

V+H

MAGAZINE



FINDING GOD AT WORK IN MORIA

HOW REACH BEYOND IS COMING ALONGSIDE THE CHURCH
TO ADDRESS THE REFUGEE CRISIS

"THE FOREIGNER RESIDING AMONG YOU MUST BE TREATED AS YOUR NATIVE-BORN. LOVE THEM AS YOURSELF, FOR YOU WERE FOREIGNERS IN EGYPT. I AM THE LORD YOUR GOD."

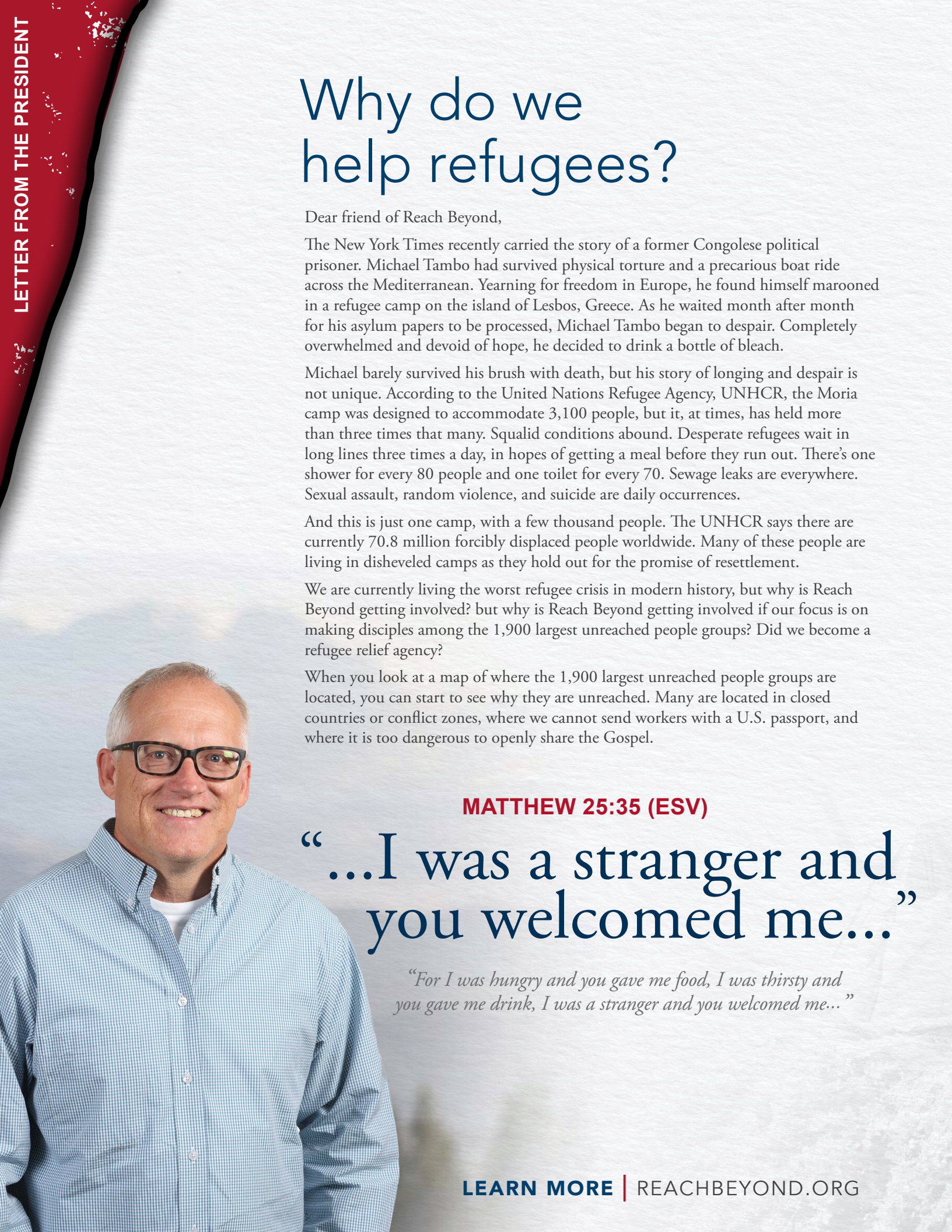
— LEVITICUS 19: 34 (NIV)

**REACH
BEYOND**
VOICE+HANDS, TOGETHER

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

GLOBAL SNAPSHOTS | WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE MINISTRY

DISCIPLESHIP | WHY WE DO MISSIONS



Why do we help refugees?

Dear friend of Reach Beyond,

The New York Times recently carried the story of a former Congolese political prisoner. Michael Tambo had survived physical torture and a precarious boat ride across the Mediterranean. Yearning for freedom in Europe, he found himself marooned in a refugee camp on the island of Lesbos, Greece. As he waited month after month for his asylum papers to be processed, Michael Tambo began to despair. Completely overwhelmed and devoid of hope, he decided to drink a bottle of bleach.

Michael barely survived his brush with death, but his story of longing and despair is not unique. According to the United Nations Refugee Agency, UNHCR, the Moria camp was designed to accommodate 3,100 people, but it, at times, has held more than three times that many. Squalid conditions abound. Desperate refugees wait in long lines three times a day, in hopes of getting a meal before they run out. There's one shower for every 80 people and one toilet for every 70. Sewage leaks are everywhere. Sexual assault, random violence, and suicide are daily occurrences.

And this is just one camp, with a few thousand people. The UNHCR says there are currently 70.8 million forcibly displaced people worldwide. Many of these people are living in disheveled camps as they hold out for the promise of resettlement.

We are currently living the worst refugee crisis in modern history, but why is Reach Beyond getting involved? but why is Reach Beyond getting involved if our focus is on making disciples among the 1,900 largest unreached people groups? Did we become a refugee relief agency?

When you look at a map of where the 1,900 largest unreached people groups are located, you can start to see why they are unreached. Many are located in closed countries or conflict zones, where we cannot send workers with a U.S. passport, and where it is too dangerous to openly share the Gospel.

MATTHEW 25:35 (ESV)

“...I was a stranger and you welcomed me...”

“For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me...”

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In many cases, the people that we want to reach with the Good News are being forced to flee from their home countries. Almost 50 different nationalities have been represented in the Moria Camp in Greece. They come from countries that are largely unreached, including Afghanistan, Syria, Iraq, Iran and Somalia. The global refugee crisis is bringing people from places where they have very limited access to the Gospel to places where the Gospel is more readily accessible.

There's another reason why Reach Beyond is engaging with the global refugee crisis. It's not just because of the opportunity it affords. Reach Beyond is committed to being the voice and hands of Jesus among the poor and powerless. It's what Jesus taught us to do.

Reach Beyond wants to be a trusted guide connecting the Church to the unreached. We have an opportunity to do that through the global refugee crisis. Please join us as we seek to be the voice and hands of Jesus to hurting people who've had to flee their homes and livelihoods. More and more opportunities are opening up, in Bangladesh, Greece, Kurdistan and around the world. Some of these opportunities are highlighted in this issue of V+H. Would you pray about joining one of our short-term teams? Would you give to support those who go? Your monthly gift of \$30 or more today will make a powerful difference in the lives of those who've lost everything.

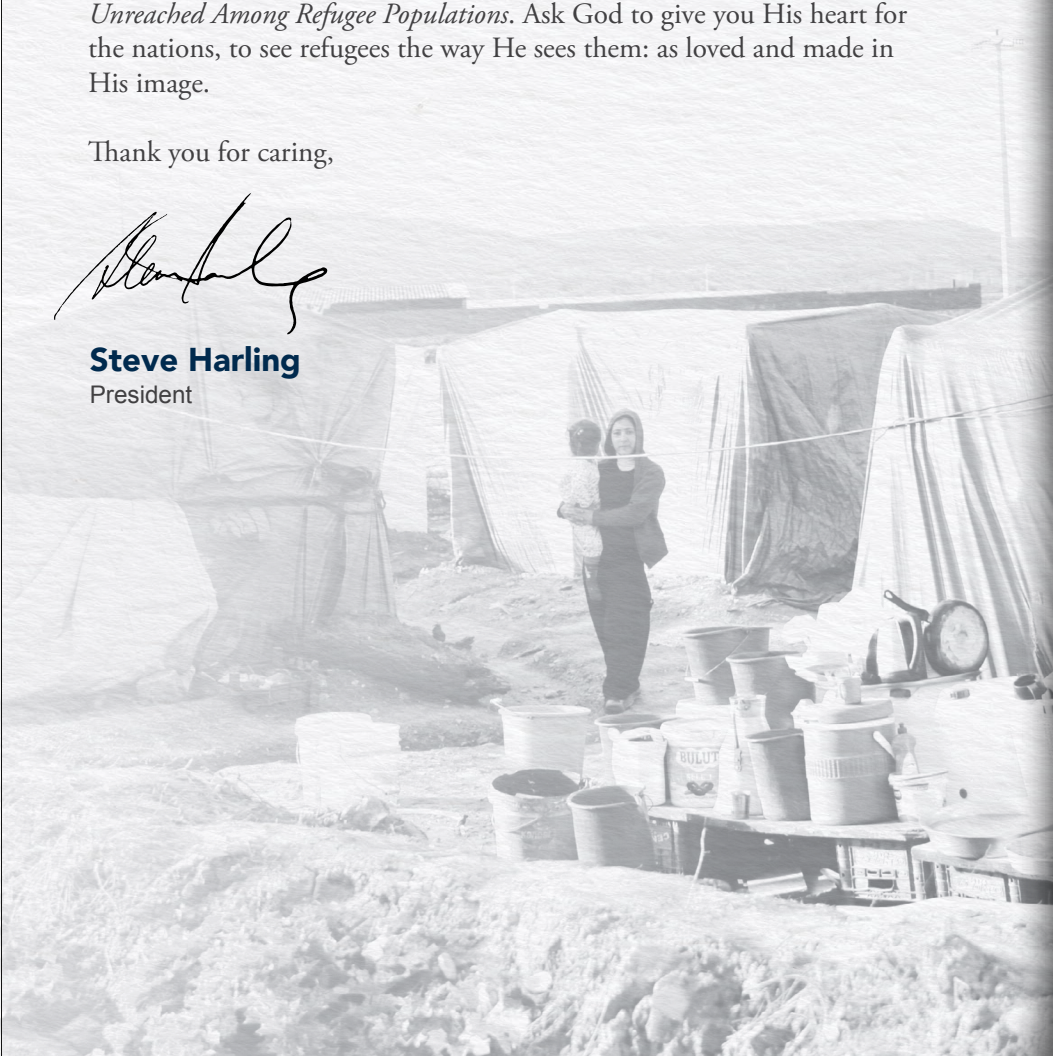
It's what Jesus taught us to do.

Along with workers and resources, we also need prayer. I encourage you to use our online prayer guide, *50 Days of Prayer, Intentionally Praying for the Unreached Among Refugee Populations*. Ask God to give you His heart for the nations, to see refugees the way He sees them: as loved and made in His image.

Thank you for caring,



Steve Harling
President



GLOBAL SNAPSHOTS

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE MINISTRY

ASIA PACIFIC

The Rohingya refugee situation in southeast Bangladesh, which reached crisis proportions in August 2017, remains unresolved for the near million Rohingya who call the refugee camps their home. They are stateless people, denied citizenship in Myanmar and forced to flee their land and villages under extreme duress. Hundreds of thousands crossed the border into Bangladesh. Now, nearly two years since the crisis began, the Rohingya are getting on with life in the camps but still hope to return home someday.

While the immediate physical needs of the refugees are being met very well through the coordinated work of the NGOs and Bangladeshi government, the long-term effects of the peoples' trauma is more difficult to address. At Reach Beyond's partner medical clinic, our visiting doctor and Bangladeshi doctor have noted many cases of headaches, dizziness, gastric issues, insomnia, and overall weakness. Physically, the people seem generally well (there was only one baby who measured on the malnourished scale during the March medical team), yet they have these ongoing symptoms. Our physicians feel that

the unaddressed trauma, coupled with the uncertainty of the future, is contributing to their physical ailments. The trauma and fear produce a belief that there is something physically wrong. Our doctors see the reassurance which comes when they are able to tell patients that they are physically well.

We have been given a unique chance for physical and emotional contact with a people who were previously very isolated from the outside world, but the window of opportunity through the clinic is coming to a close. As the emergency has stabilized, it has become increasingly difficult to secure visas for our medical teams, permissions and funding for the clinic. Many other NGOs face similar issues. We praise God for what He had done to this point, and for new opportunities which are emerging for Reach Beyond to engage with Rohingya in other diaspora situations. Pray for continued emotional and physical healing of the Rohingya people. Pray for opportunities to creatively and carefully share the hope that we have in Jesus.



Rohingya children play in the path between the temporary homes in the Bangladeshi refugee camp. Above, Nurse Hannah, an appointee with Reach Beyond, checks vitals in the camp's medical clinic.

“I am a regular listener of the programs, and I have learned about Jesus in the past year. I want to become a Christian.”

AUSTRALIA

Australia continues to change lives through shortwave radio broadcasts to Bangladesh, Myanmar, India and beyond. Recently, a listener from India shared, “I am a regular listener of the programs, and I have learned about Jesus in the past year. I want to become a Christian. My family knows that I listen to the radio about Jesus, and now I share with my family whatever I learn. There is no church near our place. Help me to learn more and tell my family and village about Jesus.” Entire communities are learning about Jesus thanks to the programs that have aired.

Kununurra, located in the Kimberley region in outback Australia, is the perfect place to broadcast the message of hope to millions of people throughout the Asia Pacific region, but Reach Beyond Australia is also very aware of the needs of the local Kimberley community. That is why they have recently partnered with a college, enabling them to open a campus at Reach Beyond’s shortwave broadcast facility, to offer education, support and life skills for marginalized youth. Not only are they able to share the Gospel message overseas, but they are also able to model their heart closer to home.



Above: *El Evangelista* riverboat docks along the Ucayali River. Right: The team included medical and dental professionals, who served the Shipibo communities at each stop.



LATIN AMERICA

Misión a Bordo (Mission On Board) is an annual discipleship and training opportunity mainly for Latin American nationals interested in missions.

In late April, 70 medical and dental personnel, facilitators, mission participants and boat crew boarded *El Evangelista* riverboat for a five-day journey to first learn about missions, and then practice what they learned among the Shipibo communities living in the Amazon basin. The team included nationals from Peru, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Germany, Venezuela, Australia and the U.S.

One of the facilitators shared, “We traveled on a four-story riverboat for five days on the Ucayali River, visiting four Shipibo indigenous villages, while receiving missions instruction each morning. Three of us taught on culture, worldview and the Biblical basis of missions, to participants who mostly had never seen the Amazon or a tribal person before. The interest and impact were astounding, with virtually all free time absorbed in answering questions and offering counsel to very thirsty people. A multi-national medical & dental team was an enormous blessing in the villages as well.”

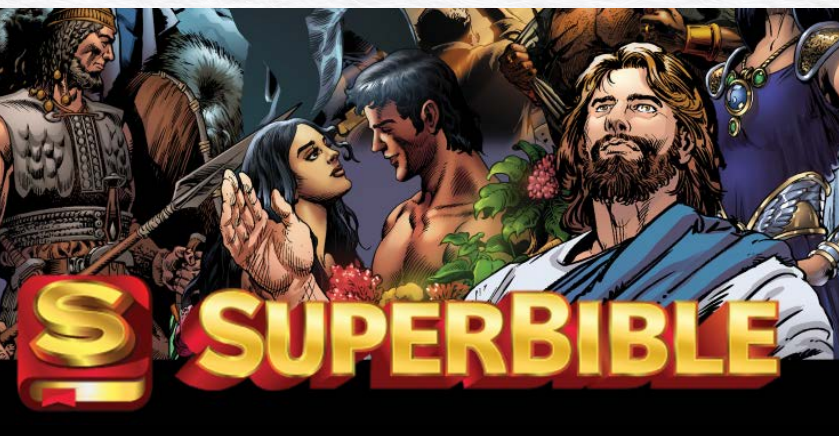
Dr. Steve Nelson and his wife, Dorothy, participated on the medical and dental team. He says there is a fervor on Latin Americans to get involved in missions and credits this program with making an impact in the lives of those who attended. “It was a wonderful blessing to hear one of our residents say that she had accepted Christ. She later elaborated that this trip was critical to saving a marriage she was feeling was going to die,” he shared. “We met an amazing dentist with a long history in missions who now makes inroads into darkness on a Muslim island off the coast where he lives and works. Another doctor was a young Cuban-trained female with a strong heart for missions. As soon as we returned, she was begging for help to get to someplace where she could serve the Lord.”

One facilitator said, “This was one of the most intense, passionate and committed groups I’ve seen on the boat to date. The annual program offers clarity and purpose for life to dozens of young people and older couples, as God’s heart and vision are poured out within their souls. Please pray that the Spirit of God will protect this investment and will lead participants into His will for each of their lives!”



Dr. Bruce, a volunteer with Reach Beyond, examines a young Rohingya child. Overall health in the camp has improved. During a spring medical trip, only one baby measured on the malnourished scale.

“The SuperBible App has the potential to reach millions with the Word of God.”



NEW ZEALAND

Reach Beyond New Zealand continues to find creative ways to leverage technology in bringing the Gospel of Hope to the unreached. Their latest project, the SuperBible App, is no exception. Country Office leader, Russell Grainger, says, “The SuperBible App has the potential to reach millions with the Word of God. We see it as one of the most significant contributions we can give to those engaged in evangelism and disciple making.”

The SuperBible App uses high quality graphics to tell Bible stories and answer life’s big questions in comic-book format. Bob Arend, the Director of the SuperBible project, has partnered with Kingstone Comics to produce the comics in digital format in any language through Reach Beyond’s Wandering Sheep Productions. Currently, there is a catalogue of 80 comics, 72 of which are Bible stories, translated into 22 languages, including Arabic, Azeri, Bengali, Burmese, Chinese dialects, Farsi, Hindi, Indonesian, Nepali, Russian, Swahili, Tajik, Turkish, Turkmen and Urdu. They have launched the App on Android, as it is the most popular format worldwide, but as funds allow, it will be made available for IOS.

“Please pray with us for finances and translators,” says Russell. “There is a huge need, as mission agencies all over the world are wanting to use this as an, evangelism and discipleship tool.”

SUB SAHARAN AFRICA

Radio continues to be an important tool in sharing the Gospel with the least reached. After Tropical Cyclone Idai destroyed large portions of Mozambique, there was a need to make repairs to a partner station in the area. Reach Beyond UK was able to fund the cost of the poles for a new antenna, and missionary engineer Alex was able to help get the station back on air so they wouldn’t lose their license. Pastors representing 17 different churches in the area met together and resolved to continue supporting the station. They are really motivated behind the vision of the station and what radio can do to reach people for Jesus.

In Togo, there is an opportunity to work with a local pastor to plant a radio station in his community. The reach of the broadcast will include some of Southern Burkina Faso and Northeast Ghana, but it will mostly be focused on the unreached villages in northwestern Togo. The partner’s heart is to use this radio station to reach into communities where he is already working as an evangelist. They already have a radio license and building, but we are raising funds for all of the studio equipment, plus a 300-watt transmitter and broadcast antenna. The goal is to go back in August to get the station installed and on air.

In July, the region will host seven interns for the month-long HANDS Ghana Internship: Erin Adkins, Morgan Aucoin, Ashley Brown, Alyssa Cheung, Daniel Jones, Sarah Shannon and Sophie Silver. The team will help with medical work and children’s ministries in remote villages and towns. The internship is important, not only for providing resources



Above: Pastors representing 17 area churches committed to supporting a radio station in Mozambique. Right: Reach Beyond UK funded repairs to the tower after Cyclone Idai damaged the station.



for felt-needs among the unreached in Ghana, but also for equipping and encouraging young people as they determine God's plan for their futures. Pray for energy and wisdom over our leaders, as they prepare logistically for the program and guide students in the field. Pray that the team would bond and would be a blessing in the communities they visit. Pray for safety on the road, as they will travel heavily over the four-week program.

CREATIVE ACCESS/UNDISCLOSED AREAS

We have some stories and updates we want to share with you, but because of security for our teams and strategies, we can't tell you where these are happening. We celebrate that God is at work throughout the world in hard-to-reach places!



A medical caravan helped build trust with villagers in an undisclosed country.

GOD MAKES A CONNECTION TO HELP A NEW BELIEVER

A Reach Beyond worker in an undisclosed country recently traveled with a team to meet and learn about refugees from another creative-access country. While there, she met an American worker, who happened to be a martial arts expert. "He was such a nice young man, and I was privileged to hear his testimony and learn a bit about the world of martial arts," she said.

Upon returning home, she met online with a partner from the same country as the refugees. The partner shared the story of a young man who had recently accepted Christ, but was still struggling. He felt misunderstood because he is involved in martial arts. The partner said he wished he knew someone who was familiar with his sport. She laughed, sharing, "Is God not one of the best networkers in the world? The young man I'd met was happy to reach out to this new brother in Christ. As you can imagine, they hit it off and this new believer is being disciplined. When it all happened, I started chuckling at how delightful and detailed God is!"

BUILDING TRUST THROUGH MEDICAL CARAVANS

In another creative access country, God has been opening doors through medical work. In May, one of our partners was able to use a medical caravan, led by a Reach Beyond doctor, to gain access to a very difficult village. The village was among the poorest they have visited and had a lot of people with very high blood pressure that were undiagnosed. The team was able to get these patients on medication, and the doctor spoke to the community leaders about the need for education.

The dominant people group of this country has a high distrust of outsiders, even among its own people, but the village elders and local medical provider for this village were very grateful and welcoming to the team.

"We witnessed the relationship between our team and the people in the village grow over the course of the four days," our doctor shared. "We believe the relationship with the community and our team is off to a great start, and we pray that this relationship will continue to grow so that team members will be able to share their faith one day." ■

PSALM 90:17 (ESV)

“...establish the work of our hands!”

“Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands upon us; yes, establish the work of our hands!”

FINDING GOD AT WORK IN

MORIA

Aida* and her family fled Iran after violence erupted in their community. After an arduous journey, they finally had an opportunity to cross the Mediterranean, heading to Greece and a promise of a new life. Aida and her oldest son made it on the first boat, with her husband and two youngest children following on a second boat. Once she landed, she was horrified to learn that the second boat had been turned back to the Turkish Mainland. The rest of her family never made it and have since been sent back to Iran.

For Aida, being separated from her family is heartbreaking enough. Life has not improved for her since she arrived in Greece. For the past seven months, Aida and her oldest have been detained at the Moria refugee camp on the island of Lesbos. A camp built to hold 3,100 refugees, Moria has hosted as many as 10,000 at one time. Currently, there are 6,000 refugees, with many more coming in every day. Thousands are unaccompanied minors. They flee an unimaginable situation, only to find a hopeless alternative. Half are children, and hundreds are unaccompanied minors.

THE REFUGEE CRISIS

The United Nations Refugee Agency, UNHCR, has stated that currently more than 70.8 million people are forcibly displaced in the world, the highest numbers in recent history. Of these, 25.9 million are defined as refugees and are protected by international law. They have fled war, violence, conflict or persecution, and have crossed an international border to find safety. The UNHCR helps place refugees in countries, ensuring their rights as refugees are respected and protected, but with the numbers of refugees today, that's easier said than done.

Many refugees end up in refugee camps. Meant to be a temporary settlement to receive refugees and people in refugee-like situations, they accommodate displaced people

who have fled their home country in large numbers. Because it is meant to be temporary, most refugees living in camps are unable to work, and children often do not have access to education. Conditions can be hard in a camp, including food and water shortages, overcrowding, unsanitary conditions, disease outbreaks, inadequate shelter, hopelessness and violence. More than 2.6 million refugees live in camps around the world, with millions more living in surrounding urban areas and informal dwellings. More than 85% of refugees are hosted by developing nations, who are already struggling to provide basic needs for their own people.

A CHURCH AND AGENCY PARTNERSHIP

When the main refugee crisis hit Europe in 2014-2016, refugees from the Middle East would pass through Greece quickly and head to other countries, like Serbia, Germany, Italy and Sweden. Reach Beyond missionaries in Romania, Dave and Beth Jolly, had an opportunity to help the refugees through their church, Harvest Arad. Beth was able to go on a mission trip to Serbia with the Romanian church to serve refugees, alongside Remar S.O.S., a Christian NGO working with marginalized people. However, as European countries began closing their doors, refugees had to find another route, and the opportunity in Serbia came to a close.

Then, a door opened for ministry in Greece. The European Union had made a deal with Turkey to curtail the flow of the refugees coming to Europe. Millions of refugees are currently waiting in Turkey. Yet thousands of refugees are still making it to mainland Greece and the Greek Islands. Remar was again working on food distribution in the Moria refugee camp on the island of Lesbos, but they needed help. So, they contacted Harvest Arad.

In February, Dave Jolly joined a small team from Harvest Arad and invited Martin Harrison, a Reach



SERVING IN A THIN PLACE

Julia Watts, a trip participant from St. Mark's Harrogate, called Moria a "thin place," saying "the Kingdom of Heaven is so very near! You can see and experience God at work in much clearer ways than at home. God is so present here. It's so evident that His heart is heavy for these people."

Since the peak of the European refugee crisis in 2015, Moria and Kara Tepe have been the two active refugee camps on the Greek island of Lesbos. Moria is the initial detention camp that refugees are brought to after they come ashore. From there, some families and vulnerable people are moved to the Kara Tepe camp, which is somewhat smaller and perhaps safer. However, many vulnerable people do not get transferred there.

“We can all learn from each other and seek to build God's kingdom rather than our own,”

Beyond UK missionary with expertise in community development, to go with them. The international group of two Americans, two Brits and three Romanians served alongside Remar. In March, Dave and Martin each returned, leading separate fact-finding teams to better assess the felt-needs of the refugees on Lesbos and determine how Reach Beyond could work with churches to provide more help. Dave returned with another Harvest Arad team, and Martin returned with members from two UK churches, Skipton Baptist Church and St. Mark's Harrogate. Martin's team included Dr. Sarah Hattam, who helped explore the level of medical care on Lesbos.

These trips offered exciting opportunities for the Church and Reach Beyond to serve and collaborate side-by-side and create a long-term strategy. The churches came with a desire to engage more deeply in the refugee crisis, by connecting with refugees, serving them and learning from them. Likewise, Reach Beyond wants to play a role in equipping, assisting and walking alongside the Church to proclaim and demonstrate the Gospel.

“We can all learn from each other and seek to build God's kingdom rather than our own,” said Martin Harrison. “It was one of the highlights of the trip for me to have a thoughtful, observant and gifted team around me as we explored together the different possibilities for future refugee ministry for Church and Reach Beyond. We've investigated, learned and worked together. The Church and its people have been mobilized to do something and make a contribution they didn't think they could.”



Two Americans, two Brits and three Romanians traveled to Lesbos in February to serve alongside Remar in the refugee camp.

2.6 MILLION REFUGEES LIVE IN CAMPS AROUND THE WORLD

The remaining refugees are housed at Moria until such time as their asylum requests are processed – a process which can take months, if not years! Refugees are returned to their home country or Turkey if their asylum request is denied. If they are successful, then refugees are eventually transferred to the Greek mainland, where they are allowed to remain, but not necessarily with the freedom of movement across Europe. They then struggle with adapting to a new culture and language, in a country already struggling economically with a refugee crisis forced upon them.

While the politics, economics and sociology of the refugee crisis is complex, what is plain to see is that the refugees are often not cared for or well-treated. For this reason alone, the Church has an opportunity to demonstrate the love of Christ by caring for them. It's more than an opportunity; caring for refugees is Biblical. Leviticus 19:33-34 (NIV) says, "When a foreigner resides among you in your land, do not mistreat them. The foreigner residing among you must be treated as your native-born. Love them as yourself, for you were foreigners in Egypt." Jesus also instructed His disciples, "For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in ... whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." – Matthew 25:35, 40 (NIV).

In the Moria camp, the majority of refugees are from Afghanistan, with some also coming from Syria, Iraq, Iran, Somalia and the Democratic Republic of Congo. In all, there are or have been 49 different nationalities! The vast majority of refugees are people from countries that are hostile or closed to the Gospel. We might not be able to reach them in their home countries, but circumstances are now bringing them to our doors. God has provided His Church with a unique opportunity to show Christ's compassion, love and action to people who are in great physical, emotional and spiritual need.

FEEDING THE THOUSANDS

The primary role the teams played was in supporting Remar with food distribution. In principle, the task of distributing food and water is not difficult, and the supplies are provided by the Greek government. However, given the number of people requiring food and the tensions that occur in the line as people wait, plus the variable weather conditions and food quality, the task becomes much more complex and challenging for a mission team. Meals are distributed three times a day at 7:30 am, 12:00 pm and 4:00 pm. The team has to be there approximately one hour beforehand each time to take delivery of supplies.

"Camp life here is tough, even for the able-bodied. But if you have a disability or an injury, life is a constant struggle,

**"You can see and experience
God at work in much
clearer ways than at home.
God is so present here."**

The Moria camp on the island of Lesbos in Greece was built to house 3,100 refugees, but at times, it has seen two or three-times that many people.





Above: An example of the temporary housing in the Moria camp. Right: One of the Afghan families invited the Harvest Arad team into their "home."



if not impossible. Heavy rain meant wet conditions and little sleep, resulting in a tense breakfast run for us," said Julia. "A heavy police presence added to the menacing atmosphere. The men queue under cover, but the women – even those elderly, pregnant or diabetic – queue out in the elements. Food goes out rapidly, so if you snooze, you most definitely lose."

Because food and water are essential, this isn't a task that can take a day off. Remar's lead had been working for over a year without a single day off. Volunteer groups to assist are desperately needed.

SIMPLE SOLUTIONS THAT IMPROVE LIVES

On the first visit to the Moria camp in February, the team learned of a serious problem, especially for women and children. While the camp is safe during the day, at night the picture gets more insidious. There are problems with drinking, drugs, fighting, human trafficking, prostitution, violent attacks and rape of women.

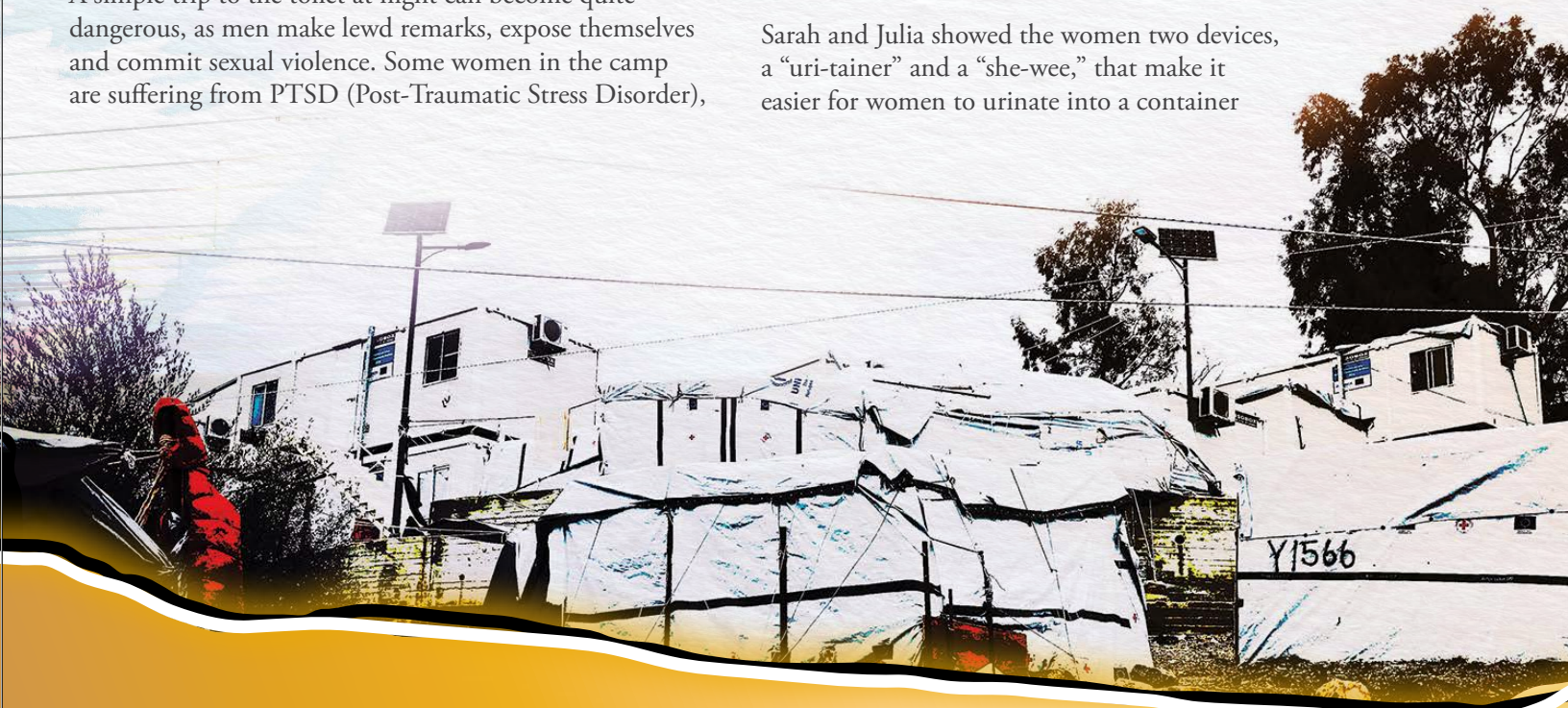
A simple trip to the toilet at night can become quite dangerous, as men make lewd remarks, expose themselves and commit sexual violence. Some women in the camp are suffering from PTSD (Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder),

either from experiences in their home country, or experiences on the route to Lesbos, which escalates their fears at night. Many women have resorted to the indignity of wearing improvised diapers so they don't have to leave their accommodation. Others suffer in silence and wait for dawn or perhaps urinate out in the open next to their tents or their Isobox container "homes," causing a public health issue.

With all this in mind, the team set out to find some answers and possible solutions. Dr. Sarah, Julia and staff from a partner organization, sat down with women refugees on three different mornings to build trust, relationships and learn more.

"This was a huge answer to prayer since we had no idea whether the Muslim women would open up about such a sensitive topic," said Martin. "There was nothing to worry about! The women were incredibly touched, some almost to tears, that people would be interested in their wellbeing and health, and that they were proposing workable solutions."

Sarah and Julia showed the women two devices, a "uri-tainer" and a "she-wee," that make it easier for women to urinate into a container





Dave and the Harvest Arad team hand out bread. Meals are served three times a day, at 7:30 am, 12:00 pm and 4:00 pm, until food runs out.

ISAIAH 58:10 (NIV)

“...your light will rise in the darkness...”

“and if you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday.”



Above: The main entrance to the Moria camp. Right: Dave Jolly and Martin Harrison have coordinated trips with both Romanian and UK churches. A U.S. team is headed to Lesbos in July.

in their shelter at night, to be taken and disposed of properly in the morning. Most preferred the “she-wee” because it was small, discrete, and easy to clean. Sarah and Julia distributed almost 80 devices, and we plan to gain feedback from users on follow-up trips.

NEXT STEPS FOR DEEPER INVOLVEMENT

Another team trip of missionaries and U.S. staff is planned for July, with the hopes of eventually sending monthly teams to support the two Christian organizations working in the Moria camp. In addition to helping with food distribution, the team will explore options to provide additional medical care, counselling, health and hygiene education, construction and English learning through an English Conversation Club. All of these options are an answer to the felt-needs addressed to date, using a strategy put together by both the church participants and Reach Beyond staff. The door has been opened for meaningful, ongoing ministry, including short-term and long-term options.

Mike Holmes, from Skipton Baptist Church, hopes to see more churches get involved. It’s not only an opportunity to demonstrate the love of Jesus among a vulnerable people, but also an opportunity to participate in God’s plan. “What an amazing discipleship experience for everyone,” he said. “We’ve learned new things about God, about faith and trust, and about how He works. We’ve so clearly experienced His presence and His divine timing.” ■

**name changed for security and privacy.*

Statistics provided by the UNHCR 2018 Global Trends Report.



▶ HOW CAN YOU HELP?

GIVE, GO, & PRAY.

GIVE: If you are passionate about seeing Jesus known and loved among the least reached, join us as a +partner. Your recurring monthly donation will go where it is most needed to make disciples among unreached people groups, both living in refugee camps and in their home countries.

Sign up today at reachbeyond.org/+partner

GO: Would you like to be the hands of Jesus among refugees living in Moria? Inquire about upcoming short-term teams by emailing mobilization@reachbeyond.org

PRAY: Please continue to pray for the refugees living in the Moria camp. Pray that they would find hope in what seems like a hopeless situation. Pray for protection from disease and violence, and resolution to their situation. Pray for the U.S. Reach Beyond team heading to Moria in July. Pray for safety and open doors to continue to serve.

WHERE THERE'S A WILL, THERE'S A WAY

WHERE WILL YOUR ASSETS GO WHEN YOU DIE?

To the people who
depend on you?

To the charitable
organizations who count
on your support?

To the people you love
and want to bless?

**Do you know what assets
you have? Do you know what you
want your legacy to be?**

If you haven't thought about this yet, you aren't alone. Over half of Americans don't yet have a will. But we would like to help.

We have prepared a special **Guide to Planning Your Estate**, which includes information and guidelines for the estate planning process. It also includes an inventory form, which you can use to list the data on your people, property and plans.

Whether you are making a review of your existing estate plan, or have not yet taken that first step in this important act of stewardship, please request your **FREE Guide to Planning Your Estate** today.

THERE IS NO COST OR OBLIGATION.

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Bonnie Cherry or Steve Hodgson,
800-525-8857 or email
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WHY WE DO MISSIONS

By Gary Roeddng

When my daughters were young, the question, “Why?” was often a part of our conversation. Anyone with young children or grandchildren can certainly relate. However, as we consider the unreached – whether talking about the 10/40 window or the 2% or the 1900 – I think why is a valid question.

The western evangelical church has been at this a long time. Jesus gave the Great Commission more than two thousand years ago. The modern mission movement launched in the 1790’s and Reach Beyond/HCJB began in 1931. Why keep going? Why be concerned with those who haven’t yet heard the Gospel of Jesus?

There are many valid reasons to continue pursuing world evangelism. The Bible tells us there is only one name by which people can be saved, so without the message of Christ there is no hope for people to know God’s gift of eternal life. Jesus commanded us to go and make disciples, and Paul encourages us to be witnesses, setting a personal example of taking the message of life into new areas and to new peoples.

As followers of Christ, we have been entrusted with hope and a message of Good News, and it would be selfish to keep it to ourselves. But although all these reasons are true, good and important, they are not the ultimate reason to “be my witnesses... to the ends of the earth.”

The ultimate reason and goal for missions is the declaration of the glory of God by reconciled believers of Jesus Christ throughout the world.

From the call of Abraham in Genesis to the amazing scene before God’s throne in Revelation, God’s desire is for his name to be exalted universally. Psalm 96:2-3 (NIV) states, “Sing to the Lord, praise his name; proclaim his salvation day after day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples.” The focus is God: His name, His salvation, His glory, His deeds.

John Piper, in his book, *Let the Nations Be Glad*, writes, “Missions is not the ultimate goal of the church. Worship is. Missions exists because worship doesn’t. Worship is ultimate, not missions, because God is ultimate, not man. When this age is over, and the countless millions of the redeemed fall on their faces before the throne of God, missions will be no more. It is a temporary necessity. But worship abides forever.”

The picture we are given in Revelation 7 is a scene of worshippers “from every nation, tribe, people and language” declaring the glory of God and the Lamb. The motivation for our mission isn’t church growth. The motivation for mission is to see God glorified and His name exalted.

By His grace and for His glory alone, we are worshippers and have a part in His plan to fill heaven with worshippers. Why do we want to reach the unreached? To proclaim His salvation and declare His glory among the nations until the whole earth is filled with redeemed worshippers of the one true God. ■

This devotional first appeared in our online prayer guide, 50 Days of Prayer, Intentionally Praying for the Unreached Among Refugee Populations. Download the Guide from our website for more inspiration and prayer points.

- PSALM 96:3 (NIV)

“Declare his glory among the nations...”

Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples.



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