

Hannah's Heartbeat



volume 18, number 3

touching hearts, instilling hope



POWERFUL & EFFECTIVE:

God at Work in Latin America

Dear Women of Hope brothers and sisters,

We always listen to the programs of Trans World Radio. Here where I live, there is no church close by. I especially like listening with other people to the program Women of Hope. I am writing to you to request that you send us literature. The topics that you discuss have spoken a lot to my life, and I share them with others who live in this area.

Greetings from Cuba,

Elina

For half a century, TWR has been a voice of hope throughout Latin America. Each week TWR's station on the Caribbean island of Bonaire broadcasts more than 100 hours of programming to listeners such as Elina (not her real name) in Cuba. We are preparing to double our potential listening audience from 50 million people to 100 million by installing a 450,000-watt AM transmitter. We will reach farther and more clearly with programs in Spanish not only for the entire nation of Cuba but also for Venezuela, a country even more closed to the gospel than Cuba. Also receiving a better signal

will be Colombia, ranked 35th (between Algeria and Tunisia) on Open Doors' 2015 World Watch List of the 50 worst countries for the persecution of Christians.

And the time is ripe for this upgrade! God is on the move in Latin America. House churches are springing up all across Cuba, many as a result of TWR's broadcasts. Pastors are built up through TWR's Bible school on the air and the daily systematic teaching of Scripture. Other programs, such as Project Hannah's *Women of Hope*, address family issues, reach youth, and challenge atheists to consider the claims of Christ. An AM station in Uruguay and more than 700 local stations across Latin America join Bonaire to provide gospel-centered programming that transforms lives. Thousands of listeners contact us every year to say that they find the daily spiritual food they need through TWR's Spanish programs.

For Latin American women, Project Hannah's prayer ministry is another source of daily comfort:

"I give thanks to the Lord for Project Hannah, which is a great help for us women. I join you in prayer, giving thanks

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to God for what he is doing in the lives of people. I was a woman who suffered from domestic violence. Thanks to the Lord, the knowledge of the truth of his kingdom came to me and to my home. The Holy Spirit brought order out of disorder, emptiness, and darkness. My children grew up to graduate from college, and now together with my husband, we serve the Lord in a church. I bless you with much love, and I ask God that he bless you and advance this mission that you have in your hands.”

We at TWR thank God for putting this gospel mission in your hands as you read about how God is working through Project Hannah and pray with us through our monthly calendar.

Learn more about TWR's ministry from Bonaire at twr.org/powerup.

Gifting to the ministry

Every prayer matters and no gift is too small. Make a monthly donation if you can and help give women hope every day! For Project Hannah's Spanish ministry in Latin America, one year of monthly, recurring gifts pays for:

ONE PROGRAM'S TRANSLATION & PRODUCTION PLUS FOLLOW-UP
\$25.50 recurring monthly gift

ONE MONTH'S PRAYER MINISTRY
\$64 recurring monthly gift

ONE WEEK'S BROADCASTS
\$93 recurring monthly gift

two airings from Bonaire; a high-power AM airing from Uruguay;
plus distribution to hundreds of local stations

Friendly Voices Bringing Joy

There are many likely causes for the apparent failure of society in Haiti: weak infrastructure, extreme income inequality, and a history of foreign interference, to name a few. As Christians, we recognize that the importance Voodoo is given in Haiti cannot be overlooked. Though banned for most of the 20th century, in 2003 Voodoo was given legal recognition as a religion with equal standing to Catholicism. Despite the socially bleak and spiritually dark landscape, we are hearing how God is shining the light of his love into the hearts of Haitian women through Project Hannah.

While a *Women of Hope* Creole producer talked to a friend at a wedding, a woman passing by interrupted to say, “Your voice reminds me of a person I hear on 4VEH. Are you part of the program *Negès Lesperans* [*Women of Hope* Creole]?” When the producer answered in the affirmative, the passerby spent the remainder of the conversation saying how useful the *Women of Hope* program is for her and how faithfully she listens every week.

Receiving positive program feedback in person is not uncommon for the Creole team. Another member reported a listener from the town of Limbé telling how *Negès Lesperans* comforts her. “One day,” the listener recounted, “I was very sad over a personal situation, and I was crying on my bed. Then *Negès Lesperans* came on the radio. I was still alone, but I felt like a friend, a human presence, was in the room with me. That day's program brought joy to my heart and spoke specifically to my own situation.”

As is true for all of us, encountering the only true God is the only hope for the people of Haiti. Project Hannah, and TWR's partner in Haiti, Radio 4VEH, depend on the prayers of God's people as programs are produced and broadcast. Thank you for bringing joy to the hearts of Haitian women as you pray for the friendly voices they hear on the radio.

See pictures of Project Hannah's recent trip to Haiti at projecthannah.org/Haiti.

Counting on the Prayers of the Saints

Hello,

*I am writing this letter as a friend and listener of your program, Women of Hope. I listen to you every Saturday, and I like it because I learn many things from you. This month as I pray, I am using your [Spanish] prayer calendar praying for women who live in extreme poverty and also for the women of Vietnam. Every month I pray for the different requests in the prayer calendar. In other words, **I pray for women all over the world**, those who are abused, who suffer violence and poverty, so many things that we can't even imagine.*

Thank God that this ministry exists and is concerned enough to pray for each woman in each part of the world. Thank you for sending me prayer requests each month. Know that **you can count on my prayer and intercession.**

I am sending you a kiss and the desire that the Lord give you many blessings,

Madena*

**Name changed to protect privacy of prayer partner in Cuba*

Each month, more than 50,000 intercessors pray the same requests in more than 85 languages and more than 125 countries. Our prayer resources provide current information about specific countries or areas of concern in the form of one short request each day. Be sure you're connected to receive daily requests in the ways that work best for you.

Sign up for the monthly prayer calendar (by email or mail):

 projecthannah.org/leprayer

View or download resources for each month or day:

 projecthannah.org/monthlyprayercalendar

 projecthannah.org/prayeroftheday

Follow our social media posts to read daily requests:

 projecthannah.org/facebook

 projecthannah.org/twitter

Install the app to carry requests with you on your phone:

 projecthannah.org/app



The Same God at Work

It has been a privilege to be carriers of the message of salvation and hope for Quichua-speaking women. Women of Hope in Quichua (Sumaj Puyyu) is heard across Ecuador on the frequencies of HCJB AM and shortwave. We also have reports of those who listen online in Spain, the USA and England.

I thank God for all the people who form the [global] ministry Project Hannah. Your visit to us was a time full of blessing where our women were uplifted as precious daughters of God. As we see people serving God in different ways, it reminds us of 1 Corinthians 12:6. On a personal level, doing translation work and being the voices that encourage the heart and soul of women through the message of the Lord Jesus challenges us to depend more on God and know that he wastes nothing. He has given us abilities, interests, talents, gifts, personalities, and experiences that we can use to make his name great. Through this program we have grown and we learn to serve God more. Serving God means giving up the right to control our schedule and instead allowing him to interrupt us at

any time he needs in order to enlarge his kingdom.

Our commitment is to continue working until Jesus comes to take us away, if that is his will. So, until then may his wonderful grace cover you in the love of God.

Yours faithfully,

Roberta and Susan



There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work. 1 Corinthians 12:5-6



WHEN IN DOUBT...PRAY!

by Marli Spieker
Project Hannah Founder and Global Ministry Director



Going through filthy and broken streets in Haiti – the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere – I was overwhelmed with the hopelessness in

people’s eyes. Voodoo was practiced by the people of Haiti from before the nation’s independence in 1804. And then in 2003, the government of Haiti recognized Voodoo as an official religion! Fierce spiritual warfare is taking place on this island, the same warfare I’ve sensed in Africa, Asia, everywhere. At times, I confess, it seems too much to bear. Whether it’s because of belief systems, harmful cultural practices, or worldviews, the walls keeping women away from justice and truth seem impenetrable.

But God, no matter how ingrained culture and traditions are, uses faithful people and simple tools to break down these walls. People call it a battle of the sexes or a social or culture war, but no: This is first and foremost a spiritual conflict. That’s why we must pray: Pray that women no longer will be used as commodities, that rape will no longer be a weapon of war. Pray for endurance as women face abuse and harmful cultural practices that break their bodies, crush their spirits, and empty their souls.

You might ask, “What’s the point?” At times I am tempted to doubt, too: “Who can crumble these impenetrable cultural and religious walls?” But that’s when David’s

victory cry echoes in my heart. He said, “*With my God, I can advance against a troop. I can leap over a wall!*”

Joshua looked for a battle plan before the mighty walls of Jericho, and the “commander of the LORD’s army” came to him. This mighty commander is the one who comes to us in the midst of our battles. Joshua asked, “Are you for us or for our enemies?” Wrong question, Joshua! The answer was “neither.” Jesus, “the commander of God’s army,” seeks and saves the lost. He is able to destroy the works of the Devil. He died not only for the women we serve but also for the perpetrators who hurt and abuse them. He alone has the power to crumble walls of indignity and division between men and women.

When tempted to doubt our Prince of Peace, I look at how God’s Word pierces women’s spiritual darkness through the *Women of Hope* programs in 69 languages; I see 50,000 intercessors seeking biblical justice through concerted and earnest prayer; I see our teams helping women find the source of strength and faith, fighting this spiritual battle with them. That’s when doubt gives way to thanksgiving prayers. After all, in God’s economy, that one short prayer or a radio program, that one CD or MP3 given to a prostitute or a refugee woman, or that tangible financial gift given far away from these women’s battlefields is more powerful than the mighty and seemingly insurmountable walls of hate, abuse, violence, and segregation women face day after day.

Never let doubt drag you down. Pray. After all, NO wall can remain standing before the power of our God!



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.

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