

## May 2017 Update on the Worldwide Ministry of The HOPE

- March 18-19 / Oakridge Mall, San Jose, Ca. / God Talk in the Mall**

Some of our ministry partners have been involved in a strategy this spring called "God Talk in the Mall." They had 300 HOPE DVDs (English and Spanish) on hand to give to people who were interested to know more. Here's what they reported after one of their weekends, "We had a grace-filled weekend at the God Talk. We had 67 people stop at the kiosk and take our survey; 39 of the 67 wanted follow up! We are not sure exactly how many DVDs were handed out, as we had 45 volunteers on two-hour shifts all day Saturday and Sunday, with four people per shift."



Shown here, Oakridge Mall.  
Ministry in the Mall, what a great idea!

- March 30 & April 19 / New York Churches Give Away 3,660 HOPE DVDs (two separate reports)**

Two New York Churches recently placed orders for HOPE DVDs; Evangel Assembly of God (100 copies on 3/31) and Brunswick Baptist Church (60 copies on 4/19). These two Churches have been putting HOPE DVDs in Visitor/ Welcome Packets since 2006 and 2008, respectively. Together they've given away 3,660 HOPE DVDs!

- April 7-May 28 / Pakistan, Santo Thomas, El Salvador**

What do food and clothing banks have in common with medical and dental clinics? People often have to wait in order to be helped. In the past two months, we received reports from ministry partners in three very different parts of the world, each one telling how The HOPE was used to share the Gospel while people waited to be served.

In Pakistan, Sindhi speakers watch The Sindhi HOPE in a clinic while waiting to see the doctor. The doctor reported that Muslim women come to him with many spiritual questions after watching The HOPE. The Sindhi team says that what captivates those in Pakistan watching The HOPE, is that the Bible seems to be for everyone not just for Christians. That is exactly why we made The HOPE, *The Story of God's Promise for All People!*

- April 14-16 / Iran / Farsi Broadcast over Easter Weekend**

The Farsi HOPE was broadcast at strategic times throughout the Easter weekend. Both The Farsi HOPE and The Turkish HOPE are now being broadcast regularly via satellite into Iran and Turkey, respectively. Please pray that God superintends these broadcasts and that many are quickened by God to respond to the Gospel as they watch The HOPE.



In closed access countries that are ripe for harvest, the Gospel is going forth!

- April... / Tijuana, Mexico / 7,000 Haitians**

There are some 7,000 Haitians stuck in Tijuana with hopes of getting into the U.S. Many of them had been contracted to work in Brazil for the Olympics and then forced to move on. One of our ministry partners is coordinating an effort to prepare "Bible Boxes" for these displaced Haitians. These boxes will include copies of The Haitian Creole HOPE. Many of the boxes will actually be distributed on Micro SD cards for use in mobile phones, which are common among these people.

- **April 28 (date of most recent report) / Germany / Reaching Refugees**

In January 2017, our ministry partners in Germany started a bi-weekly group meeting for refugees living in a camp near their town. "Every second Monday we invite them into our church and together with other churches of our town we first serve food and drinks. Then we have a common beginning after which we divide our guests into three groups: A Farsi speaking group, an Arabic speaking group and a German group for all other nationalities. Last Monday we delivered chapter 7 to them."

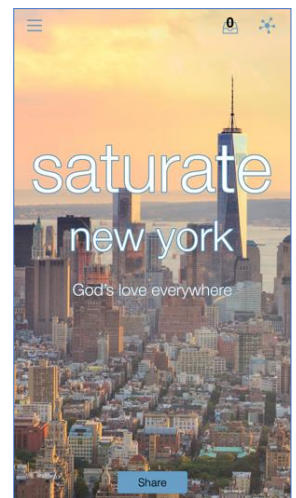
- **April... / Malawi / Partnering to Reach the Unreached Yao People**

As more and more Christians are learning about unreached people groups this question is a common one, "How can a local U.S. Church reach an unreached people group in an area they know nothing about?" Mars Hill recently met with two Churches in the Greater Houston Area to propose a plan. WoodsEdge and The Church Project are both doing ministry with national partners in Malawi (Southeast Africa between Tanzania, Mozambique and Zambia). About 73% of the population professes to be Christian. About 19% are Evangelical. There are however four unreached people groups in Malawi. One is the Yao people. They number 1.9 million and are 99% Muslim. Mars Hill proposed that these two Churches work together through their national affiliates, mobilizing and equipping them to partner with each other to reach the Yao. The plan was quickly embraced. Out of this will come a Yao translation of The HOPE. But more importantly, these two Churches will present a model that can be replicated by other Churches across the U.S. to reach the thousands of unreached people groups in our world. Mars Hill intends to document the whole process in order to create a vision-casting video.

- **May 27-June 3 / New York City / Jesus Week**

The week of May 27-June 3, a coalition of churches in NYC are coming together like never before for "Jesus Week 2017." In the span of a few days, hundreds of churches and parachurch organizations will be mobilized to every zip code in NYC – ministering in schools, troubled communities, and to the poor. An estimated 150,000-200,000 homes will be reached with the gospel!

Over 800 languages are spoken every day in NYC, and one partner in this project has identified every household where a language other than English is spoken at home. A primary tool to minister to these families will be the Saturate NY mobile app, uniquely designed to share the Gospel and empower believers to share their faith with anyone in NYC. The HOPE Film and Study Guide will be included in this app and used to share God's great redemptive story in the most diverse city in the world! To see what these partners are doing, download the saturate nyc app or visit their webpage at [http://saturateny.org/resources/jesus\\_week/](http://saturateny.org/resources/jesus_week/).



The Gospel is the only HOPE for the Big Apple!

- **May... / Farsi Speakers / The Gospel Coalition Farsi Website**

85% of evangelical churches globally are led by pastors who have no access to formal education or training. To aid in this theological famine, The Gospel Coalition has been translating theological and biblical resources (ie; John Piper books, study bibles, etc.) for pastors and elders of churches in these least reached areas. Mars Hill has been invited to collaborate with The Gospel Coalition by making The HOPE available in a variety of new ways so international church planters can be equipped to teach the meta-narrative of scripture to their congregations. The Farsi HOPE and Study Guide will soon be available on this TGC website: <http://www.mahfeleenjil.com/> with a new download option as well. TGC intends to share The HOPE in all available languages with their network of reformed missionaries and church planters working around the globe.



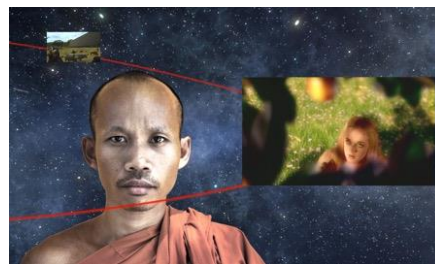
What an honor to be included with teachers like John Piper.

- **New Translations of The HOPE**

Since the beginning of the year we've started three new translations of The HOPE. One is for the Guarani people in Paraguay. The other two are for people groups in Central Asia and East Asia. These must remain anonymous for security reasons. We've also got five new languages in the que, ready to start soon!

- **March - May / The HOPE Vision Video**

You may have heard the saying, "the cobbler's children have no shoes." Mars Hill is a media ministry, but for far too long we've gone without a video to explain why The HOPE is such a strategic Great Commission media tool for reaching the unreached. This soon to be released, 3:30-minute video will explain what an unreached people group is, why it is so important to reach them, and how The HOPE overcomes four obstacles to do just that! We are putting a great deal of time and effort into this, believing it will further the ministry of The HOPE and thus help complete the Great Commission!



*A frame from the section explaining the need for the "big picture"; the "scarlet thread."*

- **Follow and Share The HOPE**

Did you ever play the children's game, "I Spy?" Every day we get to spy God doing amazing things through The HOPE. To encourage our partners, we share many of these. The stories in this update are just the tip of the iceberg. If you'd like to get in on these "God stories," then follow us on one (or more) of our social media portals. And if you'd like to help us reach more of the unreached, then help us build our community by sharing stories.



Click on these live links to go to our social media sites.

- **Internet Ministry of The HOPE**

The HOPE online continues to be a viable tool to reach people around the world 24/7. As you can see from the image to the right showing our analytics from April, we are averaging about 300 visitors a day to [www.thehopeproject.com](http://www.thehopeproject.com). This is our main ministry site, but we are also streaming on partner sites, increasing our daily traffic by another 200. From this image, you can also see that most of our visitors are now coming to us on mobile devices. Very soon, The HOPE will be available for download as well as streaming. It is indeed an exciting time to use technology to share the great good news of the Gospel

