

# HIGH ADVENTURE Bible Voice Broadcasting

## In the Air On the Ground



End of year is a great time for daydreamers (like me). Since 1837 when biblical scholar Clement Clarke Moore first penned *Twas the night before Christmas*, children around the world struggled to close excited eyes as “visions of sugar-plums danced in their heads.”

Just days before Christmas, I had a few visions of my own...

In 12 short months, we built a **new radio tower in Bethlehem**; we constructed **2 Ugandan maternity buildings and 2 pediatric buildings with water and electrical supply**...we constructed a new **radio station, studio and complete solar power supply for our partner in Haiti**... we constructed 2 new **solar powered FM radio stations on remote Indonesian islands** (and left equipment for 5 more stations)...we started construction of a new **solar powered FM radio station** in troubled north **Uganda**...

...time to take a breath...

AND we led **2 mission trips to Uganda**...**2 mission trips to Haiti**...  
**1 working trip to Israel** and **1 mission trip to Indonesia**.

And now, just a few days back from our DO SOMETHING trip to Israel, people were responding to our year-end Christmas List of Life...more gifts would be given soon. I was in enhanced vision mode, dreaming into 2011.

I was so enjoying my sugarplums!

And then, somehow, somewhere in my head, the *Christmas Switch* was turned off and I was once again wrestling with our Bethlehem problem!

### DIFFICULT SUMMER

After a series of miraculous provisions in 2010, our partner Bethlehem FM radio station was operating beautifully, reaching into Jerusalem and beyond-as far away as Amman, Jordan. But in July, an uncontrollable circumstance caused our American partner to stop supporting this strategic outreach, reducing us by 50%.

We were devastated. Radio at the center of the earth (Ez 5:5) is the sugar plum of all sugar plums, but without financial support, it would soon dry up. By Christmas over half of the staff had gone, equipment was not maintained and our Bethlehem partners were discouraged. We prayed constantly, but silence from heaven seemed to mark the end of this infant station.

In an unexpected Christmas phone call, I explained to our Asian partners the bittersweet reality their gift of the new tower was performing wonderfully, but *perhaps not for long*. Even as I spoke those words, everything in me wanted to deny the obvious. For so long our founder George Otis (and then us who followed) worked to reach this area with FM radio. After nearly 30 years we seemed to finally reach the elusive goal; and now, in a short time the dream would die a **slow death of malnutrition**. Some days, I could not even speak of this to Marty.

### GIFTS FROM ASIA

Then, during that phone conversation, God opened a Christmas gift for us, as these amazing Asian believers offered to stand in the gap for the next year.

As He did when Jesus' birth was announced, God sent “*wise men from the east*” Matt 2:1 KJV who *presented unto him gifts* (vs.11) History seemed to repeat itself as once again, God's men from the east came bringing gifts that would herald salvation, beginning in Bethlehem. Euphoric seemed a **mild descriptor** for that moment!

### LATE NIGHT CALL

In my previous career, I sometimes delivered bad news that could not wait till morning. And every time, people struggled with the reality they were given. **It was my turn...**

DECEMBER 13...Elias called from Bethlehem. “*Don, it is terrible. Our whole area suffered a long day of high winds. They were so bad, people could not drive from sand flying around and worst of all, our tower fell down to the street, smashing all the equipment...I don't know what to do.*”



BEIT JALA TOWER IN  
EARLY 2010



NEW ONGUTOI MEDICAL  
BUILDINGS IN 2010



ROOFTOP SOLAR  
INSTALLATION IN HAITI

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I was speechless and try as I might, I could not find the words to comfort my friend Elias. For 3 years this has been his "baby" that has demanded so much sacrifice from him, and he worked tirelessly to keep it alive!

**TIMING**

Within 45 minutes of this bad news, our Asian friends called with confirmation they were sending the first month's "gap support". I swallowed hard and explained the circumstance, expecting a simple "too bad" and then a polite farewell.

However, God had sent to us some of His strongest and most tested servants. Our Asian partners have been serving in one of the most intense areas of Christian persecution on earth and nothing shook them -in fact his words were simple but profoundly impacting on me *"this is the enemy-hold on. We are your partners and we are with you-hold on."*

Emotion is not for warriors...but *I didn't feel like a warrior* at the moment. Swallowing hard again, I quietly agreed to hold on and wait on God...

**PAINFUL ASSESSMENT**

Over Christmas, as millions watched pilgrims enjoy Bethlehem celebrations through their televisions, Elias was trying to salvage tower remnants, searching for anyone who might help him. At the end his report was simple...if we were very careful with budgeting, we could replace the tower for \$25,000. By now we were on fumes...

So far, these were not the sugar plums I had been anticipating!

**LAST MINUTE MIRACLE**

Then, just hours before we closed the door on 2010, I took another call from our Asian partner *"Don, God has done a miracle-we are sending \$25,000 to replace the tower."* And they did...and sugar plums danced again...

**THE WORD**

Navigating our December storm, the simple scripture came to me and has not left me. Maybe it will bless you!

**Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.** Heb 13:8

**PROPHETIC?**

Could this end-of-year miracle be an indication of times to come? I don't know. But I am assured His Word is true-He is the same-*always*. Hold on for an interesting 2011!

Don

PS Elias now struggles with license fees and other operating costs that have accumulated due to our 6-month support reduction. Any gift towards this would help us re-establish this strategic radio ministry.

AND...If you are interested in a visual journey of our recent DO SOMETHING trip to Israel, simply ask for your gift copy of this 12-minute DVD and we will rush it to you...who knows...perhaps next year in Jerusalem?



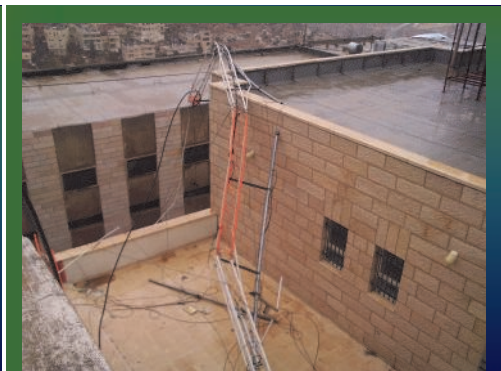
INDONESIAN RADIO ON REMOTE ISLAND



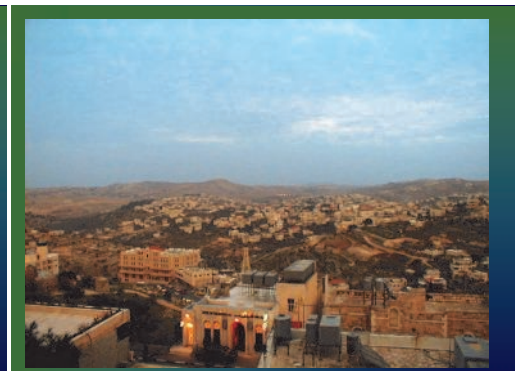
SAVIOR FM REACHING INTO UGANDAN HUTS



BEIT JALA TOWER DOWN



DAMAGED BEYOND REPAIR



OVERLOOKING BETHLEHEM

**PLEASE COMPLETE THE PORTION BELOW AND RETURN IN THE ENVELOPE PROVIDED. THANK YOU.**

**JANUARY 2011**

My gift of  \$50  \$100  \$500  Other  YES, please send me a free DO SOMETHING DVD

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