

Dear friends,

April 2006

I'm sharing someone else's newsletter this month. I found this particularly moving and as I'm not out in the field I thought it would be good to share a first-hand account. This is from the JESUS film partnership director for the Church of the Nazarene.

tim and lisa cocking

Dear Friend & Partner,

It was a very warm day—only a few days ago in time, and yet a totally different world in experience.

Our air-conditioned bus approached the city dump. Our team of JESUS Film Harvest Partners had experienced the joy of seeing many come to Christ the past several nights in a country in Central America. But we were not prepared to see this—hundreds of small children looking for food for themselves and their families. A little boy's face haunts me often—seeing him grab for a scrap of food there in the dump, along with a thousand other children and adults, competing for the same food as the 500 buzzards flying overhead. A buzzard grabbed the prized morsel before the little boy could reach it.

Each morning these people begin their daily task of looking for food. They live in cardboard boxes inside the dump or on its edge. This is their life. As the large trash trucks roll down into the dump, the children and youth run behind them to jump in. Hopefully they will be the first inside the truck to open the bags of trash for their family's food for the day.

A part of our team rebuilt one of the huts with metal tin that day. The others held Vacation Bible School for the children. That night we all returned to show the JESUS Film. It was not much compared to what the needs were; however, the physical and spiritual ministry continues. Through the new church by the dump and the JESUS Film ministry, our prayers and support continue for the little boy who lives in the dump.

My hope for that boy is in Jesus: both for his physical and spiritual welfare as the body of believers minister in the dump. That night when many invited Jesus into their hearts after seeing the JESUS Film, I knew they had new hope for starting a new life.

My challenge to you today is that you allow Jesus to begin a new work in you. You may not live and find your food in a city dump; however, your spiritual needs are the same. The playing field is level at the foot of the cross and we must all live there to experience a truly redemptive life. Whether we are giving or receiving food at the dump, Jesus loves us the same. He desires the same from us—to give our lives to Him.

Thanks for being a JESUS film partner and friend. Your prayers and support make the difference to thousands of little boys around the world. One by one they experience and see Jesus as a result of you.



People live in these city dump huts



Scavenging for food



Little boy rescued from the dump



Sharing the JESUS film at night

THE JESUS FILM PROJECT®



Believers from the Gende tribe in Papua New Guinea are baptized to demonstrate their faith in Christ. (photo © New Tribes Mission, used by permission)

## Unreached People Groups

I was recently asked what the least reached country and what the most reached country was. Here is the answer in terms of numbers of people groups. The most reached is Papua New Guinea with 873 total people groups and only four considered "least reached." 810 of those groups have growing churches with an accelerating rate of church planting. The least reached is India with 2082 people groups that are considered "least reached" with either no Christians or no churches. These groups range in size from less than 1000 to over 73 million individuals. Eight of the groups have over 10 million each. But here's an encouraging statistic; according to Operation World, "An amazing **100,000 Indians find out about Jesus everyday** through the JESUS film."

## Notes from Lisa

I haven't added any notes to the newsletter for a few months, so I thought it was time for me to speak up again! Of course, the girls keep me busy, especially since I've started homeschooling Bethany. We've been doing this for about a month now, and we're both getting the hang of it and really starting to enjoy it. I haven't decided yet whether this will be a long-term thing; we're going to do a year (kindergarten) and then evaluate and decide from there. If it keeps going like this, though, I'm likely to continue.

If you haven't seen the web page in a long while, you should visit it again. I totally revamped it (yet again) a couple of months ago to give it a whole new look and feel. I'm constantly trying to tweak it, so if you have any suggestions for me please pass them along. And while you're there, check out our blog ([cockingfamily.blogspot.com](http://cockingfamily.blogspot.com)). We try to post at least once a week, so check back often.

## Moving update

We are not going to be able to move at the end of this month as we'd hoped. We'll be in Florida on April 25-26 and will find out more about our housing situation. So it looks like it will be a few more weeks after that. The great thing is that now we are talking in terms of weeks and not months! We'll put an update on the blog while we are down there and will have more info in next month's letter. Please pray for safe travel for us and for our housing to be ready on schedule for June.

And speaking of moving... have you moved in the past year? If your snail-mailed newsletter comes to you with the yellow forwarding sticker from the Post Office, then we don't have your new address! Please drop us a note or call us with your new information so we don't lose track of you.