

# A MIRACULOUS SIGN

"I CAN ONLY MARRY a Christian woman." To Azin, a young woman raised strongly in the majority religion of her culture, these words spoken by her friend Mani stirred her to begin seeking answers. "Who is this Jesus?" she wondered. She prayed to the only god she knew, "God, if Jesus really is Your Son, if He's God, show me the sign." Immediately, an image of a man appeared on the palms of her hands. Shocked to see an answer to her prayer so quickly, Azin tucked the image of that man into her memory. Not long afterward, she watched *JESUS* and saw the Jesus in the film was the same as the image she had seen on her palms. At that moment she believed. Today she attends a home church and continues to grow in her faith. Azin now knows Jesus as Friend and Savior.



## The Wesleyan Church, A Global Jesus Film Partner

*We prayed for God to move through the JESUS film.*

*Walls began to crumble from the mountains, to the jungles, to the cities. Doors once closed were opened; 1.5 million heard the message... saw the story in their own language.*

*Hindu priests came to Christ; Muslim imams came to Christ; Buddhist monks came to Christ.*

*We asked for 30 new film teams—God gave us 46 teams!*

*We prayed for 300 new churches—  
God gave us 482 church plants!*

*Thousands have responded to the gospel message.*

*Everyone who hears can be made new.*

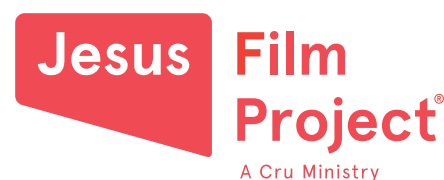
## Financial Update

**THE GENEROSITY** of Mission 865 ministry partners continues to amaze us. With over \$17 million in contributions towards the completion of Mission 865 has set this ministry well on the course toward the completion of 865 languages. Almost 1,400 ministry partners have demonstrated a heart to reach these last remaining language groups. **THANK YOU!**

## 236 Languages Completed

Recently Completed Versions	Country
Mambilla	Nigeria
Buksa	India
Kuna, San Blas	Panama
Kilaangi	Tanzania
Dibali	DRC
Sama Mum	Nigeria
Wagdi	India
Gbe, Saxwe	Benin
Two Confidential Languages	

*Mission 865 is an initiative of*



Give them one minute with *JESUS* and see what God does.

<http://www.mission865.org/>



236 Languages Completed

# BIANNUAL REPORT, SUMMER 2016

*"...They who had no news of Him shall see, and they who have not heard shall understand" (Romans 15:21, NASB).*

**"THE LORD IS NOT SLOW** in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance (2 Peter 3:9, New International Version).

## SYRIAN REFUGEES IN WESTERN EUROPE

**JOSEPH\* MET FERAS** at the Keleti train station in Budapest, Hungary. Feras, his brother and his mother—Syrian war refugees—had spent many nights sleeping on a concrete floor waiting for passage to Germany. They had survived a dangerous sea crossing and walked for five days before they had arrived in Budapest. They had left everything they knew and loved in their homeland to try to find a place to live where Feras wouldn't be forced to enlist in an army and kill innocent people. They literally had nothing left but their very lives.

Joseph engaged Feras in conversation and learned that he was from Damascus. He asked him if he knew of the famous story of the man Paul, who was from his city, and how that man's life was radically changed after he met Jesus. Feras had not. After showing him the Jesus Film® app on his phone, Joseph asked if Feras would like to watch the film in Arabic on his train ride to Germany. Feras said he would. Now the two are Facebook friends, and Joseph will continue the dialogue about the only One who can give him everlasting life and freedom.

Serving with Campus Crusade for Christ® in Hungary, Joseph has this to say about their work among refugees: *"Jesus showed up at the railway station so we could host Him, feed Him, wash Him, and clothe Him! As I walked among these refugees, I could only see the tremendous opportunity God gave us to show the love of Christ. God brought the nations to us because we never could have reached them with the gospel otherwise."*

\*Names changed for security.

**"WE ARE NOT FINISHED BECAUSE RIGHT NOW NEARLY 5 BILLION PEOPLE HAVE YET TO ENCOUNTER JESUS—AND IT WILL TAKE EACH AND ALL OF US TO REACH THEM."**

**—ERICK SCHENKEL,  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



**Half the population of Syria has already been displaced, and 2 million Iraqi Christians have fled.**

# PERU PREMIERE by Liz Thiessen

"TENEMOS UNA PELÍCULA sobre Jesús Cristo en kechua de ambo pasco. Estamos en la iglesia a la seis y media"... I stumbled through the broken Spanish that I could remember from college. Walking cautiously through the streets, we approached each person we saw.

The JESUS film had just been translated into Quechua, Ambo Paseo, a language of only 120,000 speakers in the mountains of Peru. We were working with Jaime and a few other Peruvian missionaries, who had left successful jobs to take the message of Jesus to these remote people in Peru.

The Quechua people are uneducated agricultural workers who are isolated in the Andes Mountains. Although the Bible has been translated into their language, most are unable to use it because 99 percent of the population is illiterate. But this film allows the people to experience Jesus without having to learn to read first.

Anticipation built as the time drew closer to 6:30, the appointed time of the film showing. We learned that it was the town's 100th anniversary and there was going to be a party in the square to celebrate and a LOT of people gathering from the surrounding areas. I thought, "This could go one of two ways... either there will be so many people at the film showing that it will be standing room only, or we will be competing with the other festivities." It became quite clear, at 6:30, that the people were more interested

in going to the celebration where there was a lot of drinking and live music. Honestly, I was discouraged and pleaded, "God, you know these people need You, and this movie could change their lives... won't you bring them here to meet with You?"



We waited in the church—there were so many empty seats—and listened to the party a few blocks away getting louder and louder. As I prayed, I began to let go of my own expectations of the night and just rested knowing that God was in control. "Jesus," I prayed, "please bring those whose hearts are ready." Now it was close to 7 p.m. and the movie needed to start before the waiting few lost interest... so we

started the film, expecting God to reach the couple dozen people who were there.

It was maybe 20 minutes into the movie when the power shut off. Complete darkness. "Oh, Lord, really?" As my husband, Matt, went to investigate, he found out that, between their music and lights, the power grid was overloaded and the power was OUT. Well, we just so happened to have a portable projector that was charged by battery. So as our team set that up, Matt went into the streets to invite those leaving the town square... and you know, the room filled right up!

As the movie restarted and continued to play, all of the people were engrossed in it, captivated by Jesus, the miracles He performed, and the ways He extended love to the downcast of society.

As the film came to a close and there was an invitation to receive Jesus as Savior, people came and spoke to our local missionary friends. One woman, in the traditional colorful layers of skirts, and weathered skin said,

"Thank you. Thank you for not overlooking us."

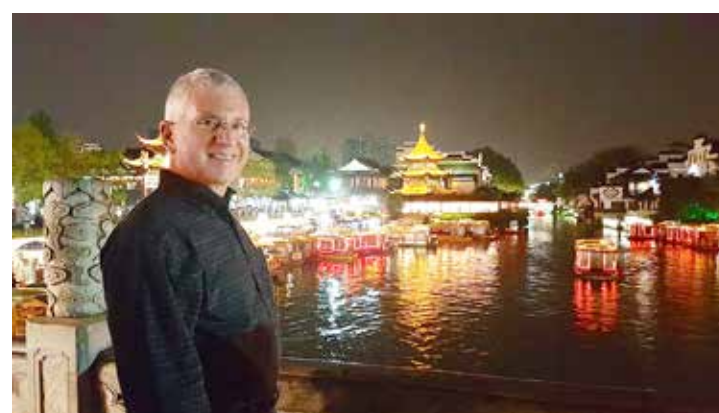
The truth is that Jesus had not overlooked them. His heart is for these people, all people, the least, the last, and the lost, to come to know Him. This film was His means to reach these precious people and the many more who will watch the film when the missionaries take the film, projector and screen deep into the mountains of Peru.

# ERICK'S CORNER Jesus Film® Executive Director

ONE OF THINGS I LOVE about the JESUS film is the wide variety of people who use it to proclaim the gospel message. Because it is simply the Gospel of Luke in visual form, with a call to personal faith in Christ, it slips through theological—and even political—barriers. I saw this vividly during a recent trip to China and Rome.

China is not new to me; I've been there several times. But this time, Doug Cady and I traveled with Kua Wee Seng, director of the United Bible Societies China Partnership, to visit the Three Self-Patriotic Movement/China Christian Council (TSPM/CCC) churches. We had heard that these churches have substantial freedom to preach the gospel and that many of them are able to publically preach the gospel very effectively. What we found exceeded our expectations. We saw thriving evangelical congregations, seminaries training hungry young leaders and real love for God and His word.

We also found, to our surprise, that the JESUS film has played a large role in the ministry of the TSPM/CCC churches. One pastor told us that, of the 50 million Christians in churches in China, probably 45 million had seen the film at some point in their faith journey. We



Elder Fu is the chairman of the National Committee of the Three Self-Patriotic Movement of the Protestant churches in China.

enjoyed rich fellowship with top national leaders in the movement, and left with an agreement to expand the use the JESUS film in reaching Chinese who have not yet had a chance to hear a clear presentation of the good news of Jesus.

On the way home from China, I stopped by Rome, where Elizabeth met me, to attend an event hosted by Pope Francis for young people in celebration of the Year of Mercy. Through the arrangement of the Ramon Pané Foundation, a Catholic organization dedicated to evangelization and Bible reading, 120,000 JESUS film DVDs were handed out to the participants, since the Gospel of Luke is the gospel that most clearly shows God's mercy in Christ. What a joy to see young people from all over the world gathered to celebrate God's mercy, and to know that they would be taking home with them, a film that shares the good news so clearly.

The vision of Jesus Film Project® is that everyone, everywhere, has an opportunity to hear, and see the good news of Jesus and to receive His offer of eternal life in their own heart language.

We continue to work with a wide variety of Christians around the world to make major strides toward seeing this vision become a reality.