

# THRESHOLD

LIVING BETWEEN TWO WORLDS

VOL. 3, ISSUE 1

SPECIAL MISSIONS EDITION

JANUARY 30, 2011

*To be an open door to a life-changing grace.*

3001 Centreville Road  
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**Sunday Worship**  
9:25 am in Sanctuary 1  
11:00 am in Sanctuary 2

**Event Calendar**

**Every Tuesday 8 pm  
Prayer Meeting**

- Feb 13 Valentines Day  
Singles Dinner
- Mar 5-6 Marriage and Family  
Life Ministry  
Couples Getaway
- Mar 5 Adult Baptism Class
- Mar 12 Leadership Huddle
- Apr 16 Church-wide Mis-  
sions Bazaar
- May 14 EC Missions Yard  
Sale Fundraiser
- May 27 Missions Send Off  
Service

**Inside this issue:**

Missionary Testimony	1, 3-5
Announcements	2
The Gambia Report	6
Prayer Requests	7
Ways to Get Involved	8

**Fear Not**

**By Tai-Kwang and Sun-Mi**

*Ephesians 6:19 - 20*

*Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.*

In the spring of 2000, Open Door Presbyterian Church (then Korean Orthodox Presbyterian Church) commissioned our family to Central Asia as ambassadors of Jesus Christ, just like the Apostle Paul. Our kids were quite young – ages 7, 6, and 3. Just prior to going to the mission field, the Lord led us through a time of spiritual cleansing. He wanted us to be as free as possible from our sinful past (2 Timothy 2:21). This happened through Crossroads DTS at YWAM base in Kona, Hawaii. We were there as a family from July to September 2000. About halfway through the training program, God brought us to face sins and hidden hurts in our lives that we had not dealt with before. We had been married for 9 years by then, but our marriage relationship had several trouble spots. We took one day off to fast and pray, and then as the Spirit led us, each of us

shared with one another about things in our past (sins, hurts from childhood, etc.). We forgave one another and prayed for each other. We also had the whole Crossroads group (about 70 people) pray over us and bless our marriage. Our marriage took a new start, and it grew stronger on the mission field. The past ten years on the field have been the best years of our marriage.

God also did His work in our kids. During our time in Hawaii, our two sons kept having nightmares. At the same time, their drawings and sketches made during playtime showed demonic figures. One night, our second son told us that he did not want to go to sleep because he knew that Satan would attack him in the dream again. As we prayed with one of the YWAM staff, we came to the conclusion that there was great influence from Pokemon toys and stuffed animals. Our sons repented of their attachment to Pokemon toys, and then we burned up all their Pokemon cards and toys. The nightmares stopped that very night.

While we were at Crossroads, the Lord spoke to us through one of the staff. He had the gift of prophecy, and prayed over us that we would, through the lives of a handful of national leaders, plant many churches. We believed that God has called us to the Muslim field, and that because He

has called us, He would supply us with all that we need in order to fulfill His tasks (1 Tim. 1:14). We decided to give our lives obediently to whatever God has for us, in keeping with His prophecy (1 Tim. 1:18).

There were two significant exhortations from the Lord as we began our ministry in one of the Central Asian countries: “Fear not!” and “worship the Lord.” In the spring of 2001, there was a conference for all of the missionaries in our country. The guest speaker, Len Bartlott with Frontiers, was a veteran missionary from Pakistan. He challenged us to think about what we came to teach the local believers. He shared about the survey he took amongst several hundred MBBs (i.e., Muslim background believers) just before he had to leave Pakistan. He had asked them what they had learned from the foreign missionaries. Top on the list was “how to fear.” The missionaries had shown an attitude of fear as they tried to protect their own lives or the lives of the national believers, or even their visas to stay in the country. For whatever the reason, the MBBs came away from the missionaries learning mostly how to live in “fear of man.”

## Letter from Editors

John Piper once said, “there are only three types of Christians when it comes to missions: zealous goers, zealous senders, and the disobedient. “ Which ones are we?

In the cover article of this issue of the Threshold, we get to hear from the Chas who have spent the past ten years in Central Asia sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ with the Muslims. We also listen in on ODPC’s own missions pastor Daniel Kim as he shares his renewed sense of partnership God is calling ODPC to with our brothers and sisters in The Gambia. Add to that the many speakers who graced us during this missions month (including Kerry Hilton from Freeset, a business as missions bringing freedom to women in India trafficked in the sex trade), and we can be sure God is calling us to join Him in His mission of bringing redemption to this suffering world.

As we publish this special missions of The Threshold, we pray that each one of us will be convicted and challenged to reexamine our participation (or lack thereof) in the mission of God, and be led to be zealous goers and senders.

God Bless, Jackie Kwon, Tina Ro, Gene Lee  
and our newest additions, Kathy Kwak and Debbie Lim

*“Look at the nations and watch—and be utterly amazed. For I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe, even if you were told.”*

*-Habakkuk 1:5*



**Not ready to take that giant plunge yet? That’s okay!**

**Here are some easy ways to get involved!**

- Join the **Missions Committee** and become a mobilizer.
- Start bagging up your goods to prepare for **ODPC’s Yard Sale** on May 14th. All proceeds go to missions!
- Submit a few recipes to **Taste of ODPC**, ODPC’s first cookbook, by October 8th. All proceeds go to missions!
- Give, give, give! Tap your resources to support our missionaries and partner ministries!

This summer, visit ODPC’s prayer website, [www.movingprayers.com](http://www.movingprayers.com) to sign up for ODPC-related missions, events, and prayer topics.

Please send us your submissions! We’d love to hear from you. You are welcome to send articles, photos, or even ideas to [odpcthreshold@gmail.com](mailto:odpcthreshold@gmail.com)

## What’s Going on at ODPC

- Please join us for prayer meetings every Tuesday at 8:00pm in the second sanctuary.
- If you would like to find out more about ODPC and membership at ODPC, please contact Pastor John Cha at [johncha@opendoorpc.org](mailto:johncha@opendoorpc.org).
- Sign up for marriage preparation classes if you are planning on getting married. Contact Matt and Sara Chae at [chae2@teamchae.com](mailto:chae2@teamchae.com)
- Serve our neighboring community every third Saturday of the month with the Manna Ministry.

## Congratulations

### Weddings

- To Brian You and Anna Kang, married on October 30, 2010.

### Births and Adoption

- To Suong Kyu and Cate on the birth of their daughter, Kayla Yegie Lee on 8/1/10.
- To Hae-In and Jeanie on the birth of their son, Jacob Jaewon Lee on 11/18/10.
- To Jim and Sunny on the birth of their daughter, Juliet Joeun Lee on 11/17/10.
- To Tom and Tina on the birth of their son, Grant Jihoon Ro on 11/19/10.
- To Peter and Grace on the adoption of their son, Carson Beom Soo Choi, received on 12/17/10.
- To Sun and Kathy on the birth of their daughter, Maya Karis Yun on 1/10/11.
- To James and Jenni on the birth of their son, Jacob James Kwon 1/11/11.
- To David and Naomi on the birth of their son, Isaiah Moon on 1/14/11.

## THE FIELD



At Crossroads DTS (YWAM base) in Kona, Hawaii at the onset of their ministry.

Christ in a miraculous way. I met him while teaching computer classes at the state university. He was pursuing a Ph.D in philosophy, and was fluent in English. We hired him as our Uzbek language teacher, and asked him to teach us the language using the Uzbek Bible. It was the first time that he even saw a Bible in his own language, and he read the entire New Testament in two months. There began a struggle in his heart: Which is true, the Bible or the Quran? Who is the true prophet of God: Jesus or Muhammad? God answered his questioning heart in an amazing way.

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online edition.

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**We committed ourselves to be fearless in our ministry... we resolved that we would teach our disciples everything except FEAR. The Gospel of Christ is nothing to be ashamed of, or to hide from men.**

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When we heard this message, we committed ourselves to be fearless in our ministry, and not to do things to protect ourselves or our visas. We resolved that we would teach our disciples everything except FEAR. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is nothing to be ashamed of, or to hide from men. We asked God to make us bold like the Apostle Paul (Rom. 1:16).

The second message from the Lord was "WORSHIP." We had just gone through three months of YWAM training, and had been filled with wonderful times of worship. We had also seen the "Transformations" videos (I and II), and we were praying that God would transform our city with the Gospel as the believers began to worship, fast, and pray together. We

started meeting with a German missionary family for worship and prayer, twice a month. A few weeks after we started this gathering, the Lord started bringing lost souls into our lives. First was our househelper. And then a neighbor. Over the next five and a half years, about 60 new converts were baptized. There now exists a house church (Harvest Church) of Tajik and Uzbek believers who continue to meet in spite of persecution.

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Barnabas (not his real name) was one of the Uzbeks who came to

*"Barnabas" — a baptized believer.*

One night he was awakened by someone coming into his room. At first he assumed that it was his father, coming in after his last prayer at the mosque. But the figure was absolutely black, and he felt the chill of death in the air. This figure came closer and started choking him. It was the spirit of death. He could not speak at all. So Barnabas cried out in his heart: "Help me, Allah!" Nothing happened. He also yelled, "Help me, Xudo!" (Xudo is the Uzbek word for "God".) Still nothing. And then he screamed, "Help me, Muhammad!" Again, nothing. Finally he shouted in his heart, "Help me, Jesus Christ!" Just then, a bright beam of light shot through the window and struck the evil spirit, vaporizing it in an instant. Barnabas could breathe again, and he felt the peace of heaven enter into his heart. He now knew clearly who was the true Savior: Jesus Christ.

*Continued on page 4*

## THE FIELD

Even though he came to believe in Jesus as His Savior, Barnabas waited two years before he was baptized. This was because he was fearful of his father, who was a leader amongst his clan of about a thousand people. But after two years, Barnabas, his wife, and younger sister were baptized in the river in the summer of 2005. A month after their baptism, the parents of Barnabas came to our house. The father was upset with us, demanding that his children be returned to him as Muslims. Their conversion to Christianity was very shameful to their family and to the clan. We told him that we did not force his children, who are grown adults, to trust in Jesus; neither can we force them now to return to Islam. The father then threatened to turn us over to the local KGB office.

A few weeks later, while I was having Bible study with four men, the police came into the building to arrest us. They took us to the nearby police station and began to interrogate each of the local believers, starting with Barnabas. When asked who had told them about Jesus Christ, they all replied honestly, "Mr. Cha". The four men were released, but I had to go to the station the next few days for interrogation.

The police chief, a large man about 6 feet tall and 250 lbs, and fascinated that I could speak Tajik, began with the following question: "Aren't you supposed to be teaching computer classes at the university? What are you doing teaching our people another religion?" It was at this moment that God provided the words to say, just as He promised in Matthew 10:18-20:

*"On my account you will be brought before governors and kings as witnesses to them and to the Gentiles. But when they arrest you, do not worry about what to say or how to say it. At that time you will be given what to say, for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you."*

*Deleted from online edition.*

*The Cha family ministering in Central Asia.*

Instead of answering the police chief's question, I asked him a question. Jesus had also responded to a question with a question on several occasions (Matthew 22:15-22). I told the police chief, "Look at your people. More than half of the men from your city have gone to other countries to

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**"But when they arrest you, do not worry about what to say or how to say it. At that time, you will be given what to say, for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you."**

**-Matthew 19:20**

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look for work. Many went to Russia, America, Europe and Korea illegally to find jobs." When I mentioned "Korea," the chief chuckled and said, "That's true. My nephew is in Korea right now working at a factory. He sends me a couple hundred dollars a month."

Then I asked him, "How long do you want your people to go to other countries illegally and work as slaves in those countries? Don't you want

God to bless your country so that people from other countries will come to look for work here?" The police chief started to listen more seriously.

"But you need to know that the blessings of God are not the same as money or wealth. Just because you

have money, doesn't mean that God is blessing you. There are so many families here in Samarkand who live in nice homes with several cars, but the kids are having problems with drugs and alcohol. That's not the blessing of God. When God's blessing comes, there is peace and joy in the family. Everyone is blessed, not just the father. Look at your nation; the land has an abundance of gold, natural gas and cotton. However, the blessing of such wealth is staying only at the top, with the government officials. The general population is not seeing the blessing flow down to them. Let me tell you about my country, Korea.

About a hundred years ago, Korea was a very poor and desolate nation. We worshiped all kinds of idols and because of this, we were not receiving the blessing from the living God. Then people from America, Canada, and England began to come to Korea to bring God's blessing. They built

*Continued on next page*

## THE FIELD

schools, colleges, and hospitals. But most importantly, they taught us about the living God through the Bible. They taught us to turn away from worthless idols and believe in the true God, and to live honestly. And our people began to change. They became people who knew how to share God's blessing with others. Now look at Korea. It is one of the leading nations in Asia. People from your country are going there to find blessing.

I came to your country to bring God's blessing. At the university I am not only teaching the students about computer programming, but also about how to become honest people so that, in the future, they can become righteous leaders of this society. Again, I came to your country to bring God's blessing, not curse. And if you don't like what I'm doing, you can kick me out of the country tomorrow."

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**"The police chief stood up, pounded on the table with his fist, and said to the officers around him, 'No, I want you in my country. We need more people like you in my country. You can stay in our city as long as you want.'"**

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The police chief stood up, pounded on the table with his fist, and said to 4-5 officers around him (including a KGB agent in the corner), "No, I want you in my country. We need more people like you in my country. You can stay in our city as long as you want. However, because you have been arrested, you have to face the judge this Saturday. When he signs off on the arrest document, then your case will be closed. And when you see the judge, you must make two statements: 'I'm sorry' and 'I will not do it again.'"

I thought about the police chief's words and then asked him a few more questions. "In your country there are

two kings: President Karimov and God. Who is greater?"

"God," he answered.

"And if the two kings issue laws that are in conflict, whose law should I obey?" I asked.

"You should obey God's law," he stated.

"Well, my God tells me that I need to tell about His truth and promises to the people of this nation. I can say to the judge that I'm sorry for causing all this trouble. However, I cannot say that I will not do it again, for this means that I will not teach about God or His ways to your people," I said.

"If you cannot say those two things to the judge, then I cannot guarantee what will happen to you. You may be put into jail, fined, or deported from our country," responded the police chief.

Saturday came slowly. That afternoon I went to the city court with a young police officer. He took me to the judge's office and reminded me again to make the two necessary statements ("I'm sorry" and "I'll not do it again"). He then told me to stay outside the door and enter when I'm called in. He would first go in to introduce my case. After a few minutes, he came out. He told me that the case was closed. He explained to the judge that I was a man who came to bring blessing to their nation and

did not mean any harm to the society. The judge signed off on the document without any further questions. Praise the Lord! Usually, when a foreigner is arrested during a Bible study with the local people, he is taken right to the airport and deported. His family would have about ten days to pack up and leave the country.

God gave us another eight months to stay in the country and raise up the leaders of the church. In February 2006, Barnabas' parents reported us to the KGB in the capital city, and we were forced to leave in March. At our final service at Harvest Church, we anointed seven Uzbeks and Tajiks as leaders of the church. The church leaders, in turn, commissioned us as God's ambassadors to the neighboring Central Asian people.

In closing, we want to fully acknowledge God's grace in all that we have done. Of course we have made our share of mistakes, but we give praise to God for what He has done in spite of our inadequacies. We are truly grateful for the privilege of being laborers in God's harvest field. Our prayer and dream is to see God pour out His Spirit in great abundance upon the Muslim peoples of Central Asia... just as He *did to the Korean people back in 1907.*

*Ambassadors for the Risen Lord Jesus Christ, **Tai-Kwang and Sun-Mi***



*Below: The Harvest Church*



## THE FIELD

## Truly Loving The Gambian Church

by Pastor Daniel Kim

The mission of the Church was clearly set forth by Jesus as taking the Good News “to the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:8) and “making disciples of all nations” (Matt. 28:19). The Church remains on mission until the day of Christ’s return to proclaim the wonders of His love. Therefore, ODPC remains on mission.

Among the countless people groups that still have no access to the Gospel, the Lord has continued to direct ODPC to The Gambia for the past 10 years for the purpose of medical missions. Through these trips, God opened up new doors for the Gospel and helped raise local churches and believers. After the closing of the Bijilo clinic project, our vision team traveled to The Gambia in hopes of discerning the Lord’s direction for our church there. During this time, we met with local missionaries and believers, and tried to gauge the spiritual climate in The Gambia. As a result, the vision team believes that creating a partnership between our church, the missionaries, and the local believers is vital to the life of a long-term mission in The Gambia.

Our team stayed at the Brikama mission compound with Missionary Han and his wife, who have lived in The Gambia for the past 20 years and whose lives powerfully display the overflowing joy hidden in earnest missions work. It was an answered prayer that they were both so transparent in communicating about their ministry and quick to listen to our questions and concerns. The Brikama compound currently serves as housing and living accommodations for 50+ students of all ages. From grades 1-12 (primary and secondary), students are fully supported to obtain the necessary education from nearby schools. Consequently, the students are naturally immersed in a lifestyle of loving each other, Biblical discipleship, and responsibility. In the spirit of grace, Missionary

Han and his wife treat each student as their own child.

Some of the most miraculous fruits of Missionary Han and his wife’s work include the stories of Burama, Bakary, Sirumbai, Ousman, Basiru, and Suibo, whose lives all reveal true Gospel transformation. Each have seen their lives change from manifesting anger to joy, selfishness to love, harshness to gentleness, and religiosity to relationship. What a testimony to see this change in a country where 98% of the population are Muslim.

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**“Each have seen their lives change from manifesting anger to joy, selfishness to love, harshness to gentleness, and religiosity to relationship.”**

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These 6 men all graduated from the Brikama program. Similar to the situation in the US, however, jobs are hard to come by with only secondary education. Furthermore, one’s opinions on Christianity and Islam, Jesus and Muhammad, lack credibility if the individual is uneducated. Therefore, all of the brothers desire to continue their education—not only to be able to support a family, but also for the sake of Gospel advancement.

Upon graduating secondary school, the average Gambian student faces several roadblocks. Public education does not cover the necessary material for admission into The Gambia University. The only requirements for admission into The Gambia University are five subject credits and payment of the annual tuition. The average student, however, graduates with only 1 to 2 credits. Thus, the next several years are dedicated to financing and studying for the accredited subject tests that occur once each year. Each subject test costs around 32 dollars. Because tutors cannot be afforded, the more difficult subjects like math and English are simply avoided by the majority of students. If a hardworking student is finally able to meet the academic requirements after

several years, financing a university education without aid often proves largely impossible. Tuition is around 600 dollars per year of education at The Gambia University. To us, this seems like a small amount of money, but to most on the other side of the world, this is a large sum.


Our team firmly believes that God can use these brothers—and the subsequent generations of believers—to establish His kingdom work in The Gambia. However, their local church can not yet sustain any missions work of its own even as their desire is not to remain dependent, but to become a source of overflow. Currently, ODPC is in a unique position to *encourage, empower, and engage* these brothers to take the Gospel deeper into The Gambia and beyond.

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**“All the brothers desire to continue their education — not only to be able to support a family, but also for the sake of Gospel advancement.”**

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Just as the early churches were encouraged by each other, the churches abroad must *encourage* the local church in their work and vice versa. The local church must become *empowered* — either through theology training, mentorship, or education — to raise up the next generation of disciples and church planters. Lastly, the church body must become burdened to pray for our fellow brothers and sisters. Consistent communication ought be established as lives are *engaged* in The Gambia. Rather than mere heartless donations, commitment to prayer and long-term fellowship must remain the centerpiece of ministry; for without love, there is no gain.

As ODPC seeks out God’s will, may this story be viewed as a testimony to God’s miraculous work in The Gambia. And may the lives of our brothers and sisters abroad serve as constant reminders to compel us to pray and act. 

## THE FIELD

**Pray for ODPC Missionaries!**

Deleted from Online Edition. If you would like to receive a hard copy, please email [odpcthreshold@gmail.com](mailto:odpcthreshold@gmail.com).

**O FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING!**

O for a thousand tongues to sing  
my great Redeemer's praise,  
the glories of my God and King,  
the triumphs of his grace!

My gracious Master and my God,  
assist me to proclaim,  
to spread through all the earth abroad  
the honors of thy name.

## THE FIELD OPPORTUNITIES

## GLOBAL

- **CENTRAL ASIA** — *(May 26-June 9)* Support the Jung team by leading VBS for the Missionary Kid School. Team members also needed to offer finance and IT support for business.  
Team Leader: Pastor Daniel. Contact at [danielkim49@gmail.com](mailto:danielkim49@gmail.com).
- **THE GAMBIA** — *(June 18-July 16)* Provide tutoring services and lead discipleship training for about a month in The Gambia. There will be an interest meeting today in Pastor Dihan's office (Room F-23) at 12:45. Lunch will be served.  
Team Leader: John Park. Contact at [un4shamed@gmail.com](mailto:un4shamed@gmail.com).

## LOCAL

- **MANNA OUTREACH MINISTRY** — Volunteers needed on a monthly basis to serve the needy members of the Herndon community. Contact Jun Ha ([junsha77@hotmail.com](mailto:junsha77@hotmail.com)) if interested.
- **GOOD GROUND MINISTRIES** — Childcare volunteers needed during Bible classes for those served through Manna. Classes will meet every Tuesday at 7:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall starting on February 8th. Contact Reverend Soriano ([revsoriano@yahoo.com](mailto:revsoriano@yahoo.com)) if interested.

## REGIONAL

- **UNIQUE LEARNING CENTER SUMMER CAMP** — *(August 8-12)* The ULC family concludes its summer with a week of VBS at Highland Retreat Camp in Bergton, VA. This is a great opportunity for those interested to find out more about ULC. The ULC is also looking for tutors to work with their students. Contact Sukwon Chang ([sukwon@gmail.com](mailto:sukwon@gmail.com)) if interested.

## SUPPORT OUR PARTNER MINSITRIES

- **JUSTICE VENTURES INTERNATIONAL** — Administration support needed and Internships offered. [www.justiceventures.org](http://www.justiceventures.org). Contact Tom Kim ([tkslc@yahoo.com](mailto:tkslc@yahoo.com)) if interested.
- **FREESSET** — Sales and Marketing help needed. [www.freesetglobal.com](http://www.freesetglobal.com). Contact Anna Kim ([ahongkim@yahoo.com](mailto:ahongkim@yahoo.com)) if interested.
- **SARA CHOE and ADVENTURES IN MISSIONS** — Give to Sara Choe who now works as a full-time communications coordinator for the short-term missions organization, Adventures in Missions. Check out her blog at <http://sarachoe.theworldrace.org>. Contact Sara at [sara.choe@gmail.com](mailto:sara.choe@gmail.com).
- **B2gether** - Help connect churches for the purpose of reaching North Korea. [www.b2gether.org](http://www.b2gether.org). Contact Jean Kim ([isaiah60@gmail.com](mailto:isaiah60@gmail.com)) if interested.