

Why Native Missions?

Today the reality is...

that 97 percent of the world's unreached lives in the **10/40 Window**, a rectangular shaped area on our globe extending from West Africa to East Asia, from 10 degrees north to 40 degrees north of the equator. In this part of the world, millions live with little or no chance of ever hearing the Gospel. The Window also encompasses the majority of the world's Muslims, Hindus, and Buddhists.

The darkest of all areas within the 10/40 Window is Asia. **Over 80,000 die every day in Asian countries** without knowing about the love of Jesus Christ. 500,000 villages in India alone have never heard the Gospel.

Although 97 percent of the world's unreached lives in the 10/40 Window, less than .05 percent of our total resources as the Church in the West are being sent to help share the Good News. Truly there is a staggering amount of work to do.

However, with native missionaries we can reach them!

With few or no cultural barriers to overcome, native missionaries can...

readily preach the Gospel to those who, unlike their western counterparts, have never heard. Although native missionaries do face many difficult obstacles as they take the message from village to village, they still have an enormous advantage over their coworkers from North America and other non-Asian lands.

Today, over 85 percent of Asian countries do not allow western missionaries to come and freely preach the Gospel and plant churches.

In the eyes of the people, native missionaries do not represent a foreign country or a strange religion. They already know the language or can easily learn a local dialect.

A native missionary can be sent out at a fraction of the cost of a Western missionary. In fact, the average cost is only \$1,100 to \$1,800 per year compared to over \$75,000 per year for a foreign missionary.

The possibility of reaching Asia's multitudes through native missionaries in our generation is very real as thousands are being trained to plant churches across Asia!

Thousands of native workers...

are being trained and sent to the mission fields of Asia every year through Gospel for Asia. But many more are needed if the millions in these countries are to hear the Gospel in our lifetime.

At Gospel for Asia, we realized years ago that we would need to send out at least 100,000 pioneer missionaries to begin church-planting work among all the unreached people groups in Asia.

To date 152 Bible schools have been established in India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and at the Bhutan border. Currently, nearly 7,000 young men and women are currently receiving training.

The quality of GFA students is incredible. Over 98 percent of our graduates minister in places where the Gospel has never before been preached. Frequently, our graduates will establish a new fellowship within their first year on the field. This incredible fruit from native missions work is being reproduced across Asia!

To date more than 17,500 churches and mission stations...

have been planted by Gospel for Asia native missionaries in places where a church did not previously exist. On average, our missionaries establish nearly six fellowships every day in Asia among unreached villages

and people groups.

But none of this has come easily. Our native missionaries are paying a high price of suffering, hardship and intense persecution to see churches established.

The churches planted in each culture are truly indigenous in character, self-governing, self-propagating and, as soon as possible, self-supporting.

Thousands of native brothers and sisters are waiting to be sent. They just need your help!

Your part in winning Asia...

is just as important as that of the workers on the field. Although they are willing and eager to go, they are limited by the resources given to provide a small room to rent, food to eat, and Bibles and tracts to distribute.

Without support from Christians around the world, our brothers and sisters in Asia simply would not be able to complete the task of sharing Christ with every village and people group.

It takes only between \$90 and \$150 per month to support a native missionary through Gospel for Asia.

"It has been our privilege to work closely with the ministry of Gospel for Asia. The idea of training and supporting the local populace to do the mission work is certainly inspired by God. The success and growth of the work of Gospel for Asia is nothing short of a miracle. We can certainly endorse without reservation the effectiveness of this mission endeavor."

--Chuck Smith

Senior Pastor, Calvary Chapel Costa Mesa

How will they hear?

Until the mid-1900s, western missionaries-like their predecessors Hudson Taylor and William Carey-could freely travel, live and share the Gospel in foreign nations.

All that changed drastically after the Second World War when many countries gained their independence. Today most of the nations in Asia, where 97 percent of the world's unreached people lives, are severely restricted or completely closed to foreign missionaries.

If the doors are shut, how will these unreached multitudes ever hear the Gospel?

Through native missionaries, whom God has raised up from the Christian movements pioneered by Western missionaries.

Native missionaries are highly effective because they work in their own or a similar culture. They already know or can easily learn the language, customs and culture of the people among whom they minister. They don't need visas and live the same simple lifestyle as their neighbors.

In light of the millions who are still waiting to hear about Jesus, native missionaries are the fastest and most effective way to reach them with the Gospel.