

# *Boyce College*

## *World Impact Center News*

About two months ago, I was sitting in a home having a meal with a small group of Christ followers from a people group that is, for the most part, unreached. The total number of followers among this people group of 20+ million in population most likely numbers a few hundred, and my wife Gloria and I were sitting around a table eating dinner with a dozen of them! As we ate and talked, the leader of the group told us that several times a week the group gathered together to eat, fellowship, pray, study God's Word, and worship together. He also explained that they were actively sharing their faith with others of their own people group as well as those from other people groups who resided in their city. The leader then asked me to share after dinner on the topic "What is a church."

After dinner, we all sat around on the floor, and I simply asked them to open their Bibles to Acts 2:41-47. Upon reading this passage together, I then asked the group a question. "Is this what is happening with your group?" I asked. The answer was a unanimous "Yes!" To this I replied, "You are all believers who have repented, expressed faith in Jesus Christ and been baptized. You gather together to fellowship, pray, study God's Word, worship, and you share your resources with each other while sharing your faith with those who have yet to hear of Jesus Christ. You have a spiritual leader. You are simply church!" Then I added, "Now all you need to do is reproduce this over and over as those with whom you share your faith come to follow Christ as you do." What we experienced with that small group of Christ followers on that evening was simply church, and this simple and Biblical expression of church can now be found all over the world.

*Dr. R. Bruce Carlton*

[www.worldimpact-rbc.blogspot.com](http://www.worldimpact-rbc.blogspot.com)

### *Missions Department News:*

#### **Spanish Speakers Needed:**

One of the Boyce Praxis teams has identified a Hispanic community in need of a church plant and needs the help of some fluent or semi-fluent Spanish speakers. If you are able to help work in this community, translate Bible teaching, evangelism, etc, please contact the World Impact Center to get connected with this team!

#### **World Impact Center 2010 Mission Trips:**

The World Impact Center has already scheduled the two mission trips for the summer of 2010! There will be a North America trip and an international trip. The summer of 2010 seems so far away, but students can begin praying and planning for which trip they feel led to join.

First, Dr. Kerns will lead another team to Utah in the summer 2010 to minister to members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. As you know, Dr. Kerns is Boyce College's resident expert on ministering to Mormons. We will be looking for at least 6 students who would be willing to invest a week or so of their time to learn about and be a part of ministry to Mormons.

The second trip is equally as exciting, and perhaps even more challenging. The World Impact Center is looking for students who want to venture to one of the most needy areas and some of the least reached peoples in South America. No, we are not planning to go up the Amazon or wander deep into the Andes Mountains. Instead, we are looking for a team of students to go to the Foz de Iguazu (Falls of Iguazu), an area of South America where Argentina, Brazil and Paraguay share borders. This area is populated with peoples of Arab and Chinese descent as well as other unreached peoples. Journey with Dr. Carlton to this unique area of South America, where we will have the opportunity to witness and minister to people who desperately need to hear the Good News.

**CS Hands On:** Up to 12 hours credit are available through the Hands On program. If you are planning to serve with Hands On you must inform Dr Carlton and the World Impact Center to receive required paper work. If you do not turn in all forms and pick up your letter for academic records before leaving the country you will not receive course credit. Hands On opportunities can be found in the World Impact Center or at [www.thetask.org/handson](http://www.thetask.org/handson)

**CS Internship:** If you are planning to do your missions internship this summer you will need to make an appointment with Dr Carlton as soon as possible to begin the process. The sooner you begin arranging details the less likely you are to encounter problems as the summer approaches. Remember certain pre-requisites must be completed and all field supervisors and job descriptions must be approved.

*Boyce Highlight: Colleen Wolf*



Highlights from a summer in the Land of the Rising Sun—Japan

This summer was my second mission trip (actually, my third trip) to Japan. I went through TEAM (The Evangelical Alliance Mission) both this summer and when I took my first trip in 2007. In 2008, I went on my own for a month to visit the friends I had made.

This year I worked in Yokohama with the Heisswolf family who are from Germany. They are actually part of a German missions organization. While in Yokohama, my mission assignments were to create an English curriculum for the kindergarten/daycare, work with the kids, teach two business ESL classes at a company called Festo (a German/Japanese company), and teach an English Bible study once a week. I lived on the second floor of the church, which was a house that was used for the daycare and language school. I didn't live alone; I lived with four other ladies: one from Japan, two from Germany, and one from Korea. It was quite an interesting experience adapting to life with people from different places around the world. Learning to coexist with other cultures was a little bit of a challenge, but with the Lord's help, we were able to work as a team.

It's hard to sum up a whole summer in Japan in just a few paragraphs but I'll try my best! As I mentioned above, I taught two ESL classes at the Festo Company. One class met on Tuesday mornings and the other on Thursday mornings. Members of the Thursday class had better English skills than the Tuesday class, so it was easier to build relationships with them. In the classes themselves, I was not necessarily able to share the Gospel. A few weeks into teaching, however, the Thursday class invited me out to dinner after they had finished with work for the day. We went to a "Hawaiian" restaurant (with a Japanese twist!). The four of us spent the evening getting to know each other better without feeling obligated to only work in the textbook. During our evening at the restaurant, I mentioned that I studied art a few years ago. It just so happened that I had with me some photos of an abstract piece I had painted that represented the plan of salvation. It was a golden opportunity to share the Gospel, and I did. I'm not sure how much they understood, but at least the fear of man did not get the best of me.

The biggest highlight of my time in Japan this summer did not come until the end. The last Sunday I was in Yokohama, the church had a farewell service and gathering for my teammate, Vera (who was leaving on the same day), and me. We took this opportunity to invite students and friends to come. Vera had been in Japan for almost a year and she played volleyball once a week in a Japanese community league. She invited them—and what do you know—*all* of them (15 people) accepted the invitation to come! I had invited as many friends as I could, but only four out of the fifteen people actually came. I must admit that, at first, I was a little envious, but soon the envy turned into joy because that day 20 Japanese people who had never heard the Gospel heard it in their own language. Vera and I both gave testimonies. Through a translator, I told of how I became a follower of Jesus and why I desired to share Christ with the people of Japan. I also shared the plan of salvation. After I finished, I felt at peace because 20 Japanese people had been introduced to the Gospel and now it was up to God to make the seed grow.

On weekends, I had time to go sightseeing or meet friends in various parts of the Yokohama/ Tokyo area. One of the things that struck me the most was how ripe Japan is for harvest. I took notice of the many, many houses and apartments and imagined how many millions of people lived in those complexes. Of those millions, not even a whole percent are followers of Jesus. I knew this statistic prior my first mission trip to Japan, but for whatever reason, seeing all those complexes this time reminded me of how great of a need there is for the Japanese nation to hear the Gospel and know the one true God.

Prayer requests:

1. Pray for the Heisswolf family and their ministry in Yokohama. Also for the church members that they will no longer compromise their faith by giving in to "obligations" to take care of the altars of their ancestors.

2. Pray that the Lord will water the seeds that were planted in the people that attended the farewell service.
3. There were a few students from the language school as well a man that attended the church that were very much interested in learning more about the Bible. Pray that the Lord will continue to give them more and more of a desire to know about Christ and that one day they will accept Jesus as their Lord as Savior.
4. Every day in the school's daycare, there is a part of the day when children participate in Kindergarten church. They learn children's praise songs, Bible stories, and Bible verses. Pray for these children that they will one day come to know Jesus as their Lord and Savior and that they might be a light to their families.
5. Evangelical Christians in Japan need strength and boldness in sharing their faith. Pray that they will not compromise their faith, but instead be bold in sharing it!

*Spotlight on the Unreached: Tokyo, Japan*



Tokyo is the world's largest city with over 33 million people. While 99.5% of Tokyo's residents are without Christ, only 33 missionaries are currently working to reach them. This leaves a small minority of local believers and an even smaller network of foreign missionaries with the enormous task of taking the gospel to the people of this mega city. There is a desperate need for more workers in this city of wealth, status, and materialism. Please pray for God to raise up many from among His people to take the gospel to the lost of Tokyo. Pray that their hearts would be open to the truth as followers of Christ are faithful to tell them.