

Asia Harvest

Swing the Sickle for the Harvest is Ripe! (Joel 3:13)



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China's Neglected Minorities

From the Front Lines

with Paul and Joy

In the last issue of our newsletter we introduced you to our new name, Asia Harvest. This issue we introduce you to our new style of newsletter.

We believe a large part of our ministry is to profile and present unreached people groups to Christians around the world. Thanks to the Lord, we have seen and heard of thousands of Christians praying for these needy groups, and efforts have been made by many ministries to take the Gospel to those who have never heard it before. Often we handed to our printer excellent and visually powerful color pictures of minority people, only to be disappointed when the completed newsletter came back in black and white, losing the impact it had in color.

A few months ago we asked our printer, just out of curiosity, how much more it would cost if our newsletter was all in full color. We were shocked to find the differences were minimal! In fact, it costs just a few cents more to print in color than in black and white! For this reason we plan to produce our newsletters in color. Hopefully the visual difference will help generate even more prayer and interest in the unreached peoples of Asia! Please look through the pictures in this issue and see the difference color makes.

Also, you may notice our newsletters are now longer than before. We have found that even though we have increased the number of pages by 33%, that by reducing the weight of the paper we use and by continuing to send them sealed and folded over rather than in an envelope, our newsletter still falls within the minimum postage rate—exactly the same as before.

We don't want to look like a flash ministry that has nothing better to do than write glossy publications. In fact, we have been so busy in the ministry that we have not had time to write a newsletter for almost six months! We want to be fully accountable to use God's finances in the most frugal way possible, so that more can be used where it is needed—winning souls among the unreached peoples of Asia. But we also desire to present Asia's lost in such a way that encourages more people to pray for them and be involved with the advance of the Gospel among them. Please let us know your comments and suggestions.

This issue we focus on China's unreached people groups, and introduce to you our new book, *Operation China*. China has always been the main focus of our attention, and the salvation of her peoples the main passion of our hearts.

Writing *Operation China* was an amazing experience for me, because more than almost anything else I have ever done, I had an overwhelming feeling that God was behind the whole process. At just the right time He would send a person, a book, or a scrap of vital information that allowed us to piece together God's heart for all the peoples of China. Like a giant jigsaw puzzle it came together, thousands of pieces seemingly unrelated, until it started to form into a beautiful picture. I guess what I am trying to say is that the book was written with an acute awareness of God's involvement. Why? Perhaps because these are the tribes and people groups that He has created and loves. Can you imagine how it grieves the heart of God that almost 90% of China's minority groups have no understanding of the Gospel, this 2,000 years after His Only Begotten Son spilled His Blood and gave His Life that we could all come to the Father through Him?

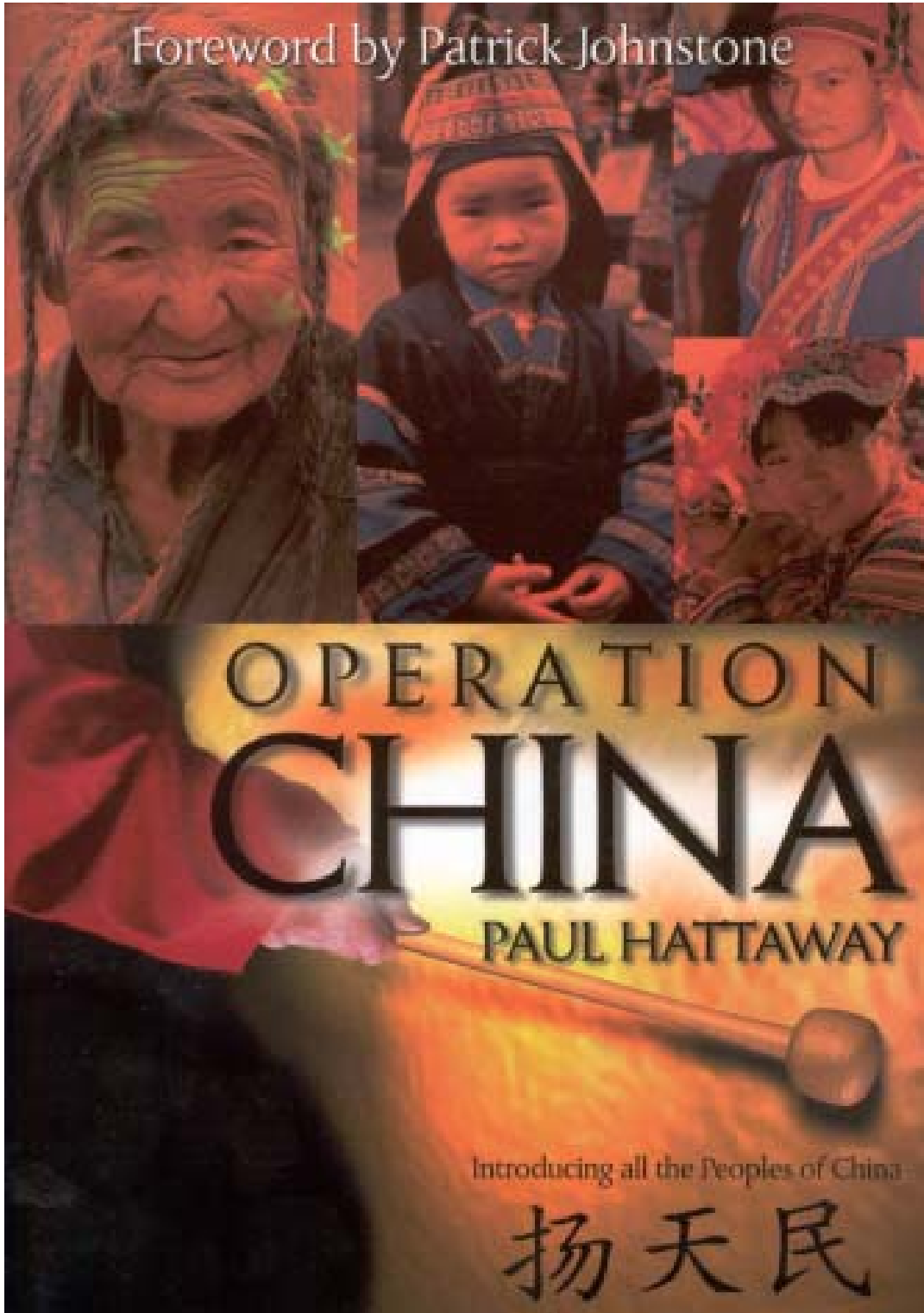
If you do order a copy of *Operation China*, we are sure you will not be disappointed. On page 4 of this newsletter is a picture of the cover of the book, while on page 5 is a sample profile. The one we have chosen on page 5 is of the Laluo tribe of Southwest China - more than half-a-million precious souls who are without a Gospel witness. Please pray for the Laluo people when you reach page 5. Pray for some friends of ours who are soon going among this group to take the Gospel to them.

We introduce a new project to you in this issue - a project to put 200,000 Chinese-language version of *Operation China* into the hands of Chinese house church believers. We invite you to pray for this and also to consider possible involvement, as the Lord leads you.

We know that these endeavors will be in vain if we do not have people upholding the efforts in prayer. To do anything without God's blessing is a waste of time; to do even a small thing with the touch of the Lord on it will reap eternal fruit for His kingdom. We hope when you receive our newsletters that you don't just view it as information, but that you might be actively involved with seeing God's kingdom expand in Asia through your prayers and practical participation as the Lord leads.

Thank you so much for your precious time, your prayers, encouragement and support! If you get a chance to write and let us know how you are, we would love to hear from you. We appreciate you!

Foreword by Patrick Johnstone

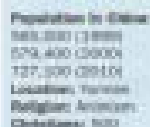


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hills. If an echo is heard, the spirit is believed to have entered their presence. In one region around Weibao in Weishan County the Miyabe Lulus engage in *Qixian*, which they inherited from the Chinese centuries ago. Some Lulus have even become Daoist priests.

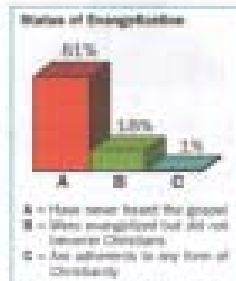
Christianity: The extent of Christianity among the Mienhobo Lahu is uncertain, but there are believed to be a small number of Christians, mostly among assimilated Lahu. The majority of this people group, however, have no knowledge of the gospel and so contact with any Christian workers is difficult.



Population Source:
585,000 (1990). Primary:
Out of a total IT population of
8,072,171 (1990 census)

Locations: Nanjing, Yangzhou,
Xuzhou, Huaiyin, Wuxi, etc.
Yangtze, Jingdong, Yangtze,
Fujian, Chongqing

Religion: American, Anglican
Worship, Sacrament, Christianity
Style(s): CCM
Sophomore: None
Jesse Ware: None
Bonnie Henderson: None
Christine Broadwater: None
BRAM: none None



Introducing *Operation China*

Many of you who personally know us are aware that for four years Paul has been busy writing a large book on China's people groups. Finally it is done! *Operation China* profiles almost 500 different tribes and ethnic groups of China. This number is almost 300 more than the Christian world has known about before!



For centuries the outside world has yearned to understand the mysterious land of China. Since the 1970s - when China again opened her doors to foreign trade and tourism - millions of visitors have flocked into the Middle Kingdom, sampling her sumptuous food, photographing her scenic beauty, and experiencing her bustling marketplaces.

People around the world conjure up several key images when they think of China - the Great Wall, the Forbidden City of Beijing, the canals of Suzhou, or the spectacular karst peaks of Guilin.

Few, however, have been fortunate enough to experience the 'hidden' China which offers a side so

dramatically colorful and enticing, that many are surprised to find it even exists. Woven into the fabric of the largest population on earth is the rich thread of China's ethnic minorities - numbering more than 100 million people - lost, largely, amid the vast population of 1.2 billion Han Chinese.

Operation China introduces the reader to these hidden minority groups, to peoples and cultures as diverse as the pale, blue-eyed Muslims of Xinjiang and the tribal people of the jungles of Yunnan with their intricately-embroidered costumes; the Tibetans in the west, proud of their fascinating heritage, and the nomadic hunter tribes, related to the Eskimos, in the extreme north-east of this vast country.

Because information in China is controlled by the government, who officially recognize just 55 'minority groups' in their country, hundreds of distinct tribes and language groups have been hidden away from the public eye, and from the attention of the Body of Christ. It has been a miracle to find and document each group in China! *Operation China* was written with an acute awareness that God was guiding every step, because of His great

love for the unreached and His desire that they would all know and worship His Son.

It is our hope that readers will gain a burden for the condition of China's unreached peoples, and through *Operation China* will gain a searing realization that they are truly precious in God's sight. We hope that many Christians may be spurred on to pray for and give their time, talents, energy, resources and lives to whatever is necessary for all China's peoples to have access to the indwelling life of Jesus Christ.

Operation China is a large book, about 750 pages long, and all in color! There are more than 700 attractive color pictures of China's peoples inside. Each page has a date at the top. This way, a person can pray or read through the book one or two groups per day throughout the course of a year.

Here is what some missionary leaders have said about *Operation China*:

"The most significant new contribution to missions research in twenty years." - Dr. David Barrett, President, Global Evangelization Movement

"A remarkable, graphic visualization of the urgent reality of the unreached peoples." - Dr. Ralph Winter, Founder, U.S. Center for World Mission

**"The massive revival among the Han Chinese in recent decades may have led to a neglect of many other large groups in China which are still totally unreached by the Gospel. Operation China is an essential tool for prayer, strategy and action."
- Tony Lambert, Director, OMF International**

"A helpful resource as we mobilize people to pray for China and reach these groups. The color photos help to give a greater vision and appreciation for the unreached peoples." - Paul Eshleman, President, The Jesus Film Project

"Carefully researched and brilliantly presented, this book will wake up those who think the Great Commission is virtually completed and bless those who want to see it completed. This book is a spiritual pacemaker, getting our hearts to beat in time with God's." - Michael O'Rear, President, Global Mapping International



How to Order

Unlike our other books, *Operation China* is **NOT** available from us (unless you live in Thailand). The book is so large and heavy that it is not practical for us to send it to people around the world. The cost of postage would be more than the cost of the book! *Operation China* is being distributed by different organizations in different places around the world. Please see below for your country, or the country nearest to you:

U.S.A. and CANADA

North Americans can order from William Carey Library in California. If you have a credit card, you can order by calling their toll free number: 1-800-MISSION (1-800-6477-466). If you do not want to pay by credit card, you can send a check to them, but please call first for prices and address.

Cost: US\$ 23.50 each; or \$ 19.77 each for three or more copies.

EUROPE / UNITED KINGDOM

IVP, Norton Street, Nottingham,
England NG7 3HR

Tel: (44-115) 978-1054; Fax (44-115)
942-2694; Email: ivp@ivpbooks.com
or Piquant Publishing: info@piquant.net

Cost: £ 20 for one; second copy half-price

AUSTRALIA

Contact Word Australia for details:

Tel: (03) 9894-4900
norm@word.com.au

**Cost: AUD\$ 44.50 each;
25% discount on bulk orders**

Australians could also try contacting
Koorong bookstores.

NEW ZEALAND

Scripture Union Wholesale,
P.O.Box 760, 9-A Oxford Terrace,
Wellington; Tel: (04) 385-0421

MALAYSIA

Pustaka SUFES, 386 Jalan 5/59,
Petaling Garden, Petaling Jaya, Selangor
Tel: (03) 792-8239

SOUTH AFRICA

Contact Christian Book Discounters,
Suite 221, Postnet X 18, Rondebosch
7701, Cape Town.

Tel & Fax: (021) 685-3663;
Email: peter@christianbooks.co.za

SINGAPORE

SKS Book Warehouse,
315 Outram Road,
#10-05 Tan Boon Liat Building or
Campus Crusade for Christ, 315
Outram Road, #06-08 Tan Boon Liat
Building; or
Bethesda Book Centre, Blk.126,
No.551, Lorong 1, Toa Payoh

HONG KONG

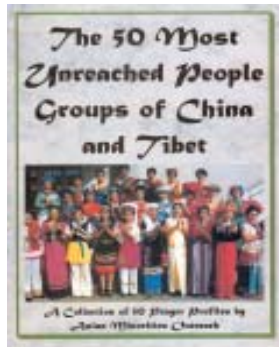
Contact Cross Publishing for details

All Other Countries and Enquires

Contact the Publisher,
Piquant

P.O.Box 83
Carlisle
England CA3 9GR
Email: info@piquant.net

Other Books by Asia Harvest



The 50 Most Unreached People Groups of China and Tibet

Thousands of people around the world have used this book to pray and intercede for the needy peoples of China and Tibet, and new workers have been mobilized for this harvest field.

110 pages. ISBN 974-85307-0-1

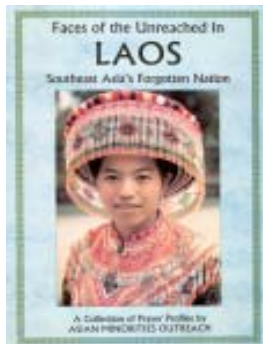
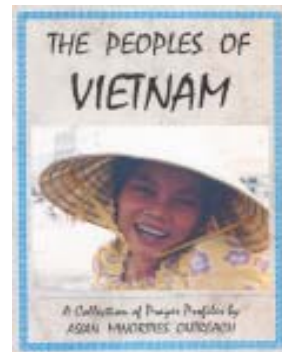
COST: \$ 10 including postage

The Peoples of Vietnam

The Peoples of Vietnam examines the unique and varied cultures of Vietnam. It encourages caring Christians around the world to pray in an informed way for salvation of all the peoples of Vietnam.

114 pages. ISBN 974-85301-6-7

COST: \$ 12 including postage



Faces of the Unreached in Laos: Southeast Asia's Forgotten Nation

For centuries landlocked Laos has been forgotten by politicians, explorers and missionaries alike. This is the first known book to attempt to profile all 138 people groups of this fascinating, needy country.

158 pages. ISBN 974-85302-7-2

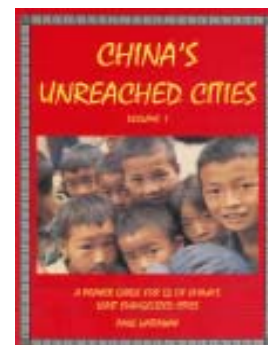
COST: \$ 15 including postage

China's Unreached Cities, Vol.1

By the year 2010 it is estimated half of China's population will live in urban areas - up from 28% in 1994. The cities of China are largely unevangelized. Reaching them with the Gospel of Jesus Christ is a daunting task, but it must be done.

124 pages. ISBN 974-85302-8-8

COST: \$ 13 including postage



A set of all four of the above books can be ordered for \$39, including postage. To order, please send a check to Asia Harvest.

OPERATION CHINA

Help Needed for Chinese Version

The main purpose for writing Operation China was so that each of China's unreached people groups would know Jesus as their Lord and Savior. At the moment, of the 490 groups profiled in the book, just 52 could be considered "reached" by the Gospel (more than 5% Christian). That means that almost 90% of the tribes and peoples in China have yet to receive the Gospel.

Most Christians know that a great revival has been occurring in China for the past 20-30 years, but few realize that the revival has largely been confined to the majority Han Chinese people, and has not yet had much impact among the various tribes and minority groups, who are separated by culture, language and geographical barriers.

In recent years God has given a burden to China's house churches (who may now number as many as 80-100 million believers) for the salvation of China's minority groups.

Recently we met with leaders from six of the house church networks. They expressed a desire for us to immediately get Operation China translated into Chinese, so that they can use the information to take the Gospel to each group.

Just one of the house church networks has committed to send church planting teams to live among every single group profiled in our book! A few weeks ago we had the privilege to go into China and help train more than 60 of these Chinese missionaries as they go to various minority groups.

These evangelists have already suffered much for the Gospel, and they are willing to do whatever it takes to see the Gospel established among all of China's peoples. Their ministries are often marked with signs, wonders and miracles.

We have just one problem we would like you to pray with us about: The house church leaders have requested a total of 200,000 books in Chinese! They believe it will help give a deep vision to the Chinese church, and will mobilize prayer and effort to reach all peoples.



The translation of the Chinese version of Operation China will be completed in a few weeks. It will then be printed inside China and distributed among the various house church networks. It will be a cheaper version than the English one, with no color pictures, but it will still be more than 500 pages in length.

Each Chinese book will cost just \$ 1.20 to print and distribute. Would you, your Bible study group, or church consider involvement in this strategic project? We covet your prayers for this project. Every gift, small or large, will place this information in the hands of a house church pastor or evangelist.

A gift of \$ 36 will allow us to print 30 books for the Chinese church. \$ 180 will enable us to print 150 books.

If you would like to help with this project, please include a note "Operation China fund" along with your gift.

Thank you!



2000 Financial Statement

We believe it is imperative that all Christian ministries be accountable in the area of finances. Our financial statement for the year 2000 is now available upon request to all of our supporters and prayer partners. Please write and request a copy if you are interested.

PROJECT SMILE

Helping Children in Vietnam

*Your generous gifts have
so far helped bring a
smile to the
faces of 393 children
in Vietnam.*

Thank you for your generous support to help children from poor families in northern Vietnam who were born with cleft pallets or hair-lip disabilities.

At the time of this newsletter going to print, we thank you that we have received enough finances to provide operations for **393** children. In recent months our coworkers in Vietnam have focused on helping children from minority hilltribes in the mountains in the northern part of the country.

Please pray the operations would go smoothly and the Holy Spirit would open the door to the hearts of many people to hear and accept the Gospel.

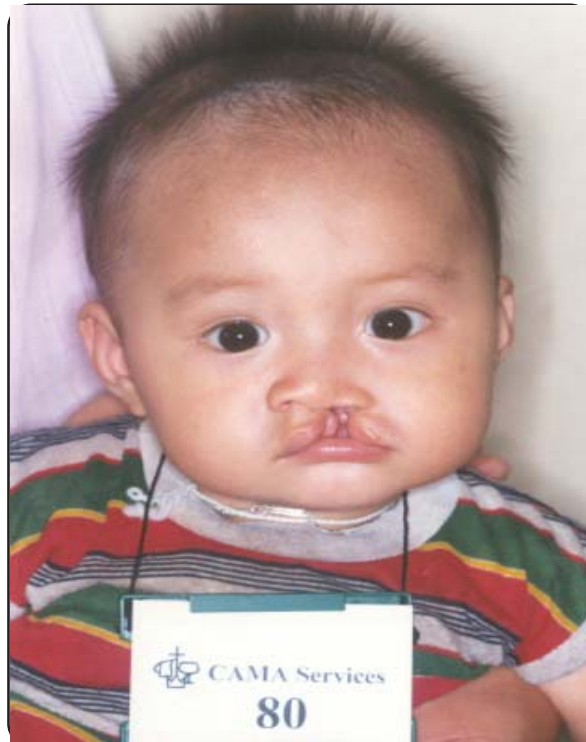
The average cost to help a child is just \$ 50.

This pays for the cost of the operation, the travel expenses for the child and his/her parents to come to the city where the operation takes place, and the cost of an overnight stay in the hospital.

A gift of \$ 50 will enable one child to have a better life, and an opportunity for his or her family to hear about Jesus Christ for the first time.

A gift of \$ 250 will bless 5 children.

If you would like to assist with this on-going need, please send a note,



“Project Smile” along with your financial gift. All U.S. contributions are tax-deductible.

Each gift of \$ 50 or more will receive a picture of the child that was helped, showing the child before and after their life-changing operation. We will also provide the child's name and home village, so you can continue to pray for them.

Recently we received the following letter from one Bible study group in Indiana, USA, who have supported several operations:



Dear Asia Harvest,

“Our Bible study group again delights in helping you with Project Smile. Thank you for giving us this opportunity to serve our gracious Lord Jesus!!

The pictures we received of the children we supported includes a girl. Our hearts rejoiced and broke at the same time for this precious child. We pray for her and her family to come and know Christ as Savior and Lord, as we do for all the pictures you send.”

Stan & Jeri H., Indiana, U.S.A.



From our Mailbox

We are so encouraged by your newsletters. A couple of times we have asked our friends over for tea to pray for the different people groups from your books. Such an awesome prayer tool! May God continue to bless you and bless others through the work that you do. Our God is surely on the move!

Jason and Paula, Australia

Greetings! About five months ago we began a missions-based Bible study for the 5th Grade Sunday School department here at First Baptist Church. As leader of our study group I am constantly looking for ways to involve the children in a meaningful way. Your publications have greatly increased their understanding of the peoples of Asia, and the efforts of believers to reach them. The money enclosed for the Yi tape project was raised by the children from allowances and by doing odd jobs. You are constantly in our prayers.

First Baptist Church, Oregon, USA

I was involved in Buddhism and chanted and meditated frequently. I was touched by God, Jesus Christ, when I finished praying the Sinner's prayer. I have found there is a great difference between God and the world. There is much for me to share with you. Recently my wife also accepted the Lord! Now all I am concerned about is whether or not a person is a Born-Again Christian. I want to encourage you to continue your mission. We do not have much time as the day of the rapture draws closer.

Timothy, Singapore

I'd like to start off with how much I am moved by your ministry in Asia and the reports of all these people who have never heard of Christ. It is extremely sobering and a shame to us Christians who thrive in our freedom and don't do anything to share it with others. God bless you all!

Alexandria, Virginia, USA

Last year I wrote to you and informed you of a prayer group we have here in Barbados focusing on Asia. Since then, we have faithfully received your newsletters and we've been soooooo blessed by them. The group here meets once a month. We continue to lift up each prayer need you specify in your newsletters and plan on continuing to do so until there are no more unreached groups left!

Andrew, Barbados