October
November
2026

To the Nations:
Serving in Spain and Reaching Beyond

News and Ministry Updates from
Laurie & Billy Drum

Prayers and Praises:

- Praise - Billy has hosted several CCW care clients lately, via the partnership with the Spanish villa and the equestrian center. It has proved to be a very good venue for his work leading retreats, debriefs, and care counseling sessions.
- Praise & Prayer - the equestian center is working well for the care clients, as well as for hotel/villa guests who want to experience the Spanish countryside on horseback. All of this is good for Sarah and business! Pray for the rest of the Spanish paperwork and licensing to be completed. We need a breakthrough! Without the licensing permits, we cannot actively advertise any events at the center, which limits what Sarah can do at this time.
- Praises for a successful Men's Camino Retreat. Billy led a group of 8 on pilgrimage and spritual formation retreat.
- Billy and Karen Couch recently completed a very intense Wilderness First Responder course. This was important for their work leading multi-day ministry hikes.
- Pray for our emotional well-being as we enter the holiday season. This is always a tough time for us to be away from family.



Study and reflections for this issue:

- Acts 1:8
- What do you think of when you think of missions?
- Who are the least-reached around you?
- In what ways could you reach out and love your neighbors well, especially those who are unreached or least-reached?

What does reaching the least-reached look like in missions today?

When you think about mission work, what picture comes to mind?

Maybe it's someone from the United States or Europe heading off to a remote village somewhere in Africa or the jungles of the Amazon. Perhaps you picture dirt roads, grass huts, people gathered under a tree, and a cross-cultural worker arriving with Bibles in hand, ready to share the Gospel.

Sometimes that picture isn't entirely wrong... For generations, faithful men and women have crossed oceans, cultures, and languages to take the love of Jesus to people who had never heard of Him. And that work continues today.

But here's the thing: mission work today often looks very different from the picture many of us grew up with. We should talk about that. But first, let's celebrate something HUGE!

This year, we're celebrating some incredible news. The Samburu people of Kenya have been removed from the list of Unreached People Groups!

The Samburu, a traditionally pastoralist people group living in northern Kenya, have long been considered among those with very limited access to the Gospel. But over the years, a movement of local believers and churches has grown, and today more than 900 churches have been planted throughout the Samburu lands!

NINE HUNDRED CHURCHES!

We are celebrating this incredible milestone, and we are deeply grateful to have played a small part in what God has been doing in Kenya. And the most exciting part? This wasn't primarily a story of Western mission workers traveling to Kenya to reach the Samburu. It was a story of Kenyans reaching Kenyans.

You may remember Nancy and Julius and Simon and others from previous newsletters. They have been the boots-on-the-ground people working in this remarkable movement. And our role has been to come alongside Kenyan cross-cultural workers, helping train, equip, encourage, and support them as they carry the Gospel into Samburu communities, sharing the love of Jesus in both word and deed.

Continued from Page 1

This is something to celebrate! Not just because of the number of churches planted, but because it represents a beautiful picture of the global Church taking responsibility for the Great Commission. And it points to something important about mission work today.

Missions is now from everywhere to everywhere. For a long time, mission work was largely understood as a movement from the West to the rest of the world. Workers were sent from North America and Europe to Africa, Asia, Latin America, and other parts of the globe.

But the global Church has changed dramatically. Today, some of the most exciting mission movements are being led by believers from the Global South—countries throughout Africa, Latin America, and parts of Asia.

Kenyans are reaching Kenyans. Brazilians are serving in Europe. Africans are sharing the Gospel in other African nations and beyond. And believers from places that were once considered primary mission fields are now becoming big mission senders. Mission work is increasingly moving from everywhere to everywhere.

This doesn't mean there is no longer a place for Western cross-cultural workers. Far from it! But it does mean that our understanding of who a mission worker is, where they come from, what their work looks like, and how we equip and support needs to expand.

Today, increasingly, the mission field might look like a city street. When we talk about reaching the least-reached, we often imagine remote villages, isolated tribal communities, or places that are difficult to access. Those places still exist, and reaching them remains incredibly important.

But something else is happening around the world: people are moving. They're moving in staggering numbers and they're going everywhere. Migration, economic opportunities, conflict, education, and globalization are bringing people from vastly different cultures and religious backgrounds into the same cities, neighborhoods, schools, and workplaces. People who once lived in areas with little or no access to the Gospel are now living in Madrid, London, Paris, Berlin, and countless other cities. The Church has been praying for the Lord to open the doors to closed access countries, and the Lord is answering by bringing the closed-access people groups to our doorsteps. Sometimes, they're living right across the street.

Here's a little example from our own lives:
We live in Antequera, a relatively small town in southern Spain. Not exactly a major international metropolis! And yet, in our little town, 88 different non-Spanish nationalities are represented. Eighty-eight! Even more remarkable, we have residents from every one of the top ten least-reached countries in the world.

Think about that. We don't have to travel to the other side of the world to encounter people from places where access to the Gospel has historically been extremely limited or prohibited. They're our neighbors. They're the people we meet at the local café, the grocery store, the hardware store, or the park. Quite literally, the least-reached are right here in our neighborhood.

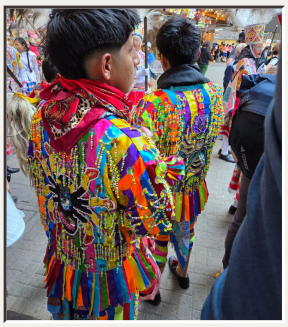
Cross-cultural workers are changing, too. They might not look like you expect! Many cross-cultural mission workers today don't hold traditional ministry positions. They're not necessarily pastors, church planters with a recognizable ministry title, or people working in a church building. They're teachers. Artists. Business owners. Restaurant workers. Coaches. People working in sports, education, and community development. They look more like everyday people, because that's what it takes to live incarnationally (like Jesus did) and build relationships in a rapidly changing world. They're living and working alongside their neighbors, building relationships, becoming part of communities, and sharing the love of Jesus through the everyday rhythms of life.

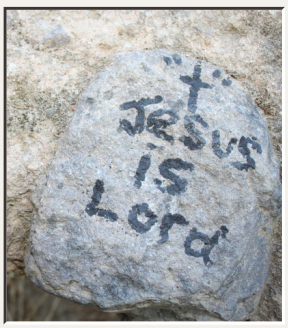
We know a couple who are intentionally building relationships with street youth, particularly young graffiti artists. Their ministry doesn't happen behind a pulpit. It happens through art, creativity, conversations, and time spent with young people who might never consider walking into a church. It means hanging out in places that most won't go, at hours when the rest of us are tucked in our beds.

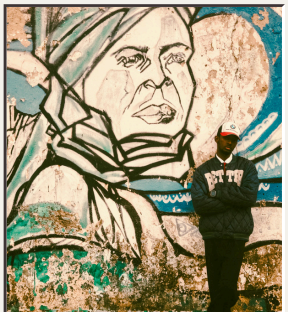
























We know another man who works with immigrants by volunteering in prisons, building relationships with people who are often overlooked, isolated, or forgotten. His biggest tool? A soccer ball. He is reaching the least reached through sports and deep conversations on a soccer field.

And we know others who are reaching out to young adults in Spain whose parents and grandparents turned away from organized religion during and after the country's dictatorship. For many of these young people, church isn't something they rejected personally. It's simply something they've never really known. Their “church” is mostly eating meals around the table together, being invited into the family home, and sharing Gospel conversations in very natural, organic ways.

These are very different communities, with very different histories and barriers to the Gospel. Reaching them requires more than simply inviting them to a Sunday church service.

It requires listening. Learning. Building trust. Understanding culture. Being present. And allowing the Gospel to be demonstrated through genuine relationships, hospitality, service, and conversations about faith.

In other words, cross-cultural mission work is not always about crossing a national border. Sometimes it's about crossing a cultural barrier. So what does all of this mean for us?

It means the Great Commission hasn't changed, but the world in which we live it out is changing rapidly.

There will always be a need for people willing to pack their bags, learn another language, and move across the world to serve among people who have little access to the Gospel. We celebrate them, and we want to continue equipping and supporting them. You may not feel called to go to the other side of the world. You might not even feel called to go to the other side of the state! And that’s okay. Not everyone is called to move overseas, but every follower of Jesus is called. We are all called to share His love.

That might look very different depending on where God has placed you. For some, it means moving to Peru, or Kenya, or Spain, or another part of the world, learning a new language, and building a life in a different culture. For others, it might mean inviting the family next door over for a cookout. Getting to know the international students at a nearby university. Building a friendship with a coworker from another country. Or simply taking the time to listen to someone whose life experience, culture, or beliefs are very different from your own.

None of those things requires a suitcase or a plane ticket. What they do require is a willingness to notice the people around us, step beyond what feels familiar, and build genuine relationships. And that’s something all of us can do.

For those of you who pray, give, and partner with us in this work, you are part of this changing picture of missions. When you help us train and equip cross-cultural workers, you are investing in people like Nancy, Julius, and Simon. You're also investing in those serving in cities, neighborhoods, schools, businesses, and communities where the Gospel is not yet known or understood.

And as you live out your own faith in your own communities, you are part of that same beautiful story. The stories may look different. The settings may surprise us. The people doing the work may not fit our old mental picture of a mission worker.

But the heart of it all remains the same. People need to know Jesus. And God is using His Church to make Him known. From everywhere to everywhere.

Sometimes that means traveling halfway around the world. And sometimes it means walking across the street.

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- Our greatest desire is to see people become who God created them to be and to live into their purpose. We believe that everyone has value. Everyone has talents, skills, and unique abilities. We want to see that come alive!
- Nurturing and developing people to be healthy spiritually, physically, emotionally, and relationally - because "care" is not just an emotional feeling word, "care" is a verb - an action. That's what we're about - developing and caring for people so they can live into their unique design and God-given purpose.



Become a Partner! We would love to have you on our team!

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Dear Billy and Laurie,
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