

Hannah's Heartbeat

volume 17, number 3

touching hearts, instilling hope



Photos provided by Ilkka Kastepohja & Matti Korpiaho

A Reason to Live

Doesn't it seem like newsstands these days are saturated with tales of war, destruction, and the problems of this world? Where are the happy stories? Does hope exist among all the turmoil? In Iran, Farsi *Women of Hope*[®] broadcasts help make the answer to that question a resounding "Yes!" A male listener tells a compelling story of how this ministry changed his family's life.

One summer the man and his wife were going on vacation and got in a serious car accident that damaged her spinal cord. The physical trauma left her partially paralyzed and unable to walk. She was in such a state of despair that she wanted to take her own life. The husband recalls what a terrible time it was and how totally helpless he felt to ease her suicidal thoughts. But praise the Lord, one of their neighbors introduced them to the *Women of Hope* radio programs. And from that point on, things began to turn

around. Because someone cared enough to share with them the love of Christ, this couple became believers, and everything in their lives changed.

"My wife's sweet smile has returned to her lovely face," the man writes to Project Hannah[®]. "I can only tell you thank you! Thank you! Thank you! God bless you."

This husband got back the woman he married, and they both received the even greater gift of God's love and eternity in heaven to look forward to. Ultimately, the Lord changed these people's hearts, but he used Project Hannah as an instrument to do so.

"Praise the Lord for your helpful and encouraging radio programs, and thank you for taking the time to reach out to people without hope" – the words of a grateful husband and now a child of the King.



THE IMPACT OF PRAYER

Prayer unites people, it changes lives, and God wants his children to take advantage of this beautiful birthright he has given us. The freedom we possess to talk openly to the Creator of the universe serves as one of the most influential means believers have to enact change in this hurting and suffering world. In India, a country where women are so undervalued that female babies too often are an unwanted inconvenience and even women view domestic abuse as normal and acceptable, Project Hannah's prayer movement is taking root.

Thousands are praying through the monthly prayer calendar and learning the importance of daily fellowship with the Lord. A regular and faithful prayer partner there wrote to Project Hannah expressing how deeply she appreciates these efforts taken by the ministry to "link women around the world through this prayer network." When we pray, we can move the hand of God, cultural barriers can be broken, and countless lives can be impacted for the Kingdom as a result of our diligent devotion to Christ.

Another Project Hannah supporter from India also conveys how much the prayer calendar and *Women of Hope*® broadcasts have helped her learn the importance of having a loving, ongoing relationship with God. She has discovered joy and peace in the Lord despite whatever challenges she may face in her culture. "I

have learned that if we go away from God's presence, there will be hunger and loss," she writes. "And the only way out is to return to Him, to be humble, and to surrender ourselves into the hands of God. There is no other way except through the Redeemer."

By joining together with other brothers and sisters in Christ around the world and by lifting up the same daily requests from each month's prayer calendar, we have the opportunity to help women discover their worth in the eyes of God. We can have a part in extending hope and encouragement to those caught in physical, emotional, or spiritual bondage. Some women are stuck and have lost all hope; they simply cannot escape their current circumstances without divine intervention from the Savior.

One more Indian listener says, "My faith is a matter of contention at home, and I am tortured because of it. I feel so lonely, sad, and disheartened. But I thank God for what I have learned through your programs and through the love and counsel I receive from the prayer warriors!"

What a beautiful testimony. Our Heavenly Father answers prayer and is powerful enough to step in and change any situation, no matter how impossible it may seem. It is clear that the Lord is working, and these are but a few of the many stories of lives changed in response to this global wave of prayer.

PRAYER & PRAISE

- Praise God for daily broadcasts from TWR's new PANI outlet. Ask Him to draw listeners in Pakistan, Afghanistan, and North India to himself through programs from this powerful AM signal.
- Pray that God will raise up *Women of Hope* teams in Dari and Pashto for the women of Afghanistan. Ask God to protect the teams and to guide them as they produce programs. The original Dari team was not able to continue production, delaying broadcasts until spring 2015 at the earliest.



Morgan with Marli Spieker,
Project Hannah Founder and Global
Ministry Director

Women Without Words

By Morgan Jackson, TWR Intern

(Read more by Morgan at projecthannah.org/interninsights)

Dear friends,

Since God called me to start Project Hannah, I've wanted it to be a ministry by the next generation of women, not simply one for the next generation. That is happening around the world and what a blessing it was to have Morgan Jackson intern with us this year! Be encouraged as you read her column below and her articles throughout this issue.

Pauli

that's capable of negatively affecting almost every aspect of their lives? You would assume it's a big issue like war, hunger, or poverty, right? It couldn't be something as "insignificant" as knowing how to read and write ...

Turns out, it could – and it is. Countless females have never had the opportunity to learn and discover the joy of reading or the freedom of writing. And this global lack of literacy has staggering repercussions in people's lives, communities, and entire countries.

Why is it so important for women and girls to be literate and have this ability to understand the written word? Because a chain reaction ripples through a woman's entire life when she is viewed as worthy enough to receive the precious gift of an education. Educated women tend to marry later and have fewer children. Infant mortality and child malnutrition are therefore halved, and maternal deaths during childbirth decrease drastically. Schooling can also boost a woman's eventual earnings and lead to an overall increase in her community's economic productivity.

And it doesn't stop there! Being able to read has a major impact on one's spiritual and family life as well. If a woman isn't literate, she isn't able to read and understand the Bible,

What if I told you there was a problem faced by millions of women worldwide

learning biblical principles with which to direct her actions as a wife and mother. Likewise, she can't pass that valuable knowledge on to her children. If a woman is illiterate, everyday written guides regarding health information, food prices, local laws, and hygiene practices are useless to her. She cannot read for herself even the most basic instructions and as a result is putting the health of her entire family at risk. Are you starting to grasp how far-reaching illiteracy can be in the lives of those whom it affects?

While working with Project Hannah, I have witnessed how powerful the ministry's tools are in bridging this literacy gap in women's lives. *Women of Hope* provides numerous audio programs teaching essential health and spiritual lessons that females would not receive otherwise. And the monthly prayer calendar mobilizes thousands of people around the world to pray for the plight of women who are stuck in illiteracy as well as in many other forms of bondage.

If you are able to read this today, know how blessed you are to have the opportunity to master this crucial skill. Also understand how important it is that you be literate regarding the issues other women in this world are facing. God desires that we educate ourselves about global problems and respond to these needs through diligent prayer to Him. So join the movement, start praying with the other 40,000 prayer warriors who have already taken on the challenge, and watch as the Lord displays His life-changing power in women's lives. What will you pray for today?

This *Hannah's Heartbeat* newsletter was written by our summer intern, Morgan Jackson. Visit twr.org/serve to learn more about (short- and long-term) opportunities for you or people you know to serve with TWR. Read more by Morgan online at projecthannah.org/interninsights.



INTRODUCING THE NEWLY

Redesigned Project Hannah App



Project Hannah's redesigned app offers new prayer resources along with the continued availability of *Women of Hope* audio programs. There is now a push notification option that can be selected so users are sent each day's request as a reminder. Along with this helpful prompt, the informative awareness article accompanying each month's prayer calendar focus is now only a finger tap away! The new app makes it easy to introduce friends and family to Project Hannah right from your mobile device and is available for Android devices as well as Apple's iPhone, iPad, and iPod Touch. Audio programs are available in English, Arabic, Spanish, Hindi, Portuguese, and Creole, with more languages to be added soon.

Join Project Hannah's ministry today as we offer hope to hurting women worldwide. Gain access to prayer resources anytime, anywhere, and unite with the more than 40,000 people in more than 70 languages lifting up these requests to the Lord every day. Download the app from iTunes or Google Play.

Visit projecthannah.org/app to learn more.



MISSION STATEMENT



Project Hannah's purpose is:

- to raise awareness of and empathy for the plight of women worldwide.
- to pray for women who are being abused emotionally, physically or spiritually.
- to broadcast the gospel of Jesus Christ to women around the world, encouraging them to:
 - experience God's love, freedom and power as they face life's daily challenges.
 - embrace their God-given destiny and glorious inheritance in Christ Jesus, whatever their cultural, social or economic situation.
 - pass on to their children a legacy of faith, wisdom and godly character.

CONNECT WITH PROJECT HANNAH®

TWR
 P.O. Box 8700
 Cary, NC 27512 • USA
 1-800-456-7TWR
www.projecthannah.org
hannah@twr.org

TWR Canada
 Box 25324, London, ON N6C 6B1
 1-888-672-6510
hannah@twrcanada.org

 projecthannah.org/facebook
 projecthannah.org/twitter

 projecthannah.org/app
 (for iPhone & Android)