



The JOY of the JOURNEY

"This flight has been overbook, who would be willing to take a later flight?" I raised my hand, then found myself on a different plane heading back to Columbia....sitting next to Pauline. Inside she groaned, "Oh no, I'm sitting next to a 'Bible thumper!" Right away she informed me, "You're going to have a hard time a time trying to convert me." I smiled and responded, "I've never converted anyone. Let's just be friends and see what God does."

We met for lunch...and dinner... and lunch again. I suggested that she at least know what she was rejecting, so she agreed to come to a 6-week "Essentials of the Christian Faith" class at my church. One day she surprised me by telling me she had bought herself a Bible! We'd talk for hours at her dining room table. I clearly shared the gospel....lots of times. I sent her links to my favorite sermons...lots of them. Finally, in utter frustration she blurted, "But HOW does one BECOME a Christian!" Finally, God shined His glorious Light through a 7-min. video vignette by John Piper, "What Must Someone Believe in Order To Be Saved."

On December 2nd, Pauline and I met with one of my pastors. She shared the good news that she had given her life to Christ. On December 13th, my precious airplane friend will be baptized and she has invited her whole family to come to church. All of heaven rejoices. God has been glorified and He will be glorified again!

"How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them?" Romans 10:14

Thank you for sending me to do the work of the Lord wherever He sends me and to whomever He places in my path.
Your investments are bearing fruit and will continue to do so.

Merry Christmas to you and *JOY* to the world!

Soli Deo Gloria,

Joanna Robbins

Please consider a year-end contribution. It's easy to make an online donation.

Go to our website at <https://crossoverusa.webconnex.com/joanna>.

If you prefer, you may place a check in the self-addressed envelope enclosed to my account 2381.

Your donations make us partners in the gospel. Together we facilitate church planting in some of the darkest places on earth.
We break through the darkness with the light and the love of God.

Thank you for your prayers and support. God bless you!



CONTACT INFORMATION

Joanna Robbins Parham ~ Member Care Coordinator
Office: P.O. Box 211755 Columbia, SC 29221 803.691.0688
Email: joanna@innovativeaccess.org 817.578.1020
Online giving is easy. Go to www.crossoverusa.org
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ALL GIFTS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE



Christmas in Tajikistan Population: 8,612,000
Unreached: 8,479,000

The goal in Tajikistan is to plant churches in remote villages and to teach the new believers to gather around the Word of God. With so many unreached, how can this ever be accomplished, especially considering the risk of persecution or death?

The unreached are unreached for a reason.

They are hard to reach.

It is dangerous to reach out to them.

The unreached live in areas where Satan has had his destructive way for generations.

We are encroaching into his finest work.

We must break through the barriers and provide access to the gospel. It is our commission. We have the authority. Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but **with God all things are possible.**" Matthew 19:2

Emmanuel: God With Us

In the midst of profound challenges, God is at work in the unreached nations. In Tajikistan recently, the wife of a Muslim farmer became a Christian. In quiet submission, she prayed. She reached out to a local Muslim woman and shared Christ with her. The two women became prayer partners for her husband. He eventually became a believer. He shared with his two brothers who became Christians. They invited the neighboring farmers over for a Bible study. As a result there is now a new church with 8 farmers. This church is growing.

This testimony displays an especially important move of God since farmers rely on God's provision rather than outside sources. These types of home churches will be sustainable even if persecution arises from the central government because Christians are rooted in the their community that is anchored to the land.

"This is what the kingdom of God is like. A man scatters seed on the ground. Night and day, whether he sleeps or gets up, the seed sprouts and grows, though he does not know how. All by itself the soil produces grain - first the stalk, then the head, then the full kernel in the head. As soon as the grain is ripe, he puts the sickle to it, because the harvest has come." Mark 4: 26-29



Pray for these Tajik farmers. Pray for Safi (blue shirt), for our church planters, and those to whom I provide Member Care.

