



THE INSIDE RUNNING

How do we keep alert and look for opportunities to share our faith, looking outwards and thinking missionally?

As men we are experts at compartmentalising our lives and focussing on one issue at a time. It can take a conscious effort to bring our faith into every part of our day. This only becomes natural when we are so full of God's Holy Spirit that our faith perspective overflows and soaks into everything else. Whatever is happening around us, are we looking through faith-filled lenses? Are we prepared to give out to others with encouragement, prayer, words and actions?

There are many ways that people find Christ but the majority are through people like you and me, caring enough and loving enough to invest into others. Many men have done that - naming unchurched men on Promise Keepers' cardboard "fish", then praying for them and bringing them to Promise Keepers Events or to activities or groups at church.

Our goal should always be to be more like Christ, to think and act as He would, and to serve others and give them the greatest gift - introducing them to Jesus.

May we be sensitive to others and be strong, bold and courageous as sons and ambassadors of our King.



John
John Subritzky

Joining in with God's great plan

June 2011

By Charlie Forrest

Recently I watched a very moving video prepared by the United Bible Society of the first Kimyal language New Testaments being delivered to the Kimyal people in West Papua, Indonesia.¹ As the elderly pastor received them, he prayed with tears in his eyes a prayer of thanksgiving to the Lord, and he said these wonderful words, *"The plan which you had from the beginning regarding your Kimyals, which existed in your spirit, ... today, the day you had chosen for this to be fulfilled, has come to pass"*.

This got me thinking again of the heartbeat of missions. It is what God has planned from before time. His plan has always been to bless all nations (Gen 18:17-18). In Habakkuk 2:14 He promises - *"For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea"*. And finally, we have the wonderful picture in Revelation 7:9-10: *"After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could count, from every nation and all tribes and peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, and palm branches were in their hands; and they cried out with a loud voice, saying, 'Salvation to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.'" Each of these verses speaks*

of what God has planned for us from the beginning. At times we feel that what we are doing for the Lord is at the forefront of what needs to be done, and that we desperately need to get God's attention to remind Him of its importance. What we are doing might



Screen shots from Kimyal video.

be important but it always helps to take a step back and remember that it is His idea and plan in the first place. He invites us to participate in what He is doing; it is His wonderful plan and purpose. The work and vision is His, not ours.

Sometimes we can lose sight of this, and that is often reflected in our prayers. The great thing is that because it is His plan and purpose and His power, we know that it will happen. We can look back throughout history and see nation after nation who have said that the gospel shall not enter, who have tried to squash what God is doing, surrender in the end to the power of the message of Jesus.

In the early 90s I was involved in missions work in Mongolia. When we first went

there, there was only a handful of known Christians in the whole country. The country was closed to the gospel and things looked very bleak. As the country opened up, many Christian groups rushed in. In our enthusiasm, many mistakes were made. Conflict developed between different

groups, each arguing that what they were doing was vital. But in spite of these problems, the gospel was proclaimed and the name of Jesus lifted up. In 1990 there were 5 known Christians in Mongolia. 2008 figures show that, 18 years later, there were over 46,000 Christians - with an estimated 500-plus churches. Our God reigns! In spite of our weaknesses and limited understanding, the gospel still had the power to change lives; it was God's timing, plan and power, not ours.

Even as we look at some countries and people groups now that seem impossible, closed, opposed to the gospel, we can be assured that the gospel will go in. We don't lose heart at the sight or size of the problems, or at the resistance. We can be assured that God will redeem men and women from every tribe, tongue and nation, and as the waters cover the sea, so will the earth be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord.

We need to remember that we are not striving to save the world, but rather, responding to what God is doing in this world and being led by His Spirit. God's will is that none will perish, but all will be saved.

And finally, I believe the key for any effective ministry, on the missionfield or here at home, is intimacy with the Lord. To flow with what He is doing in this day and age - not our will but His.

It is an exciting privilege to be a part of what God is doing in the world today.

¹ <http://vimeo.com/16493505>

Finding Jesus at Promise Keepers

"After 4 years of fish, my brother, father and mother have all made a decision for Christ - only one more brother to go!!" Trevor

"The best thing that God has done for me is to come into my life here this weekend [at Promise Keepers]. After losing my possessions in a flood in Australia and my wife leaving me not long after, I found myself in New Zealand working on a dairy farm with a Christian family. So I was asked by my boss if I wanted to come here. I said yes. Now with the Lord in my life I have found a new path to follow and am no longer stuck at the crossroads." Colin

"Personal highlight - seeing my son-in-law saved." Rex

"My friend... committed his life to the Lord and His work." Gavin



What's on the DVD

Featured Speaker: Tak Bhana delivers an inspiring message to "leave no man behind". This is the time to wake up because the harvest fields are ripe. There is a lot of audience interaction, as the men really are with Tak as he gives simple steps to being involved in evangelism. Tak pastors Church Unlimited in Auckland. 41 min

Drama: "Down for the Count". What does authentic Christianity look like? 3 min

PK Music: Holy is the Lord 4 min

Humour: Frogs in pants; 4WD on rocks; 7 year old driver; parallel parking; smashed car revenge attack. 3 min

Andrew Stroud Superbike Champ: Filmed at the "Curtain Raiser" Event in Tauranga. 41 min

Greg Laurie Harvest Auckland: How to get involved in this massive evangelism event. 3 min

Mission Stories: Faith Box video (Faith4Families) 2 min • Habitat for Humanity Bangladesh video 4 min • World Vision videos: Lily's story 3 min Young Kiwis in East Timor 4 min • Bible Society video: Made in China 4 min

How to Open the WiseChoices DVD ROM: John Subritzky takes you through the simple steps to access all the extra features and content in the ROM section of the DVD. 4 min

DVD ROM:

- Study Questions for Tak Bhana's message
- Weekly Studies for Men's Small Groups
- Game On Advance Brochure & Logos, Church Pack docs for Groups
- Bible Reading Plans
- Mission Organisations Links
- Articles: Water of Life - World Vision and Promise Keepers at work in the Solomons; Derek Prince - Hope in Christ
- Books: Why I Am a Christian - Bill Subritzky; Revolution in World Missions - K.P. Yohannan, Gospel for Asia

MP3s:

Listen to these great audios on your computer or MP3 player while you exercise, commute or spend time growing spiritually.

- Tak Bhana
- Music Track: Holy is the Lord
- PKUSA Classic: William Carr Peel - praying with power.
- PKNZ Classic: David Dishroon - reaching others with salvation as the ultimate victory.

GREG LAURIE

X AUCKLAND HARVEST

Harvest events are designed to be opportunities for Christians to invite unsaved family members, co-workers, friends and acquaintances to hear the life-changing message of the gospel in an environment that is entertaining, yet non-threatening. After music from top Christian artists, Greg Laurie gives a gospel presentation.

Hundreds of churches across NZ are involved in this event.

Consider how you can be involved in this unique opportunity to reach people for Christ - pray... invite... bring someone...

Dates: Sat 25 June 7.00pm & Sun 26 June 6.00pm

Venue: Vector Arena, Auckland | Cost: Free

PROMISE #7

A Promise Keeper is committed to influencing his world, being obedient to the Great Commandment (Mark 12:30-31) and the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20).

Next Month: Legacy



Promise Keepers Men's Events 2011

- Dunedin 29-30 July
- Tauranga 26-27 August
- Auckland 7-8 October
- Christchurch 12-13 August
- Wellington 9-10 September

0800 PROMISE (77 66 47)



Game On QR code