

Every Language

APRIL - MAY 2020



GLOBAL
RECORDINGS
NETWORK

Praise God!

It is always encouraging to hear about people using GRN recordings and pictures in their evangelism and church planting:

Kenya: Some time ago we received an urgent request from a missionary for a tablet (A4 sized screen) loaded with our 5fish app and the languages spoken in his area, so we purchased the device. We loaded 5fish and the programs available in his local languages and dashed into Sydney to hand the tablet to the person en-route to visit the missionary in Kenya. We heard no more.

A couple of weeks ago I was attending SweatCon (South West Evangelism and Training Conference) and I met this Kenyan missionary who was home for a break. He has found the GRN audio visuals very useful in his ministry. He encourages local pastors to find a free internet connection when they go into town so they can download 5fish and their languages onto their phones and use them too.

SweatCon: is a great event because a few hundred keen Christians

attend who are from a very multicultural part of Sydney. While we are there we want people to learn about our 5fish app. We talked to a lady towards the end of the conference who had just put 5fish on her phone. She then visited an Iranian family and showed them 5fish. The family were excited to hear their language Farsi and put 5fish on their phone so they could hear the good news about Jesus.

Cambodia: We received feedback from a church planter in Cambodia who finds the GRN recordings and picture books invaluable in his ministry. He succeeded in planting one church using the recordings before he was even able to preach in the local language. He now sends out young people to evangelise and teach using our resources. GRN audio and pictures remain a vital part of his church planting ministry even though he is now fluent in the language.

The Pacific: We were contacted by missionaries who are church planting in a potentially dangerous tribal area. They have been using GRN materials extensively in their Bible teaching to tribal people and

they found them very useful to help oral learners understand.

Papua New Guinea: I enjoyed lunch with a delightful “retired” couple during a recent church visit. They have been missionaries and later the husband took a pastoral role upon returning to Australia. He now visits PNG and teaches pastors who live in a remote area. In the course of conversation, I learned that he has taken GRN flipcharts and left them with the church leaders for use in Bible teaching.

These stories encourage us greatly. They prompt us to give thanks and praise to God. They assure us that God is using our work for His glory and is building His kingdom. I hope that they encourage you too and prompt you to praise and thank our Lord and Saviour.



Christine Platt
CEO

Recording in East Africa



Joel recording in East Africa

We were very happy to have had GRN Recordist, Joel Juedes, recently visit Australia from South Africa for two months for further training in studio and other technical matters. We pray that this time equipped Joel for his advanced recording ministry. It was also good for us to get to know one another, and for Joel to see the wider picture of GRN ministry.

Joel never saw himself going to Africa, but God had other plans.

In three years of service, he has recorded Gospel messages in nine African languages in Malawi, Botswana, Zambia, and Madagascar.

"I like seeing new places and cultures," says Joel. "Recording allows you to meet normal people in their natural home and bond with them. The speakers are often very passionate and excited about reading the Bible in their own language — one man in Zambia insisted on recording until midnight."

While editing takes time alone, Joel adds that, "I can edit the recording in such a way that the story comes alive, and I like imagining my listeners enjoying it and hearing the Word in their heart language for the first time. Reading takes skill, but a recording comes alive right away. Jesus told stories to people; he didn't hand them books."



Travel to unfamiliar places

Travel in southern Africa is often long and adventurous. Madagascar is not far from Malawi but requires a 24-hour trip by plane via Ethiopia. Travel to remote places may require three-day bus trips over precarious roads.

Sometimes there are perks such as a stop at Victoria Falls on his way to Botswana. Local village hospitality and internet connections are now part of a missionary's life. "I can find helpful locals, transport, restaurants, and cell phone service almost everywhere. There have been missionaries who treated me like a special guest."

Why GRN recordings work

GRN recordings help correct misunderstandings and false doctrine. New Christians may have little or none of the Bible in any form. Many people have portions of the New Testament, but very few have any of the Old Testament. GRN's Look, Listen and Live set includes Bible stories from Genesis to Acts, which allows locals to understand the basics of both the Old and New Testaments.



Besides making recordings, Joel has found small ways to meet practical needs of the people he serves. He paid school fees for some students, helped families rebuild homes after floods, and mentored beginner African recordists who are working with GRN partners.

How did he get there?



Joel was interested in missions before he heard of GRN and had taken short and long trips to Malawi, Kenya, and Europe. God drew him back to Malawi. He could not find a mission agency which sent people to Malawi until he met Roland Heck of GRN USA who shared the need for recordists.

continues over

Roland recalls, "I was excited to hear Joel tell us that he had some recording background and was interested in work in Malawi. After introducing Joel to the Director of GRN South Africa and inviting Joel to our office, it was not much longer that he took off to Africa!"

Joel wanted more than a short mission trip: "I was attracted to becoming a recordist because it seemed like an important work. Many short-term missions consist of youth who go for two weeks. I wanted to do something more substantial for God's kingdom."



Recording in Botswana

Dalene Joubert of GRN's South Africa office, recalls, "the USA office

referred Joel to me — they knew we were desperately looking for a field recordist here in southern Africa." She gives him assignments, connects him with partners in the field, and advises on travel. "I help to pace and strategise Joel's recording work, arrange pre-translations, am on standby during his trips, and supervise his editing work." Dalene says, "We care for our missionaries' needs both logistically and spiritually."

Joel has recorded in diverse places: from a hut along the Zambezi River where crocodiles threaten swimmers, to a religious retreat centre in Madagascar's capital. Partners usually translate scripts and find the speakers and listeners who will check for mistakes during recording. Joel is seldom on his own, but adds, "It helps to learn at least a few words in the language you're recording so you can bond with the people and follow the script."

Recording has both joys and challenges. "It's hard being away from home," Joel says, "but I have established something like a home in Malawi with Fishers Trainers Senders (FTS)*. I join FTS for morning devotions, and they are my friends."

Mobile phone and internet service is available in much of Africa, enabling Joel to stay in contact with family and friends. "My sisters and friends

all text me on WhatsApp when I'm off on a recording trip, so I can share my travels with people in America and Africa."

The church in which Joel was raised serves as his support base. The church records contributions that come in for his work, helps plan a budget, and verifies that funds are used for ministry. People from the church, Joel's friends, Bible study groups, and other churches also support Joel's mission. "I used to attend a lot of Bible studies, so I now visit them once or twice a year and let them know how I'm doing. I also send email newsletters with photos." As with thousands of other missionaries, Joel can confidently say, "God provides."

The need for more recordists

Thousands of languages are yet to be recorded, so more recordists are needed. "An adventurous person should consider becoming a recordist." Joel says, "Anyone who likes detail-oriented computer work, but also enjoys interaction with people, and likes stories." Recordists are one kind of labourer God sends into His harvest.

**Fishers Trainers Senders (FTS) Center in Lilongwe, Malawi, is an all-African group which evangelizes, disciples and trains leaders.*



The Kairos course on 'God, the Church & the World'

You're invited to attend the Kairos course on 'God, the Church & the World'

When: April 30th – June 25th 2020, on Thursdays 7.00 - 9.15pm (plus 1-2hrs between classes for assigned readings)

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Cost: \$100 includes Course Reader, Snacks, Graduation certificate etc.

Who: all followers of Jesus, 15yo & above

Register by calling 02 9899 2211, or **email:** au@globalrecordings.net

Registration Deadline: April 17th 2020

For more information go to: www.simplymobilising.com.au/courses/kairos

Church Representatives

By Geoff Wong - Church Representative Coordinator



GRN Church Rep. in Temora

GRN's relationships with local churches are vital. Churches who pray lay the foundation for GRN's worldwide ministry. Furthermore, without financial partnership from the local church, GRN's ministry would struggle to operate. GRN has a network of over 120 Church Representatives who, though ordinary members of their local churches, bring GRN before the church members for prayer and support. I would like to share some stories about some of GRN's church representatives.

Margaret helps run a weekly ladies fellowship. During the fellowship, Margaret and the ladies pray for missionaries, including GRN's ministry and staff. Margaret brings

GRN's Rejoice Prayer Points and Every Language newsletter along to the fellowship so they can pray for GRN in a meaningful way. This is a way for this group to be actively engaging in and supporting GRN's ministry.

Last year I contacted Helen, another Church Representative. I asked if there was any opportunity for GRN to share at her church. Helen learned that her Monday Bible study group was interested in hearing from GRN. So GRN shared with her Bible study in August 2019. The sharing helped Helen's group engage with the need for audio Bible resources. As a result, people were encouraged to receive GRN's prayer points and to pray for GRN's ministry. Some members of the group raised funds that very day so a child in South Africa could hear about Jesus' love through a Tumi Tiger toy.

David enjoys promoting GRN's resources at his church. David's church runs English classes for

refugees. These classes are a good opportunity to share GRN's recordings through the 5fish app with refugees so they can hear about Jesus in a language they can understand. He ran out of promotional cards for 5fish so he asked me for more. I sent him some more 5fish cards not only in English but also in Chinese to give to those attending his English classes.

Could you help represent GRN in your church, just like Margaret, Helen and David?

These stories are examples of how the work of GRN Church Representatives goes a long way to help GRN build its relationships with churches.

If you are interested, please contact me via email: geoffwong@globalrecordings.net or ring the GRN Australia office. Alternatively, fill out the response slip in this newsletter and post it back to GRN.

About Global Recordings Network

We exist to give everyone the opportunity to hear the story of Jesus in their own heart language.

Previous Names - Gospel Recordings and Language Recordings

Our Vision

That people might hear and understand God's Word in their heart language, especially those who are oral communicators and those who do not have Scriptures in a form they can access.

Our Mission

In partnership with the church, to effectively communicate the Good News of Jesus Christ by means of culturally appropriate audio and

audio-visual materials in every language.

Subscribe

'Every Language' (newsletter) and 'Rejoice' (monthly prayer letter) are free publications of GRN Australia. To subscribe - please call us or visit: www.globalrecordings.net/ausubscribe

Represent GRN in your church

Help your church connect with GRN by representing us in your church. To find out more - call us or visit: www.globalrecordings.net/aurep

Use our Resources

We want to serve you, by providing Bible teaching and evangelistic resources for you to use in your

ministry. Contact us for more information, or download them for free today www.globalrecordings.net www.5fish.mobi (mobile apps)

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Thanks to Wendy Bytheway for editing.

If you feel
led to give



GRN Thailand

Global Recordings Network Thailand (GRNT) is based in Chiang Mai. For nearly twenty years they have been developing culturally relevant scripts and producing audio recordings in various languages spoken in and around Thailand.

The GRNT Centre needs help for an important maintenance project for their facility in Chiang Mai.

This project involves the finishing off of a perimeter wall to secure their premises and the repair of gutters and eaves to help prevent water damage to the building.

The estimated cost of this project is \$11,000AUD. Please pray that God would provide the funds to complete this project.

A bequest
can change lives

Like many mission organisations, we can benefit greatly when friends make a final gift that continues to bless the ministries they have generously supported in life. Once you have made proper and primary provision for family and friends this can be a very effective way to go on making a difference to the church on earth when you have joined the church in glory! If you would like to consider this option in your Will please contact the GRN office on 02 9899 2211 or we have some information on our website: www.globalrecordings.net/au-bequests.

Donate online

www.globalrecordings.net/audonate
or by **Phone** on 02 9899 2211.

Direct Deposit

Global Recordings Network Australia,
BSB 032 388, Account Number 222 860

(Please include your name and where you would like your gift to go in the description box.)

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I would like my gift to go to

- Where most needed (GRN General Fund)
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 Other _____

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 \$500 Other \$ _____

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- A single donation Monthly Quarterly

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Please make all cheques payable to "Global Recordings Network Australia".

- Credit card**

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at the intervals I/We have specified

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