

MPI Update

Making a Difference for Eternity

September-October 2011



Dowell Chow, President of Adventist World Radio shares a GodPod for this Huichol to use in reaching his tribe for Jesus.

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Go Forward for Heaven in 2011

Priorities



Ed MacKenzie

*But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven,
where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and
where thieves do not break through nor steal:
Matthew 6:20*

Dear MPI Supporters,

We are always interested to hear what the youth have to say about their personal experiences when they return from a mission trip. They are generally full of enthusiasm and on fire for God. They say that they are surprised by how much those that they worked with are able to accomplish with so little. In a similar vein, a young lady who had recently returned from a mission trip said that she realized that she had a lot more than she needed. This leads me to ponder anew what the Lord says in Matthew 6:20. It all falls back on the age old Biblical question; are we building up treasures on Earth or treasurers in Heaven? Revelation 3:17 tells us that one of the problems with God's last day Laodicea Church is that they are increased with goods and have need of nothing. They are building up treasures on Earth. The description of the Laodicea Church in Revelation 3:14-22 is always worth rereading if you have not done so for a while.

From time to time, as Christians, it is important to reconsider what we have in terms of what we need. How much do we really need to advance the kingdom of God? Do we separate our needs from our wants so that we can support missionaries around the globe? Are our lives ordered in such a way that our top priority is to advance the kingdom of God? We often pray that God's will be done on Earth as it is in heaven.

Our world is full of things to attract the eye and stir the imagination. As an example, look at the wonderful technical inventions that consume much of our time. In most cases these inventions are not cheap. Do these things help us to advance the work of God or do they take us away from the mission that God has given us for our dying world? Time is short. As we hear the daily news, we realize how much our world is falling apart. The harvest is indeed very ripe, the workers are few.

I ask you to join me as we reconsider our priorities, as we continue to advance Gods Kingdom on Earth. Let us join hands together as we pray to make Gods Priorities our Priorities, as we prepare for Christ's soon return.

In His Service, Ed MacKenzie

The MacKenzie's travel internationally, conducting Lay Evangelism. Ed oversees the accounting system at La Loma Luz Adventist Hospital. Ruth helps in the office and sews for Belmopan Adventist Orphanage in her spare time. Being avid birdwatchers, the MacKenzie's especially enjoy Belize.

UPDATE: Huichol Project First GodPods Delivered!

By Fred Adams

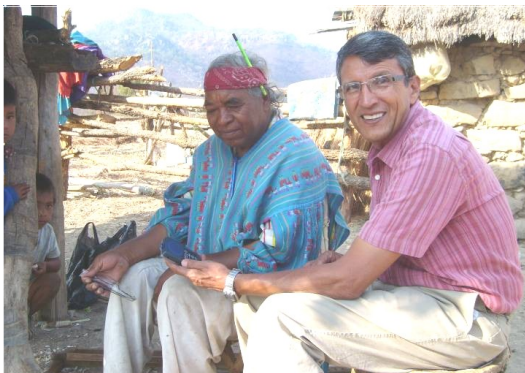
Thanks to God's Providence, modern technology and your donations, the first GodPod solar talking units have been delivered to the Sierra Huichol. Each unit, costing \$40, contains 160 hours of Huichol and Spanish Bible audio, hymns and Bible studies in the Huichol dialect.

Elder Dowell Chow, President of Adventist World Radio (AWR) flew in the mission plane with Pastor/Pilot Dagoberto Cirilo to deliver these units to key people in several remote villages.

The GodPods will initially be used to strengthen Bible knowledge among new believers, especially those who do not read.

Then these small "Talking Bibles" can easily be taken to hostile areas and discreetly used among unreached Huichols who show an interest in learning about the true Creator God.

We will be sharing more pictures and stories as this project moves forward, another tool in leading the unreached to Jesus. ♦



Pastor Cirilo (right) delivers GodPod to Huichol leader in remote mountain village.



Huichol believers in San Miguel gather for dedication prayer of their very first "Talking Bibles," delivered by AWR President Dowell Chow.

Belize Bible Worker Stories: Saved by a Bible Study!

By Alfredo Mossiah

Mr. Jose Zelaya grew up and lived in Belize City almost his entire life.

He grew amidst many difficulties such as: family problems, drugs and violence. As time went by he found himself now being a husband and a father of four children. Circumstances of life caused him to move away from the City and now he lives in the north of the country, the Corozal District. He found a job and a house for rent in the village of Libertad, but to him it seemed that is when all his troubles came along. He lost his job for a time but found another. His absence from home, due to work, had caused his two eldest sons to be very unruly and they got caught up in drugs. His wife was unhappy with the situation.

Mr. Jose's home was now a war zone. The peace that he was looking for seemed to be nowhere close. During this time, he visited our church a few times, as all his children study at the Libertad Seventh-day Adventist School. Then his wife began to attend services on a regular basis. But as we all know the enemy is not pleased to see such actions that lead to eternal life. Day by day the situation in his home intensified, even with his wife. He came home at times and began to find comfort in liquor. Many days I found him sleeping on the road while going or coming from Bible studies.

One day I was impressed to visit him. Mr. Jose and I spoke a few words and that was when he expressed his feelings about wanting desperately to study God's word. I offered to drop Bible studies by his home weekly because his job did not allow us to study together. Each week when he was finished with one lesson, he came to my home for another and we talked. His wife soon began working at the Corozal Free Zone where she ended up having a secret affair. The children were now left without a guardian.

One evening a board meeting was scheduled to begin 5pm at our church in Libertad. The meeting did not happen because we did not have quorum, but God had his plans. A few minutes later Mr. Jose appeared at the church door and requested to come in. He was desperately in need of prayer. He requested a moment to speak to all who were there that evening. Elder Adan Sosa and I (Alfredo) are members of the church board and were the only ones there.



Alfredo Mossiah

Mr. Jose began talking and said: “Yesterday I was in Belize City again because I found out that my wife was out with her secret lover. Knowing what was taking place, I went to some of my friends whom I had grown up with, and began to tell them what was happening. My friends convinced me that I must bring this to an end, and that no one should humiliate me like that. They gave me a gun filled with bullets to solve the situation then and there.”

Mr. Jose left the house of his friends, jumped the fence, and secretly sneaked up to the house where his wife and secret lover were. Then with the loaded gun in his hand, he stood in front of them with his mind made up to kill them both. But while he held the gun on them, he felt something he had never experienced before. He told us, “Instead of pulling the trigger, I began to remember the lessons that I studied with Alfredo. I began to tell them that Jesus loves me and that He also loves them, and that He will leave them alone if that will make them happy.”

I felt a voice telling me not to do it. I knew the voice was that of the Lord. I felt Jesus calling me saying, *there is a better way; all must not end in violence.*”

He placed the gun in his pocket, explaining to his wife and her lover what his intention had been. They were shocked. Mr. Jose immediately left the house and gave his friends the gun. They were not happy with his decision, but he took off immediately from there.

After hearing his testimony, we were deeply touched with the way God had worked in him. He told us that he knew it was Jesus speaking to him. Elder Adan Sosa gave him words of encouragement, prayed, and invited him to the service which would start in about 15 minutes that Sunday evening.

He returned for service that night to praise the Lord in worship. During the week I met him and we talked and started to have Bible studies together on a weekly basis. Mr. Jose is trying, with God’s help, to live a different life. He thanks God for the opportunity to learn about His love through these Bible studies. He is still struggling with his family, but God has brought about a peace in his life. He still requests our prayers and support.

Life is not easy for Mr. Jose. The situation is still hard in his family and at times he feels that he just can’t take it anymore, but we ask that you all join with us as we continue to uplift him along with his family in prayer. We trust that the Lord will continue speaking to him and that we all can someday rejoice together with Jose and his family. ♦

“They gave me a gun filled with bullets to solve the situation then and there.”

The Sewing Seeds Project

By Wendy Harris

What was the first gift that changed your world? As if the giver said “you can do it! Or “I believe in you.” Maybe it was a new catcher’s mitt, violin, or a cookbook. Whatever it might have been, I am sure it will always be long remembered.

We now have the opportunity to give such a gift to some of the young ladies in Tanzania, Africa.

In the same area that MPI supports lay workers, Janet Fournier has opened a trade school for students around the ages of 17-21 years. The trade school is much needed. In this area if students do not pass a test that is given during their seventh-grade year they are unable to continue in the school system. The other option is hard physical labor. Because it is such hard work, many decide to run to the city—nearly half are never located again. This trade school gives these young people another option, an opportunity to learn a skill so that they can then support themselves.

As well as learning a trade; woodworking for the young men and sewing for the young ladies, the students at Eden Valley Foster Care School are taught English, health principles, agriculture, courtship, and about their loving Savior, Jesus Christ.

This project, The Sewing Seeds Project, is exciting because not only can they share the skill of sewing but also the other valuable information they learned in school, such as health, agriculture and Bible. Also, they are then given the opportunity to work in their neighborhood, out of the home of parents or grandparents, or even in a more central “booth” location in town.

The young ladies graduate with sewing skills, but do not have a way of getting a sewing machine of their own. MPI would like to present

these young “funi” (seamstresses) with a new treadle sewing machine upon their graduation. Without a doubt, I know that these sewing machines are a gift that will always be remembered. ♦



The cost for a machine plus delivery is \$150

Zambia: Truth Seekers in All Churches

By Roy Habasimbi

One day a man by the name of Watty Mwemba asked a question during one of the Wednesday Bible studies at the popular Holiness Church of about 250 members. Watty wanted to know why, as a Bible dependant church, they are claiming that the commandments were nailed to the cross if that is contradicted by Matt 5:17-20?

Different answers were given, until the elder said; "If we say all were nailed to the cross it would bring much confusion, but if we say only the one about the day of worship was (the Sabbath) it would be much better." He then continued "let us also forget about James 2:10, for nobody can follow all the commandments of God perfectly." Immediately he closed the whole meeting.

Now, failure to give Biblical answers by the leaders of the church made Watty very bitter in his heart. He wondered how the one who eats the tithe, fails to trust in God's word.

Three months later the same question arose, but this time the people demanded a Biblical answer, but all was in vain. The church board sat and excommunicated 50 members from the church, including Watty as the ringleader.

This small group organized themselves and started building a new church, named "Pentecost Believers."

One day a man pretended to be one of the new believers. He came and gave K200,000 (\$42) as an offering to the Lord. On Sunday the church rejoiced to hear that announcement, for it was a lot of money for them. On Monday morning, Watty was picked up by the Police and taken into custody for allegedly stealing cattle. The cattle thief claimed he was sent to steal the cattle so that the church could raise money for a building. When the Police asked Watty if he was given K200,000, the fact that he accepted the money made him guilty and they sentenced him to 4 months in jail.

The owner of the cattle realized that Watty was innocent, and so he went and canceled the case. When the case was canceled the thief laughed and told Watty that if it had not been for his God, he could not have continued his gospel ministry.

Now the Church had a desire to learn and know more about Jesus, so they requested a new teacher to come and give them Bible studies on Wednesday. This new Bible teacher was a Seventh-day Adventist Pioneer. After about three months of Bible Studies, all the members unanimously voted to change the name of the church from Pentecost Believers to Seventh-day Adventists.

Then, at the end of an evangelistic meeting conducted by the same pioneer, 60 members were baptized. Watty said at the end of the series that "Now our faith is grounded." Now this little group is in need of several things, starting with a shepherd, Bibles, hymnals, and a church, for they are almost cut off from the main church due to distance.

The Lord is always on our side even though the heavens fall. Truth is a gift to truth seekers.



Belize Lay Worker Program

Jesus Transforms the Life of a Widow

By John Landero

Nieve López is a widow. She lives outside of her village. Nobody visits her because she does not get along with other people. That's why she lives alone.



One day as I passed by her house, I saw her sitting outside under a tree. I visited her briefly, gave her the book *Steps to Christ*, and prayed with her. Mrs. Nieve was so happy that she told me to come back again, because she wanted to hear more about the love of Jesus.

One day she told me all about her past life, and why she is living by herself. She became devastated after losing her husband and three lovely sons. She was so angry and

she didn't know what to do or where to go; she didn't want to be with anybody.

But now, as we study the Bible together, she is getting to know Jesus more as her Friend and Savior. Now she is so happy and kind.

She is not the same person that she used to be. We see that God and the Holy Spirit are truly working in her life.

So I invited her to accept Jesus as her personal Savior and she said, "Yes." Mrs. Nieve is now a member of our church. Once a week we go to her house and have worship with her.



I thank God and give Him the glory, because He is the only One Who can change lives as he did with Nieve.

La Loma Luz Adventist Hospital, in Belize, is again looking for two doctors: a missionary-minded Surgeon and an Internist.

If you or someone you know would be interested, please contact the Hospital's Administrator, Mr. Grant McPherson at: mcperson_grant@hotmail.com

But this I say, he which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; but he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man accordingly as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. 2 Cor 9:6,7

A Future Gift is a Planned Gift

Does your **present** financial situation seem to prevent you from supporting Mission Projects, Inc. this year? We have some good news; you can still support your favorite project through a **future** gift. Helping you make plans for a future gift is the essence of our Planned Giving Department. Let us show you how easily this can be done through one or more of the following methods:

- Name Mission Projects, Inc. as a beneficiary of your IRA or 401 (k) retirement plan
- Designate us as a dollar amount or percentage beneficiary of your will or revocable living trust
- Name Mission Projects, Inc. as a beneficiary of your investment/brokerage account or life insurance policies
- Transfer valuables such as stamp, coin or antique collections to us through a simple change to your documents

Perhaps you need more income now or for your anticipated retirement. We even offer **future** gift options that will pay you a generous, fixed income **now** for as long as you live, provide immediate income tax relief, and ultimately provide funds for Mission Projects, Inc.

To learn more, contact our Planned Giving department today at 866-356-5595.

Worthy Student Aid: Continuing Education

Dear Friends,

My name is Susana, and I was born in Oaxaca, México. Unfortunately I did not have the opportunity to know about Jesus when I was a child, as my family did not go to any church.

One afternoon we received a visit from a gentleman who spoke to us about Christ and offered to give us Bible studies. Soon my family and I accepted the Gospel, and demonstrated our commitment to Jesus through baptism.

Now that I knew Jesus loves me, and that He keeps His promises, my greatest desire was to continue my studies. I fervently prayed to God, telling him my plans and the sorrow I felt because I could not afford a college education. I spent three years without being able to attend school, and I went house to house looking for work to earn tuition money.

Then by God's blessing I learned about selling books door-to-door. That helped a lot, but doesn't come near covering my education expenses. I am now studying at Montemorelos University, in my third year to be an Elementary Teacher. My dream is to finish soon and be able to teach children to be servants of God. Your prayers and support will help me reach my dream.

God bless you!

Susana



MPI Update by Email

If you prefer to receive your MPI Update by email instead of by "snail mail," you can help us save time and money. Just send a note to mission.projects.inc@gmail.com and let us know your preferences. You will still receive your receipts by postal mail. Also, please encourage your friends to sign up for the MPI Update, either by email or snail mail to receive it for themselves.

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Rita and Earl Gilliland

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By Ed and Ruth MacKenzie

Larry & Lonnie Wiebold

By Ruth Wiebold



Since there are many students needing assistance, your Student Aid contributions are placed in a General Fund and distributed uniformly among those with the greatest need and potential. *Thank you!*

MEMORIAL & SPECIAL OCCASION GIVING

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PRESIDENT

Ed & Ruth MacKenzie
Yakima, WA
509-834-3149
ermk43@yahoo.com

VICE PRESIDENTS

Jerry & Wendy Harris
Castle Valley, UT
435--259-5987
jharris4@frontiernet.net

Mel Johnson

Hamilton, MT
(406) 363-3080
gladmel@juno.com

SECRETARY/TREASURER

Susan Brookins

College Place, WA
subrookins@charter.net

509-529-2378

(This is # to call for donations)

COMMUNICATIONS

Fred & Diana Adams

Placerville, CA
530-642-9441

mission.projects.inc@gmail.com

HUICHOL PROJECT

Karen Kotoske

Palo Alto, CA
650-328-1737
amistadf@aol.com

Dagoberto Cirilo

Guadalajara, Mexico
amistadgdl@hotmail.com

www.missionprojectsinc.org

NEWSLETTER

Ethel Price

Yakima, WA
503-807-0964 (cell)
omega@omegaprojectministry.com

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Go Forward for Heaven in 2011

Mission Projects, Incorporated (MPI) is a supporting organization of the Seventh-day Adventist church, dedicated to spreading the Gospel by way of medical, educational, and evangelistic endeavors. MPI works in complete harmony with local Conferences and Missions, does not accept tithes, and is a member of Adventist-laymen's Services and Industries (ASI) and Outpost Centers International (OCI).

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