



John Lundy On the Way

MAY 2021

“And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.”

Matthew 24:14



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This spring and summer, if you are traveling from the west side of Duluth, Minnesota, to the downtown, you might never get there.

There are so many detours that even the detours have detours.

I took this photo, in Duluth's Lincoln Park neighborhood, because I am easily amused.

As I looked at it later, I thought: Yeah, that's what raising support is like.

I've had excellent training, a marvelous coach and lots of resources. Yet if I'm honest, I still feel lost at times, or as if I'm hitting one detour after another. Small groups that I met with, or was to meet with, have been hit by a feverish child, a migraine and food poisoning. (But please invite me to your group anyway.)

There have been any number of happy surprises, such as monthly support suddenly coming from a church I haven't been inside of in nearly 40 years. But there have been some disappointments, too: unanswered calls and emails; partnerships that seemed to be settled but then, somehow, weren't.

Oh, but God is faithful. If I stop and take a deep breath and look back, I realize He has brought me a far distance already. He has used your faithful prayer and financial support to do it.

In my first newsletter, I compared the financial support-raising part of my journey to a road trip from Duluth to Cary, North Carolina, where I'll serve with Trans World Radio. That's a distance of 1,273.1 miles, Sister Google says.

Then, I was about one-third of the way. In road trip terms, that meant I wasn't quite to Chicago.

At this writing, thanks to so many generous partners, I'm a little beyond 50%. That places me roughly in Indianapolis.

I'm so grateful to those of you who have been with me on this almost from the beginning. I'm so grateful to those of you who have come along more recently. I realize that it's not about me. It's about you allowing God to use your resources for His work. Thank you!

And it's on to Kentucky! Even if there are a few detours along the way.

A TWR moment

Among the 275-plus languages in which TWR broadcasts the hope of the gospel is Oriya, also known as Odia, which is spoken by about 50 million people, according to Britannica. Most of those live in the Indian state of Odisha.

Here's a TWR "listener story" that came from one of those Oriya speakers:

"I come from a non-Christian family, and I was involved in all kinds of religious rituals. I used to have a bad habit of drinking alcohol. Once I even had to mortgage my own house to drink alcohol. I had many friends who led me to live a corrupt life and I used to steal from the fields. But my hobby was listening to film songs on the radio, and that was how I came across your Thru the Bible program. The teachings of Jesus Christ attracted me toward him. It was unique and something that I had never heard from any other religion. I have accepted Jesus as my Savior, and God has changed my life completely. I am regularly listening to your broadcast; I never miss it. As my profession is a watchman in a company, I listen to your program every day during work. In my family, I am the only believer. Pray that my entire family will come to the saving knowledge of Jesus Christ."



Keith Urban. Three degrees of separation from you?

Six degrees ... and you, and me

You know the theory. You know somebody, who knows somebody else, who knows somebody else, who knows somebody else, who knows somebody else, who knows somebody else.

By the time you've gotten through those six somebodies, you're connected with every other person on Earth.

I experienced a small version of this recently when a friend mentioned that he's a fan of the country singer Keith Urban. I told my friend about another friend who lives in the Nashville area whose son had been on the groundskeeping crew at Keith Urban's estate, and that Keith Urban liked to sit out and sip beverages while the crew was at work.

So that's a connection, right?

Since I also know that friend's son, it means that I am only two degrees of separation from Keith Urban. My other friend, therefore, is just separated by three degrees.

And I'm separated by just two degrees from a bunch of people whom you know, but I don't. Among them are probably some who love Jesus and have a heart for missions. They might not be able to go themselves at the present time, but that doesn't mean they don't want to be actively involved supporting those who can. Perhaps a few of those people – friends, family members, business associates, ministry partners – might be interested in hearing about Trans World Radio. Perhaps they might want to hear my story.

Can you connect me with them?

It's almost certain that among my ministry partners will be some individuals and families whom I don't even know now. They might be people you see almost every day.

Here's my request: Talk to them. Tell them a little bit about me and ask them if they would be interested in hearing from me. Ask if you can share their contact information with me – or share my contact information with them.

Praises, petitions ...

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- A third church has joined my financial support team. Attica Evangelical Presbyterian Church in Attica, Indiana. Thank you, Attica Presbyterian!
- Please pray with me that our Father would point me toward additional contacts with folks who have a heart for Jesus and for mission, and who might want to hear TWR's story, and mine.
- My work shifts in the part-time job are starting to move around a bit in a way that might present scheduling difficulties regarding my TWR outreach. Please pray that I would manage scheduling well and be able to say "no" to assignments that would draw me away from the main thing.

... and you

Are you celebrating something? Do you have a life event coming up? In need of a voice raised on your behalf? I would be honored to pray for you. My contact information is listed below.

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