Global Recordings

Telling the story of Jesus in every language

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Global Recordings

A PUBLICATION OF GLOBAL RECORDINGS NETWORK USA

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Thank You

Through the stories and recordings of our missionaries, churches, ministry partners, and friends, Global Recordings USA is able to continue:

Our Vision

That people might hear and understand God's Word in their heart language, especially those who are oral communicators and those who do not have Scriptures in a form they can access.

Our Mission

In partnership with the Church, to effectively communicate the Good News of Jesus Christ by means of culturally appropriate audio and audiovisual materials in every language.

Global Recordings Network (founded as Gospel Recordings, Inc.) is registered as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in the United States of America.

To receive Global Recordings magazine: Subscribe by mail or online free of charge in the United States and Canada, or view the digital edition available online at GlobalRecordingsUSA.org/Magazine

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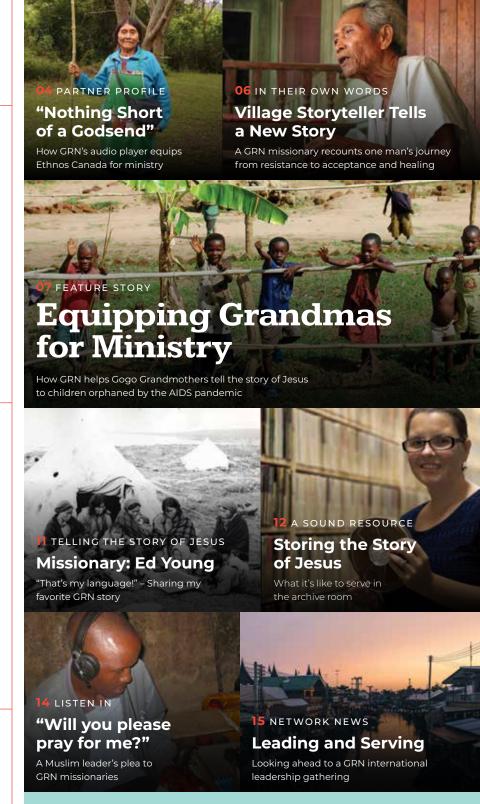
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Global Recordings: Fall/Winter 2018, Vol. 3

Published biannually by Global Recordings USA and provided free of charge for the benefit of ministry partners, donors, and friends.

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Like many members of older generations throughout the world, the elderly members of the Simba-Guarani group in Bolivia have some key challenges to hearing the gospel.

Many of their generation are far from literate, and some ministries seek to reach them through the Spanish language, which many of them don't understand. Additionally, there is quite a bit in the Simba culture that needs to be addressed for them to truly be able to understand the gospel message.

Thanks to Global Recordings Network (GRN) and our partner Ethnos Canada, founded in 1942 as New Tribes Mission, the Simba are finally hearing the message of the gospel—not only in their own language, but in ways that apply to their real lives. It's the kind of teaching that must be listened to several times before it really takes root, and that is where the GRN Saber players come in.

The Sabers, GRN's digital hand-crank audio players, work as a perfect supplement to Ethnos Canada's teaching of the gospel. Once the lesson is taught, Ethnos Canada's teachers allow the older students to take the Saber players home with the lesson preloaded, so they can review it throughout the week. If a student shows real interest in the Bible and they aren't able to meet with them regularly, they simply load up the Saber with the whole teaching series.

Missionaries Bill and Kathleen Mann — who serve in Bolivia with Ethnos Canada focusing on church planting, translation, and literacy among the Simba-Guarani cultural group — found the recordings so useful to their ministry that they made their own cloth bags for the Simba to use for transporting and storing the Sabers.

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Mission | Of the world's 6,900 language groups, 2,500 are still unreached. Ethnos Canada, founded in 1942 as New Tribes Mission, helps local churches train, coordinate, and send missionaries to these peoples.



Bolivia is a country in western-central South America. Spanish is spoken by two-thirds of the country but, due to its rich history and multicultural influences, the government recognizes 36 other official languages.



John S. Language researcher and order processor

GRN USA

John works in GRN's language tracking department, which helps to keep track of and identify those languages GRN has and those that still need to be recorded. He helps to get this information into our database and keeps this information up to date to further the mission of reaching the least reached groups of people. John also helps with the processing of orders that come into GRN.



PRAY

GRN's ability to continue the distribution and development of Sabers has been key in the faith development of the Simba group, many of whom have no other way to hear the Good News. Pray that the Lord continues to use missionaries like Bill and Kathleen Mann and ministries like Ethnos Canada to put GRN's materials and teachings to good use.

And the influence of the Sabers in this community is undeniable. Placido is an older believer, now in his 70s, and was the first one of his community to believe in Christ about 30 years ago. Since then, he has been the primary leader of his community's church. The problem, though, is that Placido cannot read. For a long time, the only testimony he could communicate was that he no longer participated in community drink fests or chewed coca leaves, which many churches in Bolivia view as sinful.

But with the help of GRN, his faith has matured. Ethnos Canada gave him a Saber player, and years later, saw the results of that gift. One evening at a dedication of the Bible in the Simba language, Placido got up to share with everyone in attendance how he is no longer trusting in anything but the blood of Jesus for his salvation.

A woman named Maria in her 70s or 80s was one of the first in her area to receive a Saber player. As Bill Mann says, "If we happen to hear the sound of the recordings in the distance and slowly getting closer, we know Grandma Maria is coming." During local church services, Bill and other church leaders will often ask attendees questions about what was just taught. Grandma Maria is often one of the first to offer her answer, and it is usually right on.

Camilo and Teresa, an older Simba couple pictured on the previous page with Bill, live in a community where there is no Bible teaching in their language. Teresa calls the Saber her "teacher," and after others in her community heard her listening to the lessons, they asked to borrow the player too. The player has since been "making the rounds" throughout the village.

Ethnos Canada now reports that electricity is slowly arriving at most of the Simba villages, allowing a few more options for listening to the lessons — most notably CD players, radios, and cell phones with micro SD card capability. Until the villages are fully wired though, Bill says, "The Saber has been nothing short of a Godsend."



Grandma Maria, as she is affectionately known by many, proudly carries her Saber with her most everywhere she goes, carrying it in the special satchel created for that purpose.



Curious to see the **Saber player** in action? You can hear a detailed explanation of the player and watch it in use in a demo video on our website.

Watch today at GlobalRecordingsUSA.org/Stories

Village Storyteller Tells a New Story

i, my name is Von. I joined Global Recordings Network (GRN) after I married my husband, Kerry, more than 15 years ago now. I go to villages to help him with communication and translation. I also care for people in the villages because I was a nurse in my home country, so I am able to share some concern about the physical and the spiritual.

When Kerry and I arrived in Thailand to do the survey about the Yoy people, we did not know where to find them. We prayed a lot, and we couldn't find them until the last minute. Finally I met one grandpa who was about 80 years old and he said, "I'm Yoy." And even though he was not a believer, he was so happy that we came and that we were interested in them. From him, we met a lot of people.

One man's name was Uthon [pronounced oo-ton] and he was the village storyteller for the Yoy people there. He knew that we were Christian and said, "No, I cannot help you now."

We knew that in their culture, they have a story about a man and woman in the beginning, so we began with scripts telling the story of creation. We just prayed silently and finally, he received the script and he agreed to help us. So, after a lot of struggle, he changed many things.

All this time, we did not know Uthon was not well. One day we came in, he saw us, and he just cried. He had suffered a stroke and could not walk anymore. He told us, "Please help me!" Again, we told him about Jesus, and he said he believed. He even said, "I believe in Jesus and also I want to serve him." We were so happy for that!

We continued to pray for him, and not long before we left one day, he could walk again! Then he started going out to the village, walking through the street, and telling others about Jesus. He wanted to help us record Book Six of "Look, Listen, and Live" about Jesus the Savior, Healer, and Teacher. You can hear his voice on the recording today.

When Kerry finished the editing process, we gave Uthon the recordings and he listened every day — very loud.

Later his health failed again, and people told us he could not recognize anyone anymore. But when he saw my husband Kerry, wow, he did! He put his arm around Kerry's neck for a hug and smiled at him.

So we believe that he is a believer and he went with the Lord. And one day, we can see him again in heaven. ■





PRAY

Uthon was well-known as the Yoy village storyteller, but he became even more famous once he became a Christian. He proclaimed the story of his healing in the streets and to everyone he encountered.

Please join us in praying that the Holy Spirit will be welcomed into more people's hearts — and that the Yoy people who hear Uthon's story will begin to love Jesus, too.

To become one of our prayer partners, visit us online at

GlobalRecordingsUSA.org/Pray



-ACT

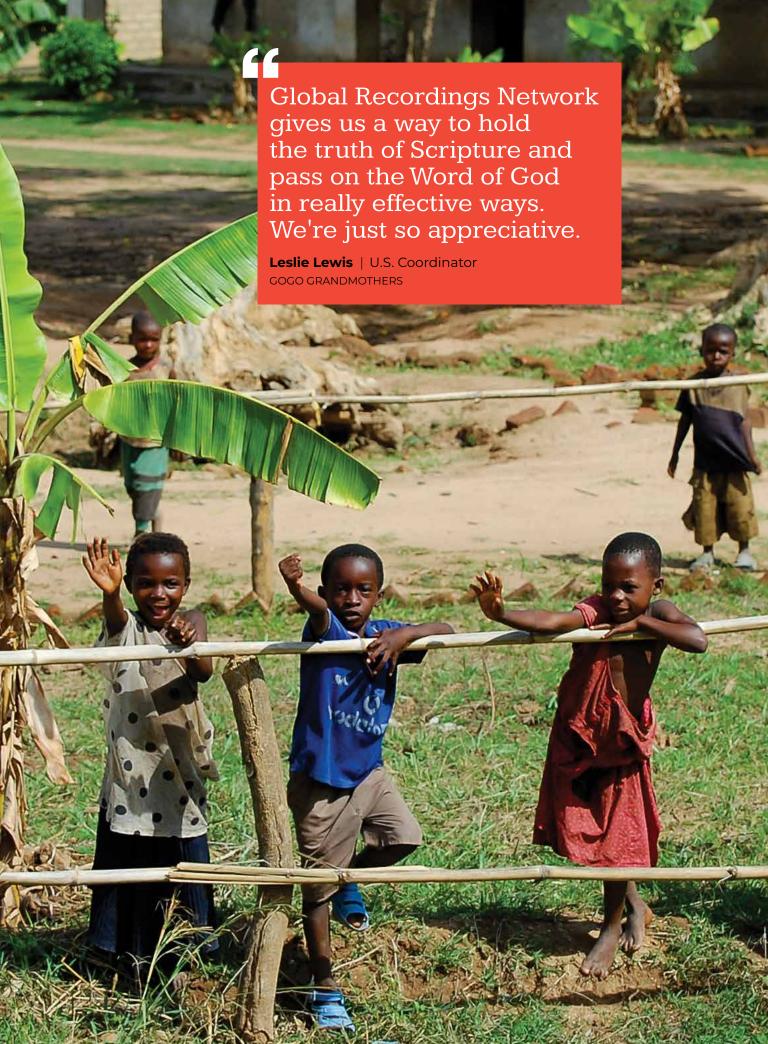
DID YOU HEAR?

The role of village storyteller has varied throughout history and among differing cultures. But no matter the time or place, these individuals are highly regarded within their communities and are responsible for communicating and passing on history, laws, tradition, folklore, and other stories.



On our website, you can listen to **Von** tell this powerful story of Uthon herself, along with Uthon's actual voice on the GRN recording, "Jesus — Teacher and Healer," created for the Yoy people of Thailand.

Listen at GlobalRecordingsUSA.org/Stories



Equipping Grandmas for Ministry

y name is Leslie Lewis. I'm the U.S. coordinator for Sub-Saharan Africa Family Enrichment (SAFE), a faith-based organization that uses the Bible to teach safe sexual choices and other life skills to young children in Malawi.

I became familiar with Global Recordings Network (GRN), in the beginning, because my husband Paul's grandparents had gotten to know GRN founder Joy Ridderhof, and they loved her ministry. When Paul's grandparents retired, they actually sold their farm in Indiana and moved to Los Angeles to work with and volunteer at GRN.

Thanks to that background, I was aware of GRN's material when I started working on one of SAFE's key projects, Gogo Grandmothers. Named after an African word for "grandmother," Gogo links people from developed countries to grandparents caring for orphans in Malawi. Through this connection, Gogo supports a largely forgotten group and addresses one of the outcomes of the HIV/AIDS pandemic within a faith-based context.

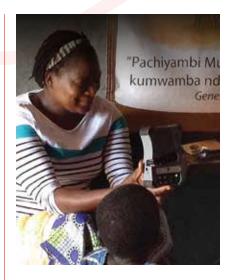
God's Most Useful Plan

With Gogo, we were working in many villages, all of which have no electricity and many of which are hard to access. I had thought about GRN and its products, such as its Sabers (digital audio players) and "Look, Listen and Live" (gospel audio recordings and booklets), and how effective they could be in these contexts. So I made a plan.

About that same time GRN had a partner group that made Christian songs to teach Scripture. I thought, let's put some of those songs on the Sabers! They could pair up with some Bible banners that we had made to teach the Word of God to children at our community-based childcare centers.

So we matched some of the songs on the Sabers to those banners, working both in English and in the local language, Chichewa. And then later I took over some of the Sabers and visited villages, giving them out to the locals.

After my experience in the villages, I knew it might be difficult to help the local caregivers make the best use of the Sabers. But I saw that God had a wonderful plan in mind — the caregivers began using Sabers at home, learning the songs there and then bringing them to the children at the appropriate times when they were teaching the Bible banner lesson. God had a way of using GRN's products so intentionally and fruitfully in



The Saber is GRN's digital audio player used to share recordings of the gospel in areas where electricity and batteries are difficult to obtain. A built in generator allows the machine to be recharged by turning a hand-crank handle or using solar power.

Look, Listen and Live is a collection of audio recordings and booklets that provide audio-visual studies of Old Testament characters, the life of Jesus, and the young Church. It is particularly suited to bring the gospel message and basic Christian teaching to oral communicators.

his own way.

Serving the Chiefs and Other Adults, Too

Another surprise I had was in Dedza, which is an area in the central region of Malawi. Michael is our community supervisor there and he is an outstanding evangelist and discipler. Not only are lots of little children there — more than 600 in a community-based child care center — but he has gathered 51 chiefs in a fellowship of discipleship. He'll also go out and visit the local grandmother who is poor and suffering, to bring her some food and share Jesus with her.

I found out Michael had been using Sabers and the Jesus Film in different discipleship situations with the youth, the chiefs, and with anyone else that he can get into a group. This is from a report that he just recently sent me:

"This quarter we've established 10 Bible study groups as pilot groups to let people share, discuss, and ask questions on issues they don't know, to let God change their ideas and help them reach their spiritual maturity, and to let the Holy Spirit develop their self-control. We plan to train 50 leaders who can then lead other groups."

(CONTINUED)

Michael, our community supervisor in Malawi, had been using GRN Sabers in different discipleship situations with the youth and even the chiefs in his village.

I know that Michael is also planning to use **GRN's** "Look, Listen, and Live" materials with some of these groups that he is starting.

These are just some of the ways we use GRN's help to partner with different people groups in Malawi. With the help of GRN, we're developing materials that can be used in situations where there's no electricity and few opportunities to pass on the





Cogo Grandmothers is a major project of SAFE that links grandparents and others from developed countries to grandparents caring for orphans in Malawi. Through this connection, Gogo addresses one of the outcomes of the HIV/AIDS pandemic within a faithbased context.

I know that Michael is also planning to use GRN's "Look, Listen, and Live" materials with some of these groups that he is starting.

More Materials on the Way

These are some of the amazing ways we use partners like GRN to spread the Good News to people in Malawi. Thanks in part to GRN, we're able to serve in situations where there's no electricity and few opportunities to pass on the Word of God from generation to generation.

GRN gives us a way to hold the truth of Scripture and pass on the Word of God in really effective ways. We're just so appreciative. I see how the Sabers have been used in a unique way that we never imagined that they're being used, and actually, we're being asked to supply more GRN materials because they've proven so useful.

We're excited that new teaching materials from GRN are on their way to Gogo Grandmothers this fall. It's just a joy to see that in each partnership God gives us, he is so faithful to bring fruit. ■



SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA FAMILY ENRICHMENT (SAFE) GOGO GRANDMOTHERS

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SAFE/GOGO Mission

Changing lives through God's love and truth.

A GLOBAL RECORDINGS NETWORK PARTNER SINCE 2008







Through GRN recordings and the ministry of Gogo Grandmothers, **PRAY** that those who hear the gospel messages and stories will not only receive Christ as savior, but will share the story of salvation with others.

Sign up to receive Together in Prayer, our team's ongoing prayer requests, at GlobalRecordingsUSA.org/Pray



PREPARE for your next mission trip with GRN recordings and resources, or tell other ministry partners about our tools for oral cultures.

Visit us online to request support and order resources for your church, missions group, or ministry, at

GlobalRecordingsUSA.org/Resources



GRN's online recordings are given as a gift to churches, ministry partners, and people around the world **free of charge**.

GRN has the economic provision to continue this work only because of people like you that **PROVIDE** ongoing, generous financial support.

You can donate securely online at GlobalRecordingsUSA.org/Donate



Hear excerpts of **Leslie Lewis** telling her story by visiting **GlobalRecordingsUSA.org/Stories**





Missionary: Ed Young

FIELD RECORDIST, GLOBAL RECORDINGS NETWORK USA



When I first started doing field work for Global Recordings Network (GRN) back in the 1970s, I was visiting Native Americans on different reservations, checking recordings that had been made years earlier. I would ask them if I could play something for them to confirm if this was indeed the language and dialect they spoke.

When it started playing, they always got a big smile on their faces. Most would immediately ask, "Where did you get that?" It was surprising for them to hear a white man playing a well-produced story in their own language, spoken not by an outsider, but by one of their own.

So I would respond by asking, "Can you understand that?" That's when they would say, with an expression that displayed some self-worth and a touch of pride, "Sure I can! That's my language!"



The magnetic power of the mother tongue produces such a feeling of value and respect. The people we serve don't necessarily say it, but they recognize the interest and effort required for these recordings to come into being. They wonder: Who has this kind of interest in me, and the skills and ability to produce this? Who is this person speaking my language?

This was a whole new concept in the mission world, I believe, to work with local speakers. With a Native American speaker, they had a reason to consider trusting the source. And only then could they consider trusting the content.

Over the years, I have had the privilege of being the recordist for a number of languages. But not long ago I had an unusual opportunity. The GRN office here in the United States decided to create English samples of the programs we produce in other languages all over the world. I thought, "Hey, that's my language!"

When we do recording projects, recordists like me often have to help finalize the translation of the message and also help the speaker say it with appropriate expressions. So I pretty well knew what needed to be done and how to say it. I'm usually behind the scenes — and from a speaking perspective, I was untrained — so I wondered: Maybe I could qualify for this?

Others agreed, and I had the great honor of recording myself reading a number of our scripts in English. If you have ever wondered what GRN produces for other languages all over the world, you can now listen to many programs in English on our website or through our 5fish app. Many have also used these English recordings as a tool for teaching English as a Second Language (ESL). I hope all the supporters, partners, and friends of GRN will experience this.



That's my language! You are invited to listen to recordings that our missionary **Ed Young** created for Native Americans along with the recordings he voiced for English speakers at **GlobalRecordingsUSA.org/Stories**

Storing the Story of Jesus

B efore I joined the mission in California, I had gone to Australia to work in the Global Recordings Network (GRN) office there. While I was there, I worked in their archive room — which is a smaller room than ours here in the United States. It held about 8,000 recordings at the time — a mix of CDs, DVDs, reel tapes, digital audio tapes, and cassettes.

My job was to compare the inventory of recordings to their database. I'm surrounded by these recordings and it's a small room, like a walk-in closet size. The door has to stay closed because it's humidity and temperature controlled.

It just felt like a never-ending task. And I was alone. I remember sitting one day on the floor. I looked up and thought to myself, "I am never going to get through this." I was overwhelmed by how many recordings there were. I spent a lot of time talking to God, and it really felt like I heard his voice. It just hit me, like God said, "Wake up, this is the gospel and it's in thousands of languages."

Our recordists have gone all over the world to get these recordings through a lot of spiritual warfare and a lot of struggles. Every single one of these recordings has a story to tell of how recordists helped spread the gospel despite those challenges. So that definitely lit a fire for me.

I was also reading the biography of our founder Joy Ridderhof at that time. I'm reading about her trips around the world, and working with reel tapes from her trips, with her name and original notes on these things. It was a huge eye-opener for me. I realized that we cannot fathom what God can do with these stories when they are recorded.

The vision of God is so big. The archive room here in Temecula has 22,000 boxes of recordings in it. But when Joy began this work, she thought there were only 150 languages in the world. So, you know, we're human. We cannot really fathom how big our God is and what he's capable of.

We are almost an 80-year-old mission, and God is still using this mission and still using these recordings. And our job is not done. ■





DID YOU HEAR?

According to International Orality Network — a network of more than 2,000 ministries, including GRN — there are approximately 12,000 major languages and dialects across the globe.



PRAY

As Ruth explains, the important work of this ministry is far from complete, but it can't happen without your support. "We need prayer warriors. You know, there's a lot of spiritual warfare. Our recordists go through so much, and we need more people praying."

Won't you join us in praying for the spiritual protection of our recordists and everyone around the world who contributes to our mission?



Listen to **Ruth Horan** tell her story and walk you through the archive room at **GlobalRecordingsUSA.org/Stories**



Muslim Leader to GRN:

"Will You Please Pray for Me?

When our team had the honor of speaking to Joshua Bello, recordist for Global Recordings Network (GRN) Nigeria, he shared an incredible story about the long-term and far-reaching influence of GRN's phonette, or gramophone as it was known by some of the people we served in Nigeria.

The phonette was a little hand-crank record player for listening. It was designed in the 1960s in collaboration with the Australian office for use in the field where electricity was not available. The hand crank action was based on other spring-wound players, which were too bulky for the field. GRN's phonette differed from the phonographs of the time because it was powered manually and the sound was produced acoustically.

We invite you to listen in as Joshua explains what happened when he encountered a local Muslim leader more than 30 years after GRN's phonette first entered Nigeria.

As we entered the village for recordings, we introduced ourselves as missionaries. A Muslim district head greeted us and testified a lot about the effectiveness of messages on the gramophone. Even though he was old, he still remembered the good messages that were preached through the use of Global Recordings Network's gramophone in his younger days.

When we said we were with the same ministry that provided the gramophone in those days, and that we are now providing cities recordings in various languages, that man was touched.

The Muslim leader accepted us into his palace, and he gave us a refreshment. And at the same time, he asked us if we can pray for him—even though he's a Muslim—because he believed in the effectiveness of the prayers of our missionaries.

He then brought his children into the palace to join us. We prayed for him and his domain. We prayed for his entire district at his request because, again, he knew that there is power in the prayers of missionaries.

All this came about as a result of the messages he had heard through a GRN gramophone in his youth and the example of those people handling the recordings and gramophone project in those days. It really made an impact on his life.



Joshua Bello, recordist for GRN Nigeria





PRAY for the missionaries who serve in Nigeria and face the danger of persecution, along with all those who support their ministry in big and small ways. Pray for the people of Nigeria who hear GRN recordings of Bible stories — that being introduced to the gospel will help them welcome Jesus into their hearts.



Want to listen to **Josua Bello** tell the story of his encounter with a Muslim leader in Nigeria?

Hear it in Joshua's own words at GlobalRecordingsUSA.org/Stories

Dear friends,

My wife Valerie and I will be traveling to Thailand for a gathering of our international leadership team in Dolphin Bay from October 20 - November 1, 2018. At this biannual meeting, directors from several Global Recordings Network (GRN) centers worldwide will strategize on how best to keep the network moving forward.

From setting current technology standards to adjusting our procedures and organizational focus, this gathering is vital in helping our network grow in unity, as we tell the story of Jesus in every language together. Stories like the one on page six of this publication, told from the same nation of Thailand where we will convene, are only possible because of the continued work of GRN's leadership and full international team.



Also happening this fall in Thailand will be a recordists' training course for field workers who operate directly with people groups and language helpers. Recordists will be trained in how to document what they do with updated procedures and how to use our newest audio equipment to increase the quality of our recordings. The levels of information and quality that go into our library and archives are crucial for the recordings to be useable for as long as possible — not just for our partner organizations and the people they serve, but for all the ministries and people who will depend on our resources in the future. I invite you to take a look inside our archive room and learn more about that unique part of our ministry on pages 12 and 13.

We hope to build on the high quality of work that people have associated with GRN for 79 years. We humbly ask for your prayers that the training in Thailand will be fruitful and that God will grant wisdom to our leaders as they plan for GRN's outreach across the world.

On behalf of the GRN directors and teams around the world, thank you for your friendship and partnership in our ministry.



Your prayers and generous financial support are essential to the success of our ministry. With you on our side, we're able to tell the story of Jesus and introduce more and more people to Christ.

Peace of Christ,

Dale Rickards

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, GLOBAL RECORDINGS NETWORK USA



Whether you find yourself serving in Malawi or downtown Los Angeles, we have your back.

Are you ready to tell the story of Jesus in every language?

Download the 5fish app to hear Bible stories in **6,091 languages** and access free audio and visual resources today.







(Gospel Recordings, Inc.)
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Global Recordings Network at Work

We're in the business of recording and listening. It's how we have told the story of Jesus in more than 6,000 languages and dialects for nearly 80 years. And now, we'd like you to hear more about the good work happening in our network.

Global Recordings Network (GRN) is proud to introduce NetWork, a new series of featured audiocasts that tell how Jesus' story is shared and received all around the world with the help of GRN. You'll hear from our missionaries, partners, and those who have come to know and love Jesus because of GRN.