

ONE VOICE FOR ASIA



eNewsletter for Stephen & Karen Negus

September 2003

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How you can help us to touch the nations of Asia with the love of God...

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"In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths. "
- Proverbs 3:6

Past The Point of No Return

When an airline flies across the ocean, the navigator marks a certain point on the map with the letters "PNR". This is the point at which they cannot go back because they no longer have enough fuel. They have no choice but to keep going forward towards their final destination. It is the "point of no return".

August 20th marked our point of no return as our Pastors prayed over us releasing us to go to Asia. It was an awesome prayer as we felt the Lord place a Mantel upon us. We are ready to go and fulfill the call that God has placed on our lives.

Our house is sold. The few things we are taking to Hong Kong are in storage waiting to be shipped. In the past two months we have traveled to Florida, Illinois, Missouri, and Mexico City to raise support and say goodbye to family and friends. On September 2nd we leave for South Africa where we will be ministering, raising support and visiting family and friends.

We return to Atlanta on November 21st to pack our container and ship our things to Hong Kong. Then, it's off to Hong Kong. We leave for Hong Kong on December 3rd. We will have about a week to find a place to stay and then we're into the Christmas Outreach that Youth With A Mission runs each year.

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An Answer To Prayer

One of the most important things we will need to do when we get to Hong Kong is to start learning the language. At the beginning of the year we started praying specifically that God would lead us to a Chinese couple who would be able to help us to do that.

We are also praying about which language to learn – Mandarin (which they speak in Mainland China) or Cantonese (which they speak in Hong Kong). Well, God is a God who answers prayer. Let us explain...

While in Chicago we stayed with some good friends of ours. They told us about Barbara, a neighbor of theirs who had been on the mission field in Thailand. She and her husband had returned to the U.S. and started an International Church in Chicago.

One morning while we were there, Barbara happened to come by the house. We talked about missions and living in Asia, then we shared with her our prayer request for a couple to help us learn Chinese. At that she got very excited.

Our Schedule:

- Sept 2nd to Nov 20th: Ministry in South Africa
- Nov 21st to Nov 26th: Atlanta - Thanksgiving
- Nov 25th: Pack & ship container
- Nov 27th to Dec 1st: Florida - ministry
- Dec 2nd: Board Meeting
- Dec 3rd: Depart for Hong Kong

Visit our website...

www.ovasia.org

It turns out that there was a Chinese couple in their church from Hong Kong. James and Susan (their English names) would be returning to Hong Kong in a few days. They are not yet believers, but are seeking to know more about God in Heaven. Just the week before the church had prayed with them that God would lead them to someone in Hong Kong whom they could befriend and who could teach them more about Jesus. So, they are an answer to prayer for us and we are an answer to prayer for them.

We have been in contact with James and Susan via email. They are very excited to meet us in person when we get to Hong Kong in December.

Oh, by the way, did we happen to mention that they are fluent in both Mandarin and Cantonese. It doesn't matter which language we decide to learn first, they can help us with either one. They also speak Japanese, just in case we want to learn that as well. Isn't God awesome? When He answers prayer, He doesn't just answer, He ANSWERS!

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Jehovah Jireh, Our Provider

As we launch out into a new chapter of our lives, we are very much aware that this is going to be a "faith" chapter. We must have faith to please God. We must have faith if we are going to succeed in the things He has called us to do. We must have faith if we are going to survive. God is our source. We can look to no other.

We have already seen His faithfulness in many little ways as we have begun the journey. Allow us to share just one such example...

A few months ago we felt the Lord leading us to go to Mexico City to visit our missionary friends and Mentors, Andrew and Tiffany Bucksot. Andrew and Tiffany have been doing, in Mexico, many of the things we want to do in Asia. We wanted to spend some time with them to learn from them so that we don't try to re-invent the wheel.

Once we set a date with them, we began shopping for air tickets, all the while praying and asking God to lead us to a good deal. Up until about ten days before we were supposed to leave, we found nothing we could afford. Tickets were running around \$500 to \$600 per ticket. We went to the Lord one more time and asked for His help.

The next day we got home at around 10:30 pm after sharing our vision at a church. As we walked in the door Stephen felt prompted to go and check the email. He was tired from the long day and did not feel like checking the email, but he decided to do it anyway.

To make a long story short, there was an email from a travel site with a great deal to Mexico City. We ended up getting our tickets for \$288 a piece, about half of what we had been seeing up to that point. We had a great time as Andrew and Tiffany poured into us the things that they have learned while ministering in Mexico.

This is just one of the many ways in which we have seen God prove His faithfulness to provide for us. We know that where He guides He also provides. We also know that He works through His people – to go, to give and to pray – in order that His Kingdom will be established. His desire is that all will participate and be blessed.

Calling All Kings...

May we ask you to please pray and see how God would have you be involved in our ministry. We need faithful people who will support us financially on a monthly/regular basis.

At the time of writing this newsletter we have about \$1000 pledged in monthly support. We need to raise \$3500. As you can see, the need is still great, but nothing is impossible with God.

If we can get just 25 people to pledge \$100 per month, or even 100 people to pledge \$25 per month, we will have reached our goal. Would you pray about being one of those people?

If you would complete the tear off section at the bottom of the prayer card and mail it in to us so that we have a record of how you wish to partner with us.

Thank you for standing with us. Together we can touch the nations of Asia with the Love of Jesus!