

Join Us for an International Faith and Learning Adventure!

August 24, 2012

Dear Sonlighter,

A friend of mine visited a Buddhist monastery way up in the mountains in a remote region of Asia. As he chatted with the monks, they looked at the time and said "Oh excuse us, we need to go listen to a radio broadcast. This is the only broadcast in our language, so we make sure not to miss it."

Can you guess what the broadcast was? A Christian gospel message!

These monks have no TV, no internet and few books. But they do have a small radio and they eagerly listen to the one program in their native tongue. Though they haven't yet decided to follow Christ, that broadcast is not only the one communication they receive in their language from the "outside," it is the only access to the Gospel they may ever receive.

I'd like to invite your family to join other Sonlighters in an exciting faith and learning adventure. We'll think outside the box of "normal" Christian mission (whatever that is!) and discover exciting ways God is working in our world. Throughout this 6-week program, you'll "travel" to 4 Far East countries, discover the power of the Gospel, and help raise money to provide radios so that people from minority language groups, as well as orphans, children living on the streets, and people living in poverty in larger cities can hear the gospel for the very first time.

Sonlight has teamed up with Far East Broadcasting Company to present what we're calling ...

Phoenix Phaxx' Pocket Guide to the Great Commission

With 7 adventurous videos, your 13-year-old host, Phoenix Phaxx (not his real name, but he is a real boy and a real homeschooler), will take your family on thrilling journeys through 4 countries and 5 cultural belief systems. Get ready for close encounters with elephants, fried tarantulas, bats the size of small dogs, monkeys and more ... all from the safety of your computer, of course! See what daily life is like for children in Russia, Cambodia, Indonesia and South Korea. Learn about the dominant religions in these countries and see how they differ from Christianity.

Starting on September 25th, Far East Broadcasting Company (FEBC) will post a new video each Tuesday morning for 6 weeks. Each video corresponds with extra photos, family devotionals, fun facts, maps, stories and more at www.phoenixphaxx.com.

Help your children impact their world

This project could bring true hope to thousands of children and their families in Asia. And not only that, it will help your own children learn about the world. It will inspire their spirit of generosity and challenge them to think beyond themselves.

Throughout the adventure, we'll examine the importance of the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20) and be challenged to think big about how to share Christ with neighbors at home ... to the ends of the earth.

Consider this: More than 2.7 billion people in the world have never heard the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Over 50% of them are

Jesus Christ changes lives! This
Cambodian woman met Jesus through
her treasured FEBC radio. Your children
can spread that hope to others, like these

children. FEBC brings hope to these children and families. With a potential listening audience of 3 billion people, FEBC affiliates broadcast the gospel: through radio, internet and mobile devices in 50 countries and 130 languages, 700+ hours per day. Each year, FEBC receives well over 1 million listener responses to their broadcasts.

So what can we Sonlighters do? Help put radios in the hands of families who live in very remote regions of the world! We can help them tune into FEBC broadcasts in their language ... and hear the Good News of Jesus Christ for the first time.

Why Radio?

Most of us who live in developed Western countries tend to think radio is no big deal. We have constant access to the internet, TV, Christian books, magazines, music, study Bibles and more. Why would we need another media channel for the Gospel?

But consider life in rural and remote areas of Asia and the Pacific islands. Many villagers have no electricity, no computers, no internet, no books, no TV. Cut off from easy contact with the outside world, a simple radio is a prized possession. In fact, persecution, lack of education, and social or geographical isolation keep over 2.7 billion people world-wide from hearing the message of Jesus. International gospel broadcasts can go where missionaries can't. Radio reaches even the most closed-off locations.

One wind up or battery powered portable radio can impact the hearts and lives of an entire village. FEBC tells us that in most rural communities, a single radio impacts 25 people. Villagers often stop their work to gather around that radio to listen to FEBC broadcasts.

John and I have personally met several missionaries who have served in the countries FEBC reaches. They share glowing reports of the impact of Christian radio there. For many rural families—particularly those in minority ethnic groups—a radio may be their first and only exposure to the hope of Jesus. For believers who don't own a Bible or can't openly meet with other Christians, radio is their main connection to encouragement from the larger body of Christ.

Our goal: to reach a potential 250,000 people!

In order to provide more hard-to-reach families with radios in Asia, John and I hope to partner with Sonlighters to raise funds to share the Good News. Toward that end, we promise that for every contribution your family gives, Sonlight will match you dollar-for-dollar, up to \$150,000.

Every \$30 we raise will allow FEBC to purchase and distribute a new wind-up or battery powered portable radio. **Between all of us Sonlighters, we think we can raise \$300,000**. That means 10,000 new radios tuned in to the Gospel. Since one radio impacts an average of 25 people in rural communities, we have the potential to share the Good News with more than 250,000 people!

What an amazing opportunity for Sonlighters to impact the world for Jesus Christ!

I'm excited for you to begin this journey. Can your kids creatively raise \$15? Combine that with the Sonlight match, and you will have provided a whole radio! \$30, combined with our match, will purchase two radios . . . or \$60 will buy four. Multiply each radio by 25 to estimate the number of people whose lives are likely to be touched by your gift.

You're certainly under no obligation to give anything if you're not convinced. But you and your children will still get to learn about countries and peoples and religions and cultures with which you may be rather unfamiliar.

I promise: this will be a memorable and worthwhile experience for every member of your family.

Please sign up for this adventure at <u>www.phoenixphaxx.com</u>. You'll meet your tour guide, Phoenix, and get a sneak peek at an introductory video. The deadline to register—so you can get your Pocket Guide before the project launch—is **Friday, September 14th**.

Please, come join us. I look forward to this adventure with you!

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Sarita Holzmann, President

P.S. Think of it ... every \$30 that your children raise will provide one radio so children and their families in places like Indonesia, Cambodia, Russia and South Korea, can hear the life-giving message of Jesus Christ. And that one radio turns into two radios once matched by Sonlight funds! I am confident that these weekly learning opportunities will be well worth your time. Whether your family raises \$15 or \$150, please join us and make an eternal difference in the lives of children.

