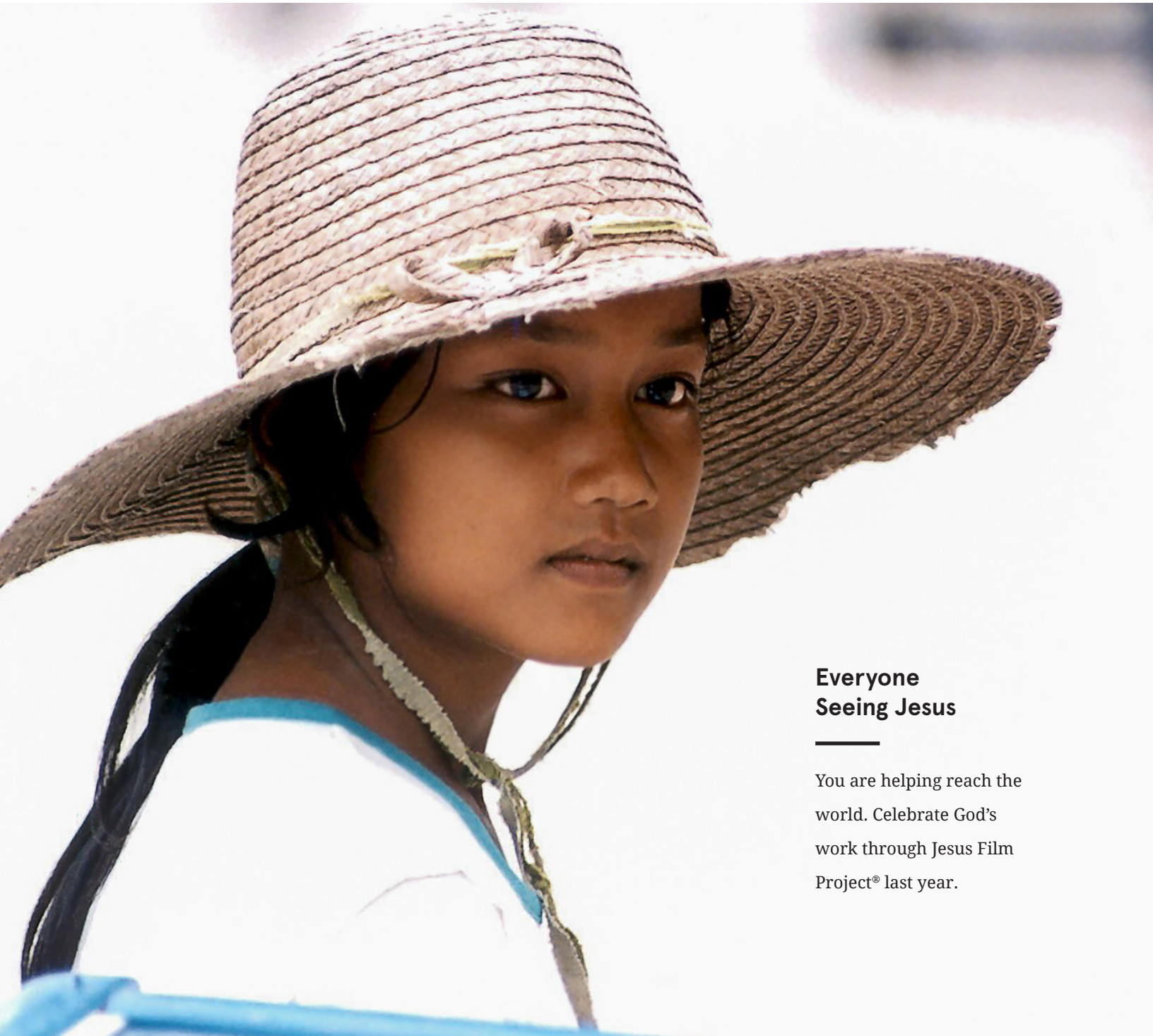


REACH

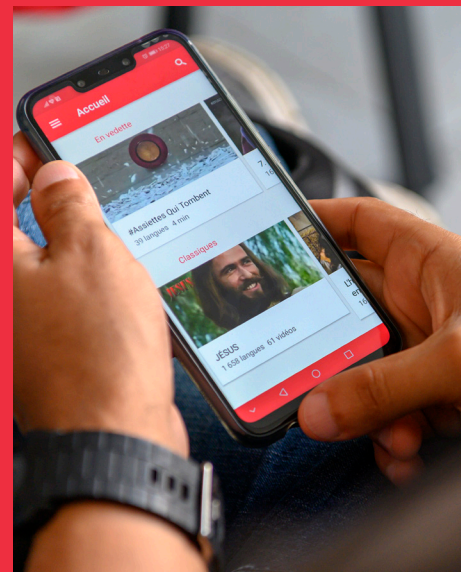
2019 Annual Review



Everyone Seeing Jesus

You are helping reach the world. Celebrate God's work through Jesus Film Project® last year.

When people come face-to-face with Jesus, everything changes.



“Everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord will be saved....”

Joel 2:32, English Standard Version

Have you ever considered the audacity of this promise? Everyone! It’s amazing news for a world struggling under the weight of sin. The apostle Paul shows us how the promise will be realized. If the people who need saving have never heard of Jesus, someone has to preach Christ to them. And that preacher would need to be sent (*Romans 10:13-14*).

Through your partnership, Jesus Film Project® is able to reach into a world desperately needing to be saved with a message of hope and forgiveness.

Reaching someone with the gospel has never been easier—or harder! On one hand, modern technology allows us to touch those who still have yet to hear, and go places traditional missionaries can’t travel.

However, that same technology is used by the enemy to suppress the gospel and steal focus away from God.

But these forces won’t stop our God.

Today He is actively reaching into the dark places of the world by uniting partners to build His kingdom. He is giving us creative ways to proclaim the gospel. And He is igniting generosity in the hearts of people like you to see God’s promise unfold.

The stories and statistics that follow are a record of **your reach through Jesus Film Project** this past year. Your investment in the kingdom is helping take new ground, changing lives and reaching those who have never heard. And when they hear, they believe. And when they believe, they are saved.

On behalf of the more than **22 million people** last year who called on the name of the Lord, thank you.



Josh Newell

Josh Newell
Executive Director, Jesus Film Project®

Lonely Man Finds Joy

Section 1

Taking a Risk for Jesus' Sake

People bound by the chains of bitterness can seem like the hard, cracked soil. Sometimes believers assume God's love can't reach them. But it can and it does. Jesus calls us to love those who hate us – and He'll do the rest.

Pastor Ayoku knew his elderly neighbor, Ekunda, needed Jesus. Relationships with his family were strained, and he lived in pain. Each day the old man trudged through empty rooms of his home without hope.

Ayoku had just finished Jesus Film Project ministry training and felt empowered to reach his neighbors. He also knew taking the risk to reach them would require courage and faith. Ekunda followed the country's majority religion. Revealing himself to be a Christian could be dangerous for Ayoku, but he knew he should.

In faith Ayoku walked to his neighbor's house and knocked. When the elderly man opened the door, Ayoku shared why he'd come. He expected the door to close as quickly as it had opened. Instead, Ekunda smiled. He couldn't believe anyone had come to see him.

The elderly man invited the pastor into his home, and Ayoku asked if he could share the *JESUS* film on his tablet. A conversation followed and eventually Ayoku explained how to begin a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

Ekunda couldn't contain his joy. He asked Ayoku to come back with the film the next evening. He wanted his whole family to see *JESUS*.



“He wanted his whole family to see JESUS.”

When Ayoku returned the empty rooms were filled with curious family members. After watching the film, Ekunda's wife began her personal relationship with Jesus.

Currently, Ekunda is experiencing new life in Christ. He is growing in faith and expressing his love for his family. Because Ayoku took a risk to show love to his neighbor, a once sick and abandoned man found joy through Christian community and the love of Christ.

Some images and identifying details have been changed to maintain confidentiality throughout this annual review.

TAKING A RISK FOR JESUS' SAKE

A Threat Turned by Love

With words like rocks, people from Jangi's tightly knit Indian community pelted her with painful remarks. Every attack bruised her reputation as they berated her for being a Christian. Even still, Jangi prayed for the strength to love her accusers as Jesus would.

Coming from the only Christian family in her village, Jangi lacked a community who could support her amidst such persecution. But that changed when training, sponsored by Campus Crusade for Christ®, in Southwest India, came to her town.

Jangi received the resources and encouragement she needed to be a light in her community. Knowing the challenges Jangi faced with her neighbors, the training team hesitantly asked if she'd be willing to show the *JESUS* film in her village. To their surprise, she responded without fear.

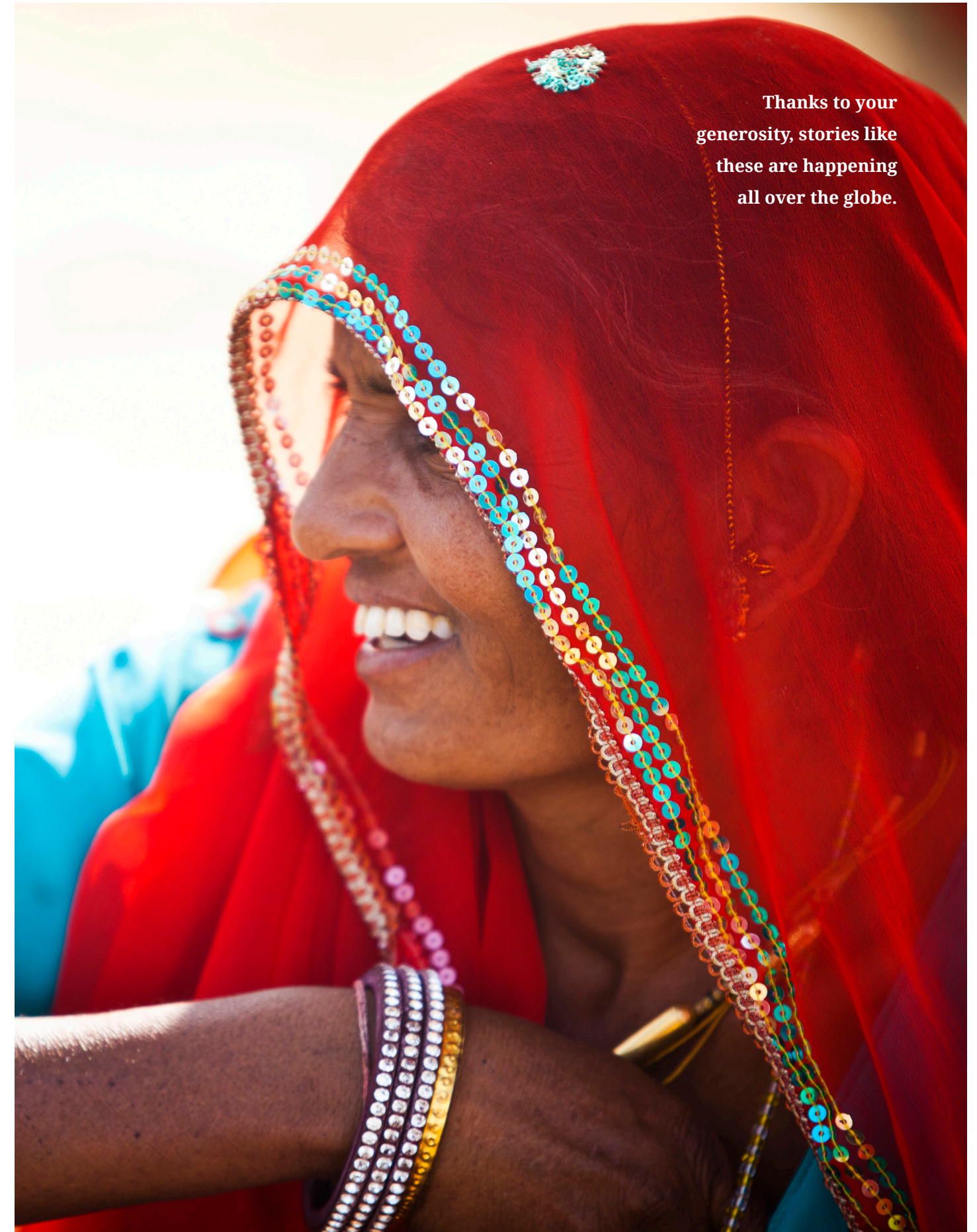
"God is in control of everything," was her confident reply.

"God is in control of everything," was her confident reply.

As Easter approached, the hearts of the villagers softened to the story of Jesus. Jangi knew this was God's opportunity. With help from the training team, she set up a projector and screen on the side of her house. One hundred and fifty people from the village accepted the invitation to watch *JESUS*.

By God's grace the film played with no opposition, and many indicated decisions to start a relationship with Jesus Christ. But even after the credits rolled, the ministry impact didn't stop. Weeks later, the same people who once criticized Jangi now came to her asking for prayer. God had given her an opportunity to love them as He would.

Thanks to your generosity, stories like these are happening all over the globe.



TAKING A RISK FOR JESUS' SAKE

A Bitter Heart Transformed

“You are the reason for the airstrikes against our country that killed my family!” Halim cried, cursing the local government official before him. His outburst landed him in prison as an enemy of the state.

Two months later, Halim’s sentence ended, but he hated life even more. He spent his days sulking on the couch of a relative’s home waiting for a chance to flee his country.

At first he just channel-surfed. But a movie called *JESUS* intrigued him. The message of love and peace was unlike anything he knew of religion. When Jesus wept for His cousin, Lazarus, His compassion opened Halim’s eyes. At the end of the film, Halim responded with faith and asked Jesus Christ to be his Savior!

Eager to know more about Jesus, Halim contacted the TV station. At the end of a lively conversation, the station’s staff member asked if Halim would welcome Christians into his home. He agreed.

**“ But a movie called
JESUS intrigued him.”**

When the Christians arrived, Halim told them, “At first I was very mad with [my religion], but now I am upset with you and all the other Christians! If not for God’s plan, I would have never met Christ. You haven’t spread Christ’s message enough!”

The Christians consoled him. They listened to Halim’s tragic story and prayed with him about his plans to flee his country. Their care and concern overwhelmed him. He almost couldn’t believe it.

A week later Halim called his new friends. “I no longer want to leave. I’ve decided to stay—now that I’ve found brothers in Christ here in my homeland.” Halim’s bitterness has turned to love expressed in friendship. That’s the power of the gospel. That’s what happens when people come face-to-face with Jesus.

The risk is worth it. Believers step out in faith, trust the power of God’s love, and hard hearts are softened. As you give and pray, you are with them every step along the way. ■



“

“The blessing of your partnership with the Jesus Film Project® is not only that people hear the gospel. It is that Christians everywhere...have a tool that helps them share the gospel of Jesus with a crystal clarity that helps people understand what it means to follow the King of kings—to embrace and experience a salvation that is full, free, powerful and eternal.”

— Rev. Austin Okomohwo,
Director, Great Commission
Movements, Africa

**Language versions of JESUS
completed as of August 2019**

1,767

Field Notes

Mexico

“Over 100 pastors are in our Jesus Film [Project] resources training. This is a great partnership with the Church of God.”

– Anibal Duarte, Jesus Film Project® Area Rep

Germany

“The film starts by stating Jesus is the Son of God, so some black-veiled women walked out. But the pastor spoke to them and they went back inside. They were deeply moved by this wonderful Savior!”

– Andreas Sauter, Elijah21

Uganda

“Jesus Film has answered all my questions and made fulfilling the Great Commission more enjoyable and achievable. Why? Because of the Jesus Film [Project] app on my phone!”

–Alex, Campus Crusade for Christ® in Uganda

Nigeria

“Our Zambiri center has attracted many people from the village, and we see commitments to Christ daily [with JESUS film showings].”

– Ben Kwashi, Bishop of Jos, Nigeria

Field Notes

220,377

Multiplying churches or groups started in 2018.

“

I saw more fruit in one year using the JESUS film in their heart language than the previous 10 years of ministry.”

Dr. Alex Philip,
Director of New India
Evangelistic Association

“

With JESUS film audio, [we] engaged thousands of people—106 languages in 160 countries. This shows the effectiveness of radio to engage an audience—and the impact of quality content.”

Brandon Neal,
Trans World Radio



Southeast Asia

“This family received Christ after watching the JESUS film. The church planter was trained in December and started using the tablet to share the gospel and help people grow in their faith.”

– Ricky Magno, Jesus Film Project® Area Rep

South Sudan

“In the villages of South Sudan reached by motorcycle, they will use [Jesus Film Project] equipment to push into regions largely unreached with the gospel.”

– Evangelical Episcopal Church

Israel

“JESUS is shown on Fridays at Christ Church in Jerusalem, the oldest Protestant church in the Middle East, rotating between Hebrew, Russian and Arabic.”

– Evangelical Episcopal Church

Indonesia

“Hearing Jesus speak Ambai makes we want to cry. The impact on the Ambai people will be huge if it moves a non-native speaker like me!”

– Coordinator for Operation Snapdragon



God's Perfect Timing

Section 2

Reaching Into New Neighborhoods

In order for the kingdom of God to expand, Christians need to be willing to go where no Christians have gone before. When they do, people who have never been touched by the gospel hear and see Jesus in action. Time and again they are drawn to Him and are saved.

“You cannot show the film until I inform the elders,” the chief told the ministry team. They had just arrived in the village and had hoped to find receptive hearts.

Knowing God would direct their path, the team prayed and walked around the village. They decided to watch *JESUS* on a tablet, and a crowd soon formed, curious about a film in their own language.

“People have been fooling me, but my eyes are opened.”

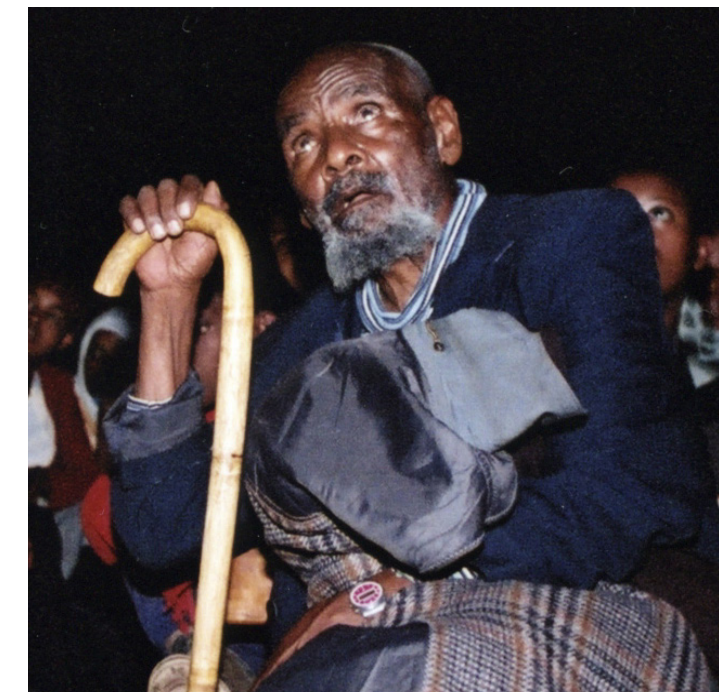
The chief saw the growing crowd. “Since you are already showing it, just show it to everyone,” he said.

The following evening the *JESUS* film flickered to life on a white screen in an open area. More than 250 people gathered to hear about Christ in their heart language. When the ministry team invited them to respond to the gospel, 15 people made their way to the front of the crowd. One of them was an older and well-respected man named Idir. When he came forward, the village elders attempted to stop him.

“I believe today that Jesus is the Son of God and have made up my mind to follow Him,” Idir said. “People have been fooling me, but my eyes are opened.”

When Idir and his family returned home that night, he wanted to stay up and talk about the film. The family finally went to bed around three in the morning. At sunup the village elders came to get Idir for morning prayers, and they discovered he'd died in the night. “He was the first person in the town to die smiling,” said Idir's son.

A month later the team returned to the village and visited Idir's family. Seeing the change in Idir that night, his family knew he had met the one, true God. That day 18 of Idir's family members indicated decisions to accept Christ. The transformation of one man before his death pointed many others to Jesus. God uses all things for His glory in His perfect timing.





“

The idea that the Jesus Film [Project] partners with so many different organizations is so appealing to me and the unity I see in the church. I love the idea that the Jesus Film [Project] is in the business of saying ‘yes’ to any person that comes in the door and wants to use the tool.”



Joe Mellema, financial partner with Jesus Film Project®

REACHING INTO NEW NEIGHBORHOODS

How a Church Is Born

Strangers arrived in Maraseti and set up a large yellow and white tent. They said they would be showing a movie about the life of Christ. Curious, the townspeople began to gather, wondering if this movie would actually have something interesting to say about Christ. The existing church in town never had anything useful to teach them. But this movie might be different.

That evening, more than 200 people attended the *JESUS* film showing—including Gicu.

Gicu had never seen God portrayed in this way. A compassionate and loving God was one Gicu could follow, so he eagerly placed his faith in Jesus that day. His new Christian friends offered him a Bible but had to say goodbye. They were heading back home about 25 miles away. So Gicu was left with a Bible and his newfound faith in Jesus.

What Gicu had found was too good to keep to himself. He felt he must tell his neighbors about Jesus. So he went door to door, read to them from the Bible, and prayed for their families. People saw new life in Gicu, and eventually he introduced many of them to Jesus.

Within a year Gicu planted a church—the first evangelical church in Maraseti! They named it “Wonder of God Church” and started with 250 members.

Gicu didn’t stop there. He wanted to interact with children and teens who often got bored in the summer, so he reached out to the Christian film team for help. They came with a huge tent and showed films like *The Story of Jesus for Children*.

“What Gicu had found was too good to keep to himself.”

For two weeks over 600 children and teens participated in a well-rounded evangelistic program. The last night, they and their families were invited to know the Lord.

Today the church is bursting with new members. God used that first tent event in Maraseti to build a growing community of faith spreading to multiple generations of believers.

When people come face-to-face with Jesus, they are never the same. In 2018, your gifts enabled the start of more than 220,000 new churches in places where a church had never before existed. ◀

An Open Door

Section 3

Waiting on Gospel Seeds

Every morning as the sun's rays reach across the horizon, the darkness recedes. Warmth follows. And seeds planted long ago start to grow. So it goes with the growth of the kingdom of God. Oftentimes the most profound work is done in secret.

Selim kept sneaking away to watch *JESUS*. The young boy received a DVD of the film not long after his dad passed away, and he watched it over and over. In time, he grew in his love and appreciation for Jesus.

Later Selim found a New Testament and read it on his own. He liked what he read, but he still had questions.

As a young man, Selim became friends with Farouk, a new believer. One night he met with Farouk and Campus Crusade for Christ® staff members in his country in the Middle East. The men explained that salvation is only found in Jesus. They talked late into the night about how Jesus opened the door for us to know God.

Finally, Selim shared with them that he had decided to follow Jesus.

Selim went home and woke up his mom to tell her of his decision. She was pleased with him and cried tears of joy! Since then, he has started going through the follow-up Bible lessons with Farouk and is growing in his knowledge of God.

The distribution of *JESUS* film DVDs planted gospel seeds for our staff members in the field. God was working in Selim's life before they even met him, and the seeds planted long ago came to bear fruit.

“God was working in Selim’s life before they even met him.”



Fruit Comes at Last

When Farrukh shared *JESUS* with a Central Asian student named Sitara, she gladly accepted Jesus as her Savior. Soon after, Sitara asked Farrukh to share the gospel with her family, but they lived in a mountain town on the country's edge known for drug trafficking. Sometime before, a border-crossing feud had lasted two days and killed more than 25 people. As a result, getting to Sitara's family would be difficult. Even so, Sitara was determined for her family to hear the gospel.

During a rare safe period, Farrukh and Sitara visited her family's town. They sowed gospel seeds and shared Christ's love. Sitara's younger brother, Abdullo, and Farrukh struck up a friendship and made plans to stay in touch.

Several months later, Abdullo left the country to find work. Farrukh kept in contact with him through a discreet messaging app, continuing to share *JESUS* and other gospel stories with Abdullo.

But the young man gradually chatted less and less with Farrukh. Eventually he stopped replying to Farrukh altogether.

Farrukh and Sitara prayed for Abdullo for seven years. One day Farrukh was surprised to see Abdullo had sent him a message.

He gasped with joy as he read, "I found Jesus."

God began a work in Sitara that is now bearing fruit in her family. With patience, faith and a willingness to proclaim His love where He was not known, Sitara and Farrukh saw God's kingdom grow.



In the next three years, two billion new people will have access to the internet. With Jesus Film Project®, you are sowing gospel seeds to reach them. ■

An Eternal Impact

TOTAL VIEWS OF JESUS FILM PROJECT® TOOLS

386,038,417

■ ONLINE VIEWS OF JESUS FILM PROJECT® TOOLS

149,905,189

INDICATED DECISIONS TO FOLLOW CHRIST

22,037,726

MULTIPLYING CHURCHES OR GROUPS STARTED

220,377

LANGUAGE VERSIONS OF *JESUS* COMPLETED AS OF AUGUST 2019

1,767

DVDS DISTRIBUTED WORLDWIDE

969,055

“

After seeing the impact the Lord is having all over the world, I said, I have to be involved in this—I can't not be involved in this.”



Sean Bradford,
financial partner with
Jesus Film Project®



100 Lake Hart Drive
Orlando, FL 32832
(800) 432-1997



**Would you
like more stories?**

Visit jesusfilm.org/blog

Editorial Team

Editor-in-Chief: Julie Sanders




Project Manager: Jessica Jones

Copy Editor: Scott Copeland

Writers: Kelly Bolanos, Zak Kerr, Raeli Smith, Hannah Weiland

Layout Design: Nathan Wilkinson

To view online:
jesusfilm.org/ar2019

Connect with us   

jesusfilm.org