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December 2014

Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year!

The Lord has opened a much different chapter in our lives than what we initially had expected. We are now very busy making preparations for a significant change of direction in 2015.

Thailand/Laos Ministries: While the Thailand and Laos ministries continue, our responsibilities and goals for the past four years have largely been completed. The Thai studio and ministry offices are now functional for the purposes intended. We've been blessed by having the privilege to be a part of this work. Our prayers have been that those who have faithfully shared and supported us have also been blessed.

South Asia (SA) Ministry: As you already know, in late 2013 we were reassigned to the *South Asia* region. Seven countries make up this TWR region: India, Bhutan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan and Pakistan. *The countries of Sri Lanka, Afghanistan and Pakistan will be our main focus going into 2015.* Since March 2014 the biblical message of hope sent daily in people's heart languages to N. India, Afghanistan and Pakistan was made possible by using high-powered AM radio. These broadcasts are already producing a large number of responses from a potential audience of 230 million.

In August we attended meetings with TWR SA leaders in Sri Lanka. During October Barbara and I spent a couple of weeks visiting ministry locations in Nepal (see pictures) with our Nepali ministry teams. We had the privilege to speak with people from churches established using TWR's FM radio. Visiting in many homes enjoying freshly cooked meals, it was a blessing and encouragement to spend time together in fellowship and prayer. Listening to the emotional testimonies by people from various backgrounds was especially encouraging. Religious syncretism and the darkness of demonic oppression are very prevalent throughout Nepal. Visiting our Nepali children's ministry school was also a privilege. We witnessed open arms of care being extended to provide food and clothing. Most importantly, God's Word of eternal hope and love is always provided.



Praying with Christian believers



Nepal radio believer – former witch doctor



Christian family



At a Nepal village

Nepal Children's ministry – slum school



Church Pastor & family



Ministry changes: During the past year the many growing challenges and needs associated with helping the Muslim communities of South Asia became increasingly evident both to us and the TWR SA Leadership. As a result of prayer and more recent discussions regarding the urgency of helping meet some of those needs a consensus was reached to have us return to the U.S. as soon as arrangements could be made. If all things go as planned, we should arrive back in Montana during the second week of February.

Because of security reasons and space I'm not able to offer certain specifics regarding our responsibilities. Many of the details still have to be worked out. Before this letter is sent in December we plan to share more with many of you using either email or telephone. Being U.S. based and with expected occasional return trips to Asia, *we are tasked with assisting and representing TWR South Asia Ministries and the International Director in both the U.S. and Canada.*

Our primary focus will be on the countries and region described in this letter on the front page under SA Ministry. It is critical to the work that we elevate mission awareness and identify and work with groups of people who the Lord has led in a commitment to Asia missions. Funding is also an area that will require strengthening. We anticipate training to help equip us for these new ministry roles.

Personal request: We prayerfully and respectfully request those of you who are currently supporting us financially to continue. We remain wholly dependent upon the Lord and your faithfulness in this area of missions work. We look forward to seeing you soon!

“Thanking God for remembrances of you always in prayer... because of your partnership...from the first day until now.” (Philippians 1:3-4)

A TWR transfer fund will be made available for those desiring to donate towards our moving expenses. Please designate these TWR contributions to **“Petersen Transfer Fund.”** This can be used for tax purposes as desired. Our personal items will be shipped by sea cargo in December and arrive in the U.S. late February.

Even when missionaries cannot physically go somewhere, the message of Hope can. Radio, Internet, mobile devices, and other mass media tools open doors that did not always exist. When Jesus commanded His disciples to go to all nations, they took Him seriously even though all that they had were their voices and their feet. We have been equipped with powerful media tools to take the Gospel into places where we physically cannot go. We believe the time is short, but through the power of the Spirit, we can use mass media to accomplish the task Jesus gave us to make disciples of all nations – notice JESUS includes *“all nations.” (Matthew 28:19)*

Wishing you a Joy filled Christmas!

Larry & Barbara

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