

NEWS FROM THE FIELDS

WHAT'S INSIDE?

PP. 2-3

» Central/South America Ministries

PP. 4-5

» Special Giving Opportunity

PP. 6-7

» "Into the Sahel" cont.
» Board Meeting Report
» Memorial Gifts

P. 8

» Why We Do What We Do



Expanding ER's ministries into a new region of the 10/40 Window.

Readers of this newsletter are familiar with the 10/40 Window, that area of the globe from the 10- to the 40-degree latitude lines where Jesus' name is hardly known. Evangelism Resources ministers in some of the darkest recesses of that zone, partnering with indigenous church-planting missions in India, Bangladesh, Myanmar and Pakistan. Those four nations alone are home to nearly half the world's 7,400 "UPGs," Unreached People Groups that have almost no

Christian witness. We thank God for the amazing opportunities He has given us to shine His light and to make disciples who make disciples in Southeast Asia, even as we pray for even greater harvests there.

Meanwhile, for years we've looked at the spiritual darkness of another major region in the 10/40 Window – North Africa and the Arab world – and prayed that God would open a door to our "evangelism resources" there. It seemed to us

(continue reading on p. 6)

Generation to Generation



Meeting the need for lasting discipleship training in Suriname.

By Caleb Pfeifer

On the northeast coast of South America, nestled between Venezuela and Brazil, lies a region known as the Guianas. One of the territories that makes up this region is Suriname, a small country—with a population just shy of 600,000—that’s home to some of ER’s youngest Schools of Evangelism (SOEs).

The director of these schools is Serge Andre, a pastor living near the capital city, Paramaribo. Years ago a friend of ER shared about SOEs with Serge. The first attempt to start a school was unsuccessful. But several years later he was motivated to try again, and he’s now established two SOEs, one in Paramaribo and one in Albina, a border town to French Guiana.

Although most of Suriname is “reached,” in that people have heard or have access to the gospel, discipleship remains a huge need. Missionaries started reaching the indigenous people

of the rainforest in Suriname decades ago, but when they left, lack of follow-up created a vacuum in church leadership.

In the rainforest and throughout the rest of the country, churches face the problem of a nominal version of Christianity that’s often mixed with voodoo and other ancestral practices. Serge described Suriname as having “coexistence” between four or five major religions. While this has kept peace between religious communities, it’s also made people hesitant to enter discipleship and accept Christianity as the only truth.

Serge’s goal for his SOEs is to send out graduates who will strengthen the church in Suriname by emphasizing discipleship. He envisions churches cultivating a stronger, Christ-centered identity. And this, he believes, will be the focus of the first 50 SOE students who will graduate in January. To expand this ministry, plans are underway to start a third SOE in western Suriname, as well as a potential fourth in French Guiana, where some believers have already joined online classes.

In the rainforest villages of the indigenous Amerindian people, ministry looks a little different. In addition to discipleship and filling leadership gaps, there’s still



⤴ In addition to leading SOEs, Serge Andre pastors two congregations in the Paramaribo area.

some need for church planting. Serge hopes to start a PBS in a rural community for this purpose. Historically, Amerindian churches have sent evangelists to less-reached tribes in Brazil. (We pray this continues!)

Confirming the importance of these ministries, a SOE student wrote to Serge: “After we have finished, we hope that it will continue for others who come, because it [the need] is from generation to generation.” He continued, “So we trust God that the Bible school will continue at Albina. We need it.”

Hearing that the Lord is using our programs to equip His church for ministry brings us great joy, whether it’s in Africa, Asia, or the Americas. Suriname is different than our typical ministry field, but we’re excited to see what God has in store. And just like that student, our hope and prayer are that SOEs and PBSes will be raising disciples and church planters throughout the Guianas for generations to come.



⤴ Pastor Ivan Pierre is the founder and codirector of Evangelism Resources’ ministries in Haiti

of his now thirty+ years of ministry in Haiti.

Pastor Ivan met June Eisemann at Asbury Theological Seminary while he was a student and felt compelled by the Spirit to thank her for the ways she ministered to students through her kindness. June subsequently asked Pastor Ivan about his ministry plans after Seminary. He shared that there were many churches in his country, but because many of the pastors weren’t biblically trained, the so-called “gospel” that was being preached had become tragically distorted. Pastor Ivan reflected that “a gospel without Jesus is not good news at all.”

This gentle Spirit-filled conversation became a catalyst that led June to introduce him to Dr. Willys and Thelma Braun, along with other ER staff, a meeting that concluded with a simple gift: a copy of the Portable Bible School (PBS) textbook, Called to Shepherd God’s People. For Pastor Ivan, this book was God’s provision for helping to meet the need he saw in his nation—the need for biblically trained pastors. The first Haiti School of Evangelism (SOE) began by training 22 Haitians.

Today, there are two SOEs and 385 students who are currently enrolled in PBSes. In addition, three Great Commission Challenge Camps (GC3s) are expected to be completed by the end of the year, inspiring a total of 250 young adults this year alone to deepen their commitments to the movement of God in their own lives, communities, and nation. Hundreds of women have gone through the Women’s Impact Network training, and hundreds have been impacted by Inductive Bible Study seminars.

Pastor Ivan’s story is a reminder of God’s faithfulness—for the ways God established his footsteps into the calling he received at sixteen years old. Pastor Ivan shared a phrase that the Lord recently brought to his mind: “faithfulness into the calling,” and said, “I’ve been in ministry for over 30 years, but the Lord continues to require faithfulness of me. This is not the end of the call. To the contrary, I need to go deeper the rest of my life so I can leave behind the necessary leaders who will take on the task of spreading the gospel.”

May we too, go deeper.

Faithfulness Into the Calling



Following God’s call to serve the people of Haiti.

By Lisa Fowler

Pastor Ivan Pierre spoke with a heartfelt conviction: “When I was sixteen years old, I was called to minister to the Haitian people.” He recounted the ways God led him to the home office of Evangelism Resources (ER) in 1999, and how a meeting with Dr. Willys and Thelma Braun helped shape the trajectory



Audio Bibles for UPGs

A special opportunity to partner with ER this Giving Tuesday, November 29.

By Caleb Pfeifer

Over the past decade, the Tuesday after Thanksgiving has become known by more and more people as “Giving Tuesday.” This movement was started in 2012 with the idea of setting aside a special day to encourage people to do good. We can think of it as a way to recenter ourselves on being

thankful for God’s blessings—and the natural response of generosity which flows from that—after the craziness of Black Friday and Cyber Monday.

As Christians, we know that God calls us to generosity and kindness all year long, not just on one day. Moreover, we recognize that ER has been sustained by the

continued giving of resources, time, and prayer from countless faithful ministry partners over the last 46 years. At the same time, we also recognize the value in asking the ER family at a specific time to help us through financial support when we have the opportunity to meet a special need.

So, from now until Giving Tuesday, November 29, we invite you to join us in an effort to raise funds for audio Bibles that will go to believers in unreached people group (UPG) communities.

Why Audio Bibles?

Several of our ministry partners have shared with us about this specific need. Many of the UPGs that they work among have been historically marginalized and kept in poverty, meaning they often lack access to literacy education.

As a result, members of these communities are often oral learners.

Where will these Bibles go?

For this project we’re working with partners in the states of Bihar, Jharkhand, and Maharashtra in India. The audio Bibles will most likely go to believers in UPG communities that speak Hindi, Marathi, and Santali.

How much does an Audio Bible cost?

The average cost of the audio Bibles our partners will purchase in India is \$6.00.

The Goal

Our goal is to raise \$9,000 by November 29, which will help provide **1,500 audio Bibles**—500 for each state.

ER will send all funds designated for the Giving Tuesday project directly to our international partners for purchasing audio Bibles. No portion of these gifts will be set aside for administrative purposes or other ministries. If you give to ER regularly, whether monthly or yearly, please consider continuing these gifts as you pray about also contributing to the Giving Tuesday project.

How do I give?

By Mail

Fill out the giving card that came with this newsletter, making sure

to mark the checkbox beside the Giving Tuesday project in the designation section. Send the completed card, along with your payment, to the ER office in the pre-addressed return envelope that was included with the newsletter. Please make checks payable to Evangelism Resources.

Online

1) Go to www.erinfo.org/donate-now, then scroll down to the blue “DONATE HERE” button and click on it. You’ll be taken to our online giving portal.

2) You should see three green buttons. Click the bottom one that says “KEY MINISTRIES.”

3) Look for the textbox titled “4200 PORTABLE BIBLE SCHOOLS” and type in the amount you would like to give.

» *Note: You will be given the option to specifically designate your gift for the Giving Tuesday project later in the donation process.*

4) If you’ve given to ER online in the past and made a donor account, select the green “CONTINUE WITH LOGIN” button. If you don’t have an account and don’t want to make one, simply click “CONTINUE AS GUEST.”

» *Note: An account is helpful if you plan to make future online gifts but is not necessary.*

5) Type in your contact information.

6) Enter your payment information. You can pay via credit/debit card or bank account.

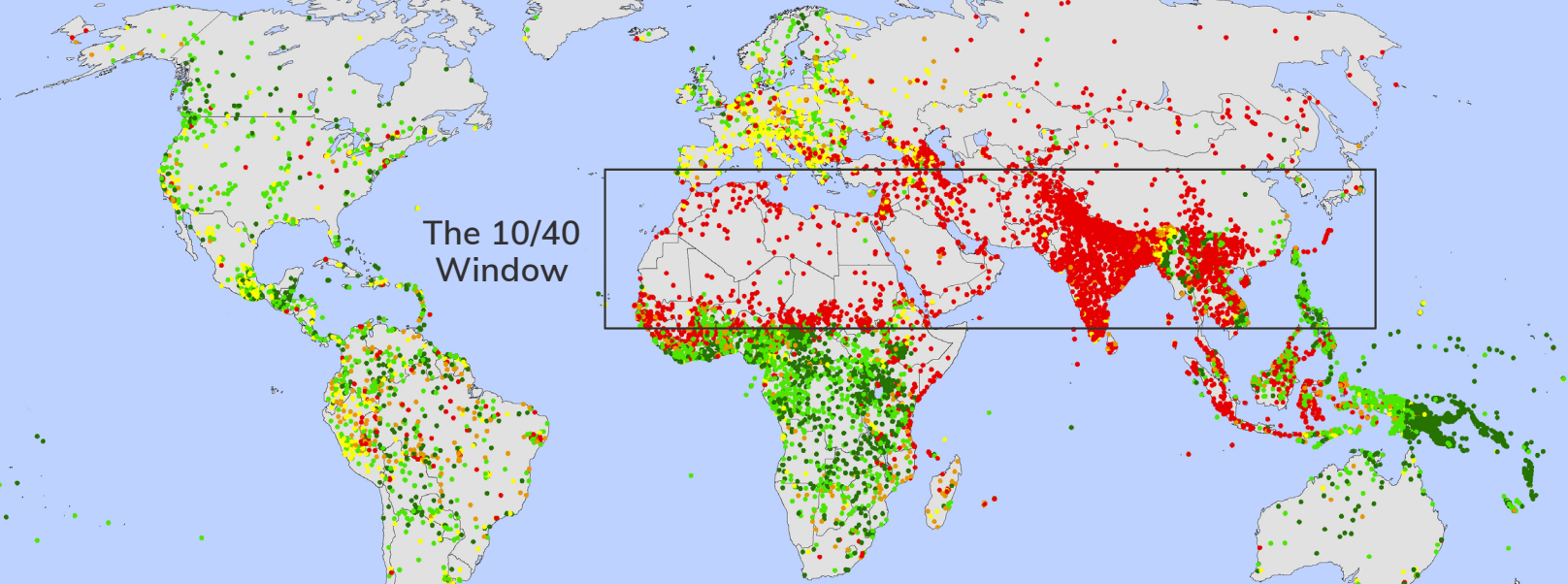
7) If your billing information is different from the contact information you previously entered, click on the blue checkbox under “BILLING INFORMATION” and type in your billing information.

8) You have reached the last page! Review and confirm your personal information as well as the details of your donation.

9) IMPORTANT: Near the bottom of this page you’ll find a textbox labeled “GIFT MEMO.” In this textbox, type “**Giving Tuesday Project 2022.**” This will ensure your gift is designated to audio Bibles for UPGs.

10) Click the green “SUBMIT GIFT” button. You’ve successfully contributed to providing audio Bibles for UPG communities! Thank you for your generosity and investment in God’s Kingdom!





People Groups of the World

● Unreached | ● Minimally Reached | ● Superficially Reached | ● Partially Reached | ● Significantly Reached

Data Source: Joshua Project (www.joshuaproject.net) July 2020

» The 2022 Board of Directors outside of the ER home office during the annual gathering on September 16-17.

(continued from p.1)

that our grassroots leadership training ministries could bring great help to God’s kingdom there. So last May, when an email came from Dr. Daniel Cloughton, an Australian missionary in South Sudan, asking if he could use our Portable Bible School (PBS) materials, we were ecstatic. Of course, we quickly agreed and sent a digital copy of the book, “Called to Shepherd God’s People,” along with some funds to help him get started.

Dr. Daniel had heard about PBSes from another missionary, Carole Ward, based in Uganda and serving with Favor International. He gave us Carole’s email address and we wasted no time in writing to her, introducing ourselves as the originators of the PBS strategy and book.

What a joy to learn that Carole’s mission had trained over 100,000 people over the last 20 years in Portable Bible Schools! Last year alone they printed 40,000 copies of the book in three languages, including Arabic, for PBSes in ten nations across the Sahel region of central Africa.

We praise God for missionaries and partners like Dr. Daniel Cloughton and Carole Ward, and that our resources are being used to build the body of Christ across the Islamic Sahel! Will you pray with ER that God will continue to lead us into ever more fruitful ministries across

this Muslim stronghold? It won’t be easy, and it will take sacrifice, but we are determined to take God’s salvation to “every nation, tribe, people and language,” in anticipation of that great day when we will stand together before the Lamb of God (Rev. 7:9).

» Sharing about a PBS being held for inmates who came to Christ at a prison in South Sudan, Dr. Cloughton wrote: “God is opening doors no man can close.”



ER’s 47th Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors

We praise and thank God that ER’s Board of Directors was able to meet together in person this fall; it was the first time in three years, due to COVID.

Memorial & Honorary Gifts



A contribution was received in memory of:

» Dr. Robert Bickert of Wilmore, Kentucky, from Rev. and Mrs. Lloyd Terpenning of Cincinnati, Ohio.

A contribution was received in honor of:

» Doran Morgan of Topeka, Kansas, who served with ER from 2015 until 2022, from Brenda and Kent Anderson of Oregon, Wisconsin.



« Pins on a new wall map displayed in the ER home office identify the countries where ER has established ministries.



Why Do We Do What We Do?

By Paul Braun

There are a lot of Christian missions doing a lot of good work around the world. There are Bible translators, medical missions, Christian orphanages, huge seminaries, and all kinds of other great ministries. We thank God for every one of them!

So how is Evangelism Resources different, and why do we do what we do?

For starters, we do what we do because God has called us to it. We are compelled by Jesus' "famous last words" before ascending to heaven: "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them ... and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you" (Matt. 28:19-20).

Further, it just makes sense to us to work as strategically as possible "to win as many as possible" to God's wonderful love and salvation (1 Cor.9:19). We do this by:

» **Working in partnership with indigenous missions** who are already present where the spiritual needs are greatest. Thirty of our 43 overseas partners are within or near the 10/40 Window!

» **Focusing on grassroots-leadership training**, raising up wave after wave of missionaries and church planters to take God's salvation where we could never go.

» **Emphasizing prayer and the preaching of God's Word** in all our efforts.

Jesus compared the kingdom of God to a mustard seed, a vine, a farmer sowing seed, and more. Mike Fowler, Lisa's husband (see her article on p. 3), suggested another way of understanding God's presence on Earth; He imagines it as a tree: God feeds and strengthens His Church by His Spirit through the tree's roots. This divine energy manifests itself in the trunk, which grows stronger

as Christ's followers are disciplined to maturity. From the trunk come many branches that produce rich fruit – the fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22-23), the fruit of good works (Titus 3:14) and the fruit of new souls (Matt. 13:1-23).

The whole "tree" is important; Evangelism Resources focuses on raising up disciples so that the "branches" will be able, in turn, to produce generous fruit. First come the disciples; everything else flows out from there.

Thank you for your partnership with Evangelism Resources in both prayer and in giving! Thank you for supporting us in our efforts to make disciples who will make disciples. Thank you for helping us grow strong "trees" of God's kingdom in otherwise arid lands that will produce rich, plentiful harvests, in their time!