

The God's Story Project (TGSP)
Prayer & Praise Report # 5 of 2015, October and November
"Church Planting, Oral Learners, and Multiplication!"

How Could STS and *God's Story* Help with Church Planting Worldwide?

TGSP has been working closely with a group in Asia that's been designing a church planting model (CPM). Most of the team have been trained as STS instructors. Their primary tools include STS, *God's Story*, their own tools, principles for discipleship, and principles from another system. One of the team members shared recently, "In the last 5 months we have gone from 12 groups to 26. Also they identified a group of three men to train to lead work in that area." These groups spend time in the Word of God, with evidence of lives changing. Amazingly, the area of focus has been dubbed one of the most difficult regions of the world to evangelize.

Southeast Asia

From one church planter, "Several of our workers in [this ravaged and difficult country] effectively use the STS model of story telling in their building disciples and planting churches there."

Central Asia

A wonderful organization working in Central Asia has become very intentional in getting their new workers trained in STS, focusing on evangelism, discipleship and church planting.



Instructor in W. Africa shares Bible story at street market.

Reports from the last STS training with this

organization include the following:

"I lead a Sunday fellowship group and one of the women who comes is illiterate and I have worked very hard in a literate study to get her involved, but now I've realized that if she's not heard it two times she's not going to get it and [will feel lost].

"A second thing is, a [Mzlm] who is now a believer who his wife does Ev like crazy, but he's not her and he can't learn it from her So I'm just wondering how encouraged he can be from having this method that is far easier to do and is really effective. It has really impacted my heart."

Another attendee said, "...This has really helped me to think of ways that I can take it deeper in those conversations.With this method you can go a lot deeper and even look more at application...."

Reaching Oral Learners Through *God's Story* and STS

Refugees in Europe Changed

Our ministry has been honored to help supply solar audio players with *God's Story* to the refugees through a few groups. Some refugees came to the church and heard about Jesus all day through preaching and various tools. Only at the end of the day, did they listen and watch *God's Story: From Creation to Eternity* and 8 people accepted Christ.

A few weeks later, an Iranian refugee said to one instructor, "I listen to *God's Story* every night."

Thailand

One man wrote recently about using *God's Story* (GS) coupled with *Simply The Story* (STS) style discussion with wonderful success. This missionary states that, "The young Thai seeker Buddhist who are watching say the GS really helps them understand the flow of the story telling and helps them see the bigger picture for sure."

Ghana

Four thousand five hundred people saw the 10 different languages of *God's Story* in Ghana during the launchings in October and November. We praise the Lord for the 1700 new souls in the Kingdom of God as a result of watching *God's Story*.

STS Oral Bible Schools Multiplication Equals What?

Philippines

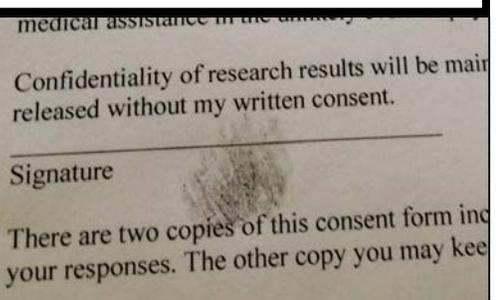
Our leader from the Philippines reports about the STS Oral Bible Schools (OBS) located in a difficult area. "OBS here in [xxx] the location is the mountain and no internet. I am doing disciple for the leaders here for the STS trainingWe have 5 obs in the mountain-right now they are doing will. By the way some others graduated. Month of March some bible school end."

He continued sharing about the how their farm helps to support some of their ministry efforts. Please keep this leader and the team in prayer as they work in some dangerous places.

Ethiopia

An independent researcher has been studying our Oral Bible Schools in Ethiopia for her Ph.D. dissertation. She recently shared the signature (a finger print) of one woman affected by the Bible stories learned in the OBS. The researcher said, "She cannot write her name, but it was clear by her words and her radiant face that she was very sure that Jesus knows her name and that she is loved by the Most High God."

Thumb print signature of non literate learner in Ethiopia.



How Do STS Trainings Affect People?

We just started investing time in Gambia and the feedback from this country is amazing. Our leader reports, “they are calling on me everyday to give testimonies of how they are using STS, a pastor from [this ministry] sends a message to me on WhatsApp saying they were supposed to have a 3 days storytelling time last week ... the ladies woke up



very early to prepare before the session starts so they can't miss the only one thing that's important. ... most of the pastors that attended the workshop are even doing their sermons and Sunday schools now with STS model. ... Others who missed the first workshop are eager to do it because of the way that they see the other are talking about the importance of the workshop.”

Instructor in Ghana shares Bible story at coffee shop with 7 employees (some can't be seen in picture)!

Laos

One group of Lao leaders commented after an STS training that they had already been using oral methods of story telling for a couple of years, but wanted to dig deeper in the Word of God. The leaders stated that they are excited to use STS as a way to lead and raise up disciples in Laos. These Lao brothers and sisters work in a tribal area where many do not read and write.

Please pray for our friends. They are experiencing persecution. The believers in this area have tripled in the past 3 years. The Lao government is noticing the growth and threatening them to stop believing in Jesus or go to jail and face all kinds of hardships. They continue trusting in Jesus at the cost of going to prison.

What's new for TGSP in Latin America?

Our leader in Mexico recently wrote about her experience with STS.

“I led women's Bible study groups in Cuernavaca for 7 years before I joined STS. No one remembers the previews lessons. One out of 14 women memorized the assigned Scripture memory verses and 1-2 women would answer the assigned chapters in whatever book we were studying for a given time. It was very frustrating for me every week. I mentioned this several times to the church leadership but nothing was done about it. The Lord finally led me in an interesting way to STS.

Four weeks ago, I started the women's ministry in Temixco.... Before I shared my [Bible] story for last Thursday, I asked if anyone remembered the Bible story from last week.

One woman shared the story of Jars of Oil - about 95% of it. Deep in my heart - I had such joy! I did not ask them to memorize any Scripture verse. Yet, she knew what the story was - 7 verses. What a tangible confirmation the Lord gave me on why I am with STS!"

Bolivia

We recently sent 2 of our Latin America leaders to scout the territory and plant seeds for STS training. We estimate that 5,000 people experienced an STS style Bible story and now the Lord opened doors for several trainings for 2016.

Doing STS Bible story with 7 hotel personnel in Africa. Some were non-literates, all loved it!

Bolivians share two capitals, La Paz and Sucre. La Paz boasts witchcraft as its primary religion. There's a spiritual battle for the country between the Truth and witchcraft, and we believe the timing of STS going to Bolivia is very strategic.



We appreciate your continued prayers as God opens the Latin American world to *Simply The Story*. Our desire to multiply leaders requires a team of Spanish speaking instructors. If you or someone you know is interested in finding out more about STS in Latin America please contact us.

Close to home

While writing this Prayer & Praise Report, I reflected on the recent terrorist event in our own backyard of San Bernardino, CA. Several friends of The God's Story Project are in the midst of the solution.

One friend serves on an emergency response team and has had multiple opportunities to listen and pray for victims and their families. She wrote, "This is one hurting community." Another friend needs prayer due to various relationships with others directly affected by this tragedy.

I have traveled all over the world and find people to be the same, hurting and lost with out the Lord Jesus. The harvest is plenteous, and Jesus said, "pray for the laborers." We praise the Lord for the opportunities to train the work force going into the harvest field, and to carry the vision forward that the Lord gave our founder, Dorothy Miller.

If you would like more information about STS training at our headquarters in January, please call us at (951) 658-1619.

Grateful to the Lord, Andrea
Executive Director
The God's Story Project