

ADVANCE...

By: Pete Frank

An Open Door to Vietnam

“At first I was afraid,” the Vietnamese pastor was recounting the first time he was arrested for preaching the Gospel in the Communist country of Vietnam. “But the second time I was arrested, God gave me more courage. And the third time they came for me, I said – Let it be!” Each time he was arrested and taken to the local police station, this courageous pastor was questioned by the authorities. The answer was always the same – “God has called me to preach the Gospel, and the people in our nation must hear the Good News of Jesus Christ.”

And truly this nation of 85 million people is in desperate need of the Gospel. The majority of people there are Buddhists, spiritists, or ancestor worshippers. Many have never even heard the Gospel for the first time. But we believe God is up to something big there – something that only He can do! In recent months the government of Vietnam has lifted its restrictive hand from the network of house churches with



Vietnam needs to be reached with the Gospel. It can be done by planting one church at a time.

which Gospelink is working. This network of several hundred underground churches has now been licensed by the Vietnamese central government. In short, this means that these house churches are now free to assemble, free to preach and teach the Gospel, and free to build their

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Gospelink was established for the purpose of advancing the gospel throughout the world. It is our belief that this objective can be best accomplished by assisting national preachers who are actively involved in church planting and discipleship. Through prayer and financial assistance national preachers are empowered, their evangelistic outreach is enhanced and their church planting efforts are accelerated.

National preachers who have been selected for assistance have met all the necessary initial requisites of accountability. Their financial needs have been evaluated. Their morals, reputation, and character are exemplary. Their doctrinal beliefs are sound and their training and ministry experience are verified.

Once assistance has been initiated through Gospelink, the national preacher must continue to meet all the ongoing requisites of accountability in order to maintain this assistance. Ministry reports are submitted systematically and on-site evaluations are regularly conducted by the regional directors and Gospelink USA representatives.

Gospelink, Inc. was established as a missions organization in 1998. As such, contributions and gifts are tax-deductible. It is governed by those serving on the Board of Directors.

To learn more visit www.gospelink.org or contact us by phone at (434) 485-7007. You may also write us at: Gospelink - P.O. Box 4299 - Lynchburg, VA 24502.

MAKING DONATIONS AUTOMATICALLY

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Contact Gospelink for assistance

434-485-7007

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the search box:

-15.3718595,28.820872

If the display is in the map mode,
select satellite mode.
Zoom in for greater detail.

own church buildings. It is an unprecedented open door of opportunity for these pastors and church leaders!

I had the privilege of attending a national conference last year in Saigon. There were over 1,000 attendees at this conference, held at a government-owned facility. The attendees included several hundred Vietnamese preachers who were celebrating the government's new ruling. The Gospel was also clearly preached and many of the visitors there came to faith in Christ. There were government officials there as well. I was amazed as I heard one of these officials speak of the incredible testimony these believers have had in the midst of years of persecution. He said, "The government of Vietnam now knows that these Christians are loving and unified and are for the welfare of our society." I was reminded of the verse in Proverbs 21:1 that says, "The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord, like the rivers of water; He turneth it whithersoever He will." With this new freedom comes an incredible door of opportunity for reaching the Vietnamese people with the Gospel. This is a freedom that these preachers, true modern-day heroes of the faith, have never experienced before.

What an honor it was for our mission team to be with 25 of these preachers earlier this year! Their stories of persecution, faith,

THANK YOU
to those who have begun
assisting a national preacher
with a
MINISTRY SPONSORSHIP:

Joe and Sally Magalsky
 Pastor Vasilliy Loutso
 Ukraine

Blake and Kathy Prentice
 Pastor Chiku Afonso
 Mozambique

Jason and Lorie Calderwood
 Pastor Abraham Muthukrishnan
 India

David and Deb Speck
 Pastor Chiku Afonso
 Mozambique

Greg and Paula Ernst
 Pastor Richard Banda
 Zambia

Don and Kim Dailey
 Pastor James Dube
 Zimbabwe

Michael and Barbara Cooper
 Pastor Ivan Gavrilleshko
 Ukraine

Tony and Brenda Burton
 Pastor Daudi Yakobo
 Tanzania

George and Rebekah Hazard
 Pastor Asirvatham Ayyavu
 India

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and perseverance, were amazing. Jesus promised us in John 15:20, "If they have persecuted Me, they will also persecute you." In the United States it might be difficult for us to understand fully the meaning of Jesus' words, but not for these preachers in Vietnam. Of the 25 men we met with, 22 of them had been arrested for preaching the Gospel. It was inspiring to look into the eyes of these humble men and try to imagine the difficulties they have experienced during their years of preaching the Gospel and planting churches in Vietnam.

One preacher from the north, near Hanoi, recounted how he had been arrested and beaten for preaching the Gospel. He told us with joy, "I can give up everything, but I can't give up the Lord!" Another preacher from the Binh Dinh Province shared with me how one of the men he had

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Like this group of believers in Vung Tau, the joy of the Lord is the strength of the church in Vietnam.

**THANK YOU
to those who have begun
assisting a national preacher
with an
OUTREACH SPONSORSHIP:**

Matthew and Rubeinna Bobo
Pastor Alexei Ivanov
Ukraine

Chris and Lori Deason
Pastor Jestart Kazwami
Zambia

Bill and Diane Dorton
Pastor Antony Chinnasamy
India

Robert and Sharon Barr
Pastor Chababe Francisco
Mozambique

David and Theresa Patterson
Pastor Brasswell Nkhonjera
Malawi

Robert and Wenfe Cantilina
Pastor My To
Vietnam

Hal and Jane Lloyd
Pastor John Samuel Ayyakkannu
India

Barry and Karen Friesen
Pastor Paul Hembeyani
Malawi

Rick and Becki Evans
Pastor Benson Tembo
Zambia

THE NATIONAL PREACHER SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

...linking Christians in America with national preachers across the world

WHY Gospelink helps national preachers...

National preachers have many advantages in taking the gospel to their own people. Every national preacher sponsored through Gospelink has already been trained, has helped to establish at least one church, and is actively involved in evangelism, discipleship, and church planting. Their morals, work ethic, spiritual reputation, and physical needs have all been verified. With monthly prayer and financial support, they will be able to increase their outreach and accelerate their church planting efforts.

Because the Lord's return is drawing closer and the unfinished task remains so extensive, would you pray about what part you might have in helping one of these national preachers advance the gospel in their area of the world? Whatever they accomplish will be fruit that abounds to your account, also.

HOW Gospelink helps national preachers...

Gospelink seeks to secure five sponsorships for each national preacher: three Ministry Sponsorships (\$35 per month each), one Outreach Sponsorship (\$25 per month), and one Training Sponsorship (\$15 per month).

The Ministry Sponsorship funds are used to help the preacher with the basic needs of his family, such as, food, clothing, shelter, medicine, and his children's education. The Outreach Sponsorship funds are used to assist the preacher in evangelism and in providing outreach materials, such as, Bibles and tracts. The Training Sponsorship funds are used to help cover the costs of national and regional training opportunities and to provide study materials and curriculum. Please look over the profiles of the preachers (located on pages 6 and 7) and pray about your involvement.

***How shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed?
And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard?
And how shall they hear without a preacher?
And how shall they preach, except they be sent?***

Romans 10:14,15



VO FAMILY

**Vietnam
(Long An Region)**

Pastor: Ba
Spouse: Thu
Child 1: An
Child 2: Binh

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Before I came to Christ, I was a farmer. My life was filled with drinking and gambling. I was completely without hope and purpose. In 1993, my Christian uncle, Nguyen Sung, told me about hope in Jesus Christ. When my uncle went to worship God at the local church, I accompanied him. On that Sunday, Pastor Nguyen Loc preached about salvation and Jesus' forgiveness. That day, I accepted Jesus Christ as my Savior.

When I became a Christian, I soon ran into trouble, as my parents worshipped their ancestors and did not approve of me becoming a Christian. However, I kept on worshiping God and started studying God's Word in the Sunday class. I was disciplined and learned how to give up the bad things I had been doing. I enjoyed my new life with the purposes of glorifying the name of Jesus and loving other people. I shared my testimony with my parents, and my siblings. My family was very surprised at how God changed me, and they accepted Jesus as their Savior, also.

My wife, Thu, was a hard worker and, like her family, was involved in ancestral worship. But Thu had no peace in her heart and life. In the year 1998, as a friend, I was able to share my testimony with Thu and explain to her how God had changed my life from darkness to light. I took her to the church, and she decided to accept Jesus Christ into her heart.

In the year 2004, the Lord called me to serve the Kingdom of God. For a number of years, I studied for the ministry. I have now been ordained as a pastor and church-planter. It is my vision to see the people of Vietnam come to know Jesus Christ just as I have.

Sponsorships needed: 3 Ministry; 1 Outreach; 1 Training

**DO
FAMILY**
Vietnam
(Binh Phuoc Region)

Pastor: Loc
Spouse: Binh

Child 1: Loi
Child 2: Anh
Child 3: Ly
Child 4: Phuong
Child 5: Phuoc



BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

My wife and I were raised in families that taught us to worship our ancestors. I drank and smoked a lot and often cursed. In 1987, my wife and I first heard the Good News from a friend, but we did not trust in God's power at the time. Several years later in 1995, our family faced some very difficult situations. We had been farming tea, coffee, and pepper, but there was a bad drought and the crops failed. As a result, we faced a very large financial debt.

That same year, our son had an accident that involved another person who passed away due to the accident. Our family was living in the midst of very bad circumstances and we were consumed with worry and fear. We believed no one could help us. At this time, Binh and I remembered the God we had heard about eight years earlier and we asked God to help us. We sold our house to pay our debts.

Then, in December of 2004, my friend introduced Binh and myself to Pastor Thang. Pastor Thang shared the Good News with us once again. We knew that God was able to help us and forgive us. It was at this time that we prayed and accepted Jesus Christ into our hearts. Binh and I recognized that we could only have peace by accepting Jesus Christ and turning from our sin and false beliefs.

Now that I have accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior, it is my burden to see others in Vietnam receive the same salvation through Jesus. In 2005, God called me to serve my Creator in the ministry and to share the peace that Christ offers. Binh and I are active in teaching the Word of God in the rural areas of Vietnam and in sharing how salvation has changed our lives from dark to bright and from sorrow to happiness.

Sponsorships needed: 3 Ministry; 1 Outreach; 1 Training

been discipling was arrested and beaten to death. In fact, several of the 25 preachers we met had known someone personally who had been martyred for their faith.

One of the preachers had even been on the other side of the persecution, working for the Vietnamese government as a police officer years ago. In his days before becoming a Christian, he used to arrest believers, put them in prison, and confiscate their Bibles. He shared with me, "I always wondered why these people have such courage. What do they believe and why does it make them so brave? So I began to read the Bibles I had confiscated from them. I found the love of God and the truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and I was saved!" Now Pastor Tuy is preaching the Gospel to the Vietnamese people, and has already planted eight churches, representing around 1,500 Christians. Praise the Lord for this modern-day Apostle Paul of Vietnam!

At Gospelink, we are very excited that we are now sponsoring preachers in Vietnam! The timing could not be better, coming on the heels of the new open door of freedom for these men. We are so grateful for the Gospelink sponsors in America that have already committed to supporting a preacher through their prayers and financial resources.

On our recent trip to Vietnam it was a great joy for my wife



Through Gospel literature, story books and Bibles, the children, youth and adults in Vietnam are coming to faith in Jesus Christ.



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and me to inform some of the preachers that they now have partners in ministry – sponsors in America who have joined with them to accelerate their efforts to reach the precious people of Vietnam!

Please pray for these men of God. As the Apostle Paul said in I Corinthians 16:9, “For a great door, and effectual, is opened unto me, and there are many adversaries.” Surely there will be adversaries. The spiritual battles will be great as the Gospel is spread throughout Vietnam. Satan currently has a stronghold in the hearts and minds of most of the people of Vietnam, as they have gone after the false gods of Buddhism and spiritism. Buddhist temples abound in this nation, and it is common to see people bowing before idols, burning incense, and offering fruits, vegetables, and money, all in an effort to appease the spirits. What these Vietnamese preachers of the Gospel need more than anything is the power of God “to open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them who are sanctified by faith that is in Christ.” (Acts 26:18)

Another persistent adversary is the local authorities. In spite of the central government’s recent licensing, preachers in some rural provinces still suffer

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THANK YOU
to those who have begun
assisting a national preacher
with a
TRAINING SPONSORSHIP:

Danne Pierre
Pastor Jameson Malenga
Malawi

David Scott
Pastor Kholwani Mpofu
Zimbabwe

Keith and Bobbi Plott
Pastor Bothwel Malunda
Zambia

Elbert and Marie Morton
Pastor Nedson Shoko
Zimbabwe

Jeffery and Jan Clemmens
Pastor Maison Maulana
Malawi

Birger and Connie Benson
Pastor Jestone Chisenga
Zambia

Timothy and Sue Howell
Pastor Hermes Kalindangoma
Malawi

Reva Baer
Pastor Lewin Mutantabowa
Zambia

Paul Adamson
Pastor Joseph Khombe
Malawi

harassment, arrest, and persecution from the local police.

One preacher in the Binh Phuoc Province shared that he is required to report to the local police station for questioning one day out of every month. He is asked, "What are you telling people?", and, "Who gave you this job?" Ironically, this persecution provides a wonderful opportunity to share the Gospel with the very adversaries who oppose Christianity! Another preacher recently was arrested and had his Bible and hymnbooks confiscated. Knowing that God's Word is powerful, even in the hands of an atheistic authority, his response was, "Hallelujah!"

The mission trip earlier this year provided the opportunity for our mission team to worship in two different house churches. I had the honor to baptize ten new believers at one of these house churches. These Christians were glad to make a public testimony of their faith in the Lord Jesus. Under the hot Vietnam sun that day, I wondered how many more people will come to the Savior in the days ahead.

May the Lord of the harvest use the new open door in Vietnam to grant a truly abundant harvest of souls! And, may He alone be glorified as Gospelink's sponsors partner with these faithful preachers.

If you would like to sponsor a preacher in Vietnam, please complete and return the form on [page 8](#).

THANK YOU
to those who have begun
assisting a national preacher
with a
MULTIPLE SPONSORSHIP:

Brian and Teresa Shultz
 Pastor Seo Ro
 Vietnam

Gabriel Yu
 Pastor Thang Nguyen
 Vietnam

Rick Lin
 Pastor Nicholas Lunyana
 Tanzania

Travis and Mary Jane Owen
 Pastor Emanuel Mwakandulu
 Tanzania

Todd and Sherrie Thompson
 Pastor Truyen Nguyen
 Vietnam

David and Peggy Scherger
 Pastor Can Nguyen
 Vietnam

Evan and Mischelle Tripp
 Pastor Alick Kampira
 Malawi

Alice Wanguhu
 Pastor Yonas Belayhun
 Ethiopia

Dan and Twana King
 Pastor Daris Shakwamba
 Zambia



THE CURRENT NEED

...unto Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all we ask

MOTORBIKES FOR VIETNAM

There are over 50 ethnic minority groups in Vietnam. The goal of the Gospelink Vietnamese preachers is to reach their tribe with the Gospel. In addition to sponsorship help, the one need that many of these preachers have is for a motorbike. It is difficult and time-consuming for these national preachers to get to the rural areas of Vietnam on foot. A motorbike is a valuable tool in helping these men take the Gospel into the “uttermost parts” of Vietnam. Of the 26 Vietnamese preachers Gospelink is sponsoring, 14 are in need of a motorbike, each costing \$1,025 (which includes insurance and licensing). If you can help provide a motorbike for a Vietnamese preacher, complete [page 15](#).



MAKANJIRA CRUSADE

Makanjira is one of the places in Malawi with a large Muslim population. Gospelink’s Central Director, Helix Chigonammalunje, recently surveyed this area. While there, he stayed in the home of Richard Makumba, one of the few local Christians. On the third day, they started witnessing to some of Richard’s neighbors. Most of the people they talked with pleaded for a Bible. During



a three day period, eight people accepted Christ as Savior and a preaching point was opened. Though in the past there has been a great deal of persecution toward Christians, these new believers agreed to help Helix and Richard with a Gospel crusade this fall. It is scheduled to last for two weeks. After the crusade, the church will be officially started. Funds are needed to provide the transport (fuel and car rental) and food for Helix, the renting of the *Jesus Film*, and at least 60 Bibles (for new believers). If you can help, complete [page 15](#).

PREACHERS' CONTINGENCY FUND

Under the sponsorship program, national preachers minister for an entire quarter and then receive compensation. Sometimes a sponsor must terminate their assistance. When this occurs, steps are immediately taken to get the preacher sponsored again. In the meantime, a fund has been established to "make up" the difference until another sponsor can be located for the preacher. If you can help, complete [page 15](#).

STUDENT FURNITURE

In January, twelve additional students will enter the Bible College in Zambia. They will each need a bed, a foam mattress, and a desk. The furniture will be made

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THANK YOU
to those who have given to the
Preachers' Contingency
Fund

Keith and Debbie McQuillen
 Virginia

Vivian Valentine
 Ohio

Duane and Janice Halverson
 Montana

Lee and Patty Erickson
 Indiana

Christina Kise
 Georgia

Anthony Saavedra
 Maryland

Bert and Irene Lansing
 Michigan

Betty Miles
 Maryland

Mark and Cindy Flinchbaugh
 Pennsylvania

Carolyn Johnson
 South Dakota

James and Faith Luttrell
 Tennessee

Betty Miles
 Maryland

at the college, but funds are needed to purchase the wood and other supplies. If you can help, complete page 15.

ORPHAN SPONSORSHIPS

Orphan sponsorships are available through Gospelink. These sponsorships are \$30.00 per month. Sponsors will receive biographical information on the orphan they sponsor, as well as a quarterly letter. If you would like to assist an orphan with a sponsorship, complete page 15.

MOSQUITO NETS

The rainy season will soon be upon much of southern Africa. With it will come an increase in the number of mosquitoes, some of which will carry malaria. Thousands die every year from this disease. A mosquito net helps in preventing the transmission of malaria. Many Gospelink preachers do not have enough mosquito nets for their family. Some have no mosquito nets at all. If you would like to help, complete page 15.



Many Thanks...

to those who have given to
two or more projects in
The Current Need:

Frank and Sharon Pastore
Florida

Pamela Olson
Iowa

Linda Harness
Iowa

Donald and Marjorie Hutchin
South Carolina

Lindy and Jeanette McTier
Georgia

Donald and Marjorie Ruse
Indiana

Kris and Jennifer Bjorgen
South Carolina

Nelson and Carolyn Bedingfield
Georgia

Allen and Sheryl Williamson
Arizona

Mark and Cindy Flinchbaugh
Pennsylvania

Stanley Forrester
Tennessee

Stephen Craig
Washington

I would like to assist with...THE CURRENT NEED!



(PLEASE PRINT)

First Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Last Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____

I would like to help with a *Current Need* project this month:

- 01. Motorbike (for Vietnamese Preacher) Enclosed \$ _____
- 02. Makanjira Crusade (Malawi) Enclosed \$ _____
- 03. Preacher's Contingency Fund Enclosed \$ _____
- 04. Student Furniture (Intl. Bible College) Enclosed \$ _____
- 05. Mosquito Nets Enclosed \$ _____
- 06. Preachers' Widows Fund Enclosed \$ _____
- 07. Hunger Relief Fund Enclosed \$ _____
- 08. Construction Fund (Intl. Bible College) Enclosed \$ _____
- 09. Bibles (for students / new converts) Enclosed \$ _____
- 10. Gospel Tracts Enclosed \$ _____
- 11. Wherever Needed Most Enclosed \$ _____

I want to help an orphan with a sponsorship of \$30.00 per month, beginning in the month of _____. Please send me my sponsor materials. **My preference is a: Girl / Boy**

Complete and remove this page.

Enclose your *Current Need* donation and mail it to:

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