



April 2020

Overcoming FEAR

Dear friends and family,

Deep in the jungle of Suriname, South America, in the mid 1950s, God was preparing to release the hearts of an Indian tribe from their deepest fears. Every night the men of the tribe covered themselves in red berry juice so that evil would not see them. These were the Wayana Indians.

They would become extinct if something was not done soon as their culture demanded that the grandmother of each new-born baby was to kill her grandchild upon delivery - unless the father was present to snatch the baby away from her, saving it from certain death.

At the same time, God was also preparing five families to become medical missionaries to the Wayana tribe of Suriname, a call directly resulting from the 1956 brutal murder of five missionaries by the Auca Indian tribe of nearby Ecuador.

During the translation of the Bible into the Wayana language the missionaries searched for a word to translate the concept of **Jesus as Saviour**. Then they realized the cultural act of a father saving his new-born baby was a perfect description to use of what Jesus does for us, **our Father lifting us out of the dirt, mud**. God provided, bringing hope from fear.

Now, fast forward a generation. Today, Tom, son of one of the original Wayana missionaries, and his wife, are TWR's newest missionary appointees. They are advancing the Suriname ministry project. Many of the Wayana have become believers in Jesus with a desire to reach the tribes deeper in the jungle, isolated from civilization. This project will assist their outreach.

The goal of the project is to set up two radio stations to reach the people in the deepest jungle: Wayana reaching their own neighbors! The Wayana have already developed over 200 worship songs and sermons in their language ready for the new programs to go out over the radio!

Pray for this new ministry outreach to become a reality, erasing **fear** and bringing **hope**.

From Despair to Hope

As the world watches the advance of Covid-19, TWR is stepping up programming to combat fear. Pray for our two programs, *Coronavirus: What You Need to Know* (an interview with a medical doctor), and *From Despair to Hope* (evangelistic words of encouragement and comfort from various pastors). Current broadcast languages are Spanish, English, Mandarin, Farsi (for Iran), as well as Japanese and Korean.

Pray for the translation and production teams for these programs.

Prayer & Praise

- Please pray for David as he adjusts to a new diagnosis, Macular Degeneration, in one eye. Until 2005, the condition gradually took away the eyesight. But today there is an injection (directly into the eye) that is clearing up much of his eyesight and helps him maintain the sight. He gets the injections every 4 or 5 weeks.
- Pray that God will use the Covid-19 programs to help many people find Jesus and turn fear into hope.
- Praise God for David's successful training trip in South Africa. He spent two weeks in our former hometown of Johannesburg, training our new African finance leader. Pray with us that her training will help her succeed in her new role.
- Praise God that David "just happened" to arrive back home just a few days before new travel cautions and restrictions were put in place because of the current pandemic.

Blessings dear ones,

David & Flora Rittenhouse

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