Finally an answer to a longtime prayer! A dear STS Instructor felt led to take on the posting of prayer requests and answers. Before, we had no one to do it. Many of the requests that were posted there for a long time have been answered in ways beyond our belief. We title the answers like this (**Answered:**). In the mean time, can you who are called to prayer take these requests to the Lord?

**Prayer Requests**

- **Posted August 1st, 2014**

  **Request:**
  The Lord has been directing us to develop and provide STS Children's Material. It is shaping up, but a lot more yet needs to come together. New staff, with a call to reach families and children, is coming aboard. But we need one more person with administrative skills to be with us in the office so our creative team can spend full time completing the Children's material. Please pray for that person to hear the call of God.

- **Posted July 30, 2014**

  **Request:**
  One of our instructors has just received a surprise invitation to tell Bible stories in a location you see on the news every night. Please pray for quick provision for this trip, for melodious Bible stories to flow from the instructor's mouth and for open ears and hearts to receive the Word of God.

  **Answered: July 31, 2014**
  Provisions came!

- **Posted July 29, 2014**

  **Request:**
  Our leadership meets this Thursday with the leadership of very large, biblically based, children's organization. The potential to reach Children who are not yet being touched by the Word is enormous. Please pray for God's direction to be seen in this meeting.

  **Answered: July 31, 2014**
  The meeting went well. Praise God. Various ministries like this one and others are contacting us for ways to fold in Bible stories to their existing programs. They want to go more
deeply into the Word, and also they know they need material to reach non-readers. We do not know yet how much of STS will be used, but the potential hand-off is most exhilarating.

- **Posted March 28, 2014**

  **Request:**
  On July 8-9, 2014 there will be a consultation on Orality and Theological Education at Houston Baptist University. There is an interest in higher education to reach out to oral learners. But there is a legitimate concern in the theological world that includes non-literate oral methods in seminary courses could dumb down theology.

  Two representing STS will be there by invitation: the Executive Director, and an African who is the STS Director in Ethiopia. An outside observer, who recently visited and observed an Oral Bible School graduation in Ethiopia, was asked to submit a paper for the consultation. We hope and pray that our African Director's testimony and the paper will demonstrate that deep theology can be learned, understood and replicated by oral learners.

  **Answered:**
  The meeting went wonderfully well. Those in attendance discussed the paper presented on graduation of the seven STS Oral Bible Schools in Ethiopia. The value of non-traditional education was seen. How to access its success and ongoing impact was a key talking point.

- **Posted March 25, 2014**

  Current workshop going on in closed country, experiencing lots of spiritual warfare.

  **Request:**
  Pray for all concerned.

  **Answered:**
  The warfare continued throughout, but God worked in hearts of those who persevered.

- **Posted March 24, 2014**

  Our Guinea Director, Bockarie, is representing TGSP/STS at the West Africa CRAF conference in Senegal starting on March 25. He will be speaking and has a small display.

  **Answered March 27, 2014:** There was tremendous response and wonderful acceptance
Prayer Requests

to the plenary STS story and reception of the method. Bockarie enjoyed meeting and fellowshipping with people and leaders who use various storytelling techniques.

Request March 23, 2014:
Please pray for a shipment of supplies to arrive in time. He leaves immediately after that to lead a workshop in Sierra Leone. We are hoping on this go-back workshop to see leaders emerge to whom we can hand off the responsibility of planning STS throughout their country.

Answered March 25, 2014:
Thanks for praying. The package arrived a week ahead of the scheduled delivery, arriving the first day conference.

Answered:
Thanks for praying for our West Africa instructor Apollos. His 2-year son responded well to a new medication, so the needed operation has been postponed until he is 8-years old.

Request:
But this incredibly productive leader still needs prayer. While coming back a few days ago from workshops in Cote d'Ivorie and Nigeria to be with his family and see what was happening with his son, Apollos fell asleep on the bus. His laptop and the iPad we just gifted to him were stolen. He sets up and leads workshops in multiple countries so uses this equipment a lot. And upon arrival home he found his mum gravely ill, a relative died and his wife lost her salary for February their only means of income. (Our guess is she missed work while she was with the ill son.) He also came home to discover a surprise donation from some missionaries he taught in Feb, so the Lord provided for these emergencies ahead of time.

Nearly all of our leaders In Africa have been robbed at least once. This is the 2nd time in 6 months for Apollos. In Sept he was drugged and left for dead at his hotel on the way to workshop and everything except his pajamas were taken. Jim, while in Burkina Faso had his camera stolen. Jenny's hotel was robbed when she first got to Nairobi. What is the solution? All we like sheep have gone astray, We have turned everyone to his own way and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all. We are on it. Tell people about Jesus now and He is our blessed hope for the future, the solution.

Request:
Please pray for the instructors' protection while they minister and train thousands. Beside the amazing indigenous instructors on all continents (except one very cold one) we currently have 6 Western instructors working in India and some going on to Nepal, 4 headed or already inside 6 countries, most of which we can't safely list. This is an army, and we really do need prayer for their health, protection and wisdom.

- Posted March 24, 2014

Request:
This coming Monday an STS director is giving a plenary address to a large conference of expats on the use of oral methods to present God's Word. The memory thread throughout is to be the Biblical precedent for the use of questions. Questions will be demonstrated through doing an STS story. Please pray that this information will broaden workers' understanding of oral strategies and the value of questions in discovery-teaching. We praise God for each opportunity to show how STS fits in the orality arena.

**Answered:**
March 31 Our International Director spoke to a large gathering of ministry workers from Asia and Africa. After experiencing this interactive presentation, which included an STS story, people began talking about the Biblical importance of using questions, and they commented on the impact of the sample story given. We thank God enabling the presenter and the recipients to hear from Him.

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**- Posted August-2012**

In South Carolina a large number of churches have started training their home fellowship groups in STS. Already those using STS there report double and triple numbers of church plants and a rising number of church members applying Scripture to their lives and witnessing to others.

**Request:**
Please pray for this training and these kinds of results to not only sweep across that state, but also that more individual pastors and churches will see the need to embrace and include STS as a way to go deeply into the Word. Pray that these leaders' eyes will be opened to the need to allow all in their churches and their communities to gain understanding and ownership of the Word of God.

**Answered:**
Praise God, this South Carolina convention of 2,400 churches has officially adopted STS as one of their strategies for use in church and church planting.

Motivated instructors across the USA and overseas face the religious locked gates of "We've never done it that way before." Still many excited users of STS return to their home churches from trainings and mission trips (where they have seen people radically impacted by the Word of God when STS has opened Scripture) only to be met with, "That's nice, we'll look into this," but nothing changes.

**Request:**
Upcoming workshops in September in Kentucky and Denver offer unique schedules that train new people, teach how to train others AND provide an advanced track to those who want
to deepen their apologetics for this oral style of learning and as well refine their study and presentation skills. Both of these workshops are being staffed by instructors with International experience. Pray for key mission leaders and pastors to attend and to grab hold of the vision to use STS.

Answered:
Praise God. Thanks for prayer. An STS instructor from Kentucky has stepped forward to take this responsibility. God gave us leaders in Kentucky, including a Collegiate/International Student & Intercultural Strategist. An incredible Divine Appointment in Denver, a top leader in an organization that has 100,000 church planters connected with us. Just this February 2014 the new friendship came to fruition. Our African instructors trained their top leaders from throughout Cote d'Ivorie.

- Posted March-2010
  Request:
  We are setting up translation clinics in Africa and India that run in concert with STS workshops. In this strategy, we gather groups of 10 to 20 different language teams. Then we train these representatives in Simply The Story for three days. Following that, instructors train the language teams how to translate the God's Story script and select their narrators. The STS training enhances the translators’ abilities to see deeply into the Word of God, which enables them to more precisely translate God's Story into their mother tongues. The instructors who lead these trainings need prayer to effectively communicate the translation guidelines to these many teams. Truly it is a challenge beyond our human ability.

  Posted August-2012
  Answered: Update on Clinics. The team did train about representatives of 25 languages from Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania to translate God's Story into their mother tongues. Praise God, 5 of those languages are completed and are now in use for evangelism and discipleship. Pray for ongoing fruit.

  Request:
  Some language teams encountered obstacles, so the translation slowed or stopped. We ask prayer for those. Still other versions were done and the logistics of getting approval of the production so we can master them have hit a wall. Gatekeepers with hands out looking for money or our lack of ability to locate motivated indigenous leaders to complete that checking has stalled 4 languages for a year and a half.

  Unbelievable to experience this ... but it is true. For this we plead to God to show us how complete our work.

  Answered:
  In Summer of 2013 all 4 languages were completed and are now in use.
- **Posted April-2010**
  **Request:**
  We ask for your prayer regarding an ongoing needs in connection with Oral Bible Schools (OBS). We want people new to the use of oral strategies to see how Bible stories can be learned and in an oral way can be used for deep biblical teaching. Too many people have not yet experienced this depth in story. As a result, they perceive Bible stories as "something only for children or those who are non-literate, so maybe a surface truth or two may be found.

  "In the first weeks of April, we are celebrating the first graduation of an STS Oral Bible school in Africa. A few key academics, who are committed to in-depth Bible teaching, are joining us to examine this new style of school. These leaders know that many in emerging nations are not able to learn from traditional literacy based methods. We have room for a few more in academic leadership who want to seize this opportunity to come to Kenya and meet students from seven or more oral schools.

  In a village a few hours outside of Nairobi, we are providing special days. The 8th & 9th during our celebration and advanced trainings set aside to meet and interact with these perhaps over 100 converging students.

  Besides random testing of stories learned, we as founders of STS are looking for answers to these kinds of questions:

- **Posted August-2012**
  **Answered:**
  Oral Bible School Updates. We took a long time to post the answer to this prayer request for the graduation celebration and fact finding trip. The graduation was a success and the celebration by the students of ten OBS meeting believers outside of their villages was joy unspeakable. Still we and they saw that deeper understanding of the Word could and should be attained. Student left thrilled yet convicted.

  This we heard echoed many times. “We have not appreciated the depth of God’s Word. We must slow down as we study and dig deeper.” Now over 30 OBSs are operating in Kenya, and more than 60 world wide, but we in top tier county leadership and the indigenous instructors see that more depth of understanding the Word and can and MUST be attained. Please pray for that.

- **Posted August-2012**
  **Request:**
  We posted this request for help at the USA headquarters on November 2010. But, we ask your continued prayer ... We need three people at our headquarters, all comfortable at computers: one for shipping, one who likes to write and design art layouts and one who is a handy person (maintenance, and moving supplies around).
We want to add a request for someone who may have the aforementioned skills but who as well has office management skills and for a person who has interest and skills in the technical fields of recording and editing. Might as well ask for five people as three!

**Answered:**
We want to celebrate everything God is doing. The Lord has sent wonderful one-day-a-week helpers to the office, which is helping to make a dent in the tasks needing to be done.

**Request:**
Please continue to pray for the needed full time help.

**- Posted November-2010**
**Request:**
Request on Practitioner Audio Training (PAT) We asked for prayer on the preparation of more stories for the PAT. As we said, these interactive audio PAT stories are a joy to prepare, but time intensive. Since November, in 2011, we were able to complete the three-story set and instructions in Swahili and are near to done in Nepali and Kannada.

**Posted August-2012**
**Answered:**
Answers to Prayer on PAT. We are seeing more languages added those mentioned above. A French set is done and Telugu is being edited. Others are being worked on. Praise God, a companion audio and video style of presenting STS stories was developed throughout 2011.

Now we have 5 languages in use on the Interactive Discovery of the Bible (IDB) stories and many more are near to ready. (For these IDBs, five Bible stories are designed to be on each DVD and audio MP3.)

The PAT and the IDB are not just ministering to people. The people learning STS are finding that these recorded interactive experiences are helping them learn how to go deeper into the Word and to teach in an interactive style using questions.

**Request:**
Please keep praying as we are setting up translation of PAT and IDB in many more languages.