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HOPE HORIZONS

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No.8

God of the Impossible

Hope in Arabic

What are the chances that a Christian broadcaster in an Islamic country receives a license for a Christian radio station? What are the odds that the same broadcaster can receive licenses for 3 more Christian stations? **The fact that Shema Media in Turkey has received these licenses is a miracle!**

But wait; there's more.



Permission Granted

Here's the news as shared by Shema Media General Manager, Soner Tufan.

“Since Alef FM, our radio station in Mardin began, our Shema team has had difficulties of broadcasting spoken programs in different languages. Alef FM's vision is to reach the Turkish, Assyrian, Kurdish and Arabic speaking groups. This vision has been difficult to reach

as we could not get permission to broadcast spoken programs in these languages. We had however, started broadcasting music in these languages.

But this week, we received permission to broadcast in Kurdish, Arabic and Syriac despite all the obstacles. Praise be to God; through our constant prayers, He has paved the way!

The fact that seven of the decision-making board members of RTÜK (Radio and Television Supreme Council) are from Islamic and Nationalist parties made the process even slower. In this, it is God who has triumphed and helped us to scale these high and thick walls. Glory be to His name! Alef FM now has been granted the authority to broadcast in various languages!

Our joy cannot be contained at God's great victory. For us, this is the best Christmas gift! We are thrilled and we wanted to share our joy with you."

We, at Heralds of Hope, are excited about this news because Shema Media had previously requested permission to use our Arabic language programs on this station in Mardin. The reason for our excitement? **This station is in southeast Turkey in an area where there are tens of thousands of refugees.** The approved languages will reach many of them.

Shema Media already airs our Turkish language broadcasts several times each week, and now we anticipate adding our Arabic language program to the Mardin schedule. Pray with us and them for the implementing of these exciting possibilities!

Prayer Call

You can find the Prayer Calendar [here](#).

Bible Bulletin

Praise God! Because of your generosity, people in the DR Congo are receiving HOPE Bibles and Hope News tracts in the Kiluba and Swahili languages. Pastor Umba reports that these materials are touching hearts and leading people to hope in Jesus.

Please ask God to multiply the effects of this distribution.



The President's View

Prayer As Strategy

In August, several of us from Heralds of Hope had the privilege to attend a Trans World Radio (TWR) Footsteps media-ministries conference in Cary, NC. It was a refreshing and encouraging time of hearing about what God is doing through our media partnership with TWR.

One of the workshops offered during the conference was titled Prayer as Strategy. I was challenged and convicted by this workshop.

So often we plan a strategy for reaching a goal, whether in business, ministry, or church. We follow the adage, “plan your work and work your plan.” That’s not necessarily wrong. But too often, we make the plans and ask God to bless them. If the plans succeed, we take the credit; if they fail, we blame God!

As the title of this article suggests, the workshop leader presented the idea of making prayer our strategy. He highlighted steps in this strategy. First, **delight in God**, Psalm 34:7 and 23. He is worthy to be desired, to be sought after. But in order to do this, we need to slow down. We need to take time on a regular basis to listen to Him in a quiet place, to “be still and know that I am God,” Psalm 46:10. Ministry is the overflow of intimacy.

Another important step in prayer as strategy is to **listen**. What is God saying about this specific ministry opportunity through His Word and by His Spirit? The workshop leader pointed out that “ministry is received rather than achieved.”

The final step was **lead**. The promise of Psalm 34:7 is that if we delight in God, He will direct our paths. He will show us how to lead. Too often, we embrace the strategies of men rather than seeking God and His plans and strategies.

One of the final, convicting thoughts that was presented was, “prayerlessness indicates independence.” I find myself there too often! Conversely, “prayerfulness indicates dependence.”

Will you join me here at the beginning of the year 2020 to commit to prayer as strategy? God bless you!

Sincerely in the hope of the Gospel,



J. Mark Horst, President

2020 Starting Strong

Toward the close of 2019, we shared with you the financial needs of the ministry. The appeal letter we sent indicated that we needed \$108,000.00 to meet our 2019 budget of \$1.05 million.

Your generous response is deeply appreciated by the staff and board of Heralds of Hope. The bar graph below shows the results of your giving.



We didn't quite reach our goal of \$1.05 million, as the graph above indicates. But we assure you that all invoices were paid in full at the close of the year. **We also have enough funds on hand to start strong in 2020.** We are grateful to God and each of you for your fervent prayers and your generous giving.

We remind you that millions around the world listen to Heralds of Hope broadcasts each week, in some cases, each day. Their opportunities for corporate worship and fellowship are limited, so they rely on these programs for spiritual nourishment and blessing. We're so glad those broadcasts can continue through your partnership!

Additional thousands anticipate receiving Bibles and literature in 2020, and supplies of those urgently requested items are being planned for and procured. A recent shipment of 10,000 Hope Bibles to four African countries was made possible by your generosity.

Thank you for your partnership. Together, we're starting strong in 2020!



Stewardship - 2020 Opportunities!

Thank you so much for your prayers and support in 2019. To God be the Glory, Great things He has done!

Please join us in our excitement about the opportunities of 2020. As Jesus taught in John 4:35, "Do not say, there are yet 4 months, and then comes the harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." Today, there are still millions who need to hear the Good News of salvation while we still have time and opportunity!

Indeed, we have many requests to add more broadcasts to our current 16-language roster. We also have requests to add additional languages: like the Telegu language broadcast spoken by 74 million people in India, and the Chichewa language of Malawi spoken by 10.31 million people.

As God provides, we plan to print another 30,000 Hope Bibles this summer to help meet the many requests and pleas we receive for Bibles from native pastors. There is also a great need for funds to purchase Bibles in other languages: like Chichewa in Malawi, Swahili in Kenya, Kiluba in the DR Congo, Onigo in Nigeria, Urdu in Nepal, and Telegu in India.

Thank you for your continued partnership; it is making an eternal difference!
For God's Glory,
Bob Kauffman

Radio Listeners Respond! - Kenya, Swahili Language



(Testimonies edited for brevity and clarity. Representative photos via pexels.com)



“Greetings, thank you for your messages. **I like Heralds of Hope programs so much because they have made me grow spiritually.**”

“How can I get a copy of Swahili Bible?”

“Hello, I was shocked at how Muslims from Garisa argued that we Christians serve three gods! I hope they come to understand the Holy Trinity so that they know we only have one God.”

“**Thank you for the teaching you give to the youth in my area. God bless you.**”

“After having listened to this program, I have reached a place where I want to have a relationship with Jesus Christ. Please pray for me.”

“Hello Heralds of Hope Swahili, **I have been without a job since 2016.** Please, could you pray for me to get something soon?”

“You teach the Word and I am inspired. You lift me up when I am down, and change my direction. May this Ministry expand to reach many.”

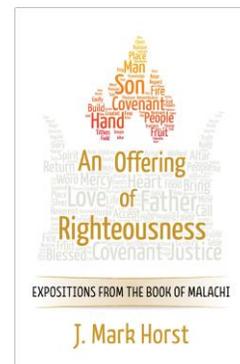
Featured Product

An Offering of Righteousness | \$7

What's Inside: Expositions from the book of Malachi - 135 pages

Malachi is known as one of the Minor Prophets, but his message is anything but minor! He addresses such contemporary subjects as idolatry, proper worship, divorce, robbing God, and The Day of the Lord. We do well to heed his words of rebuke, warning, and encouragement, lest we suffer the judgment of God.

To order your copy, contact our office with the information below.





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