

VISION2MISSION

April-May 2011



Vision Challenge:

Opportunity Seldom Knocks Twice

The book of Acts is filled with examples of how God creates opportunities and the Apostles declare Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit. At every opportune moment, be it running along side a chariot, or on the way to the temple or even at the altar of the unknown God, the book of Acts reminds us that the preaching of the Gospel is not limited to a time or season. It is the Spirit that enables every willing heart to proclaim the work of this free salvation at the divinely destined time.

It has not always been that the Gospel was preached from the pulpit. Through the ages the harvest has been gathered in ways beyond our understanding. God has enabled his faithful ministers to adapt with time using technologies and skills as they develop yet not compromising on the timeless word. And in every age God has placed this burden upon the hearts of men and women to innovate and be creative. The spreading of the word has never retarded or ceased in momentum with the changing times as evident from the times of hand written copies, to the printing era, the age of computers and

word processing to the internet and pod casts. In such a world of opportunities, the message of Paul in I Corinthians 9:16 where he writes 'Woe is me, If I don't preach the Gospel' is a call reminding every believer that there is no excuse to not share the Gospel. Every Christian who claims access to the heavenly places is a missionary called to the service of the Gospel. To each of us is a given a measure of talent, skill and opportunity and as much is given as much is will be accounted for.

D. L. Moody recalls a journey on a ship when he came across a waiter on a ship who looked depressed. Moody was burdened to talk and he resisted this call all night wrestling in bed and trying hard in vain to sleep. The following day early in the morning, he heard to his horror and guilt that this young waiter had committed suicide. If only opportunity had knocked once more!





MISSION CHALLENGE : iShareministries – Technology at Work in the Harvest Field

While preparing for a mission trip to Eastern Europe, a group of youngsters were faced with a dilemma. They had a message to communicate but there was a language barrier. The students on the mission trip could speak only English and couldn't communicate in the different languages used in these countries.

Realizing the need for a medium that could get past such language barriers and at the same time, present the gospel in a personalized manner, Shawn Callandar approached his friend Jim Zarbaugh with the idea of a video tract.

Jim came up with the concept and both of them worked on the script together. Thus was born **iShare Ministries**, with a vision to share the gospel in every language using new technologies.

Jim, who is the creative genius behind iShare Ministries has always had a heart for ministry. Even as a child growing up in a home to parents who were unbelievers, he identified with many youngsters who were quietly seeking an answer to their spiritual hunger. Eventually he was

Jim Zarbaugh



led to the Lord and today he is involved in full time ministry using the talents that God has blessed him with, for the furthering of the gospel.

Till date, iShare Ministries has released digital gospel tracts in ten languages and they are currently working on the translation of their eleventh tract which is in Farsi. All these are available for free download at www.iShareministries.org.

iShare was developed to equip God's people with a tool to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The number one concern when going on a mission trip is "How am I going to witness to someone when I do not speak their language?"

iShare uses video iPods or any media playing device to show a short 3-4 minute Gospel video presentation. People are able to hear the Gospel in their own language while watching a video Gospel presentation. The presentation is actually an animation consisting of simple cartoons by Jim.

The ministry is driven by the realization that God has called each of us to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ. **"I am the only one that can share with my friends, neighbors, co-workers, and acquaintances that God brings into my life.**

The founders are now working on a mobile application to extend the reach of the ministry.

During the initial years, there were many doubts but over the years, Jim and Shawn along with their partners in this ministry have realized that God brings great returns even from the littlest sincere effort.

V2M takes this opportunity to thank Jim for taking time out to speak to us.

WHAT CAN I DO? iShare in YOUR language

iShareministries.org is looking for passionate believers who speak a language as their native tongue and who have the ability to make a quality recording of the iShare script.

If you are burdened to have the iShare digital tract translated into your language, Shawn and Jim would love to hear from you.

Shawn using iShare in Tijuana



Ishare in the Amazon

Ishare in China

Ishare in Europe

Ishare in Romania