken open so that new life might spring forth. The fruit of His death and subsequent new life is still being produced and reproduced today.

Yet we who claim His name have such a difficult time laying down our individuality for His sake and the good of others. Influenced, more than we care to admit, by the culture around us, we hang on to our independence and self-will. This is a tremendous hinderance to our spiritual growth.

Our individuality is like that hard, outer shell of the seed. While it was given to protect the germ of life and express our unique identity, it was never meant to stifle what God intended to spring from within. The Sunshine of His love and the "moisture" of the Word and the Holy Spirit are designed to crack that outer shell and let the true beauty of His creation come forth. When that outer shell is broken spiritual reproduction is possible and the results are evident to all.

Springtime and the commemoration of our Lord's crucifixion and resurrection hold inescapable lessons for us. We would all agree, Jesus is our perfect example. But do our lives give evidence of our claim to be His children? Would those who know us say we exemplify the principles He taught and demonstrated? Do our relationships within the Body of Christ substantiate our claim?

Will you join me in a new commitment to let the Lord "break" the hard outer shell of our individuality so His life can spring forth? Only through our dying will we experience His living!

Sincerely in HOPE of the Gospel,
HERALDS OF HOPE, INC.

J. Mark Horst, President

Stewardship

To God Be The Glory!

I pray that each of you are enjoying a blessed New Year walking with and praising Jesus!

Enclosed is our 2009 Ministry and Accounting Reports. As noted, an audited financial report is available request. Again, I proclaim to God be the glory great things He hath done!

Several highlights of the Report are:

1. Our 15-minute international broadcast was aired 84 times weekly and our 30-minute broadcast was aired 48 times weekly to audiences of millions of people in 10 languages including English.

2. The Hausa language of Nigeria, Africa, and Arabic for Baghdad, Iraq, were added last year.

3. Over 19,000 pieces of Literature were printed, purchased, and or sent out in 2009.

4. 2,587 Bibles and 150 New Testaments in English, Farsi of Iran, and Telego of India were distributed.

5. Note in the responses that 73 testified of salvation.

Several highlights of the Accounting Report are:

1. The miraculous increase in contributions over 08 in spite of the economic downturn. This increase was almost exactly the amount of our increased cost of the new broadcast opportunities God gave us! We serve an AWESOME GOD!

2. The excellent investment income covered the Gift Plan Payments and the expenses incurred over the other income received.

Praise God with us!

BOB KAUFFMAN

“Hope Herald & Calendar Thank You”

Hello dear friends, How wonderful it was to once again receive your very exciting and uplifting magazine and calendar. Indeed very encouraging!

Brittle- Great Britain

This morning, I am so grateful for the most welcome post I received yesterday. You will never know just what it means to me to receive your calendar and your Hope Herald magazine. Thank you so very much!!!

I pray for other lost souls, like I was, will listen and find the “Treasure,” that I found.

Joan - South Africa

I appreciate all the sermons, articles and the study questions, especially the message from the president. It helped me to know the history of Hope Herald. The questions for instance let me test my knowledge and how I am understanding the sermon that I am studying.

Among - Ghana



BIBLE THANK-YOU LETTER

One lady, Sujatha, said her husband left the house for several months. But after receiving a Bible Sujatha's son started reading the New Testament and showed his mother Matthew 7:7. And they both started asking God to bring her husband back home and to save him from his sin. He was addicted to drink and adultery.

They regularly had a family devotion ever since they got a Bible. One night while they were in family prayer, there was a knock at the door. She opened the door, and saw her husband in shabby dress, tired. She welcomed him home and said “Praise the Lord! God has answered our prayers.”

When Sujatha's husband Prakash saw that they were reading the Bible and having a family prayer, he said. “I was so frustrated because we did not have a Bible in our home and I thought we cannot hear God's voice. I gave into sin and left home.

I am so happy now that we have a Bible in our home to read and have our family prayer everyday.

I have now gotten your Bible . I will read it over and over so that the message will be real to me. You have changed my life to become a christian and I have now know Christ, through your booklet that I read.

Ghana

The Hope Herald has been helpful because it makes me wonderful in prayer. It builds my mind toward God like how Job prayed in his trouble and Jacob how he and his brothers become together. So this helped me many ways which I can not talk about.

Dan - Ghana

The Hope Herald has increase my understanding in the word of God by reading it everyday. I has help me to grow spiritually. May God Bless you.

Samuel - Ghana

It helps me like a father to a son because it tells me how Christ come and take my sins away. Obedient is good because as people do not listen make them perish. This make me to separate myself from sin.

Apealete - Ghana

I have received the Hope Herald since my conversion. In those years Hope Heralds were sent more per year. I am now paging through one posted 23 December 1987. I have kept them filed and can always refer back to refresh on a subject. I have been saved and kept for 32 years. I am now 68 years. I have enjoyed the ministry of Heralds of Hope through out the years.

Thomas - South Africa



God has indeed honored their humble faith and answered their prayer. For many people in the villages, the Bible is the only means to know that Jesus is with them. Because they come from pagan background, used to worshiping idols and many people threw away their idols and do not know how to walk with the Lord. The Word of God meets their need. We praise God for the donors, for their love for our nation and our people. We will surely see many souls walking into the kingdom of God because of God's Word.

Family prayer started because of a Bible in their Home!!!

Pastor Vijay