

... back to Pentecost and forward march...



Northern Part of Altai Krai, Shelaboliha, Siberia, Russia

*I and other members of our Bible study group like the courses. **Some people can't read.** We were faced with problems not only in reading, but also in understanding what we have read and understanding of Bible Truth. I think that these courses are appropriate to us as they enable us to grow, particularly me as a minister. They do not take much time for preparation. So I can do my studies and prepare to do sermons. We are grateful to you for these courses and hope to use them in further work.*

And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together, and were confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language. Then they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, "Look, are not all these who speak Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each in our own language in which we were born?" Acts 2:6-8

Of the 3,000 men saved and baptized on the Day of Pentecost, perhaps half or more could not have understood the Gospel the day before. The first gift of the Holy Spirit was the miracle that unlettered men of Galilee could proclaim the Gospel by speaking all languages without even a trace of an accent. The Gospel meant life, in most cases, only to those who could hear and understand it in their own language.

The only hope the great majority have of knowing Christ is to receive the message in their own language. CSI is under a global gospel mandate and that means our disciple-making effort must stretch out to reach new or under-reached languages. Christians express great excitement over the usefulness of our gospel tools made in their languages. "It is so simple, so easy to teach," we are told again and again. "Even children can teach it," and they do!

This opens up to us and to our successors great and receptive mission fields. Like the disciples on the day of Pentecost, we have the world before us. Every new language we use widens the field of missions. CSI is spreading rapidly in this regard through the enlistment of highly gifted nationals who, with very little investment on our part, are producing new materials in several languages. **CSI must stretch out to reach new or under-reached languages where the people have been spiritually deaf for lack of hearing the Good News in their own language.** The results are no less than thrilling, and we are just beginning to move! - *Bro Ted* (Dr. Ted Lindwall serves as Advisor to the President of CSI)

Isn't it wonderful the people that God has put in the life of CSI and the lessons we have learned. Now CSI knows how to minister in languages across the globe and to people even in the most distant and darkest corners of the world. CSI has learned how to work overseas without the presence of an American on the foundations that have already been laid by our precious missionaries and families. From a variety of languages we have witnessed how to start Bible Clubs by the number, Bible Club Camps at little cost to CSI, the efficiency of CSI literature in the hands of nationals working in orphanages and potentially with prisoners, and turning Bible Clubs into Sunday Schools by Clusters.

At present CSI has its basic materials in the languages of approximately 2.5 billion people. The great challenge before us now is to translate the CSI literature into more languages of our world and make it available on our website www.churchstarts.com. - *Bro Bill*