



TRANSFORMING LIVES THROUGH MEDIA



TWR ASIA MINISTRY
PROGRESS REPORT 2016

Sister's only hope is Jesus.

She doesn't own a Bible, but this TWR (Trans World Radio) listener in Afghanistan enjoys her relationship with the Lord.

He gives her inner peace, despite difficult family issues, she said during her communication with TWR over the past year. TWR has Afghan counselors who communicate with listeners, though they aren't based in the country. "Sister" doesn't share her name with them.

"She is in a male-dominated area with strict rules and regulations for women," shared one counselor.

"I personally came from the same city, and I know how hard it is for women to live there."

One of the biggest needs TWR has for listenership in this country is female counselors to follow up with women, like "Sister," who call in with questions.

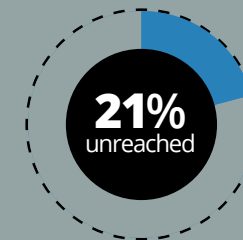
Women are generally interested in the story of Jesus when it is presented in a way that reveals how he honored women, said the international director of TWR's South Asia region, which also includes India, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

"Afghanistan is one of the least-reached countries in the world," according to Operation World. "There are 48,000 mosques but not a single church building."

Radio and mass media are powerful tools that make it possible for people like "Sister" to hear the gospel.

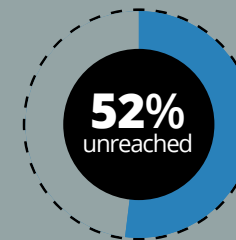
The radio waves reach people isolated from the good news by geographical and ideological barriers. Shortwave, medium wave (AM) and FM radio deliver the gospel directly to people with limited or no access to

NORTHEAST ASIA



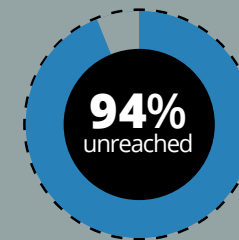
342 million
unreached people
in 530 UPGs

SOUTHEAST ASIA



328 million
unreached people
in 704 UPGs

SOUTH ASIA



1.6 billion
unreached people
in 3,047 UPGs

Barriers to the gospel

Everybody needs to hear the gospel, but many across Asia face these challenges...



Limited access
to the gospel due to
religious / cultural norms,
as well as family opposition



Isolation
from the good news
by geographical or
ideological barriers



False teachings
and misconceptions
arising from a lack
of biblical instruction

About TWR

Since its beginnings with just one small radio station in Morocco in the 1950s, TWR has grown into a media movement — speaking hope to millions of people in 230 languages and dialects every day.

Over the radio waves, these words of hope cross distances — both geographical and ideological — to reach people behind closed doors with the message of salvation through Jesus.

TWR partners with churches, other ministries and content owners to provide relevant programming, discipleship resources and dedicated workers to communities around the globe.

Whether using high-powered mediumwave, shortwave or FM radio, streaming content to Internet users or visiting face-to-face with listeners, TWR leaves a lasting spiritual footprint.



INTERNATIONAL TRANSMITTING SITES

Radio transmission frequency types: ● AM (MW) ● shortwave

■ Highlighted areas represent shortwave and AM (MW) coverage worldwide.
All transmitting locations and coverage areas are approximate.

2015 by the numbers

MEDIA DISTRIBUTION ACROSS ASIA



2,528
media players &
radios distributed



23,935
CDs & SD cards
distributed



31,890
hours broadcast over
FM, MW (AM) & SW radio



56,441
Bibles & Christian
literature distributed



5,598,609
hours of programs
downloaded

AUDIENCE ENGAGEMENT ACROSS ASIA



28,115
personal visits



28,203
rally attendees



58,982
telephone calls



80,553
SMS / text messages



145,881
e-mails & letters



A Special Note for You

Dear fellow workers
for the gospel,

Thank you for your partnership
in enabling the gospel to go out to
the least-reached and the hard-to-
reach in Asia!

God is at work in exciting ways
through TWR. His name is being lifted
up among the unreached people
groups in China. The living water of
the gospel is being broadcast to the
least-reached in Afghanistan and
Pakistan. And the diverse country
of Indonesia is being offered life-
changing hope over the airwaves.

And if all that weren't exciting enough,
God is providing new technology to
improve the power of shortwave
in sharing the gospel.

This year the Bible was sent over
the airwaves from Guam to a receiver
in Thailand — no Internet required!
And there was a new receiver unveiled
in 2016 that will make that possible for
listeners in Asia and around the world.

There are always challenges when
it comes to sharing the gospel. But it's
such a comfort that God has already
overcome these. We just need to keep
praying and partnering together in
this important work God has called
each believer to take part in.

Each day because of your prayers
and support, our team throughout
Asia is able to faithfully work to
produce and air programs to share
the gospel and disciple believers.

You also enable our team members
who work behind-the-scenes:

- engineers, who maintain the transmitters and antennas,
- IT/IS staff, who ensure the computer systems work so programs can be sent,
- the finance team to pay the bills
- the resource development staff, who help raise resources,
- the HR team, who recruits and enables people to accomplish the work,
- the communications team, who puts material like this report into your hands, to share what God is doing through TWR.

Thank you for being fellow
workers for the gospel!

On behalf of TWR Asia,

Aaron Tan
International Director,
TWR Asia Regional
Support Services

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Partnering to share the gospel in Japan



***“Rejoice greatly,
O daughter of Zion!
Shout aloud, O
daughter of Jerusalem!
Behold, your king
is coming to you;
righteous and
having salvation
is he, humble and
mounted on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal
of a donkey.”***
Zechariah 9:9 (ESV)

Singapore churches are partnering with TWR to share the good news of Jesus with the Japanese people. Over the past couple of years, local churches have been participating in the Donkey Tracting trips.

These Donkey Tracting trips are inspired by Jesus as he came “humble and mounted on a donkey” to bring salvation for all people.

In the same way, Singapore (and other overseas) churches have the opportunity to carry the gospel to the second-largest unreached people group in the world.

Partnering with Japanese churches in each of the locations where TWR broadcasts, the goal is to encourage and enable the churches in Japan in their efforts to share the gospel.



These trips have blessed the visiting teams and local Japanese churches. The visitors developed ties with Japanese believers and came to understand their needs, while local churches — often feeling somewhat isolated within their society — received welcome encouragement and a renewed passion for evangelism. ■



Want to take a trip?

For more information about how you can share the good news with the Japanese, please visit www.twr.asia/japan

Donkey Tracting

at a glance



2nd

the Japanese are the second-largest unreached people group (UPG) in the world

source: JoshuaProject.net



350

kilometers walked in 2016 by volunteers giving out Bible tracts, radio flyers and information on local church services



47,000

tracts & radio flyers were distributed in 2016 across the Tōhoku region and in Kumamoto Prefecture



Praying on Japanese soil

65-year-old Sister Chua Sai Hiang wanted to step on Japan soil to pray for the Japanese people. She experienced more than she hoped for on the Donkey Tracting trip her church, Agape Christian Centre in Singapore, took to the Tōhoku region in July.

Here are some of her insights:



What were your thoughts and feelings regarding the trip?

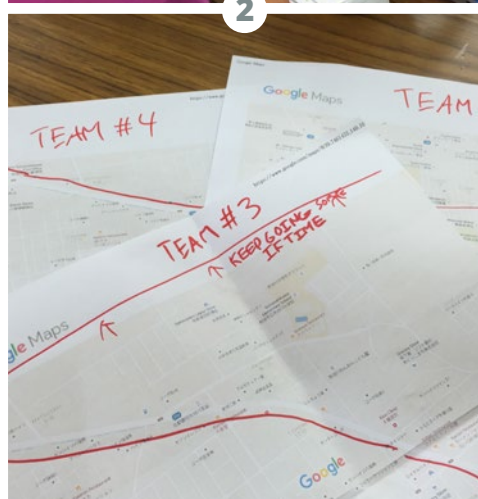
The Japan mission trip I took to Akita, Yuzawa and Morioka left me with many thoughts and feelings. The Lord clearly spoke to me about his great commission. There was so much I was thankful for after receiving Christ in my life and it is now my turn to spread the word to the people of Japan.

I asked myself why do Singaporeans like us have to go all the way there to do something as simple as putting a tract in their mailboxes? Now I know that there is such a small percentage of Christians living in Japan that it isn't hard to see why many are not saved.

What did you learn about Japan while you were there?

One of the Japanese pastors we met shared that Japan is in need of help from other countries to bring the gospel to them because in the past many foreign mission organizations had sent missionaries here and were rejected, as Japan was a very hard ground.

Many missionaries left in disappointment. I can imagine now how hard it must be to penetrate the ground with the gospel. ▶



- 1 The group from Agape Christian Centre Singapore, our Japanese team members, and two volunteers from Morioka Church Japan walk in the hot sun to distribute tracts to houses near the church.
- 2 Participants gather in a church hall in Akita to prepare more tracts and plan for the next day's distribution.
- 3 The rain did not deter the group from distributing tracts. Here they are gathered on the last day in the city, braving the rain.



What was a typical day like during your trip?

Every day we would go tracting from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., walking more than 10 kilometers a day, praying while we walk.

By God's strength and grace, we were able to give the tracts to every house we had been assigned.

Although we heard that the rewards reaped were close to 1 in every 5000 tracts, we were not deterred.

Do you have anything else you'd like to share with those who are thinking of going on this trip?

Yes, I've never imagined that the hearts of the Japanese were so hardened that not even natural disasters could change them. Although such is the condition of their hearts, we need to do even more to loosen the soil while planting the seeds.

Through this opportunity of the trip, we were able to unite with God's heart to bring the gospel to every Japanese so they can repent.

Although tracting seems like a small thing to do, we are sowing the seeds of the gospel. ■

After the 2011 tsunami, radio was re-evaluated in Japan. This opened the door for TWR to share the hope of Christ with people in the tsunami-affected areas.

This resurgence of radio gave us the opportunity to broadcast a counseling program to minister to the needs of the people living there.

In 2014, TWR added daily broadcasts of three outreach programs — Power of Gospel, Blessing Japan, and Praise and Worship.



Currently, TWR broadcasts over 14 FM stations in Japan, including one in the Kumamoto Prefecture, which was struck by an earthquake in 2016.

? Did you know?

Reaching the least-reached in Afghanistan and Pakistan

“You know that if I become a Christian, I will have no place in my house,”
one 18-year-old Afghan youth told a TWR counselor earlier this year.

Afghanistan, Pakistan and North India — or what TWR refers to as PANI — is a challenging place to share the gospel.

This reality means it takes months and years for people in these countries to clear their doubt and put their trust in Christ, said the international director of the South Asia region, which also includes India, Nepal and Sri Lanka. Experience shows they have many questions, he said.

To answer these questions, TWR is partnering with Christians who understand the Islamic worldview, in most cases because they lived in it, the director said.

“When it comes to strategy in these three countries, we cannot work in this Islamic world in today’s context without partnering with like-minded ministries that will complement the overall objective of helping people to really understand and know Christ,” he said.

In 2015, the ministry received 23,000 responses from listeners in this area. ▶



photo by Karin Wäspi



South Asia
region spotlight

“What that shows is our programs are getting traction, and people are starting to respond,” the director said.

Some responses are positive:

“The only place I get my peace and hope is your radio programs. I love to listen to your programs, they are so different from local radio, where they talk about hate but you talk about love.”

But many calls are antagonistic.

“I’m ashamed you call yourself an Afghan — I hate you,” one caller said when the team declined to give him money or help him get a visa to another country.

Some callers are threatening or abusive, the director said.

“The most challenging thing is for these audience-relations staff to deal with [the callers] with Christ-like love,” he said, adding that one staff member has developed an ulcer because of the pressure.

“The blindness needs to be removed so that the light of the gospel — the person of Christ and who he is — can be clearly understood, and the Spirit of God can convict them so there is a genuine transformation in the lives of the people,” the director said.

“Because when they make a genuine transformation — in their context, in their environment — they are making a decision to lose their families, to lose their social status, to live under constant threat. So we need to pray for them.” ■

“After you talked to me and prayed for me, I see God's peace on me and I am full of joy. I think I am the happiest person in the world.”

Afghanistan

In Afghanistan, TWR is creating programs to minister to families and women. This year, the organization created a program that talks about families and presents Christ to them.

“This is so we can address issues related to the family,” the international director said.

TWR is broadcasting *Women of Hope* in Pashto language. This program offers practical and spiritual support for women around the world. It also encourages women worldwide to pray.

But there is a need in this country for more female phone counselors to respond to the women who call in with questions in response to the programs.

Next year, TWR is planning to have *Women of Hope* in the Dari language.

Another goal for 2017 is to do a live broadcast to answer callers questions on the air. ▶

Afghanistan and Pakistan are part of TWR's South Asia region, which also includes India, Sri Lanka and Nepal.

TWR began broadcasting into these two countries over AM (mediumwave) radio in 2014.

❓ Did you know?

photo by Karin Wäspi



“Ever since I joined a Radio Home, I understand the Word of God better as it is in simple words.”

Pakistan

The team has identified the different audiences in Pakistan — hostile, interested, and those seeking to know more about Jesus.

To share the gospel with those who have a hostile mindset towards Christ, TWR is working with an Islamic scholar who came to know the Lord. He is creating a non-threatening program, which provides a question and answer type of experience for listeners.

This program began broadcasting in the Urdu language into Pakistan in October.

Other programs that began broadcasting in 2016 include:

- *The Way of Righteousness*, which shares the gospel for those who are interested or seeking to know more.
- *Prophets Message*, a program sharing how the prophets reveal Christ.
- *Daughters of Eve*, a program sharing the hope for Christ with women.

TWR continues to broadcast praise and worship-type programs as well as *Thru the Bible*.

In Pakistan, the team has established more than 275 radio homes to date, including 117 established in 2015. ■

Afghanistan & Pakistan

at a glance



Less than 1% of the populations of Afghanistan (0.1%) and Pakistan (0.7%) are Evangelical Christian.



radio

is an effective way to bring the gospel to this region



19,889

calls received from Afghan listeners in 2015



117

radio homes established within Pakistan in 2015



South Asia

life-changing stories from across the region

India

- Before I knew Christ, my life was in utter shambles. At the suggestion of a neighbor, I tuned into your program. I felt God speak to me immediately as I listened. He started transforming me from within, leading me to outwardly express my faith in him. I left all my filthy ways and am now a new creation. It has been 12 years since I first listened to *Sacho Sari*. The blessings are still fresh. **It has radically changed my entire family.**
- I am a widow and partially paralyzed. I have six children but there is no one to take care of me. I am staying alone and a maid comes to help me. **The Word of God through your program comforts me and I feel as though God is speaking to me directly.** This takes away my tears and gives me peace of mind.

Nepal

- I was already in lots of emotional pain because of the many problems at home with my family. Then one day, while I was out in the jungle doing some work with the cattle, a tree branch fell on me and hit my leg. I could not walk properly even after the treatment.

Everything felt so bleak I decided to commit suicide but I was not successful. A friend then suggested I listen to a *Women of Hope* program. **Now I have hope in Christ and have accepted him as my savior.**
- I was a two-faced Christian, attending church on Sundays and living a sinful life on weekdays. I reached a point where I had no peace but only hate.

Then one day, I tuned in to your program. Instantly, I felt the Lord touching and comforting me. **This program has made a change in my life. Now I am determined to live only for Jesus.**

PANI region

- I was an atheist who believed that there is no God in the universe and that death meant nothing. I was living in darkness and believed that all religions created problems and was the source of all hate and violence which brought about only injustice.

Six months ago, a relative gave me a radio and asked me to join him as he tuned into one of your programs. I was surprised at how I was drawn to the words spoken. I found myself tuning in regularly after that.

The Word of God changed my life within three days and now I have made the decision that Christ is my savior. I will never forget those three days when I felt God speaking to me and saving me. "I am the way, the truth and the life."

Now I know there is no one like Jesus.

- We are a family of eight. We come together to listen to your programs on the radio. We have been regularly listening to these programs for the past three years.

Your programs really touch our hearts and give us peace of mind. The programs that you broadcast give us encouragement to face challenges in our day-to-day life and help us to grow in the faith.

There is no church near our village. Therefore, radio is the only source we have for the Word of God.

Your programs are helping us to grow in the faith and are a source of God's blessings. We pray that God may bless TWR's ministry and many come to know about Jesus Christ through your programs.



Making disciples in Indonesia

“My wife and I love listening to the *Harmony* program. We learned many lessons about family life, especially on how to have good communication in the family.”
said a listener from Central Java.

He continues: “I give thanks that God helped me to provide for my family so we feel we have enough. Although we don’t make enough, but God always makes it enough.”

Practical as well as spiritual teaching is the power of TWR Indonesia’s Life-Changing Media.

It focuses on five ministry areas: using mass media, meeting with listeners, non-media ministry (cell groups, seminars, training and

revival programs), wholistic ministry and expanding its reach within the country.

The four programs related to this project are:

- *Figure*, a 15-minute program introducing Jesus as Lord and savior to listeners.
- *Harmony*, a 15-minute program sharing Christian values with families and young parents.
- *He and I*, a five-minute devotional program sharing a daily personal experience with God.
- *Word of Wisdom*, a two-minute program sharing Christian values to a general audience.



In addition to broadcasting these programs on about 30 FM stations, the Indonesia team also provides the programs on portable audio players for listener groups, which usually gather once a month. ▶

Southeast Asia
region spotlight

"I often feel I cannot face the trials and challenges in my life... I thank God for your program, I listen to it every night. The words of God bless me and strengthen my faith so I have hope as I face my hard life."

After listening to the program, the group can have further discussion on the topic and a time of prayer. These groups are led by listener coordinators, who are often local pastors partnering with TWR to enhance their ministry.

Partnerships with local churches and FM stations are an important part of TWR's ministry in Indonesia.

Indonesia's vast diversity — 750 people groups, scattered over 17,500 islands, who speak more than 700 languages — makes it a challenging place to share the gospel.

Indonesia is the largest Muslim country in the world. More than 163 million Indonesians are considered unreached, which means they haven't had the opportunity to hear the gospel.

? Did you know?

source: Operation World, 7th Edition

TWR has been sharing this hope of Christ and discipling believers in Indonesia since 2000. More than 380 listener groups gather regularly across seven provinces. We broadcast over 65 local FM stations as well as over shortwave to cover almost every part of this diverse country.

In addition to Indonesia's Life-Changing Media programs, TWR Indonesia has a children's ministry and a women's ministry. ■





Southeast Asia

life-changing stories from across the region

Indonesia

- From the program *The Word Today*, I have learned to live in the truth, and stay away from anything forbidden by God. **It gives me insights on how to live in line with God's teachings.**
- I was in jail the first time I heard your program *Thru The Bible*. It was a gift to me as I turned 40 that day. **Since then my life has changed and I have stopped drinking. I am now saved and a new creation.** I want to listen continually on my hand phone. Thank you.
- Thank you for your program *Thru The Bible*. **I get good insights and better understanding about the Bible which is so important and useful for my ministry.**

Cambodia

- I am a widow with two children. I have been listening to *Women of Hope* for the past few years now. I have received many encouraging lessons from this program.

This is a wonderful program that uplifts us as women. We really need more programs like this to encourage us in times of hardship. **I used to worry incessantly, but now I give all my burdens to the Lord and ask him to help me and forgive my sins.**

Thailand

- I had so many problems and felt that living was pointless. **Just as I was contemplating suicide, I heard a beautiful voice from your radio program.** "God loves you and he is ready to help you in times of trouble." I heard that and I wanted to know more. I decided to accept Jesus in my heart and today I worship God at a local church.

Vietnam

- Thank God for bringing his message to me through you. **I am thirsty for his Word and enjoy it through your broadcast every night.** It is a great blessing for me and my family because we learn lots of new things. I pray I will use the gifts and finances he has given me to serve him wholeheartedly and faithfully.
- I really enjoy TWR programs. Almost every night when it comes to the program, I take my radio, a torch, and an umbrella with me to the backyard to better tune to the program with better signal. Listening to the lessons outside, I get a lot of mosquito bites all over my body.

I especially like the *Women of Hope* program since it encourages me. It is really good too. **Through listening to it, I am deeply encouraged and happy with what I have in my life.** I am still content in spite of hardship and difficulties.

Philippines

- When my husband left, it was really difficult for me since I was alone... one morning I suddenly fell on the floor and had to be rushed to the hospital. For a time, I could not move or walk, and I could barely see or hear. Many thought that I would die anytime.

Things changed when I heard the program *Women of Hope*. I listened to it for five days, and my heart and mind were moved to pray. I felt God was there, so I called to him. Over time, little by little, I recovered.

I surrendered my life to God through listening to that radio program.



Sharing the gospel with the unreached in China

Jesus said,
“And I, when I am
lifted up from the
earth, will draw all
people to myself.”

John 12:32 (NIV)

A blind elderly man received one of TWR's audio players from his neighbor. He listens intently and loves the music.

After listening a few times, he expressed a desire to go to church. Our distribution partner presented the gospel to him, leading both him and his wife to trust in Jesus.

This man shared the gospel with his mother-in-law, who was given an audio player with the SON-Lift programs.

China is home to more than 450 unreached people groups (UPGs)—the second-highest of any country in the world.



Many of the people who make up these groups are oral learners and they live in remote areas. ▶

Oral learners are primarily influenced by spoken rather than literate forms of communication.

Some do so out of necessity because they cannot read, or at least not with understanding. Others can read and write, but they prefer non-print forms of communication.

? Did you know?

source: International Orality Network



Northeast Asia
region spotlight



Madam Tan's husband died while climbing up a mountain. It was a great shock for his family. Overcome with fear, his wife couldn't sleep at night or talk much... Our partner visited and prayed with her, handing her an audio player. The team returned to visit her two weeks later and she said she was free from fear because God helped her.

"I'm encouraged to hear souls are saved," said Samuel Tan, the international director of TWR's Northeast Asia region.

The Chinese ministry team created the SON-Lift programs, which are dramatized Bible stories sharing the life of Jesus, with the vision of reaching more than 100 UPGs in China.

These programs have been translated from the original Mandarin into four languages, including Mongolian and Southern Dong in 2016.

The Mongolian language SON-Lift programs were produced and packaged for distribution, which began in November 2016. Production for the Southern Dong language programs was completed and distribution will commence in 2017.

The team is still looking for partners to help produce the programs in two additional languages. This is one of the challenges — finding partnerships within the country. Please pray for the team as it continues to look for the right partners.

Tan said there is spiritual warfare going on. He encourages the Chinese ministry team to press on.

"I've learned we must do our Father's will — nothing else," he said.

In addition to producing the audio programs, the Chinese ministry team is looking at how the programs can be made available on digital platforms. More and more people in rural areas are using the Internet on their mobile and smart phones. Even in the remote grasslands and deserts of Inner Mongolia, people carry smartphones.

For this reason, the team is making the SON-Lift programs available on WeChat, a popular text messaging platform in China. In fact, the team has completed sharing one round of the 60 programs in Mandarin on this platform. They are considering repeating the story set.

The Chinese ministry team also re-launched the SON-Lift website in 2016. This makes it possible to share the programs online.

Looking ahead

As the project progresses, the Chinese ministry team will continue to distribute media players and look for partners in the remote places many of these UPGs live. They will also continue to translate and produce programs in the remaining seven languages, including Lu Mien, Xiang, Hlai and Bouyei.

It will take several years to translate and produce programs in the remaining languages. Please continue to pray for this team as it works to share the gospel with the unreached in China.

Other work in China

TWR began broadcasting into China nearly 40 years ago. Our partners in Hong Kong and Taiwan translate and produce programs in the Mandarin and Cantonese languages, including *Thru the Bible*, *Insight for Living*, *A Word for You* and *Women of Hope*. These programs are broadcast via shortwave from TWR's station on Guam.

In addition to these, the Chinese ministry team produces *Seminary on the Air*, a program to train pastors and church leaders. It was previously broadcast over shortwave, but is now online.

The team also distributes Radio Church Kits, which contains a radio, Bible and Bible study materials. And in 2017, the kits will be revamped with a new Titus II digital receiver. Even where Internet access is unavailable, rural believers to whom the digital units are distributed will be able to read and study the materials stored on the tablet and to listen to companion programs broadcast from the Guam station. ■



Northeast Asia

life-changing stories from across the region

China

Co-workers from the field share these testimonies:

- There was an elderly man who was paralyzed on one side and unable to stand. He felt very bad for having to rely on his family to care for him. He had suicidal thoughts of jumping to his death.

We visited him to share the gospel with him, sharing with him the meaning of life. We talked about the possibility of eternal life as well. I thank God that he believed.

When we visited him again more recently, he mentioned that no matter who might object, he wanted to press on in believing in Christ. **He expressed that he now had the media player to accompany him, making life so joyful.**

- A woman from Inner Mongolia, who voiced a character in one of the SON-Lift programs, shared how excited she was to hear the final product in the Mongolian language.

She said she wants to listen to all the stories. She finds them simple and easy to understand. She feels other Mongolians in China would like to listen to them.

It's important to have these stories of Jesus in an audio form, as many Mongolians live in the grasslands and are illiterate.

Japan

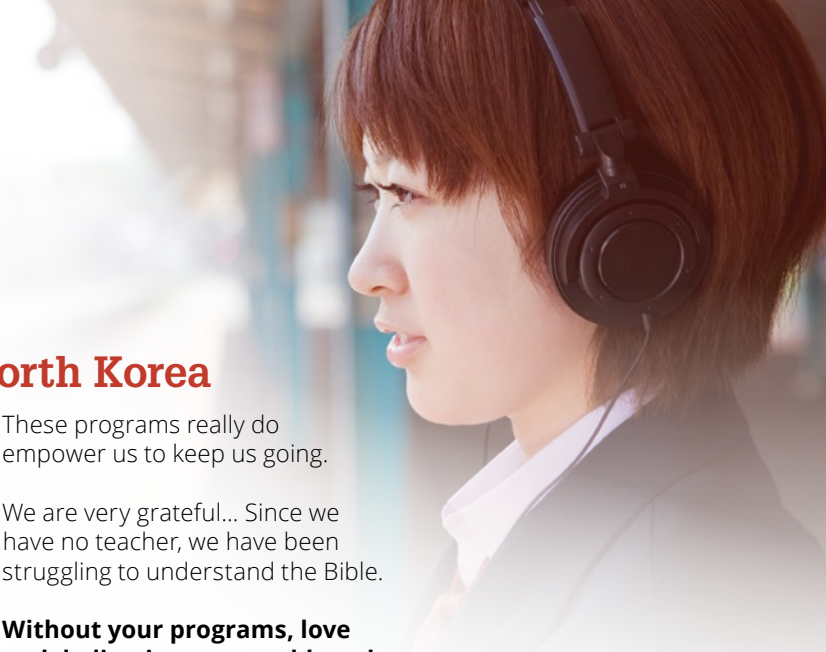
- The feeling grew stronger that God had deserted me with the passing of time. I happened to listen to your program today and was able to listen to the pastor talk from the Bible. Tears naturally came down while listening to it.

I was reminded of God's love that covers my rebellion and rejection. I was the one refusing him. I feel like going back to church once again. Thanks very much for the good story. I will listen again.

- I felt as if I was able to get to know the Bible more.
- I don't feel so lonely now. I am able to look ahead more positively.
- I went to church after hearing the radio program. I think that I will have a great year ahead.
- I became interested in Jesus. I looked him up online.

North Korea

- These programs really do empower us to keep us going.
- We are very grateful... Since we have no teacher, we have been struggling to understand the Bible.
- **Without your programs, love and dedication, we would not have access to the gospel of our Father in heaven and we would be lost in darkness.**
- We are assisted and guided by the message of the gospel since we cannot gather together in one place for worship.
- We raise our voices in worship when the radio plays hymns, and we draw near to God when we listen to the messages.





Enabling life-changing programs to go on-air

What would happen to our broadcasts if no one paid the power bill? Or the ministry teams if donations weren't processed in time? Or if no one was recruited to do the work?

At the Asia Regional Support Services, a lot of work happens behind the scenes to ensure the gospel goes out over the airwaves each day. We exist to accomplish these functions. As you can see from the icons on the right, each department does a vital job.

Here in Singapore, nearly 30 staff support the teams in each of the countries we serve in Asia, enabling them to do the production work and follow up with listeners.

We believe God has gifted each person in a unique way to fulfil the call given to believers to make disciples of all nations. ■

Broadcast Operations

ensures TWR transmitters function well so programs reach our audience



Human Resources

engages staff, volunteers and services so TWR can share the gospel across Asia



Marketing & Communications

informs people of how God is changing lives through the power of mass media



Resource Development

raises resources to enable ministry teams to share the good news with their countrymen



Finance

pays bills and manages the money to ensure the programs reach listeners



IT / IS

enables ministry teams by providing the technical framework for media ministry



Media Services

obtains biblical content and manages contracts to ensure there are programs to go out to listeners each day



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Making radio history

In June 2016, radio history was made by Faith Comes By Hearing — an organization offering Bible recordings in more than 1,000 languages — and TWR.

Using one of the antennas from KTWR in Guam, Faith Comes By Hearing (FCBH) sent a digital data file more than 4,800 kilometres to its team in Thailand.

This communication exchange paves the way for simultaneous delivery of audio and other media formats through the airwaves.

This type of transmission is known as filecasting, which is made possible by Digital Radio Mondiale (DRM) technology.

Troy Carl, the vice president of FCBH, told Mission News Network, "It was really quite exciting! Basically what we did is created a one-way Internet access turning that tower into a super Wi-Fi router. And that's quite a story because it's never been done!"

This technology makes it possible to filecast — send over radio waves — Bibles and other Bible study material thousands of kilometers, even if they don't have access to the Internet.

"The missiological implications are significant," says TWR global leadership executive Steve Shantz, who was present on Guam for the transmission along with representatives of FCBH and TWR engineers.

"The end goal is to install the Faith Comes By Hearing Bible mobile-phone application and the dramatized audio Bible, which is available today in over 1,000 languages, onto mobile devices globally.



"The Guam transmission proved that TWR and FCBH have the technology to transmit these files over long distance into a network that can install the Bible onto mobile phones in the language of the user."

Partnership makes these advancements possible.

"This is a prime example of kingdom partners working together, each bringing their talents and expertise together in a perfect mesh so God's Word can be heard by all," Carl said.

"It is a historic step toward covering the earth with the gospel." ■

'A new way of thinking about shortwave'

TWR will be taking its shortwave broadcast digital next year. A new radio receiver unveiled this year will make that possible.

The Titus II is a software-defined radio solution. What that complicated description means is that the gospel can be shared with more clarity over shortwave from transmitting sites like the one we have in Guam.

KTWR, the Guam shortwave station, broadcasts the gospel to the least-reached and hard-to-reach people in places like China and North Korea.

TWR's President Lauren Libby participated in the unveiling of this new receiver at the High Frequency Co-ordination Conference (HFCC) in August 2016.

"We debuted a very special new technical platform," he said. "It's a new way of thinking about shortwave and in fact these receivers will soon be available."

The radio solution is equipped with Wi-Fi and Bluetooth capabilities. It also has a tablet receiver, which makes it possible to connect to the Android app store.

"I'm excited that this is more than just a radio," said George Ross, TWR's shortwave champion.

Digital Radio Mondiale (DRM) is the broader name of the technology. DRM is a type of digital audio broadcasting technology designed to utilize analog radio broadcasting, including shortwave, AM, and FM radio.



The top benefits of DRM are that it:

- offers FM to CD quality reception
- takes less energy to broadcast
- can send files via filecast to listeners

India is planning to switch over to DRM in 2017. Other countries where this technology is beginning to expand to are Indonesia, Japan and Thailand.

"Asia has the most interest and is the key development area for DRM broadcasts," Ross said. ■






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