



CELEBRATING FORTY YEARS OF MEDIA MINISTRY IN ASIA

TWR ASIA MINISTRY
PROGRESS REPORT 2017

MONI'S ONLY HOPE

Moni's nightmare began when her neighbor raped her. She had just reached puberty at the time.

Her father had already passed away. Her mother, who was an alcoholic, forced Moni into prostitution.

Seeing her plight, Moni's grandmother rescued her and moved her to a relative's home in a village.

At night, Moni's silent tears and sobs kept her sleepless. She had no hope and no solution to overcome her trauma.

Then, one night, she heard a voice.

“Why are you weeping, woman?”

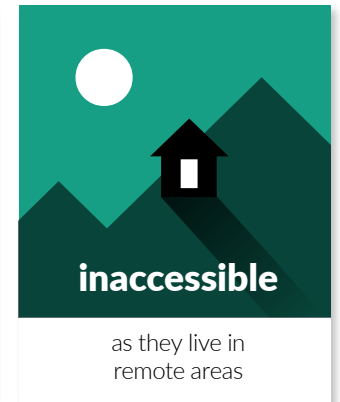
Moni turned to see who was speaking. The voice was coming from a radio. Her relative had tuned in to the TWR (Trans World Radio) radio broadcast in the Oriya language.

Moni continued to listen to the program. It was about Jesus talking to a widow who had lost her son.

At the end of the program, Moni believed in Jesus and became a follower of Christ.

With Jesus' help, she overcame her shame and forgave her abusers. Moni now owns a small plate-making business to earn her living. ■

Finding identity in Christ changes *everything* for people like Moni. We believe everybody needs to hear the gospel. However, many across Asia don't even have that opportunity because they are:



TWR uses media to bridge these barriers, bringing the gospel to people who may not have access to churches, missionaries or even Bibles.

Here's how we do it:



evaluate the needs on the ground prayerfully



produce biblically-sound programs



distribute programs over mass media



partner with local churches and believers for follow-up



"After a very long time, I've started listening to overseas shortwave broadcasts again, and heard your station. It made me really feel delighted to hear KTWR's interval signal, which hasn't changed in all these years! I've read some of the stories out of the Old Testament before, but not very carefully. So your explanations really soaked into my heart."

- A SHORTWAVE RADIO ENTHUSIAST IN JAPAN



INTERNATIONAL RADIO TRANSMITTING SITES

■ MEDIUMWAVE
(AM/MW) STATIONS

■ SHORTWAVE
(SW) STATIONS

Grey highlighted areas represent shortwave and AM(MW) coverage worldwide.

All transmitting locations and coverage areas are approximate.

ABOUT TWR

Since its beginnings with just one small radio station in Morocco in the 1950s, TWR has grown into a media movement—speaking the hope of Christ to millions of people in their heart language in 190 countries 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.

God is using TWR to transform lives, especially in areas where the gospel is restricted or forbidden. ■

2016 TWR ASIA BY THE NUMBERS

The numbers below offer a snapshot of how TWR's broadcast and digital ministries in Asia engaged and interacted with our audiences in 2016.



5,106

listener groups &
radio homes started



7,774

media players &
radios distributed



27,022

CDs & SD cards
distributed



37,785

hours broadcast over
SW, MW & FM radio



45,086

meeting & rally
attendees



56,415

telephone
calls received



118,200

personal
visits



176,229

Bibles & Christian
literature distributed



219,650

SMS / text messages
received



227,287

letters & e-mails
received



NORTHEAST ASIA REGION

Northeast Asia is home to many of the least-reached people in the world.

More than 340 million people in China, North Korea and Japan have yet to hear the good news of Jesus.

That's why TWR is using radio, audio players, mobile apps and the Internet to share the gospel with them.

We've been broadcasting to this region for 40 years.

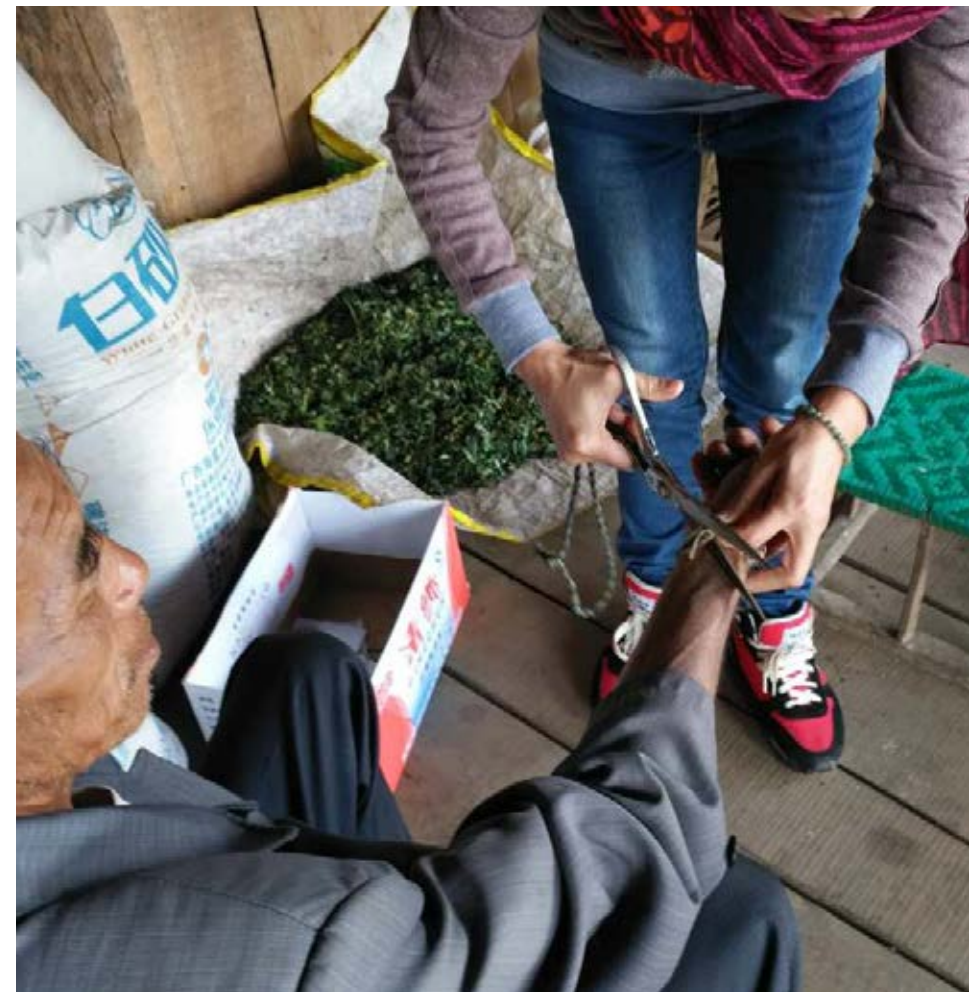
In September 1977, we began broadcasting from our shortwave transmitting site on Guam to China. Since that time radio and other forms of media have been traveling to places we can't always go.

Radio remains an effective way to reach people with the good news. In this region, we broadcast over shortwave and FM. Shortwave is one of the most effective ways to reach North Korea. It also continues to reach into China, though we also distribute audio players pre-loaded with programs into the country.

FM is more effective in reaching the Japanese with the gospel.

We are also working on digital initiatives for this region, especially in China and Japan.

Keep reading to learn about each of these countries. ■



This man from the Akha people group in China has a talisman tied to his wrist to bring him good luck.

Very few in his people group—less than one percent—know Jesus. Though they have a completed Bible in their language many, like this man, can't read or write.

The question becomes: how will they hear the good news?

While TWR isn't working on the Akha language, one of our partners distributed 50 audio players with the Mandarin language on it, which this people group also understands.

When our team went back to visit the group, this man prayed to receive Christ.

In a demonstration of his faith, he requested for his talisman to be cut off. ▶



CHINA



There are more than 450 unreached people groups (UPGs) in China who have yet to hear the good news.



Many are isolated by ideological barriers, inaccessible because they live in remote places or confused by false teachings.



TWR has been broadcasting into China for 40 years from our shortwave transmitting site in Guam. Shortwave travels long distances, crossing geographical and ideological barriers, reaching into peoples' homes and lives with the good news. ▶



bit.ly/twrasia2016chn

Son brings the gospel to his mother without either realizing it!

Scan the QR Code to learn more!



2016
ministry
highlights:



26
programs
on the air



188
seminary
graduates



1,846
hours
broadcast



2,463
audio players
distributed

HERE'S HOW WE SHARED GOD'S HOPE WITH CHINA IN 2016:

Distributed 2,463 audio players and 140 radios to UPGs across 12 provinces.

The audio players are pre-loaded with dramatized Bible stories of Jesus' life in three languages/dialects (Mandarin, Hakka and Cantonese), an entire Mandarin audio Bible and 100 worship songs.

Increased digital focus as growing numbers of people in rural areas are using Internet via mobile phones. We're revamping the UPG ministry website and exploring new media platforms to reach the intended audience.

Completed Mongolian UPG language program, which has been broadcast via shortwave from Guam since October 2016. The audio files are also being distributed by local partners.

A new prayer program titled *God Remembers Them* was produced to introduce various unengaged, unreached people groups (UUPGs) and help believers to stand in the gap and intercede for them.

Each 15-minute program introduces one UUPG, their culture and religious background, and a list of prayer items followed by a time of prayer.

The program launched on shortwave in end March 2016, and was also available on our webcasts.

Produced 26 programs covering topics relating to discipleship, women, youth and children, as well as training Sunday school teachers.

Broadcast 1,846 hours over shortwave from Guam.

188 graduated from TWR's accredited seminary course for equipping Chinese house church leaders, **SOTA (Seminary on the Air) Online.** ■

"A blind person received an audio player from his neighbor. Since he loves music, he was especially happy with the songs contained therein. After listening a few times, he expressed a desire to go to church!"

"I presented the gospel to him, leading both him and his wife to trust in Jesus! Praise the Lord! After a number of days, he introduced his mother-in-law to listen to the gospel. May God work in her life."

"Thank you for supplying these wonderful evangelistic tools. May God bless your work."

A CO-WORKER IN CHINA



Pastor Hiroshi Minegishi stood in Kesennuma, Japan, where his church once stood. It was destroyed by the 2011 earthquake and tsunami that devastated the Tohoku region.

Pastor Minegishi, who is one of the speakers for TWR's *Power of Gospel* program, committed to doing God's work after this disaster.

He felt like it was God's grace that he was still alive. He began sharing the gospel with those living in temporary housing, where some continue to live — even six years after the disaster.

He's learned many lessons from the tsunami. He learned the church needs to go out and share the gospel. Before the earthquake the congregation stayed inside the church and did not take the gospel message out. Now, churches are more bold in sharing the good news.

"Japan's revival will come," Pastor Minegishi said. "The Christians need to wake up." ▶



JAPAN

Despite religious freedom, Japan is home to the second-largest unreached people group in the world. Less than one percent of its 126 million people are Evangelical believers.

The Japanese have little knowledge of the gospel and tend to be closed to learning more about it. The perception is that Christianity is a Western religion.

TWR has been broadcasting into Japan since 1979, starting with shortwave.

The aftermath of the March 2011 disaster provided a window for us to speak hope to the Japanese people. Prior to the 2011 tsunami,

it was nearly impossible to secure airtime on local FM stations. Now, station managers are willing to air the gospel programs and some have even made their facilities available for recording the programs.

We are also developing a digital strategy with online content.

One subscriber wrote, "I will check this website when I am down to get encouraged."

Prayer is an important part of the ministry. More than 60 prayer warriors in Japan have committed to pray for the ministry, and a group in Singapore also meets on a monthly basis. ▶

"It was so surprising to hear the message from the Bible on the radio as there is much unpleasant and depressing news around these days..."

"It made me realize again that the Bible is the compass in life at any age. I will recommend this program to my friends."

- A LISTENER IN JAPAN



2016

ministry highlights:



14

FM radio stations



20

local pastor partnerships



4,281

total hours broadcast



23,987

website subscribers



47,700

tracts & flyers distributed

HERE'S HOW WE SHARED GOD'S HOPE WITH JAPAN IN 2016:

Broadcast 4,255 hours of programs from 14 FM stations: 10 in Tohoku, two in Okinawa, and one each in Hokkaido and Kumamoto. Also broadcast 26 hours via shortwave from Guam.

Partnered with 20 local pastors to produce content to reach their fellow countrymen. TWR also partners with pastors outside Japan for this initiative.

Partnered with eight overseas churches to participate in mission trips to hand out 47,700 tracts and radio flyers. The radio flyers point people to the programs,

and the gospel tracts point them to the local church.

Developing a digital media approach to reach youth with bridge content, such as Jewish culture, family-related topics and creation science.

We now have a Japanese website with a digital media worker serving in this area to bring the gospel to the online community in Japan through YouTube and other new media. We already have 23,987 subscribers to our website, www.cho-inori.com ■



bit.ly/twrasia2016jpn

Join us
in person or
online as we
pray for Japan!

Scan the QR Code
and learn more!



North Korean authorities have documented these distinct characteristics of Christians:

- They are joyful.
- They always say, "Thank you."
- They unconsciously say, "I love you."

"With these characteristics, they try to catch Christians," said Lee,* a team member of TWR Korea.

Conducting ministry is getting more difficult. Many days, Lee doesn't want to continue his ministry to North Koreans because of the risk. But each time he has a desire to quit, he remembers the face of his friend—the first North Korean he met.

The two lived together for eight months. Then one day they were caught by the Chinese authorities. His friend was to be sent back, but Lee was allowed to remain.

His friend let the North Korean police take him back. He didn't resist, Lee said. He still remembers the man's face.

It's Lee's reminder to continue. ▶

* Not his real name



NORTH KOREA

North Korea is the most oppressive place in the world to be a Christian, according to Open Doors' 2017 World Watch List.

Christians are forced to hide their faith from government authorities, neighbors and often even their families.

The country, led by Kim Jong Un, lives by an ideology of "self-reliance." Critics say it's a mandate for North Koreans to worship the ruling Kim family, and if they don't comply, they will be arrested, imprisoned, tortured or killed.





If anyone is found to have met a Christian, prayed to God or owned a Bible—even one page—then persecution will start.

For more than 20 years, TWR has been speaking the hope of Christ to the North Koreans. We started in 1995 with programs to train church leaders. We continue to help believers in their daily life through our shortwave broadcasts, as many don't have access to Bibles.

And though we don't receive many listener responses because of the security risks, the 14 we did receive in 2016 are precious and encourage us that people are tuning in. ▶


2016
ministry
highlights:


13
programs
on the air


489
hours
broadcast


4,500
SW radios
distributed


new
digital media
strategy



bit.ly/twrasia2016kor

Where do
North Korean
listeners hide
their radios?

Scan the QR Code
and find out!

HERE'S HOW WE SHARED GOD'S HOPE WITH NORTH KOREA IN 2016:

Produced 13 programs to provide spiritual food to North Korean Christians as well as to share the gospel with non-believers.

Broadcast 489 hours from Guam.

Distributed 4,500 radios so North Korean listeners can tune in. We've distributed nearly 40,000 radios over the past 20 years.

While other media—like mp3 players, microSD cards and CDs—can be used in North Korea, TWR uses shortwave for its ability

to deliver messages into the country on a daily basis.

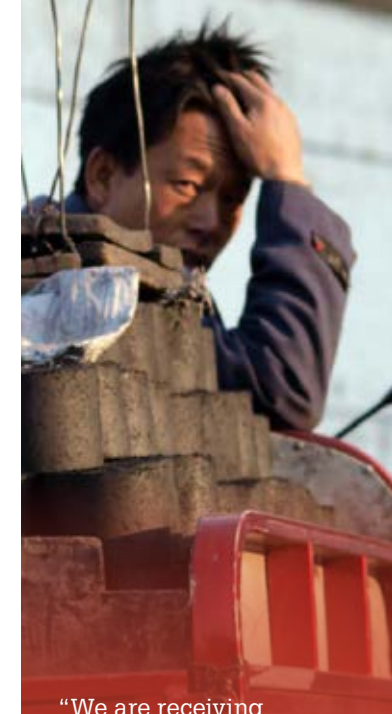
The shortwave radio receivers are very needed for believers in North Korea. They are eager to get them, even though they could lose their life if they are discovered owning one.

Developing a digital media strategy to reach North Koreans working outside the country. We can't give many details because of the sensitivities of the initiative, but it's a door we're excited God has opened. ■

"We are receiving God's grace by radio from you, and it helps us mature and grow spiritually."

"I give thanks to you for sending these wonderful things to us by radio broadcasts."

- A LISTENER FROM
NORTH KOREA





SOUTH ASIA REGION

Persecution of Christians is high in the countries that comprise the **South Asia region**, including Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Nepal.

But for nearly 40 years, TWR has been ministering to this region, starting with India in 1977. Our teams in these countries share media content via radio, television, Internet, social media, digital audio devices and print.

We have counselors who follow up with listeners, helping answer questions they have about God and encouraging them to join a church.

One of the main strategies for this region is radio home groups that gather regularly to study the Word of God and fellowship with one another. Thousands of groups gather across the region.

Keep reading to learn about each of these countries. ■



Mirwais*, a listener in Afghanistan, contacted our counselors after a friend gave him the number. He and his wife had questions about their religion, but could never talk about it to anyone. He listened to the broadcasts and continued to talk with the counselor.

His wife asked God to show her a sign if Christianity is the true way. That night she had a dream in which she saw a young man digging his own grave. Later she saw him standing beside his grave and told her that he had to die and arise again after three days.

After the dream, Mirwais and his wife started believing in Christ.

Since then, the staff have been conducting weekly Bible study sessions with them over the phone. They were eager to learn from the Word and put it into and practice. They have also been sharing their faith and testimony with their relatives. As a result the wife's sister gave her life to Jesus.

The family was under pressure for leaving their former faith so Mirwais and his wife sold their house and moved to Europe as refugees. ►

* Not his real name

AFGHANISTAN

A listener in Afghanistan shares she was sick and not getting better.

“Suddenly thoughts about Jesus’ miracles came in my mind and also people’s testimonies I heard earlier.

“So during the radio programs I told Jesus that I believed He could do anything, and my sickness was not big before him.

“It was a strange experience and I can hardly express it. It seemed as if divine power came into my body and healed me completely.

“Thank you Jesus Christ!”

Afghanistan is one of the least-reached countries in the world. “There are 48,000 mosques but not a single church,” according to the prayer guide *Operation World*.

Less than 1 percent of the population is Evangelical Christian. The major religion is Islam.

TWR has been broadcasting to Afghanistan since 2014.

We work with people from the country who understand the Islamic worldview. These counselors evangelize listeners who call in as well as disciple them by phone and SMS. ▶



all photos in this spread courtesy of Karin Wäsپی



2016
ministry
highlights:



3
languages
and dialects



5
programs
on the air



432
hours
broadcast



8,324
calls
received



bit.ly/twrasia2016afg

What did an Afghan believer do so he could be baptized?

Scan the QR Code and find out!

HERE'S HOW WE SHARED GOD'S HOPE WITH AFGHANISTAN IN 2016:

Produced five programs to minister to Urdu-, Pashto- and Dari-speaking audiences.

Broadcast 432 hours of programs ministering to the needs of the Afghan people.

In Afghanistan, TWR seeks to minister to families and women. In 2016, we created a program geared towards families, presenting Christ to them and addressing family-related issues.

We also broadcast *Women of Hope* in Pashto, which offers practical and spiritual support for women. It also encourages women to pray.

Received 8,324 calls from listeners in 2016. While the majority of calls are antagonistic, some callers express an openness to learn more about the gospel.

There is a need for more women phone counselors to respond to women who call in with questions in response to the program. ■

“Thank you for sharing the gospel so that I could come to know the true God.

“I am now sharing my faith with my children. I still remember how I confessed all my sins to Jesus and asked for his forgiveness.

“I can really say even in harder times we can still praise and thank God.”

- A LISTENER IN AFGHANISTAN



Sunda's* family
in India struggles with
poverty and sickness.

For the sake of peace,
prosperity and protection,
the family observed
various—sometimes
scary—rites and rituals.
These were supposed to offer
them protection from evil.

However, when a family
member passed away in an
accident, Sunda started to
have second thoughts
about his family's
religious practices.

After hearing God's message
of hope and salvation on
the radio, Sunda no longer
turns to such means.

“I repented of my sins
and accepted Christ as my
Savior,” he said. “Now, I am a
believer and I share about
this program with others.
I thank God who revealed
his truth to me.” ▶

* Not his real name



INDIA

India is “the most ethnically
diverse nation on the earth,
with over 2,500 distinct people
groups,” according to *Operation
World*. It is also one of the
most populated countries
in the world.

India faces challenges of
poverty, illiteracy and human
trafficking. With a majority
of the population living in
rural areas, diseases such as
AIDS and other HIV infection
symptoms are rampant.

Less than 3 percent of
the population is Christian,
making Hinduism (more
than 74 percent) the major
religion in the country.

Churches face many problems,
including poor discipleship,
lack of biblical teaching, and a
lack of models for biblical life
and leadership. Many ministry
workers are inadequately
equipped to help believers
navigate the complexities of
following Christ in the context
of India's strong philosophical
tradition as well as religious,
cultural and ethnic diversity.

TWR first started broadcasting
to India in 1978 from a medium
wave (AM) transmitter in Sri
Lanka. Since then, the ministry
has grown to include the
Internet, television, and print.
However, radio is still the main
tool to reach the population
with the gospel. ▶

"A friend of ours introduced the *Thru The Bible* radio program to us. It has become a part of our lives now.

"We drink every word of it to our hearts' content as it nourishes our spiritual life.

"Our faith is sustained because of your broadcasts."

- A LISTENER IN INDIA



2016

ministry
highlights:



83

languages
and dialects



151

programs
on the air



2,201

radio homes
established



5,496

total hours
broadcast



46,837

CDs & SD cards
distributed

HERE'S HOW WE SHARED GOD'S HOPE WITH INDIA IN 2016:

Shared the gospel in 83 languages and dialects, and partnered with churches and missions agencies for program production and follow-up.

Produced 151 programs tailored to meet the needs of church leaders, pastors, women, youth and children.

Distributed 46,837 CDs & SD cards in 2016. TWR India also distributed radios, digital audio devices, Bibles and biblical literature.

Broadcast a total of 5,496 hours over medium wave (AM) and SW radio.

Established 2,201 radio homes for listeners to listen to a program together, followed by a discussion led by a coordinator, who is usually a trained pastor.

Developed a digital media strategy to reach youth — An initiative called *More Than Bread* was established to meet youth online facing issues such as suicide or relationship problems. The idea is build relationships over the phone, address the issue, share the gospel and lead them to Lord. Then move them over to another site for discipleship and counseling. ■



bit.ly/twrasia2016ind

How are
radio homes
helping disciple
believers
in India?

Scan the QR Code
to learn more!



Kulbir* from Nepal shared that his life was a total mess. He indulged in alcohol, smoking and other activities.

"My life had reached a meaningless level," he said.

One day a TWR staff shared about God and the radio programs.

"I began listening to the radio programs regularly," Kulbir said. "It was through these radio programs that I learned of the one true and living God and the eternal peace that he offers." Kulbir corresponded with the team, who gave him Bible study material.

"I could declare that Jesus Christ was the only source of peace. I then received Christ as my personal Savior and I joined a church too.

"I am eternally grateful for this good news and the new life that I have received. I am restless if I do not listen to the radio programs even for a day. It feeds my spiritual thirst and longing. I am extremely grateful for this radio program. I wish the TWR Nepal programs would reach every heart of my people." ►

* Not his real name



NEPAL

Many in Nepal — about 55 percent — haven't heard the good news. The majority of Nepali are Hindu.

Freedom of religion is guaranteed by law, but only in limited measures. People charged with proselytizing risk fines, imprisonment, and, in the case of expatriates, expulsion.

The Nepali people face geographical isolation, difficult terrain, poor infrastructure and natural disasters, like the 2015 earthquake, which many are still recovering from.

Its mountainous landscape, containing eight of the 10 highest mountain peaks


in the world, makes it challenging to reach some people living in remote areas.

Nepal is also one of the world's poorest countries, with around one-third of the population living below the poverty line.


TWR has had a presence in Nepal since 2000.

Since then, God has multiplied TWR's ministry in the country. The team is bringing the Word of God to the people as well as assisting, equipping, nourishing and making disciples in the local church. ▶


2016
ministry
highlights:


12
programs
on the air


73
FM radio
stations


3,635
hours
broadcast


care
for the
vulnerable



bit.ly/twrasia2016npl

Miraculous
healing opens
door for Nepali
family to hear
gospel

Scan the QR Code
to learn more!

HERE'S HOW WE SHARED GOD'S HOPE WITH NEPAL IN 2016:

Produced 12 programs in four languages and dialects, including Nepali.

73 FM stations across Nepal aired our programs. God has used these broadcasts to transform lives.

Broadcast a total of 3,635 hours over FM and shortwave radio. Bible study and prayer groups were formed as a result.

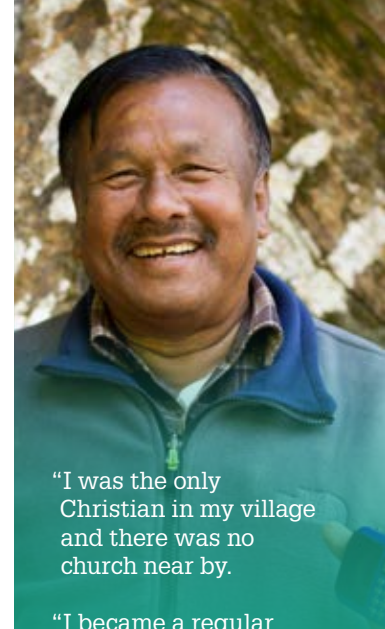
Provided holistic help: In 2016, the team ministered to 1,293 children living in poverty, and arranged for 306 such children to receive tuition.

Sixty women also benefited from the skills training under the *Women of Hope* outreach.

TWR Nepal also conducts ministry outreach to people in prison.

The team also responds following natural disasters, including the earthquake in 2015 and the floods in 2017.

We broadcast disaster response programs referred to as "psychological first aid" as well as distribute practical help, such as food, clothing and materials for shelter. ■



"I was the only Christian in my village and there was no church near by.

"I became a regular listener of the *InTouch* program and it not only strengthened my faith, but also helped me share the gospel with my friends... My parents believed in Jesus through hearing the radio program.

"What a wonderful thing our mighty God has done!"

- A LISTENER IN NEPAL

Sarah* a listener from Pakistan, shared this with us:

“My family loves the Lord and his word very much. My mother was ill for five months, and this worried me a lot. Along with this, we also suffered a huge loss in our family business.

“But whenever I listened to the *Thru the Bible* radio program, I felt as if the Lord was speaking to me directly. I was very much encouraged by the messages and now I am no longer anxious.

“May the Lord bless the people who are involved in the radio programs for being the source of encouragement to many. God bless you all.” ►

* Not her real name



PAKISTAN

Christians face discrimination and persecution because they are a minority religion in Pakistan. Islam is the major religion.

Churches are vandalized or destroyed, and people are beaten, murdered, abducted, raped or forced to convert, according to *Operation World*.

Sharing the gospel is legal, but many Christians fear the repercussions of doing so.

TWR has been broadcasting into Pakistan since 2014 via medium wave (AM) radio. We have a team on the ground who produce programs and follow up with listeners.

There are different audiences in Pakistan — some are hostile, some are interested, and some are 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 program with a question-and-answer format to explain what the Bible says and address misconceptions.

The Way of Righteousness is a separate program being developed to share the gospel with those who are interested or seeking to know more about Jesus. ►

"I learned more about Christ through the radio programs. My two daughters and one of my sons have also accepted the Lord Jesus as their Savior.

"My family is abundantly blessed by the radio programs. It is very difficult to live as a Christian here, but every day the Lord helps us to overcome all the difficulties. I always remember the Apostle Paul's epistles during my trials and temptations.

"I thank the Lord for his blessings and grace upon my family. God bless TWR."

- A LISTENER IN PAKISTAN



2016

ministry
highlights:



9

languages
and dialects



21

programs
on the air



530

radio homes
established



911

hours
broadcast

HERE'S HOW WE SHARED GOD'S HOPE WITH PAKISTAN IN 2016:

Ministered in nine languages and dialects, including Bagri, Garhwali, Hindi, Kashmiri, Kumauni, Pashto, Punjabi, and Urdu.

Produced 21 programs to minister to the needs of different audiences. Programs cover topics relevant to discipleship, women and youth, as well as share the gospel with those who do not know Christ.

Broadcast 911 hours of programs over medium wave (AM) radio, ministering to felt needs of the Pakistani people.

Established 530 radio homes. In addition to producing and broadcasting programs, TWR is establishing radio homes. Listeners gather together with a pastor to listen to the programs and then discuss it as a group. ■



bit.ly/twrasia2016pak

What is our
perspective
of ministering
to places like
Pakistan?

Scan the QR Code
to learn more!



"I am a pastor [from Sri Lanka] and I find it hard to encourage the people sometimes.

"So when I came across your program, I could not wait to introduce them to the people in my village as I find them very helpful. Most of them are not Christians and this has helped all of us here.

"We live in a place where flooding occurs and when such things happen, we are unable to tune in to the program. However, even though we do not have electricity here in the village, we are still able to listen to the radio with batteries.

"Please keep us in your prayers. Thank you." ►

SRI LANKA



bit.ly/twrasia2016lka

Listen to how faithful obedience is the “light” yoke Christ offers us!

Scan the QR Code to learn more!

“Due to many problems I was living separately from my family. I was in a confused state of mind.

“One day I listened to the program *What Does the Bible Teach?*, and the Lord showed me the error of my ways.

“I repented of my sins and reconciled with the Lord and with my family. Now we are united as one family.

“Thank you for this program.”

- A LISTENER IN SRI LANKA

Less than two percent of the population is Christian. The majority of people are Buddhist.

TWR has been airing programs via a 400,000-watt medium wave transmitter in Sri Lanka since June 1978, with the ability to reach the 800 million people in the Indian subcontinent.

The overwhelming listener response to the programs have been an encouragement to us that God is blessing this broadcasting ministry.

Since 2014, God opened the door for TWR to broadcast on Sri Lanka's local FM stations. Programs are aired in Sinhala and Tamil languages. ▶



2016

ministry highlights:



2

languages and dialects



9

programs on the air



137

hours broadcast

HERE'S HOW WE SHARED GOD'S HOPE WITH SRI LANKA IN 2016:

Produced nine programs in two languages, Tamil and Sinhala, to share God's word and disciple believers.

Broadcast 137 hours over FM radio to Sri Lankan audiences.

TWR's goals for ministering in Sri Lanka are:

- to provide the people with God's plan of salvation.
- to shepherd the people's hearts with God's Word so they can better deal with psychological issues they may be facing.

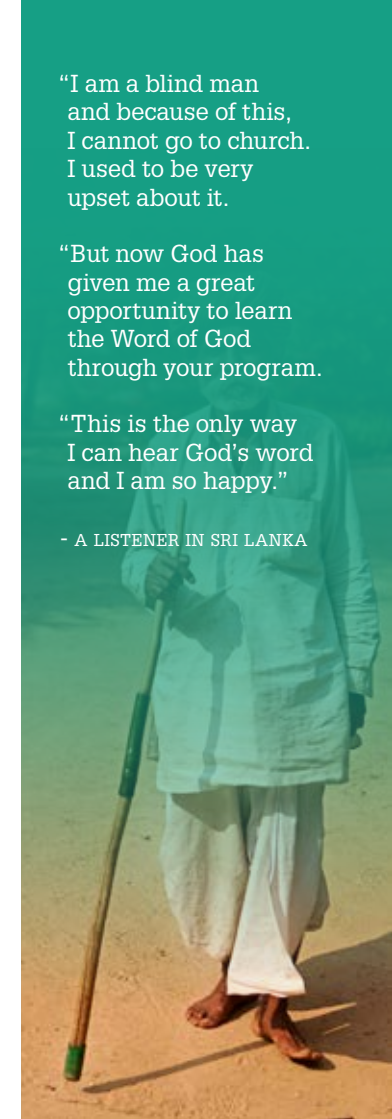
- to promote TWR radio programs as a trusted source of entertainment, information and biblical counsel.
- to educate audiences in areas of general knowledge, finance, relationships, health, hygiene, farming and issues that often arise due to a lack of understanding. ■

“I am a blind man and because of this, I cannot go to church. I used to be very upset about it.

“But now God has given me a great opportunity to learn the Word of God through your program.

“This is the only way I can hear God's word and I am so happy.”

- A LISTENER IN SRI LANKA





SOUTHEAST ASIA REGION

“Large ethnic minority churches thrive in Myanmar, Vietnam, Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia, while the majority populations remain rooted in Buddhism or Islam,” according to *Operation World*.

Church impact is uneven in the **Southeast Asia region**, according to *Operation World*, though there are minorities that are responsive to the gospel.

Our ministry teams face many challenges in carrying out the on-the-ground ministry, but they are faithful in producing programs and counseling listeners.

The teams continue to develop listener groups and, in certain parts of the region such as Indonesia and the Philippines, they are developing content to speak God’s hope to people with an Islamic worldview. ■



Raksa* is 11-year-old Cambodian boy who worries about getting thrown into jail.

When the fields in his hometown don’t produce a good crop for harvest, his parents have little choice but to secure work on a farm in a neighboring country. As the cross-border venture is illegal, the threat of being thrown in jail by the police is very real.

Although Raksa is concerned about this, he realizes that there is nothing he can do to interfere with his parents’ decisions.

“My happiest time in the week is when I am listening to the *Happy Children’s Garden* program,” Raksa said.

“I don’t know why but every time I do, I am happy. My grandma is the one who led me to listen to the program. I believe in Jesus now and I am so happy that I can learn more about him through listening to the program.” ▶

* Not his real name

CAMBODIA

About 85 percent of Cambodia's population is Buddhist.

Many are living in poverty with no access to clean water and food. Families and children living on the streets and next to dumps are a common sight.

"The genocide of the 1970s and 1980s created a very young nation where 60 percent of the population are 24 years old or younger," according to *Operation World*.

TWR began our ministry in Cambodia in 2000 with the task of producing the Khmer version of the *Women of Hope* program. Several young Christians — who were willing to be trained in translation,

production and studio operations — were identified to be team members.

The Cambodia team works with volunteers and coordinators who manage childrens' and adults' listening clubs, radio distribution, and other activities.

The radio programs, *Happy Children's Garden*, *InTouch*, *It's Yours*, *Stories of the Potter*, *The Word Today*, *Thru the Bible*, and *Women of Hope* are broadcast in the Khmer language across various regions in Cambodia. Areas include Batdambang, Kampong Cham, Kampong Thum, Koh Kong, Smach Mean Chey, Oddah Meanchey, Phnom Penh, Pursat, Sisophon, Stung Treng and Takev. ▶



2016
ministry
highlights:



7
programs
on the air



17
FM radio
stations



611
total listener
groups



3,551
hours
broadcast



bit.ly/twrasia2016khm

Listen to
missionaries
in Cambodia
share the fruit
of their ministry!

Scan the QR Code
to learn more!

HERE'S HOW WE SHARED GOD'S HOPE WITH CAMBODIA IN 2016:

Produced seven programs to minister to audience needs. Ministering to children is one of the team's main outreaches. That's why they developed *Happy Children's Garden*. The program tells a story and asks a question at the end of each program. Any child who writes in with the correct answer wins a prize.

Broadcast 3,551 hours of programs over 17 FM stations.

Shepherded 611 listener groups: The team also follows up with listeners, and provides training for those who are overseeing listener groups.

Listener group leaders are a vital link between our team and our listeners. Feedback, questions and prayer requests are transmitted through these leaders.

For the *Happy Children's Garden* program alone, more than 200 listener groups gather across Cambodia. Each leader leads up to 10 different groups in different villages in their area, averaging about 20 children per group. ■

"I believe it is not by accident that I came across your program.

"Through it, God called me back to the church, at a time when I was very disappointed in my leader.

"After listening, I was not only able to forgive them and return to my church — which I had not gone to for six months — but to also ask them for their forgiveness."

- A LISTENER IN CAMBODIA



Our listeners face many different challenges, from difficult living conditions to illness.

In Myanmar, one listener shared how he was encouraged and strengthened, despite suffering pain from a hernia.

“The *Thru the Bible* program presented a message based on Genesis 42, and we learned many lessons about loyalty and faith, which Joseph kept towards God...

“By God’s grace I didn’t suffer much pain from my hernia due to your prayers.” ▶



2016
ministry
highlights:



2
languages
and dialects



9
programs
on the air



372
hours
broadcast

MYANMAR

Myanmar is an ethnically diverse country — comprising of the Burmese and seven other major national races as well as 138 sub-groups and tribes.

Buddhism is the largest religion, making up 76 percent of the population. Evangelical Christians make up about five percent of the population, though mostly among minority groups, according to *JoshuaProject*, a missions research initiative.

Radio is an effective way to reach the Burmese living in rural areas with the gospel because its mobility and privacy.

TWR began producing Burmese programs in the early 1990s. The first broadcast to Myanmar from Guam was in March 1993.

TWR broadcasts programs, including *Lifeword*, *Macedonian Call*, *The Word Today*, *Thru the Bible*, and *Women of Hope*, via shortwave into Myanmar. Programs are geared toward women as well as general discipleship.

The team also distributes programs on SD cards and shares program scripts with listeners to help them as they study the Word.

The team corresponds with listeners, praying for them. ■

“I receive much biblical knowledge, spiritual strength and peace of mind after reading TWR Myanmar radio program scripts.

“I also come to know many things when I listen to TWR Myanmar radio programs on SD card.”

- A LISTENER IN MYANMAR



“The *Figure* program really strengthens me. Some days ago it talked about Jesus, who came to the world to save people, but he was rejected by his creation.

“The words of God on the program confirm my faith... I too am rejected by my own family because I became a Christian and believe in Jesus.

“Now, I don't have a permanent place to live; I have to move from one place to another. But I give thanks to the Lord Jesus because he accepts me.

“Although the world rejects me, I know that Jesus always loves me.”

- A LISTENER IN INDONESIA ►



INDONESIA

163 million Indonesians are considered unreached, according to *JoshuaProject*.

Indonesia is the most populous Muslim country in the world.

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

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

The ministry in Indonesia began in January 2000, and has since grown to reach most of the bigger islands.

TWR Indonesia is also known as Yayasan Terang Warta Rohani (YTWR), which roughly translates into English as “Light of the Spiritual Message.”

TWR Indonesia's Life-Changing Media helps listeners better understand who Jesus is while also offering practical teachings for daily life.

Topical discipleship programs, such as *Thru the Bible* and *Women of Hope*, are aired in the Indonesian and Javanese languages to encourage and counsel believers. ►

"I was angry with God. I blamed him for the problems I was facing in my life.

"However the Indonesian *Thru the Bible* program reminded me that God often teaches us through problems.

"So now I am learning to surrender my life to God, and learning to have a gentle heart."

- A LISTENER IN INDONESIA



2016

ministry highlights:



21

programs on the air



58

FM radio stations



>380

total listener groups



10,414

total hours broadcast

HERE'S HOW WE SHARED GOD'S HOPE WITH INDONESIA IN 2016:

Produced 21 programs to minister to the needs of the Indonesian audience.

Broadcast a total of 10,414 hours from 58 FM stations and shortwave from Guam. It also provides the programs on audio players for listener groups.

Shepherded more than 380 listener groups across seven provinces. These groups usually gather once a month to listen to the program, discuss the topic and pray together.

These groups are led by listener coordinators who are often local pastors partnering

with TWR. They use the programs to help church members grow in their faith.

Held a total of 48 special gatherings for children called the *Joyful Club*. The main objective of the club is to build children's character as well as support the items they need for school, such as bags, shoes and uniforms.

YTWR is looking for ways to utilize digital media to increase listenership by promoting the programs on digital channels, such as its website (www.ytwr.org) and Facebook (**Yayasan Terang Warta Rohani**). ■



bit.ly/twrasia2016idn

How do volleyball and soccer lead to discipleship?

Scan the QR Code to learn more!



Candice*, a listener from the Philippines, asked the question:

"Is it wrong to love?"

"I love my husband so much and I'll do everything for him, but it is unfair because he does not love me back. He has no respect for me.

"I am thinking of giving up."

The TWR Philippines team is counselling Candice via SMS to present the true love of Jesus to her.

* Not her real name ►



THE PHILIPPINES

Many, like Candice, don't know where to find answers to the questions they face. They are feeling hopeless and alone.

The Philippines is a mainly Catholic nation. There is a Muslim minority (about 6 percent) in Mindanao, which seeks to set up an independent Islamic state in the south, according to *Operation World*.


One of the challenges in the Philippines is that many people call themselves Christians but their faith is based on false doctrine.


"The Philippines is awash with sects and cults that blend Christian ideas with all manner of false teachings," according to *Operation World*, acting that they usually have controlling and manipulative leaders and teachings.


To combat these false teachings and offer hope, TWR Philippines broadcasts programs, such as *Thru the Bible*, *InTouch*, and *Women of Hope*, in local languages and dialects.


For 15 years, the TWR Philippines team has been assisting the church in making disciples. ▶



2016
ministry
highlights:


5
languages
and dialects


14
programs
on the air


49
FM radio
stations


6,249
hours
broadcast


64,186
text messages
received



bit.ly/twrasia2016phl

How is the evangelical church growing across the Philippines?

Scan the QR Code and find out!

HERE'S HOW WE SHARED GOD'S HOPE WITH THE PHILIPPINES IN 2016:

Shared the gospel in five local languages and dialects — ministering to Cebuano-, Hiligaynon-, Ilocano-, Tagalog- and Waray-Waray-speaking audiences.

Produced 14 programs. to disciple believers in the Word of God, as well as provide biblical teaching on topics relevant to Filipino women, children and youth.

Broadcast 6,249 hours of programs over 49 FM stations from Luzon to Mindanao.

Counseled listeners via SMS. Filipino listeners have taken to text messages as their preferred channel of communication, and the team is diligent in corresponding and counseling listeners via SMS. The team received 64,186 text messages in 2016.

The team also travels regularly to meet up with, pray for and encourage listeners in their walk with God. ■

"My sister and I always tune in to your children's program, *Little Lights*.

"It is a big blessing to us, I hope your program will always continue."

- A LISTENER IN THE PHILIPPINES



Sam* is blind.

He shared how he accepted Christ through listening to our radio programs in Thailand and began going to church every Sunday.

“All your programs really encourage and challenge me to follow and to be a true disciple of Jesus,” he said, adding that he is trying to attend a Bible College.

“Although I cannot see, but I can study.” ►

** Not his real name*



THAILAND

Thailand is a mainly Buddhist country (about 85 percent). According to *Operation World*, “for many Thai, their nationality and religious identity are inextricably linked.”

The Protestant churches in Thailand are small and concentrated in Bangkok and the northwest. More than 6,000 of the 7,415 sub-districts have no church.

There is an extensive sex trade in Thailand. *Operation World* estimates millions derive income from this “industry.”

Girls sold into sex trade are usually from poor, rural families who need the money and are seeking fewer mouths to feed. Some girls enter willingly for the income.

TWR began airing the Thai *Women of Hope* program in September 1999 with information relating to family and life issues, health care, as well as offering hope through God’s Word.

TWR partners with Every Home for Christ (www.ehc.org) to produce and broadcast *Women of Hope*, as well as conduct follow up with listeners in Thailand. ►

"I used to be a Christian in name only. I did not go to church. But after I listened to your programs every day, God began to work in my heart..."

"I feel that my mind has changed. I'm really joyful in the Lord when I meet with brothers and sisters in church now."

"Thank you for encouraging me and showing me the right way."

- A LISTENER IN THAILAND



2016

ministry highlights:



2

languages and dialects



10

programs on the air



170

total hours broadcast

HERE'S HOW WE SHARED GOD'S HOPE WITH THAILAND IN 2016:

Sharing biblical truth in two languages: TWR airs *Women of Hope* in Thai, as well as nine discipleship programs in English.

Broadcast a total of 170 hours of programs over local FM radio as well as shortwave from Guam.

The *Women of Hope* program offers spiritual and practical help for women. Surprisingly, we have also received letters from men who tell us that they are also benefiting from the lessons taught.

Every Home for Christ is on a mission to reach every home on earth with the gospel. We partner with them to follow up with listeners, counsel them and answer questions they have about God.

The team developed an app for people to listen to *Truth from the Bible*, *Women of Hope*, and *Wonder Story*. ■



bit.ly/twrasia2016tha

How does an unusual wheelchair reveal God's care for us?

Scan the QR Code and find out!



2016

ministry highlights:



new
micro SD card
initiative



2

programs available



14

languages and dialects

SINGAPORE

There were 1.39 million foreign workers in Singapore in 2016, according to the Ministry of Manpower.

About 605 thousand, or 43 percent, worked as domestic helpers and construction workers. These migrant workers are in Singapore for a short time.

"A tremendous opportunity exists to reach them with the good news," according to *Operation World*.

In 2016, TWR began an initiative to help these migrant workers learn about Jesus and grow in their walk with God.

TWR seeks to avail microSD cards with Christian audio content to churches ministering to migrant workers.

We have programs available in 14 languages, including Mandarin, Indonesian, Javanese, Hindi, Tagalog, English, Tamil, Vietnamese, Isaan and Thai.

Programs include *Women of Hope*, offering spiritual and practical help for issues often faced by women, and *Thru the Bible*, which covers the entire Bible over five years.

In 2016, we distributed 36 microSD cards preloaded with programs. ■



Danh* leads a group of 36 Cham believers who meet regularly to listen to the Word of God through TWR's radio programs. The Cham are an ethnic group in Vietnam who are badly discriminated against. Most live in mud houses with no electricity or water supply.

Danh wrote to the Vietnam team, sharing that it takes a lot out of him to care for the spiritual life of this group.

"Although I've been a believer for eight years, I realize my weakness in leadership as I do not have a systematic way to study the Word of God," he said.

TWR programs also equip local pastors and group leaders like Danh with Bible knowledge to help with their ministry to the different ethnic groups. Danh tells us how the radio program *Mini Bible College* has inspired him

"It helps me obtain more knowledge of the Bible," he said.

"In this way I can understand God better, and serve the Lord more. I sincerely thank TWR for their hard work in helping people like me." ►

* Not his real name



2016
ministry
highlights:



6
programs
on the air



269
hours
broadcast

VIETNAM

Vietnam is increasingly opening up as economic progress continues. Newfound prosperity has opened the door to rampant materialism and other competing ideologies.

Over 50 percent of the population is unreached by the gospel. The most popular religion in the country is Buddhism, and less than 10 percent of the population are Christians.

Especially in the rural areas, many pastors and church leaders lack formal training.

After two years of trial broadcasts in Vietnam from 1998 to 2000, TWR commenced operations in 2000.

We continue to minister to the Vietnamese via shortwave transmissions from Guam.

In addition to the broadcasts, the team makes trips to rural villages to distribute Bibles and radios. They are also exploring conducting basic literacy courses so more people will be able to read the Bible by themselves. ■

"Ten years ago, I tuned in to your program by chance. I listen to it regularly now. My husband and I learn many things and it strengthens our faith.

"Only God and his Word keep us steadfast in ministry. Sometimes we face difficulties and challenges, but his Word comforts, delivers and encourages us so that we can overcome and rely on God to carry on His mission.

"Thank God and thank you."

- A LISTENER IN VIETNAM





Broadcast Operations
ensures TWR transmitters
are functioning well so
programs can 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 mass media



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



IT / IS
enables ministry 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



Resource Development
raises resources to
enable ministry teams
to share the gospel with
their countrymen

ASIA REGIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES

“The eye cannot say to the hand, ‘I have no need of you,’
nor again the head to the feet, ‘I have no need of you.’
On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker
are indispensable, and on those parts of the body that we think
less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our
unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty,
which our more presentable parts do not require.”

But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor
to the part that lacked it, that there may be no division
in the body, but that the members may have the same care
for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together;
if one member is honored, all rejoice together.”

1 Corinthians 12:21-26

Just as Paul mentions the
diversity of the body of Christ
in 1 Corinthians 12, there
are a variety of roles in TWR
to enable the gospel to go
out using media. Not all are
producers or content creators.

It takes many people working
behind the scenes. That’s
what our Asia Regional
Support Services does.

We have people gifted with
technical minds who can

create studios with proper
soundproofing as well as
engineering skills to keep our
radio transmitting sites working.

We have people gifted in
crunching numbers and ensuring
the financial books are balanced.

We have other people gifted
at finding the right people
to fill the open positions.

All these people are gifted
in different areas, but it

takes each person and each
department to enable our
ministry to happen every day.

Each of these people doing
the work God has gifted them
to do enables more people
throughout Asia and around
the world to hear the gospel.

We thank God for the unique
ways he’s gifted each of our
team members. You can see
how each department is
enabling the gospel to go out. ■



bit.ly/gifted4purpose

How has
God gifted you?
Have you ever
considered where
your gifts and
God’s purpose
intersect?

Scan the QR Code to learn more!

KTWR GUAM TURNS 40

KTWR, TWR's powerful shortwave station on Guam, celebrated 40 years of broadcasting hope to Asia in September 2017.

"This is a big milestone for Guam and TWR," said Grant Hodgins, KTWR station manager.

"Being a part of sharing the gospel throughout all of Asia for 40 years means *a lot of people* have had the opportunity to hear the gospel.

"TWR not only shares the gospel so people can know their Savior, they encourage discipleship so that believers can grow and learn about being a follower of Christ."

Shortwave has the power to travel long distances, crossing geographical and ideological barriers, reaching into peoples' homes and lives with the good news.

For 40 years, God has been using broadcasts from Guam to transform lives, especially in areas where proclaiming the gospel is restricted or forbidden.

In that time, KTWR has seen changes in staff as well as the equipment it uses to beam the good news to Northeast Asia and parts of Southeast Asia and South Asia. ▶



DIGITAL DEVELOPMENTS

Two aging 100-kilowatt transmitters were replaced with refurbished 250-kilowatt ones between 2011 and 2013. The replacement transmitters are capable of taking KTWR into a digital broadcast future.

With this new capacity for digital broadcasting and a new radio receiver — the Titus II — the gospel can be shared with more clarity.

The Titus II is a software-defined radio solution. It 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.

In 2016, the team made history by transmitting a digital data file over shortwave from Guam to Thailand.

This communication exchange, done in partnership with Faith Comes By Hearing (FCBH), paves the way for simultaneous delivery of audio and other media formats through the airwaves. This marked the first time a filecast had successfully been transmitted over a 3,000-mile distance.

This “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,” said Steve Shantz, TWR global leadership executive. ▶



What is digital shortwave radio?

Scan the QR Code and find out!



bit.ly/twrasia2016dsw



SOLAR PANEL SOLUTIONS

Over the past couple years, the station installed solar panels to help reduce the cost of keeping KTWR on the air and save money that can be redirected to expand TWR's ministry to the Asia-Pacific region.

Broadcasting at up to 600 kilowatts (kW) over thousands of kilometers during peak hours — from Guam to China and other parts of Asia — tends to use quite a bit more power than the average home.

With the first two solar arrays in place since 2015, KTWR has been saving six percent on its electricity bill. These solar arrays generate 44 kilowatts of electricity.

The final array of solar panels was installed this summer with the help of our interns. The additional capacity will bump the savings to nine percent.

“With all these upgrades, we hope to better serve the people of Asia,” Hodgins said. ■



ministry **FOR** you and ministry **THROUGH** you



browse

By topic,
ministry,
church or
scripture



create an
account

Track your
favorite
programs,
create playlists,
share it with
friends



watch the
JESUS film

Experience the
most widely
viewed film of
all time



read the
Bible

Discover God's
message for all
mankind



listen
to music

Christian music on four streams: contemporary,
worship, instrumental or Spanish as well as
programming from TWR transmitters around
the world



reach your
neighbor

...in his or her own
heart language



ministry
tool

Share the gospel
across language
barriers



distribute
cards

Help others
plug into
TWR360 by
distributing
language
cards to the
people in
your life



utilize social
media

Easily share
Bible-based
content on
social media

FIND FAITH FOR
YOUR WORLD AT
TWR360.ORG

Experience a wide range of
online Christian media resources
in more than 40 languages!

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text-based resources (including e-books)
designed to encourage people in their
faith and in sharing the gospel with
others. TWR360 allows you to select
your language of choice and displays
all content currently available
in that language.

Visit twr360.org or download
the app for your Android or iOS
mobile device today!



FINANCIAL REPORTING

As a nonprofit ministry organization, TWR depends on God and the voluntary contributions of individuals and churches.


To help assure TWR's good stewardship of the funds entrusted to the ministry, TWR belongs to the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability (ECFA) in the USA and adheres to its financial standards. An independent certified public accounting firm audits TWR's annual financial statements.

Complete audited global financial statements are available on TWR's website at twr.org/official-documents



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