



**USA:** More than 40 million people are foreign born. Some Christians have difficulty finding Bibles in their mother tongue. Of 1,541 languages with a printed New Testament, fewer than 200 are available, especially for refugees many of them from Africa and other closed countries. One can find help from Bibles.com as well as some private concerns like Multi-Language Media in Ephrata, PA and individuals like Dr Kyle Chapman of Seattle, WA.

<Christianity Today, November/07>

**Dallar:** Falling value of dollar affects mission work especially in Europe, North Africa and Middle East. Since 2002 it has lost 45% of its buying power. Even mission giving in US has grown annually by 6% inflation adjusted, it is not enough to cover the lost. Missionaries are required now to spend more time fund raising and to cut back on ministry cost. The forecast is not good.

<Christianity Today, January/08>

**Turkey:** In southeastern, where many Kurds live, some Kurdish-majority churches have had rapid growth. Kurdish Turks are remarkably open to the gospel. It stems from one form of Islam, Alevi, that about 20% of Turkish Kurds adhere to. They are more tolerant of non-Islamic faiths though a Christian conversion would subject one to huge problems like being cut off from the family and losing chances for marriage and job through family network. They need a lot of support.

<Christianity Today, January/08>

**Thailand:** Recently, an 18-year-old Buddhist monk accepted Christ after attending the Chinese literary class using the gospels as text. Diligently he reads the Bible and pray daily. He also places gospel tracts in temples and distributes to his roommates who read them gladly.

<China Evangelistic Mission News, www.cemhk.org.hk, 12/07>

**Missionaries:** A US mission board appointed 36 persons last month. In 2006 the same board sent out 200. There remain 600 unengaged, unreached people groups in the world each with population of more than 100,000 representing a total of 1 billion.

<Mission Network News/ www.joelnews.org, 2/5/08>

**MySpace:** A Christian agency is recognized by that social networking internet website for its impact on poverty and relief work. The agency engages people on the network to talk about its work and Christian belief. Even some agnostics and people of other faiths have termed their work as 'fantastic'. Along with \$10,000, the agency is given featured placement on MySpace that is helpful in spreading their message.

<Mission Network News/ www.joelnews.org, 2/8/08>

**Unrest:** The unrest in Middle East and North Africa actually is boosting a Christian radio ministry. They have seen 6 times the number of listeners as they had in 2004 up to a half million weekly. One reason is that young people are concerned about the violence and its effect on their future at the same time questioning the reality of what they are told. The ministry shares Christ as He is in a non-confrontational way allowing people to ask safely questions about Christ.

<Mission Network News/ www.joelnews.org, 2/5/08>

**Jordan:** It is increasing pressure on foreign Christians living in the country refusing residence permits to many and expelling them including those working with local churches and seminary students. Mission experts are worried that hitherto moderate Jordan may become radical and its effect on other Islamic nations. The officials also have placed more restriction on activities of local Christians.

<Mission Network News/ www.joelnews.org, 1/14/08>

**Kazakhstan:** An evangelical church is impacting the people greatly. Starting in 1991 with just a few, it has now 1,000+ members. Reaching out to Muslims, native Kazakhs and Russians, they have helped plant 60 churches in the region including China. In addition to outreach to the poor, prisoners, elderly and orphans, they have a Bible college training church planters and missionaries and a rehab center to help drug addicts.

<Mission Network News/ www.joelnews.org, 2/1/08>

**India:** Amidst increasing persecution against Christians there, an unprecedented event took place over Christmas. The 'GodMan', a 3D animated film on life of Christ, was shown on national TV. The agency producing the film had pre-trained 203,632 volunteers to invite people to Christians homes, resulting in over 3,405,000 watching, over half a million responsive letters and literally hundreds of thousands of decisions. Response from wider audience is expected and followup resources needed.

<Mission Network News/ www.joelnews.org, 1/21/08>

**Roma:** They are a migrant group taking temporary jobs and moving for weeks at a time with children taken out of school. The Roma Christian School in Ukraine has shown the parents how genuine the teachers care about their children that they are encouraged to stay longer in one place. With additional after-school programs and summer camps the kids and the parents are reached for the gospel.

<Mission Network News/ www.joelnews.org, 1/2/08>

**Nynsis:** The Arctic Russia are nomadic reindeer herders numbering about 30,000. Only a few years ago did they have a full-time evangelist when one of the few first believers answered the call to serve.

<Mission Network News/ www.joelnews.org, 1/14/08>