



AI Generated

Communicating the Gospel for 2,000 Years

By

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Jesus Christ, post-resurrection, told His disciples to ‘make disciples of all the nations.’ That was 2,000 years ago. As the AI Generated picture above demonstrates Christians have communicated the Gospel in a wide variety of ways:

1. Person to person
2. Groups of people meeting together (e.g. small groups and classes, churches, Christian schools, Bible colleges, seminaries, etc.)
3. Writings (e.g. reading, studying, writing books, articles, papers, tracts, mail, correspondence courses, etc)
4. Technology (e.g. printing press, telegraph, radio, television, email, internet, satellites, digital media, smartphones, apps, streaming, etc.)

Christians have often been early adaptors of new ways of communicating the Gospel of Christ. Why? Because it's what the Lord and His Apostles told us to do. Christians who are eager to please God and share the life-changing message of the Gospel are always looking for ways to accomplish that God-given objective.

I've seen firsthand how effective these communication methods can be for reaching people with the Gospel. My career background is in mass communications, so I'm sensitive to how to use various forms of mass communications to share the message of Christ. The man who led me to pray to trust in Christ used an old drive-in cinema to show Christian films, then share the Gospel from a stage near the large screen. My parents were involved for decades in a printing and correspondence ministry that communicated the Gospel across the world. God opened the door for me to be involved by helping ministries use radio and television to communicate the Gospel message. I did the same thing after getting involved in the Internet, and later with social media.

My point is that God has given Christians both a command to preach the Gospel and make disciples and the creativity to carry out His will. Isn't that wonderful?

Ideas

I recommend that all Christians remain open to ‘ideas’ in how to accomplish God’s will. Pray about that and He will ‘direct your paths.’

One idea that has surprised me a bit has been reaching people ‘online’ through websites, blogs, social media, podcasts, YouTube, streaming, etc. I never dreamed how effective it could become. I began my online work in 1995 when my employer asked me to work with a technical expert to build content for a TV station website. Until that time my experience in using technology for sharing the Gospel was primarily radio, television, and printed materials.

In addition to building content for TV station websites, I also built content for sharing the Gospel from my private online accounts. It wasn’t long before I received email from people across the United States and many other countries either thanking me for the Bible studies or asking me for more information.

That simple idea gave birth to more ideas. I heard from many pastors in the 10/40 Window:

“The 10/40 Window is a rectangular geographic area that stretches from 10°N to 40°N latitude and from Morocco to Japan. The region encompasses much of North Africa, the Middle East, Central Asia, South Asia, East Asia and Southeast Asia.” [Pray 10/40](#)

The 10/40 Window is home to more than 96% of the world's unreached people. Let that sink in for a moment. The 10/40 Window is home to more than 96% of the world's unreached people. I remembered that the ministry my parents were involved in sent tons of correspondence courses to people living in the 10/40 Window. My father was involved in printing the courses in various languages. My mother was involved in grading the courses and sending new course materials to people across the world.

That gave me an idea. Could I do something like that with my writings, my blogs? I prayed about it and the answer came to me in a most interesting way. I began getting emails and social media messages from pastors in Africa, the Middle East, and Asia asking me if they could use my online Bible studies in their ministries. My answer was an excited YES!

Another idea – one of the pastors asked if I would allow him to translate some of the studies into his nation's primary language. Again, my answer was an excited YES! As we look back through the history of the Christian church we see that the original languages of the Old and New Testament have been translated into many different languages – including English. Written materials were one of the primary ways God guided His people to communicate His Truth across the world.

Using a combination of pastors in the 10/40 Window (and online translation tools) we translated many of my Bible studies into more than 110 languages. That meant pastors could either do their own translations into languages I had not covered (there are more than seven-thousand living languages spoken in the world today) or use [the translations I had published](#).

One pastor I work with in the 10/40 Window often takes two or three other pastors with him because of how many different languages are spoken in small villages in his region. He preaches in one language, another pastor repeats what he says in another language, and another pastor repeats what he says in the language of the small village. The idea is that the people in attendance will hear the Gospel in a language they recognize.

Wycliffe Ministries. along with others, are working hard to publish the Bible (or portions of the Gospels) into the hundreds of languages that do not have access to the Gospel yet:

“Though 4,457 languages have Bible translation “work in progress”, that doesn’t always mean people have Scripture access yet. In fact, 1,712 languages from the work-in-progress list do not have any verses translated yet. The flurry of new projects in the past several years means some are still in the organising stages.” [Wycliffe Global Alliance](#)

Responses

I recently looked at my blog dashboards to learn more about what kind of responses we are getting from across the world. First, I found that people in more than 200 countries and territories are reading our Bible and apologetic studies. Many of them are countries in the 10/40 Window that have restricted access to the Bible or Christian books in print. Second, I was pleased to see that several of the top ‘downloaded’ PDF eBooks we’ve published were those we had translated into other languages many years ago.

The most important responses are those I’ve heard directly from pastors in the 10/40 Window. Though I have not been able to travel overseas because of personal health issues, technology has allowed me to see the pastors, talk with them, and see the results of their ministries through pictures and videos.

All glory to God! We boast in Christ, not in ourselves – never in ourselves – always in Him. His love, mercy, and grace saved us. As for ministry, I’m reminded what the Apostle Paul wrote almost two-thousand years ago:

“There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all.” 1 Corinthians 12:4-7

Thank You!

Thank you for your prayers through the years! I ask you to continue praying for the pastors in the 10/40 Window, the vast numbers of people they are reaching with the Gospel of Christ, and lastly thank you for praying for me. I daily ask God for strength to keep going and doing whatever I can to encourage and equip His people for their service for Him.

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The logo for GraceLife, featuring the word "GraceLife" in a stylized, bold, dark red font with a slight shadow effect.