



Muslims: The top factor that influenced them to follow Christ was the lifestyle of Christians, according to a recent survey of 750 Muslims from 30 countries and 50 ethnic groups who converted between 1991 and 2007. They cited no gap between moral profession and practice, love in the group, treatment of women, simple and conforming to the local lifestyle, etc. as examples. Next factor was the power of God in answering prayers and healing closely related to deliverance from demonic power. The third was dissatisfaction with the type of Islam they have experienced and with the Qur'an that emphasizing God's punishment more than his love. Other factors were visions and dreams, gospel message of assurance of salvation and forgiveness, spiritual truth in the Bible, about the love of God and the love expressed through the life and teaching of Jesus, etc.

<Christianity Today, October/07>

Minority people: Since the 1990's FEBC(HK) have been broadcasting aimed at some of the 125 million Chinese minority people in 55 groups. Due to lack of workers with language proficiency and resources, they are able to do only half-hour programs from 3 days a week to daily for seven languages, including Zhuang, Tibetan, Uyghur, and Yunan. So far, they have received very few audience responses. Lately they took responsibility for Minangkabau language broadcast to an Indonesian people group of 7.5 million.

<Far East Broadcasting, www.liangyou.net, 8/07>

City-dwellers: In 1800 just 3% of world population lived in cities. Today, 50%+ of 6.6 billion are there. UN forecasts at least 23 cities mostly in developing nations will have 10 million plus by 2015. The largest, Tokyo now at 35 million, will have 40 million.

<Parade, 8/5/2007>

Encore careers: According to some survey, 6 out of 10 boomers in their 50's wish to switch careers someday with a higher, social purpose. Many set sights on education, healthcare, the ministry and social services. These so-called "encore careers" are expected to last 10 to 20 years. Though some may need jobs for economic reasons, many others change from hearing "an inner voice." Some go back to school for retraining, and some corporations support these decisions financially.

<Dallas Morning News, 8/18/07>

Mexica: Juarez, a city on the border with USA, is very corrupt and under siege by drug trade and murders. A pastor there of a large church grieved for the city and felt God's call to resign to begin a public fast of 21 days in a tent in the City Park. A journalist came to report daily what he heard from God. It drew attention of 4,000 to the tent where he ministered to them. Later the newly elected mayor called on him to take charge in cleaning up a notorious prison of 3,000 inmates and

80% corrupted guards. With army help, they locked down the prison, cleaned up the corruption, and put inmates through drug withdrawal assisted by doctors, nurses and pastors in 30 days. UN is sending teams to analyze this remarkable cleansing operation

<Silvoso News, www.harvestevan.org, June/07>

20-40 generation: Started in 2004 in Dallas, The Fusion conference ministry is trying to reach that generation that are missing in US churches today, struggling with how their faith intersects their lives. Speakers and ministries of various causes (poverty, schools in Africa, etc) show them how their skills can be used. Responses have been encouraging so far.

<Dallas Morning News, 9/22/07>

Cuban: The church is situated in a society of abject poverty and under intense opposition from a totalitarian regime. Yet the church is experiencing a revival. The number of churches and house churches has grown from 1,100 in 1990 to nearly 17,000 today. Large number of Bibles is needed.

<Mission Network News/ www.joelnews.org, 8/7/07>

Vietnam: In Ho Chi Minh, a factory owner sensed the loneliness and uneasiness of hundreds of his young workers. He invited a pastor to come and talk to them resulting in many accepting Christ. This not only helped the young workers spiritually, it also kept them from drifting off to other jobs. This owner inspired some fellow businessmen to do the same. Last year churches showed an increase of some 3,500 new baptized members.

<Mission Network News/ www.joelnews.org, 8/29/07>

UAE: A missionary couple reported that God has worked mightily in Dubai. 1,400+ Chinese workers in the country came to the 2nd night of the mid-autumn festival event with a program of video message, hymns, dances, Chinese rap, etc. At the end of the sharing, 688 responded to the call to give their lives to Christ. Over the two nights 900+ have done so. Efforts are underway to nurture the new believers.

<JAL Newsletter, 9/25/07>

Clean water: Lack of clean water, a major crisis of the world, causes 50%+ of world's health problems. A Christian agency has introduced a new, lightweight filter using combined proven biological & mechanical processes. It gives 47 liters/hour of potable water and cost ~\$50 to get it to the field. It is believed this will help greatly build rapport with the community before sharing the gospel message with them.

<Mission Network News/ www.joelnews.org, 9/28/07>