

the POWER of a SEED

Henry Lai on Unsplash

SOWING AND REAPING is a Biblical principle, as well as a natural one. Those who sow, the Bible promises, will also reap. While this is true in every part of life, perhaps it is most dramatically displayed when the Word of God is sown into the hearts of men and women.

With your partnership we sow both the Word of God as well as sons and daughters of the Kingdom into the soil of the cultures with least access to the gospel. The seed takes time and care to come to fruitfulness. Soils differ from one another. And just as in nature, where zucchini grows more rapidly than apples, movements to Christ ripen over differing seasons.

In this update, we highlight different stages of the work of Global Teams: initial sowing in Russia, first fruits in Uganda, and reproductive fruit bearing in South Asia. In each of these seasons, we invite you to rejoice with us in God's work! And we invite you to keep sowing into the fields, knowing that your investment will "enlarge your harvest of righteousness."

Whoever sows
generously,
will also reap
generously.

II Cor 9:6



SOWING GENEROUSLY

Siberia, Russia

Danyar is a new Muslim background Global Teams field partner serving in Russia. Prompted by the focused prayers of the leadership team for the least reached, Danyar organized an outreach to the Muslim Tatar villages near his city. He mobilized a team who planned outreach to nine villages with the goal of contacting 1,000 Tartars in a week's time. Then, just days before the outreach, Danyar fell sick and had to be hospitalized. After concerted prayer, the team decided to continue on in faith without him.

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The results were just like Jesus personally described to his disciples! In one village, an elder refused to grant them entrance to distribute food packets – so they moved on as Jesus instructed in Matthew 10. In each village, the team prayed for the sick, shared Gospel portions and distributed the Jesus film in the Tatar language. Someone was sick on the team every day, but no one wanted to return home. Before the week was finished, they had surpassed their goal by distributing scripture and films to more than one thousand people – many of them expressing deep gratitude for what they had received and inviting the team to return.

Continued



Said one team member, "There are too many stories to tell! But God confirmed over and over again that He was with us. Upon entering one village, we felt impressed to go directly to the mosque and introduce ourselves to the imam. We explained our purpose to him and the elders sitting with him. To our surprise, none of them were against our plans."

We are making plans with others to go back and follow up on the many seeds sown among these receptive Tatars.



"The imam then began to tell us that he had translated a number of books from the Law and Prophets into the Siberian Tatar language. We were incredulous until his wife produced the books for us. We spent hours sharing together and he heard the story of the Messiah Jesus with pleasure. In the end, we made plans to work together for the translation of the Gospels!"

"Over and over again, God led us to households of peace where their doors, and tables, were opened wide to us to share the Good News. We gathered addresses and are making plans with others to go back and follow up on the many seeds sown among these receptive Tatars."



The team wanted to especially extend a big thank you for the many prayers and gifts of Global Teams' financial partners who helped make this outreach so successful.

DID YOU KNOW

that you can make direct contributions, if you're age 70½ or older, from your IRA to qualified charitable organizations -up to \$100,000 annually- without owing income tax? You can also use your qualified charitable donation to meet all or part of your IRA's required minimum distribution (RMD) for the year. Keep in mind, the charity must receive your donation by December 31st for you to apply it to that year's tax return.



READY TO PLANT

Dagestan, Russia

Russia-Kazakh border checkpoint
Zac Allan, CC BY-SA 3.0

Despite ongoing travel restrictions, Takir and Laura have sold most of their household goods, trusting God to open the doors to relocate among the Nogai people of Dagestan. They are asking for prayer that God would open doors in the next two weeks to relocate before winter arrives.

Names throughout the newsletter have been changed.



FIRST FRUITS IN REFUGEE CAMPS

Uganda, Kenya and Beyond

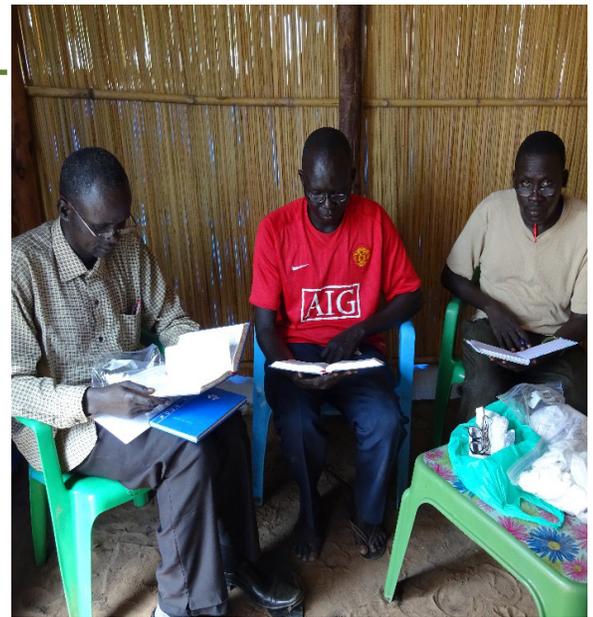
Tens of thousands of Sudanese have fled the terrors of war into neighboring Ugandan refugee settlements. Among them was a Christian man named John whose mother and father had been brutally killed in the war. A GT field partner, Katie, befriended John and others in the camps, bringing the refugees needed supplies and food, but perhaps even more importantly, love, healing and hope. The Holy Spirit moved powerfully, and God used John to extend this healing to more settlements with the help of our GT field partners.

John's ministry continued expanding. Katie began training John in discovery Bible study methods as a part of Disciple Making Movement training. From the beginning, Katie and John prayed that God would open doors further north, with the hope of eventually getting to the Muslim populations of Darfur. The discovery Bible studies that John started multiplied into new camps, and the news spread of God's work.

In the studies, believers read that Jesus regularly healed people and commanded his disciples to do the same. So, they started praying for the sick and, sure enough, people began getting healed in Jesus' name. This was like pouring gas on a fire. As the healed shared their testimonies with family and friends, calls started coming in for prayer from nearby settlements, then from settlements in Kenya, then from Sudan, and even a call from Sudanese in America!

As a result of God's work, recently John was invited to start new studies in the large refugee settlements in the West Nile region. These camps have more Muslims in them, as well as more travel back and forth across the border. God is opening doors for even more fruit!

The years of training and healing have not been in vain. The first fruit among the refugees is bearing more fruit in other camps, bringing our GT field partners big steps closer to the Muslim populations of Darfur.



DID YOU KNOW you can bequeath a gift by simply including "Global Teams International" in your will or estate plan along with our employee identification number? EIN #58-1488329



NO SEED IS WASTED

United States

After her college graduation, Claire began to discern a call to serve in missions. She read scripture, prayed and sought out counsel, and the seed of the idea to work with Muslim refugees was planted. Then the pandemic hit hard and borders were closed. But the seed that God had planted had already taken root. If Claire could not leave the country to work with Muslim refugees, was there a place here in the U.S. where she could use her gifts to serve Muslim refugees? Yes! Claire is now teaching at a middle school that serves the refugee population in her area and a significant number of these refugees are from Muslim countries. Not only is she gaining insight into the unique needs of Muslim refugees, but deep love for them as well. Nothing is wasted! Please pray for Claire as she serves right where she is and is discerning where God is directing her next.



PREPARING HARVESTERS

East Africa

After worldwide travel restrictions forced us to cancel our many planned face to face trainings this year, God opened a window to partner with an African ministry to train our field partners in principles of Disciple Making Movements (DMM) through Zoom.

As you read this, virtual trainings are underway in seven different African nations for approximately 300 GT field partners! DMM provides practical ways to put into practice the instructions Jesus gave his disciples about making new disciples. Ask God that these women and men will respond in faithful obedience to what they learn to make disciples afresh among the peoples they serve.



A HUNDRED FOLD

South Asia

Once a crop is mature, it produces seed for the next generation. Jesus spoke of a single seed bearing 30, 60 and even 100 times over. This is multiplication. And where there is multiplication of disciples of Jesus in a people, you have a movement!

Timothy has labored among the Muslim people of his South Asia nation for more than thirty years. Last month he visited twenty districts to check on the work. In these districts, which represent only a part of the work, he reported 370 baptisms coming from 83 different families resulting in multiple new congregations! He wrote, "Because of our GT partners' cooperation, we have been able to equip congregations at the edges of the movement, encouraging them to keep reaching out and witnessing to others." This is multiplication – Praise God!

Timothy also shared, "To combat the fear associated with the pandemic, we photocopied and distributed the newly translated Psalms 91, 23, and 121. These became the believers' essential daily reading and prayers in both families and in the congregations. I discovered that in these areas, 80 believers had died from COVID-19 – all of them elderly. However, the leaders confirmed and thanked God for the more than 1,000 people – believers and unbelievers - who were healed through the corporate and individual prayers of the believers in Jesus."

Jesus said, "Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds." Rejoice with us in the harvest! Pray with us for continued fruit bearing in South Asia



Muslim Background Believers gathering to pray



CONTINUING TO SOW

There is always a lag time between sowing and reaping. Because of past faithful sowing of gifts and prayers from God's people, today Global Teams field partners are bringing in the Lord's harvest in multiple fields.

As this dramatic year comes to a close, we invite you to continue sowing seed into the next harvests among the least reached. The Gospel is good seed and will bear fruit and we have this sure promise, "Let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up." Galatians 6:9

Please prayerfully consider giving to the work of Global Teams and our field partners by mail or using the link below.

**"Let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up."
Galatians 6:9**

DID YOU KNOW

you can mail a check on December 31st and, even if the check is not received by Global Teams International until the new year, the IRS will allow you to take a deduction in the year it was postmarked? Please keep this in mind for your year-end tax planning!



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