



Missionary News From Henry & Janet Marsh Winter 2008



Multiply!

“...and God said unto them, Be fruitful and multiply...”
Genesis 1:28

From the very beginning, God’s plan for us has been multiplication. Not just in terms of human procreation, but also in the sense of spiritual reproduction. As His church, we are commissioned to multiply God’s kingdom in all the earth, to make disciples of every nation.

That’s why we are missionaries who use media. Media is a multiplier. It helps *multiply* missionary reach, taking the Gospel to more people and places than ever before. It helps *multiply* missionary resources,

extending the distribution and impact of materials for evangelism, discipleship and training. And it helps *multiply* missionary results, making an eternal difference in the lives of those who respond.

But that process of multiplication only works in the right equation. It looks something like this: (our missionary service) X (your prayer and financial partnership) = greater spiritual fruit than either of us could bear on our own. That’s God’s missionary math!

Thank you for helping Multiply Missions Through Media!

Henry & Janet Marsh



Feature Attraction: Sri Lanka Media Consultation



Ceylon. Pearl of the Orient. Teardrop of India. Resplendent Land. By these and other names, the island nation of Sri Lanka is known as a place of great natural beauty and cultural diversity. Renowned for its tea, spices, and gemstones, Sri Lanka has been noted as “the finest island of its size”, according to famed explorer, Marco Polo.

Located about 20 miles off India’s southeastern coast, Sri Lanka was first populated in the 5th century BC by Indian emigrants. Today their descendants, the Sinhalese and Tamils, make up the largest ethnic groups in the country. Sri Lankan Moors tracing their ancestry to centuries of Arab traders form the third largest ethnic, and a mixture of Malays, Asians, Chinese, Europeans and others complete the varied cultural tapestry.



Buddhism dominates religious practice with almost 3/4 of the population counted as followers. Though the right to exercise and adopt a religion of choice is guaranteed in the national constitution, it also gives Buddhism “the foremost place”. Hindus and Muslims also form significant religious minorities at 12% and 8% of the people.

Sri Lanka boasts some of the world’s most beautiful beaches

Christianity has a long history in Sri Lanka, perhaps dating back to a visit by the Apostle Thomas in the first century AD. At times as much as 20% of the population was considered Christian, but that number declined considerably in the post-colonial era after 1948 when Sri Lanka gained political independence from the British. During recent years, however, there has been a strong growth rate in the church, largely among evangelicals, and particularly the Pentecostals and charismatics. Current estimates put the Christian population at 7%.



Sri Lankan tea is famous worldwide and a major factor in the economy

But growth in the church has come at a cost. Religious tensions between Christian believers and Buddhist extremists have resulted in

increasing persecution of Christians. In recent decades, over 35 churches were destroyed, hundreds of Christians assaulted and some even martyred.



Tamil Tiger terrorist methods include using child soldiers

These challenges are set against a backdrop of 25 years of civil war between the ruling Sri Lankan government and the Tamil Tigers, a revolutionary group seeking a national homeland in the northern part of the country. It’s estimated that more than 70,000 people have been killed in the fighting. After recent government attacks on rebel strongholds, the Tigers are responding with increased terrorist bombings targeting buses, trains, and streets. Since the first of the year, more than 180 have died in these attacks and almost 300 more wounded.

Today, despite dazzling natural beauty, multi-ethnic diversity, and rich cultural traditions, Sri Lanka has sadly become an island of tears for many of its 21 million inhabitants. Disillusioned by bitter political turmoil and the bigotry and violence of religious extremists, they need Good News. The message of hope and peace that faith in Christ can bring needs to be powerfully communicated across the nation.



East meets west in the capital city Colombo, home to 2.4 million people

To help address that need, I’ll conduct a media consultation and training event in Colombo in March.

At the invitation of the General Superintendent of the Sri Lanka Assemblies of God, I’ll meet with national church leaders to assess opportunities and plan efforts to use media to multiply reach, resources, and results across the country.

Will you pray for these meetings scheduled for March 17-21?

Pray for:

- guidance in planning media strategies
- blessing on new partnerships
- travelling mercies during the 20,000+ mile trip
- protection in an unstable setting
- provision to meet the \$3200 project budget

Thank you for your prayer and participation!



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Henry Marsh



May is "2 For 1" Media Month!

Janet's emergency surgery in October and subsequent recovery demanded some revisions in planned projects originally scheduled for the end of 2007. In May, Henry will combine production work at **International Media Ministries** in Madrid, Spain, with a trip to Oradea, Romania, to teach an **Introduction To Video Production** course at **Eastern Europe Bible College**. Please pray for the preparations for these strategic projects.



www.imm.edu

IMM Opening The Bible Production

When: Early May 2008
Where: Madrid, Spain



EEBC Media Course

When: Mid May 2008
Where: Oradea, Romania



www.cbee.ro

Combined Cost: \$2400



Rebound To Air In Philippines



The **AGWM Media Commission** is a forum for communication and partnership among missionaries, media ministries, and missions leadership. Members of the Commission are involved in a wide range of media activities around the world.

Based in Manila, Philippines, **Asia Pacific Media Ministries** serves the media training and production needs of the Asia Pacific region.

Recently, **APMM** produced an exciting evangelistic movie titled "Rebound". The sports themed film is targeted at youth and young adults and tells the story of Noel, a small-town basketball star whose quest for stardom leads him down a destructive path. Issues of self-worth, parent-child relationships, peer pressure, drugs, and premarital sex are addressed in a way that offers possible solutions and positive alternatives in a dramatic parable of hope and redemption.

Initial response to the movie has been very positive, and now God has opened an incredible door of opportunity for **Rebound** to be broadcast on national television in the Philippines! It will air on the GMA network commercial channels and satellite network from 6-8 PM on Good Friday. According to **APMM** Director, Bill Snider, "Holy Week, from Thursday to Saturday evening is a time when most stores and shopping areas are closed and the majority of television channels sign off in respect for the church encouraging a time of contemplation. With limited commercial television available, we are realistically expecting an audience in the millions to view this movie." **APMM** is finalizing a phone counseling center and follow-up website for viewer response.



Please make this media outreach a matter of prayer that many lives will be touched and that follow-up efforts will be effective in reaping a harvest.



For more information about **Rebound**, visit the website: www.reboundphilippinesmovie.com. Find out more about at **APMM** at www.apmedia.org.



Family Focus

Winter is lingering in the Ozarks as we've been visited by a repeat, but weaker (PTL!) version of last year's ice storm, along with a lot of snow, rain, low temperatures and even unseasonal tornados. Fortunately, Spring is almost here, or at least that's what we keep telling ourselves!

Drew is now completing his junior year at Evangel University, and among other "joys", wading through the proofs of Advanced Calculus. Who ever heard of math so complicated they don't use numbers?? And speaking of numbers, Matt is counting the days to his graduation from Kickapoo High School on May 19th.

Janet's strength continues to improve after her surgery last Fall. In a few weeks she will undergo a scan as follow-up to the cancer discovered during the operation. Please pray with us for a clear, "negative" result. Henry continues his activities with the **AGWM Media Commission**, as well as several international projects. He's also working on a concept to involve more Christian media specialists in overseas missionary media opportunities. Look for more information on "themediapool" concept next time!

"Multiplying Missions Through Media"



For more information or to make a donation, visit us at: multiplymissions.com

About Us

Henry & Janet Marsh are veteran missionaries, having served more than twenty years on three continents. As Appointed Media Specialists their missions work is unique. Henry has utilized his media education and expertise on projects in nearly 30 countries from Iceland to South Africa.

Past service has included assignments with International Correspondence Institute, International Media Ministries, Southern Africa Media Ministries and Global University.

Currently, Henry serves as Facilitator for the **World Missions Media Commission**, assisting missionaries, ministries, and national churches around the world with production, training, and consultation projects. Janet provides accounting services for **Network 211**, an AGWM international ministry.

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