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GlobalRecordingsUSA.org

GLOBAL RECORDINGS
NETWORK

A L E R T

JUNE 2021



Global Recordings Network produces and distributes audio recordings of Bible stories in more than 6,300 languages. Together with mission partners and local bilingual speakers all around the world, we have been blessed to share the basics of the Gospel and to introduce people to Jesus Christ since 1939. Learn more at —

GlobalRecordingsUSA.org

THANKFUL FOR ANSWERED PRAYER

We ask you to pray and many of you use our monthly prayer guide, "Together In Prayer" (TIP). So we want to share some answers to prayer we have seen, and invite you to praise our mighty God along with us! He is a good, good Father and He delights to answer the prayers of His children.

Coincidence?

For 10 years, our recordists in Asia tried unsuccessfully to record the language of an unreached Buddhist tribe. During that time, many prayers have been offered. Finally, they found an old man who knew how to sing in the traditional story-telling style. Amazingly, the night before they began, another man "just happened" to arrive from over a hundred miles away. He was fluent in the language, had a pleasant voice, and was eager to help. The recordist told us, "We couldn't have asked for two better speakers—one appeals to older generations and the other to younger ones."



Happy with life back in Michigan, one of our staff felt God calling her back to GRN as we made the move to Tucson. "Live in the desert? In a tiny trailer? Over 100 degrees all summer?" But she obeyed the Lord, and has found so many answers to prayer over the past year, both personally — \$\$ provided from an un-looked-for source for her trailer, a pair of good brothers to tow it to Arizona, even unexpected delight in the mountainous terrain seen every day — and for the work of GRN itself — new volunteers with joyful spirits who are joining the work, outreach teams going regularly to border and agricultural camps to minister in many languages, and a last language recorded in Ecuador.



God is so good. He even uses daily difficulties that come along to draw each of us closer and closer to Himself—the most precious answer to prayer of them all.

Last minute provision: Our GRN Nigeria team was due to leave on an outreach but they lacked supplies and fuel for the van. Someone started to unload. But the leader stopped them. He was sure God would provide. He recounts: "At two o'clock an envelope arrived with enough money to fuel the vehicle. Within ten minutes, someone sent money for meds & clothes!" The trip was a success; people came to the Lord.



Dangers and Hindrances: Our West Africa teams have survived threats from Ebola and Covid, lockdowns, disrupted lives, economic hardships, and Islamic radicals. Prayer is crucial for them. As we were putting this edition together, Boko Haram raided the girls' school where the daughter of one of our recordists attends. Their intent was to carry away into slavery all the girls of this school, as they have done over and over in this country. By God's grace, the students had been sent home the day before. Keep praying!

TELLING THE STORY OF JESUS IN EVERY LANGUAGE

We at GRN were blessed by the recent visit of 3 *Bibles For Asia* missionaries. The couple had been smuggling Bibles into closed countries on the far side of the world for many years. Then this wife asked her husband, "What about people who cannot read?" and that question eventually led them to GRN. A fruitful partnership has arisen — we supply audio materials to them containing Bible stories and portions for distribution by local Christians in a number of countries.

Because of an innovative "listening group" strategy, thousands of house churches are springing up in one of these countries. This movement is spreading throughout the country speedily and starting to jump borders. (Small tribal languages are often spoken on both sides of a political border.)

Listen to one new believer: "I am from a tribe in _____ and am 17 years old now. Thank you for giving me a speaker and an SD card with audio messages in my language. I started inviting friends to listen with me, and then would explain to them about our Lord Jesus. Some of them came to accept Him as their Savior also. Now we usually sit together and listen to His Word. Thank you so much for your loving gift to us."

We thank God for His answers to the prayers of Christians on behalf of those who cannot read—over 80 years ago, He raised up Gospel Recordings (now GRN) and ministers through us and our partners to the last, least, lost.

Our partner couple serves the Lord with Bibles for Asia, both overseas, by working with national pastors, and at home, by inspiring listeners with true stories from Asia. We cannot show their pictures.



Visit www.5fish.mobi or download the 5fish app to access free audio resources.

GRN'S motto, *Telling the Story of Jesus in Every Language*, sounds deceptively simple. In reality, it's a devastating, demanding, and often dangerous task. To reach that goal requires an adequate supply of personnel, persistence, and prayer. Our teams need to know that others are upholding them in prayer. Become a Together In Prayer (TIP) partner. You'll receive a monthly *Together In Prayer* with short prayer requests for each day. You can receive TIP through the mail, by email, or via our GRN prayer app.

LESSONS FROM A DESERT COTTONTAIL

I love animals, having tended and cared for them in my business and my life for many years. Just last week, God taught me some precious lessons through the rabbits that live around my trailer. I put out bunny food and a number of rabbits regularly come to dine. Most are afraid of me but one, who I call "Notch Ear," has dared to come closer. He munches away without the wide-eyed fright of the other bunnies. As he gets closer he will eventually find out that in my presence is a relatively endless supply of pellets. Some day he may even trust me enough to sit on my lap!



Last week showed another level of trust. A hawk must have flown over, and the rest of the rabbits immediately scattered abroad. But Notch Ear did something amazing; he ran right to me and sheltered under my chair! God has showed me that, just like the bunnies, I get both provision and security from Him. I trust Him for my daily needs, and I can feel completely secure in Him – He will not let anything harm me unless it will turn out for my good (Rom. 8:28; Gen. 50:20).

In the matter of provision, we pray for many new workers for the field especially. But may God help us to utilize what He has already given us. He has brought new ministry partners in touch with us, ministries that have the same goal as we do (for every tongue and nation to hear the story of Jesus in their own language) and we hope in the future to connect up three unrelated missions: our technical experience, two missions' recording platforms, and another with many young people looking for a place to serve the Lord.

In the matter of security, we do not have to worry about or live in fear of the world's manipulation of the Covid situation. We do not believe that God is thwarted by travel restrictions or government decrees. In fact, the reverse: God has used the last year to help us all think differently and to try fresh approaches to accomplish the things He has asked us to do. He is Lord of all!

Take time to look for life lessons in your surroundings, and thank the Lord with me that He continues to teach us, lead us, and use us, for His glory!

God Bless,



Larry DeVilbiss
Executive Director



Read Larry's
blog, [The Next
Language](#), on
our website.
He might share
more about
Notch Ear!

MULTIPLICATION IN ASIA

The verses of Joel 2:28-29 refer to the "Day of the Lord" mentioned in Acts 2, with its ultimate fulfillment at the end of the age. I apply this to what I recently learned, that one of the Asian countries where *Bibles For Asia* (BFA) works is nearly overwhelmed by a fast-growing Christian movement. BFA is one of our GRN USA ministry partner organizations, utilizing solid Bible teaching, discipleship, and leadership training. We rejoice to hear that thousands of our Gospel recordings are being sent to villages all over this country, so that BFA can hardly keep up with the demand. This ministry has become a catalyst for a Gospel explosion in this country. The local people's faith is solid because they live in a hostile environment where Christians are often persecuted, so there are no lukewarm Christians. The multiplication is very natural -- far beyond our Western concept of discipleship -- once they believe in Christ, their new-found joy becomes the fuel to tell the story of Jesus to others. Across the globe, we hear of similar stories. Ever-increasing partnerships accelerate global missions. This kind of global intensity has never happened before. The final stage of fulfillment of Joel's prophecy is becoming a reality. All saints (followers of Christ) have prayed for the salvation of others throughout history and their prayers are being answered toward the end of the age. That is what we are seeing today.

Toshikazu Matsuno
Toshi is USA's Social Media
Editor and also works in
Data Entry and Production



AMAZEMENT IN ITALY

I have to tell you this incredible story. My mother is from Sardinia where they speak a minor dialect totally different from Italian. It's another whole language. I asked her to listen to the 5fish recording of her Sardinian dialect. She was emotionally shocked! When she was 14 and she lived in a remote area of Sardinia with her family in a farm, a couple of missionaries visited them and gave them this very audio recording. She still remembers every word of the audio by memory, because her family has listened to it so many times! It was the first time they heard the Gospel. My mother, her sister, my two grand-parents, and one uncle, all became believers this first time they heard their heart language on a recording. It was incredible for her and it is incredible for me too. This is encouragement to us all: the amazing effect a simple 5-minute audio recording can have when recorded in the heart language. We have just discovered it for ourselves!



— from Daniele, our Italian base leader

JOINING THE TEAM

With a proud smile, Jim said, "I'm a part of your team." My eyebrows lifted. "I don't understand."

"Well," he answered, "When you visit dangerous places, I pray for your protection. When you look for a language helper, I ask the Father to point out the right person. When you're locked down because of Covid, I pray for a new door that no man can shut. When you complete a new recording for people who've never heard the gospel in their own language, I'm there to rejoice with you."

I nodded. "I've never thought of it that way. Yes, you're a valuable part of our team. But how do you pray for those things?"

He yanked out his phone and touched a yellow button marked *Pray*." Up popped the prayer request for the day.

The GRN Filipino team has completed work on the recordings in Mindoro. Pray for prepared hearts as they distribute those recordings.

"That's it?" I marveled.

"Yes. There's a different request each day."

"But you are busy. How do you remember to pray for those requests?"

"This free GRN app allows me to set the reminders for a suitable time. I scheduled mine for my daily three o'clock coffee break."

"Excellent," I said. "But some people aren't comfortable with apps."

"Yes. My wife prefers a printed page, so she gets hers through the mail. Others like to get TIP by email. The most important thing is to—"

I interrupted with a flourish, "—to become a part of our team."

*Allan Starling is
GRN's Historian
and a Language
Tracking Team
Leader*



How to join our TIP team

For the prayer app: Go to globalrecordings.net and type "Mission Prayers app" into the query box.

For the printed or email version: email us@globalrecordings.net

GRN Office Number

We still wrestle with inconsistent phone service. If you've been frustrated when phoning us, please try again. Contact us at our new Arizona number:

520-395-1399

GUSTAVO'S REPORT

Our South America field recordist, Gustavo, sent us this report of his recent recording trip among the Secoya of Ecuador. (See the Secoya family pictured on the cover.)

Through this trip I learned that God has His perfect time and way of making His plans with the right people. I traveled in a small plane for 90 minutes, then 2 more hours by canoe, to arrive at the first Secoya community.

When we were recording the story of Nicodemus ... something occurred that had never happened to me before. There came up a wind, and this wind was as if it had life, and it moved all around us. It lasted maybe 45 seconds. And for us it was clear evidence that what we were doing was a record-



ing in the will of God. We stopped recording and spent a time of prayer, giving thanks that our God sent His Holy Spirit in the form of a wind while we were recording.

Also when our brother Julio Criollo was recording, something very special happened. When we had recorded the theme about the family, he started to cry; he couldn't contain himself. And he started to pray in his



language, giving thanks to God for the Holy Spirit in his life. We had a time of prayer, and afterwards he told me that he felt much sadness for the indigenous towns of the area. He told us that they are being lost. They are consuming drugs like marijuana, cocaine, and even heroine, and they are starting to have many robberies and other problems as a consequence of the sin. He said, "We need God in the towns of Siona, Secoya, and Cofan." Please pray:

- That each person of Cofan, Siona, and Secoya might have the opportunity to hear the Gospel in his or her own language.
- That God would restrain the sin that is entering into those indigenous towns.



*Gustavo
Calixto,
GRN Field
Recordist,
S. America*