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March 2010

We are learning many things living and ministering in the most populous Muslim country in the world. We want to keep you up to date on all that we are doing; however, more and more, there will be things that can only be shared in part and some things that cannot be shared at all. The focus of our work with FEBC is moving west, away from Southeast Asia and increasingly into areas where religious conflict and persecution is a day-to-day reality. When working in such areas I will be very limited in sharing names of people and places. Let the silences be an encouragement that you are helping to bring the light of the love of Jesus into the midst of darkness.

One change that we are making is in our prayer letter distribution. As it has been difficult to mail our newsletter from Indonesia, we have decided to use a prayer letter service. This has required us to change to a new software package for handling our prayer letter database. The new software also allows us to have better visibility of our support levels. The work of entering all the data into the computer was hard but it was a real blessing to me to see each of the contributions from our many faithful supporters for the last year as I entered them in one by one. I feel deeply blessed by the Lord that so many people love Jesus and love

us enough to give so that we can continue to minister in Indonesia. We also reviewed and entered data for all of our vital prayer warriors and again I felt in awe at how the Lord has raised up all that we need in both the spiritual and the physical realm to do his work. It's revitalizing to me to see all of your support for us and I hope I encourage you as well in sharing all that the Lord is doing through our partnership in ministry.

James and Chris at a Wedding



Summer Furlough

Our big family concern this year is James' back. As many of you know, he has scoliosis and has been wearing a back brace for nearly three years. In spite of wearing the brace, the curve in his back has progressed to the point that surgery is recommended. The surgery to fuse the spine is pretty major, so we have decided to have the surgery in Iowa where God has blessed us with a very skilled surgeon. Our tentative surgery date is July 8, 2010. This news has changed our furlough plans. **We have decided to return to America for a three month furlough - July to September.** This will allow James to have his surgery and have some recovery time before the long flight back to Indonesia. We will also be able to visit supporters and churches that we were not able to visit as we rushed to Indonesia. We are planning 3 weeks in Iowa, 1 week in Colorado with the

remainder of our time spent in the South visiting supporters in Georgia and South Carolina.

As always, raising support is one of the purposes of furlough. We always need to raise more support to stay on the field. We also need to pay for this trip home and for our share of James surgery costs. We trust God and his plans for our lives and for his provision to meet those plans. If you would like us to speak at your church, Bible study or other small group, just let us know and we will get you on the schedule. We are really excited to share how we have seen the Lord work in Indonesia and other areas of SE Asia. We really minister in amazing times!

Guy's Ministry Update

I have been quite the jet setter over the last three months with travels around Asia as well as around Indonesia. The list of international destinations includes Malaysia, Cambodia, Hong Kong, and the Philippines. Within our new home country, Indonesia, I have visited Padang in West Sumatra, Makassar in South Sulawesi, and Samarinda in East Kalimantan (Borneo). If you put Indonesia over the map of the USA, you would see that one end of Indonesia would be near New York, and the other would be near Los Angeles. There is a lot of ground to cover to keep on top of all of the technical needs. Although I have been at home for almost four weeks in a row while my visa renewal was being processed, its now time to hit the road again to visit all of the work that we have under way. Pray for strength in traveling for me over as I work on the road and on many different projects in the weeks ahead.

New Sumatera Station

I have been working quite hard to outfit a new station start up in Sumatra over the last several months. This is growing out of the earthquake relief effort I mentioned in our

last report. This station is an open door of a sort in what is quite a resistant part of Indonesia. I have been working to document the station's business and ministry plans as well as providing technical support for the design of the facilities and the equipment selection. As of this writing we are on air with temporary equipment and getting thousands of listener responses by SMS (phone text) each week to our mix of music and programming targeted to the local people who have all been affected by a major earthquake. Because of the nature of the area any kind of Christian programming is years in the



Earthquake Damaged Home

future, but for us its a big spiritual victory just to have a license where we never expected to go. We are accustomed in FEBC to being patient in station development in resistant areas. We will be a good neighbor, support the community with our broadcasts and bide our time until the next steps can be taken. Pray that we will be able to recruit good NGO partners to assist with funding, training, and special programs during the intial phase of this minstry.

Heartline Makassar

My second new station project in Indonesia is on the island of Sulawesi in the city of Makassar. This station was supposed to be

on the air more than a year ago, however political issues arose that meant we could not open. It became obvious late last year that we would not be able to resolve things with the neighbors around the proposed station who were against having it in their residential area. Political problems stirred up by local religious leaders were also holding up our license paperwork. We decided to abandon the original location and move to a neighborhood that was more accepting of our presence. I visited the new station site right



Station Under Construction

after Christmas and was able to meet all of the station management staff as well as the contractors who were preparing the building for us. It was exciting to meet these new Christian friends and we encouraged one another that Radio Harmoni FM 97.0 would soon be on the air in Makassar.

During my visit I was able to answer most of the open technical questions and to provide some input on the work flow and project management aspects of getting the station completed. Over the next few weeks I will be reworking part of the project proposal and looking into a more powerful transmitter and a better antenna since the new station site is located further from the center of town than the station site we had to abandon. I look forward to visiting the site again in mid-March to observe and assist as we get the broadcast equipment installed and

commissioned. Pray for our contractors who are themselves supporters of this station effort in their community as they work to get the station on the air in mid-March.

Other Activities

Besides the focused station development efforts, I am writing proposals for several other efforts in Indonesia. I have helped out with transmitter repairs in Cambodia. The Cagayan Valley station is still struggling to get on air and so I will continue to visit the Philippines in the coming weeks. Chris and I along with James visited Heartline Samarinda, in East Kalimantan late last fall. Kalimantan might be more familiar to you as Borneo. They are working on starting up



Cagayan Valley Station - Santiago

a translator station in Berau Regency to their North. This would expand the ministry to a new area in East Kalimantan. I have also visited our local transmitter site in Lippo, our home in Indonesia. It's on the 56th floor of a local building so the view of Jakarta is spectacular and so is the coverage range the elevated site gives to our Heartline Lippo station. We are considering a transmitter upgrade there. Sometimes I wonder when there is time to sleep, but mostly I enjoy seeing the Lord expand his kingdom to every tongue, tribe, and nation.

Life in Jakarta

Thank you so much for your prayers as we adjust to life in Jakarta. We are slowly picking up the language. Ask Chris to tell you the story of how she learned the bahasa Indonesian word for when - as in "When are we supposed to pay the power bill so you don't turn off the electricity?" Our churchmates and workmates are a big blessing to us, helping us understand the many different situations we find ourselves in. We have had the opportunity to share our testimonies and preach several times. Through our involvement in the local CMA church, we have been able to help out with an Experiencing God Bible study and visiting and praying for the sick. God has also given us times of refreshment and relaxation as a family. Our Yaksi friends took us on a trip to a volcano, to a beach, and joined us to celebrate Chris's birthday. We are truly blessed.

James and our helper running errands



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Prayer Points

- for ongoing projects in Makassar, Pandang, and Cagayan Valley in the Philippines. Pray for good communication and decision making.
- for Matthew as he prepares for deployment and finishes his studies
- for Lauren as she continues to adjust to life at a big university in America and makes her summer plans
- for James' upcoming back surgery; for peace, for healing and for wisdom and skill for his doctors
- for wisdom as we make plans to return to the States for James' surgery
- for fruit from the Experiencing God Bible study with our CMA church and our other ministry activities
- for God's provisions for our finances

Listener Letter from Mongolia

I often feel lonely and frustrated with life, living a life of a widow and trying to make ends meet has not been easy. When I first heard the Good News on WINDFM, I tried to pray to Jesus for the first time. I cried then and still do when I pray and listen to worship songs. Life is still difficult, but now Christ is helping me to look at difficulties with different eyes. I'm learning to be strong. But the most important of all is I feel comfort and peace. I noticed, how I was changing even my attitude towards my neighboring stall owner lady. I don't get easily irritated by former things of my relationships. I attend every Saturday meeting at WINDFM and esteem to learn more of God from reading the Bible.

Sending Donations:

Mark Donations for Guy & Chris West #184
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