

# Jesus Is Still Working Today!

ARMENIA  
BELARUS  
BULGARIA  
CAMBODIA  
CHINA  
ETHIOPIA  
GEORGIA  
INDONESIA  
LAOS  
LITHUANIA  
MACEDONIA  
MOLDOVA  
MYANMAR  
PHILIPPINES  
POLAND  
ROMANIA  
RUSSIA  
SERBIA  
THAILAND  
UKRAINE



## From the President

When I look back on what God has done through this ministry in 2017, my mind flashes back more than 50 years to my childhood. Some of my earliest memories are of dirt roads and fields of cotton or corn planted and harvested by the hard work of my parents and grandparents. I grew up in rural Alabama in small communities of less than 1,000 people. I was blessed to have grandparents who were believers, who went to church, who prayed for their children and grandchildren.

The rustic, rural conditions of my childhood and youth are not unlike many of the rural communities where Reach A Village helps to take the Gospel today. But most of these villages had no churches, no believing grandparents or believing parents until our ministry partners arrived. Our partners arrived prepared to share the greatest news that any person could hear, Jesus Christ has come to set us free!

Now children, parents and grandparents in these villages have an opportunity to see their lives and communities transformed like mine was! During the past year, 138,537 people began their journey with Jesus! All of these people now have a testimony of how God transformed their lives. Like the Scriptures in John say, Jesus is still working today, and there is not enough space in the whole world to record His impact on so many people.

On this side of heaven, we will never know the full impact of the Gospel on lives, families and communities. Some of these people will become pastors, Bible teachers and lay leaders. Many will become mothers and fathers who raise up a new generation of believers. Others will continue this tremendous effort to reach other unreached villages in their countries. It is remarkable to think of what God has in store for all 138,537 people!

Your support and prayers are making an impact that is greater than you can imagine. As you read this report, I hope you, too, are filled with joy as you see how God is working powerfully around the globe. Thank you for your partnership, and may God bless you abundantly!

Serving Christ Together,



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert Craft". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Robert Craft  
Founder and President

*“Jesus said to them, ‘My Father is always at his work to this very day, and I too am working.’” - John 5:17*

# Ministry Results

The Lord worked in amazing ways over the past year, and He chose to use Reach A Village ministry partners as vessels to accomplish His purposes. The support you provided equipped local Christians around the world with the training, Scriptures and biblical materials needed to spread the Gospel to people in unreached villages who had never heard about Jesus.

New believers and seekers received God's Word in their language and were engaged in Bible studies. New churches were started in areas that had none. Children heard the Good News in their schools, at summer camps or church programs. Lives, families and communities have been forever changed.

To God be the glory, great things He has done!

<b>People who attended training events:</b>	<b>101,026</b>
<b>People who heard the Gospel:</b>	<b>918,664</b>
<b>New people in Bible studies:</b>	<b>315,241</b>
<b>New believers:</b>	<b>138,537</b>
<b>Scriptures provided:</b>	<b>3,550,545</b>
<b>Churches started:</b>	<b>1,528</b>

*Most churches were started in villages that previously had no local church!*

# CrossTies Asia Partnership

2017 has been a momentous year for Reach A Village. The ministry of Dwight and Mary Kay Martin, CrossTies Asia, formally joined together with Reach A Village in the spring.

This partnership is already bearing much fruit in Thailand, which is considered one of the most unreached nations in the world. Dwight's extensive background in research and information technology has helped to create better systems for international ministry reporting and the mapping of local churches. We are learning the exact locations of unreached villages and can better track progress of ministry efforts. Additionally, the Martins operate a nonprofit printing and publishing ministry in Thailand that benefits Reach A Village and other ministry organizations by providing much-needed local language materials.

With Dwight's years of experience, knowledge of the language, and connections within Thailand, he is in a great position to help train and equip local Thai leaders. We are thrilled with this growth and believe the Lord will continue to bless this new relationship for His Kingdom!

# Ministry Highlights

## Myanmar

Hlaing\* grew up in a troubled family and ran away from home at the age of 18. He felt like a nobody and struggled with depression. He also dabbled in drug use. Then a friend invited him to attend a Bible study. Though he knew nothing about Christianity, Hlaing agreed to go. He had no idea that this decision would begin a radical transformation in his life.

*“Today, Jesus is closer than any friend...I just want to be with Him all the days of my life.”*

*- Hlaing from Myanmar*

When a man around his age shared his testimony, Hlaing was deeply touched by it. Hlaing’s friend shared some Scripture with him, and he read it again in the following days. His heart slowly began to change. He knew that he couldn’t continue down the path he was on, and he decided to turn to Jesus!

Hlaing states, “Today, Jesus is closer and more loving than any friend or family member could ever be, and I just want to be with Him all the days of my life.” Now, Hlaing is training to become a church planter to help reach others with the Gospel!



*\*File photos used to protect identity*



## Macedonia

Pamela, 17, was raised in a Christian home in Macedonia, but she fell away from the Lord as she grew up. She lost interest and made excuses to avoid church. Her older brother did the same thing, but Pamela witnessed him make a big mistake: he got involved with drugs and is battling addiction to this day.

During the time that she did not attend church, Pamela felt lonely and hurt. As she considered the depression she was in, she decided that she wanted to attend church again. “I felt God’s peace. I felt full!” Pamela says excitedly. She has completely entrusted her life to the Lord.

During the summer, the church announced that a baptism would take place. Pamela knew it was the right time for her to take that step. She has continued her faith walk and involvement in church activities. She states, “It is my wish that I may grow spiritually and for others to see Jesus in me, in my life.”

## Ukraine

At age 39, Steven's\* life was miraculously transformed. As a homeless man in Ukraine, he was accustomed to living in manholes, abandoned basements and slums. Then, government social workers brought him to a hospital.

He learned that Christians visit the hospital, but he refused to join their meetings at first. Though his roommates chose to attend, Steven rebuffed them and commented, "People like myself are not loved by anybody."

*"I am thankful to God for...those ministering to the homeless and helping them to meet God."*

*- Steven from Ukraine*

God tugged on his heart, and he later decided to join the group. He met Vernon, a church planter, who reassured Steven of God's love for him.

"I wanted to believe what he was telling me," Steven says, so he opened up and shared about his life and his doubts that God would really forgive him. They prayed together, and immediately Steven felt a change in his heart.

Steven remarks, "I am thankful to God for the people who brought me to this hospital and for those ministering to the homeless and helping them to meet God!"



## The Best Gift

Rosamie, a fifth-grader in the Philippines, was late for her Values Education class at school one morning because she had waited for her mother to go to work so she could steal some money. When she arrived, the volunteer teacher trained by our partner ministry was reading Bible verses about being truthful and honest. Rosamie became increasingly more uncomfortable.

Then, the teacher prayed that God would help the students to be honest and truthful. She gave an invitation to raise their hands if they had not been honest and truthful and wanted God to help them change, and she would pray for them.

"I put my hand up and started to cry," Rosamie tells. Several others raised their hands as well. When the volunteer teacher offered an opportunity for the students to pray for forgiveness, Rosamie did. "I felt released," she says. "I went home and confessed everything to

*"Our volunteer teacher gave us the best gift we could ever have—our own copy of the New Testament!"*

my mom. I thought she would punish me, but instead, she told me never to go back to my old life."

Rosamie shares, "I am so thankful that, before the school year ended, our volunteer teacher gave us the best gift we could ever have—our own copy of the New Testament! To those who have a Bible or Bibles in their homes, maybe this is not a big thing, but to those of us who never had a Bible in our homes, it really means a lot. Thank you!"



## Love in Action

Dancho and Boyka are a couple from southeast Bulgaria who are passionate about their calling to evangelism and church planting in the remote parts of their region. Even though they work full time, they are always planning creative activities to reach non-Christians and Muslims in surrounding areas.

One of their events, a children's camp, took place in July. It was the first of its kind and involved combining fun, work, and a Christian message. They proposed the idea to the mayor's wife, and she arranged for a bus to bring children from other nearby villages. In total, 48 kids participated in the camp.

Every day, the children would gather in the morning for games, dancing, cooking classes, dramatic sketches, and arts and crafts which related to biblical themes. In the afternoon, several of the children and camp staff would visit homes, introduce themselves, explain the camp activities, and volunteer to help the family with any household needs.

It was quite unusual for the village residents to witness such acts of service.

Through these events, the mayor's mother, Gergana, came to Christ! One team visited her house on a community service day. She was amazed that, on the hottest day of summer, they would take time to help with difficult agricultural work. Moved by their spirit and kindness, at the end of the day Gergana said she wished to repent of her sins and come to know God's love personally. They prayed for her that evening outside the house in the tomato garden. By September, both her son the mayor and his wife had also accepted the Lord!

We are truly thankful for the sacrificial ministry of Dancho, Boyka and so many others who are reaching both children and adults for Christ in villages across the globe!



# Financials

Reaching villages with the Gospel takes a great effort from those serving on the field, and it is made possible through the gifts and prayers of people around the world. Through all of us working together, great things are being accomplished for the Kingdom! We are especially thankful for our ongoing partnership with the Bible League of Canada, joining together in the vision of reaching unreached villages, proclaiming the Gospel, and teaching God's Word.

We thank God that we were able to reach more villages this year than in previous years. Through your prayers and gifts, people are not only hearing the Gospel, but accepting Christ as their Savior and receiving their first Bible! With so many local Christians serving faithfully, God is writing new testimonies every day as people come to faith.

## He is still working today!

### Funding Sources

International Partners	\$ 2,002,314. 00
Individuals	\$ 161,231. 54
Churches	\$ 51,704. 92
Foundations	\$ 41,250. 00
Businesses	\$ 900. 00
Total	\$ 2,257,400. 46



### Expenses

Ministry & Programs	\$ 1,971,411. 62
General & Administrative	\$ 285,988. 84
Total	\$ 2,257,400. 46



Funds sent directly from Canada to overseas ministry partners are not reflected in our IRS Form 990.

This report contains only a small fraction of what God has done through your partnership with Reach A Village. Thank you for helping to spread the Gospel in 2017!



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Reach A Village is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.