



GNB is part of Back to the Bible International

Sounding Out

good news : broadcasting

October - December 2006

Time to take stock . . .

The summer months have definitely not been a quiet time in the office. The letters poured in with positive feedback received from stations here in the UK. The Saturday evening broadcast of *Word Alive* on Premier was off the air for two weeks only. This gave rise to a welter of queries from listeners, both in the London area and elsewhere, as people switched on their TV's at 7.30 pm on Saturday and failed to find our broadcast on Freeview channel 725. Those who listened via the Premier internet site raised queries. Fortunately the station error was quickly corrected. TransWorld Radio asked if we had more programmes for them to air in addition to our weekdays *Bible Focus*, *Back To The Bible* and *Something To Think About*. *Word Alive* is now included in their line-up. It's good to hear from their listeners, just as we do from our other UK outlets.

We took a step of faith in sponsoring a weekly broadcast to the Middle East. Through the incredible generosity of a small number of Christians, we have been able to maintain this broadcast. The range of the short wave transmission has proven phenomenal, reaching Australia, India, Greece, Sweden and Eastern Europe. All well outside the original target area.

We recognised the importance of local radio coverage. The sector having by far the greatest number of local radio listeners is Africa. Joseph Kebbie works with Media Village Radio in Cape Town, South Africa (Sponsored by Youth with a Mission). Joseph is taking our UK and Australian programmes and getting them on many local stations across the continent. Rarely does a week go by without approaches by more stations. Some have huge audiences. This is an unprecedented opportunity to reach out with God's Word. Joseph's efforts are paying dividends for the Kingdom of God! ■■

Are You a Ministry Partner?

Asks Chalmers Dobson

What defines a supporter as a Ministry Partner? Two years ago we wanted to create a good two-way relationship with people who care about taking the message of the Bible to places where only radio can go. We wanted to be certain that all supporters were properly thanked. After all, it was through sacrificial giving the ministry continued to exist, and had adequate resources to expand, as God opened new doors.



Derek Stringer

We drew a line at giving of £100 per year. Those above this threshold would be treated as Ministry Partners, and would automatically receive a bi-monthly CD packed with samples of our programmes, a Bible teaching message from Dr. Stringer, and an insider view on the latest ministry news. It was surprising how much interest was expressed after that initial letter from Derek with its CD enclosure was sent out to our new 'Partners'.

Soon we were faced with requests for the disk by others who couldn't afford to give at £100 per annum. In response to this, we offered the CD on an annual subscription of £30. Even more subscribed.

You are partners with us in the task to which we have been called. You may not feel gifted to sit behind a microphone and expound the Bible, *but if you are, do get in touch!* You may not

have the resources to give – many on limited income cannot. What every single reader of Sounding Out *can* do is to pray. Prayer has seen this ministry weather many a storm – legislation aimed at preventing religious media – financial constraints – shortage of manpower or equipment, and yet through each challenge the Lord sustains and provides. Sometimes that provision might be through receipt of a timely bequest, at other times it's through generous stewardship, maybe for a specific project (for example our broadcasts to Israel), or with no strings, to use as the Lord leads.

There is no doubt that our supporters play a crucial role in the building of the Kingdom through prayer, help or giving, just as we do in the recording, production and distribution of our programmes. Every one is important. **To become a Ministry Partner, just call the office free from the UK on 08000 92 78 92 and ask for details, or tick the box on the back page response form.** ■■

Making A Difference . . .

It is not hard to recognise our limitations in accomplishing the huge task of conveying God's Word to the people of the world in ways that are clear, culturally appropriate and readily understood. Fortunately, we are not alone! Thirteen national directors, 70 national Bible teachers, five partnering ministries, and more than 170 national staff stand ready to help us. ■■



▲ Young Polish people at their Summer Camp

WATCH OUT FOR LUCILLE

Another 'side-ways' look at life by Derek Stringer

Someone who works in the customer service call centre of a national pager company deals with the usual complaints regarding poor pager operation. He says that the best call came from a man who complained that he kept being paged by "Lucille." He was instructed to tell her to stop paging him. "She never leaves a number, so I can't call her back," he said. After three such calls, someone thought to ask how he knew it was Lucille if she didn't leave a number. "She leaves her name" was the reply. After establishing that the customer had a numeric only pager, the light bulb came on. "How does she spell her name?" the service rep asked. "L-O-W C-E-L-L"

When things start to bother us, the problem may simply be that we need to get "re-charged". Staying busy takes a toll after a while. Before we get stressed out, we need to learn to take some time to unwind and recharge. Our radio response file shows that many people use our programmes to do just that. Stopping and listening to a message from the Bible has helped countless people. Still many more people are listening to us 'on the run' – in the car, doing the ironing, etc.

Why not take a look at the biblical resources we have on offer this month. Get what grabs your attention, and then take time out to 'recharge' spiritually. Spend some quiet time with God in prayer and reflection on His Word.

Watch out for *Lucille!* (LOW CELL) Don't forget to recharge.

DR DEREK STRINGER is the radio 'voice' of GNB. He can be heard each week on Word Alive, Bible Focus and Something To Think About. Ask about how you can receive free sermon and radio programme transcripts. ■■■



Civil War In Sri Lanka . . .

Fighting between Sri Lanka's Tamil Tiger rebels and security forces has forced thousands from their homes. Our GNB director James Kanaganayagam says, "Churches have been affected greatly. There are about 200,000 people who are displaced. And, obviously there are many Christians and churches - church members - who are affected." Check points



James Kanaganayagam

and other security measures keep tensions high. Bombs have exploded in Colombo. Have the explosions affected our workers? "No one has been directly affected by these bombs. However, these bombs have been about a mile away from the office," says James. "Since our media ministry is in Sinhalese and Tamil, some adjustments have been made to programming." James says, "While we do not talk of war, we talk of the effects - the fears that people have and life after death. We do talk about pain and losing loved ones. So, in that sense, through our radio programmes and literature we deal with issues like that." Our Ministry Partners are mostly men and women who run businesses. So, when the economy is hit through war, one of the things that decreases is giving to the Lord's work.

Around 180 GNB correspondence course students recently attended a special get-together. In spite of poor public transportation in the hill country where it was held, many travelled three or four hours to be present. As a result, 20 students accepted Jesus as Saviour and 36 rededicated their lives to the Lord. Sri Lanka has a large migrant work force in the Middle East. GNB Sri Lanka produces Sinhala programmes twice a week specifically for this community. ■■■

Japan Supplies Water . . .

The average church in Japan has 30 members. In rural areas, a congregation may number just three or four. GNB's Japanese ministry is working to teach isolated Christians who are hungry for God's Word. A recent workshop addressed the topics of what happens when one believes, the process towards maturity and roadblocks to maturity. Participants, including some unsaved, expressed their gratitude. More seminars are planned. We hope they will be the "water" that someday will bring forth a great harvest in Japan. Our UK programmes are used in an 'English language' segment of broadcasting. ■■■



Station Successful in Chad . . .



Last year, GNB helped build a pioneer radio station in the African nation of Chad. It has proved even more effective than expected attracting people across the entire spectrum of society. Anyone who has anything of importance to convey to the community comes to the station with the announcement. It has energised the local evangelical clinic in its efforts to vaccinate the mothers and babies of the area. Most important, it has greatly increased the use of written discipleship materials. With a local man trained and able to edit and air programmes, our missionary partners can now go back to Bible translation and teaching. ■■■

■■■ 'Street Talk' And A Lot More . . .

Thanks to the sponsorship of Ministry Partners, every Saturday evening Derek Stringer's Old Testament messages are being heard across Israel. A partnership with Trans World Radio enables our Arabic radio team to create programmes geared specifically to the needs of listeners who live and work in the Middle East. This approach makes our radio outreach more effective.



Programmes entitled *Healing Touches*, *I Need You*, *Street Talk* and *The Way Companion* are produced to meet the distinct needs of women, illiterates, young people and men, respectively. Two proven methods for reaching our target audiences are answering listeners' personal questions on air and producing dramatisations with a spiritual twist. Asking hard-hitting questions such as "Is Jesus only a prophet?" and "Does God's Word ever change?" connects with listeners in the Muslim world. One listener from Iraq wrote "I found out that Christianity is not a religion; it is a personal relationship with Jesus Christ... Thank you for being there and giving many words that have enlightened my path to experience how to be a new creation in Christ." ■■

■■■ The Chinese Church Needs Our Help . . .

More than a decade of systematic, book-by-book Bible teaching has significantly impacted the Chinese Church. To help meet the need for the practical application of God's Word, we have planned a new, five-year teaching series called *Discover A Beautiful Life*. The series will stress the daily application of biblical truth for each listener. Trusting relationships are especially important to the Chinese. To help meet this need, *Discover A Beautiful Life* uses not only radio and various electronic means to reach its audience, but also face-to-face meetings with house church groups and listeners throughout the country. Because of government



opposition, our partnership staff will face numerous risks each time they meet with small groups of believers. Local believers seeking spiritual help from our teachers will face even greater danger. We are renewing our focus on the growing millions who live and work in China's urban areas. ■■

■■■ Do You Get Transcripts?



This is a growing part of the ministry. We send to an email address a free sermon or radio transcript of Derek Stringer twice a month. All of Derek's *Word Alive* and *Bible Focus* programmes are available. Ask us for details. ■■

For Almost 50 Years . . .



Back to the Bible's half-hour English radio programme has never been off the air in the Philippines for almost fifty years—a tribute to God's power to sustain the ministry in the midst of social, political and economic upheavals. Tagalog radio programmes were added to the English ministry in 1978. *Heartline* is a nightly call-in programme that receives hundreds of real-time text messages from people seeking biblical counsel for a wide range of personal and spiritual issues. The programme has an international reach as Filipinos around the world are able to listen in via the internet.



In the planning stages are new radio programmes especially designed to communicate the Gospel to Muslim background groups in the southern island of Mindanao. Story telling and drama-based features will attractively address the needs of both individuals and families. ■■



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SPECIAL OFFERS

- **Dr. Derek Stringer** preaches and teaches at Church services, conventions and Bible schools in the UK and internationally. CD's and literature bring his ministry to your home, car or community.
- **Dr Woodrow Kroll** is the Bible Teacher for Back to the Bible (GNB-USA) He is a popular preacher and author of many books.

NEW BOOK by DEREK STRINGER

(Code DS82) **REIGNING IN LIFE** . . . Start living the life God designed for you! Using 1 and 2 Kings (plus a dip into Chronicles), Derek offers a penetrating look at Old Testament kings. His practical concern is that we will learn by example how to 'reign in life'. Usual Book Price £7.99 **Our Price £6.99**

(Code DS83) ANGELS

1 CD series by Derek Stringer – In this two-part series learn what the Bible says about angels. Derek has studied this subject in depth. He asks you to forget a lot of what you may have heard from folklore or just imagination and focus on God's Word. **Price £3.50**

(Code DS84) LESSONS FROM A RAINBOW

3 CD series by Derek Stringer – What happened to Noah is so important because Jesus used the story to illustrate His return. Other biblical writers use him to illustrate true faith. Learn about living as a stalwart of faith today, and ready for Christ's Second Coming. **Price £8.50**

(Code DS81) FACING A NEW DAY

BOOK by Derek Stringer – A book about life as it is meant to be. Based on 1 Thessalonians, Derek unlocks the meaning of Paul's thoughts on authentic living using up to date illustrations from contemporary life. Usual price £7.99 **Our Price £6.99**

(Code DS91) MOVING UP TO THE NEXT LEVEL

BOOKLET by Derek Stringer – How do we keep growing spiritually? Using 2 Peter Derek explores ten key truths. **Special Offer £1.50**

(Code PA01) SPIRITUAL GROWTH

1 CD by Peter Anderson – God has used Peter's ministry for many years to draw people to Christ and enrich their Christian experience. In this series of five 10-minute messages Peter's years of experience and insight are captured. **Price £3.50**

(Code WK19) SOMETIMES YOU JUST HAVE TO START OVER

2 CD series by Woodrow Kroll – After failure and even worse, men like Peter, Manasseh, Jacob and Jonah found God's grace brings restoration and fruitfulness. Discover how God makes the same offer today. **Price £6.50**

(Code WK25) EXPERIENCE A BETTER LIFE WITH JESUS

6 CD series by Woodrow Kroll – The Book of Hebrews paints a portrait of Christ that helps us experience a better life with Him. Woodrow surveys the letter and helps us discover Jesus is the King. Usual Price £14.50 **Special Offer £10.00**

(Code WK29) THE JOY OF BELONGING

BOOK by Woodrow Kroll – Uncover the path to the inner peace and satisfaction you've been craving. Usual Price £8.99 **Special Offer £4.00**

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CODE(S)

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£30 £60 £

Become A GNB Ministry Partner

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- Free GNB October/November Prayer Diary**
- Free GNB Email Teaching Transcripts**
- 2007 Scripture Text Calendar at £3.00**
- Help support Ilya Zabello through Bible School £**

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GNB Back Lane Ranskill DN22 8NN England.
FREEPHONE: 08000 92 78 92
Email: info@gnba.net Internet: www.gnba.net

Help Us Train Ilya Zabello . . .



Ilya has grown up in a Christian home. He has a very kind character with obvious musical talents. He took a course at University in 2004. An OM team helped with outreach among students and Ilya made a decision for Christ. He has shown spiritual growth and is actively involved in evangelistic outreach. Ilya has a growing desire to serve God full-time in Russia. Radio Ministry is one consideration. He meets the prerequisites for such ministry. He is praying about God's further guidance. We highly recommend Ilya for further learning in order to prepare for ministry in Russia. Bible school will help him to widen his personal and spiritual horizon. GNB (UK) is helping to sponsor Ilya training at Holsbybrunn International Bible School, Sweden. (Dr. Stringer is a visiting lecturer). Please consider a gift of any size. It will be a great investment.