



Makara distributing radios in remote northeastern Stung Treng province.

## One Radio and a Great God

In the hands of God Almighty, one radio can work wonders. This is why FEBC Cambodia, known locally as ‘Voice of Love’ Cambodia, still actively distributes shortwave radios in rural communities where FM signals cannot reach.

### Shortwave radio

“FEBC Cambodia started shortwave broadcasts in 1957 from Philippines. It is still running after many years and generations, even through the Khmer Rouge,” Director of FEBC Cambodia Makara shared.

The team started Krusa (Family) FM in 2001, which broadcasts from Phnom Penh to 10 provinces. The relay station in Kampong Thom means FM reaches half of Cambodia’s population. The team also shares content online to reach young people, who make up most of the population.

Shortwave radio is still crucial to reach most Cambodians who live in rural areas, especially the rural poor. These include those working in garbage dumps who do



FEBC Cambodia regularly distributes shortwave radios to rural communities where FM reception is not available. Radios are also given to soldiers.

not have regular access to mobile phones or the internet. The team often distributes food supplies along with the radios. Each family gets one radio, from which they can listen to the Word of God spoken in Khmer.

Duong Champa was one who was given a radio. She heard about Jesus Christ, the one true God who loves her, and believed. Her husband also came to faith.

But six months into her newfound faith, tragedy struck. "My spouse passed away. I was devastated but was comforted that he was at peace with God."

### Persecuted and left alone

Instead of receiving support from her village, Duong Champa found herself persecuted. As a Buddhist nation, many cultural practices are intertwined with Buddhism. When Duong Champa did not perform Buddhist rites for her husband, the community saw that as dishonouring.

"As a widow who put her faith in God alone, I faced persecution," Duong

Champa recollected. "It seemed like an awful thunderstorm raining down on me at times. I felt hated and ignored. At the same time, I still had a lot of responsibilities. I lost my hope."



"My name is Duong Champa, and I'm 62 years old. I live in Siem Reap. I was converted to Christianity by listening to 'Voice of Love' SW radio."

### Finding hope, reaching others

But that one radio became Duong Champa's lifeline. "Hearing God's Word through SW empowered me to stand strong in faith."

Jesus not only journeyed with Duong Champa through her grief and persecution, He gave her a new joy. "He has made me sub-village head to oversee many villages. Meeting over 200 different families has been a wonderful and humbling

experience. I share the Gospel with them, tell them how to be saved. Six families have recently turned to God, including those who had persecuted me. I give thanks to Jesus Christ, the great God."

## Disciple Making

FEBC Cambodia is also empowering believers and listeners to be disciple makers through Disciple Making Movement workshops and Bible Courses.

### Disciple Making Movement

Partnering with churches, the team holds Disciple Making Movement (DMM) workshops, sharing experiences and tactics for forming small groups in villages, communes, schools, and hospitals. Pray for God to multiply disciples through this movement!

### Cambodia Community Bible Institute

Using textbooks and mp3 players, students of the Bible study courses systematically go through the Bible and learn about the basics of Christian Life and making disciples.



Equipping disciples to make disciples!



Happy Bible study students and graduates from Thlok Andong and Thnal Tasit villages in Siem Reap province.



# New beginnings and God's faithfulness

I am delighted to announce to you today, the appointment of Janet Cousens as our CEO at FEBC Australia. Janet will be stepping into her role in February 2024, and we are grateful to God for His provision and leading.

I thank you our faithful supporters, the Board, and staff who earnestly prayed over the last few months for this outcome. We pray and commit Janet, the team, and our future to God.

We have been strengthened and encouraged throughout this process to know that God has the mission in His hands, and He would bring us the person of His choosing. As Paul encouraged us in Philippians 4:13:

"I can do all things through him who strengthens me. Whatever I have, wherever I am, I can make it through anything in the One who makes me who I am."



Janet Cousens, CEO

Janet brings with her an impressive 20-year career spanning the for-purpose and government sectors. Her dedication to mobilising leaders in addressing social injustice, reducing

marginalisation, and in building resilient communities aligns perfectly with the mission and vision of FEBC. Janet's most recent role as CEO of Act for Peace, the international humanitarian agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia, has equipped her with invaluable experience in dealing with inequity, particularly concerning refugees and those

affected by forced displacement.

Janet's academic background in Mass Communication and Social Work, coupled with her experience in TV documentary research and program management, provides Janet with a unique perspective that will be invaluable in driving our mission forward.



Ron Cameron, Board Chair

As a committed Christian, Janet's motivation is rooted in her faith and the desire to see people thrive in their vocations. She is passionate about ensuring that all individuals, especially those marginalised by society, are aware of God's love for them.

I am confident that Janet's leadership will enhance FEBC's capacity to share the Good News of Jesus through media, in partnership with our overseas partners.

I welcome Janet to our FEBC family and seek your continued support through prayer for this new journey ahead of us. Janet is eager to listen and engage with you our supporters and in our shared mission - The Great Commission.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to FEBC Australia. We look forward to an exciting new chapter with Janet at the helm under God.

In prayer and partnership,

**Ron Cameron**

*Chairperson of the Board, FEBC Australia*



Our **Tell The World** activity and colouring book is a great option to gift children or your church at the start of the new year. You can gift your church or Sunday school.

Click here to have us mail a copy to the recipient, or call us on 1300 720 017.

# Hope After a Lifetime of Suffering

When Cassim was little, he lived with his parents in Massangulo in N'Gauma District, north-western Mozambique. One day, his parents left him near a charcoal fire and forgot about it. The curious child went too close to the flames. When Cassim's mother found him, she thought he was dead.

Cassim sustained such severe burns to both his legs that doctors decided to amputate. Sadly, in Mozambique, people with disabilities are often marginalised. They face numerous challenges in daily life, mostly because there is little effort to accommodate their disabilities and grant them easy access to the things they need. It is difficult for disabled people to access and move around in hygiene facilities, educational institutions, healthcare facilities, and markets.

Unable to cope with the care of a disabled small child, Cassim's parents abandoned him. As a result, Cassim had to fend for himself from a young age. He struggled his whole life with rejection, self-esteem, and trying to cope emotionally and physically with his disability. Life was meaningless to Cassim.

## Finding hope

Then Cassim came across a program called 'Voice of Love' from FEBC Mozambique. 'Voice of Love' is a popular program centred on overcoming hardship. Listeners often share their encouraging testimonies with other listeners.

Cassim wanted so much to also have his own testimony like those he heard. He reached out to the station.

"He is very talented and educated, but he had no hope until he heard 'Voice of



Love', which broadcasts from Cuamba," says FEBC Mozambique's National Director, Bright Sonjera.

Cassim learnt he is loved and accepted by Jesus. He put his faith in Jesus and found new hope and purpose. He now has his own testimony which he boldly shares with many in love. Please pray for God's restoration in Cassim's life, and for God to use his testimony to touch many.





Many families are suffering grief and trauma from the Ukraine war.

## Ukraine: Life from the Ashes

24 February 2024 marks two years since war started in Ukraine. Families have been torn apart by trauma, stress, and long separation. But God is bringing new life and a peace that surpasses all understanding amid the devastation. Through FEBC's team of evangelistic counsellors, people are experiencing God's healing and restoration. Thank you for your persistent prayers!



Counsellors from FEBC Ukraine help people find God and His peace and hope 12 hours a day.

### Love that casts out fear

Marta's husband had been a soldier for several years and, though Marta had been a soldier as well, the fear was beginning to take a toll on her.

"I cry all the time," she said. "I'm so afraid, for myself, for my husband. My hands start trembling every evening," she said. "That's when the missiles start flying."

Marta had many questions about Christianity and God, asking FEBC's counsellors about the meaning of Easter. When they shared the meaning of Jesus's death and resurrection with her, Marta

was very moved by God's love. She prayed with the counsellors, putting her faith in Jesus. Then they prayed for peace and protection for Marta and her husband.

At the end of the conversation, Marta was excited about visiting a church and counsellors connected her with one in her city.



Solar powered radios are given to soldiers so they can listen to stories of hope on the frontline.

### Fresh hope in the waiting

"It's been three months," he said, "and I'm not getting better. I'm afraid I'll end up disabled and unable to work. My leg just hurts so much," a Ukrainian soldier shared with counsellors on FEBC Ukraine's prayer helpline. He had been injured in the war and was now at home.

Throughout the call, the soldier's wife could be heard in the background, talking about how she should file for divorce.

FEBC's prayer counsellors talked with him, telling him about God's grace and love. They prayed for him, for God to heal his leg, and for his fellow soldiers who were still fighting.

He became emotional after the prayer, saying, "Your prayer is the best thing that's happened to me since the war began. I can feel that what you are saying about God is true. Thank you, my friends!"

# Did you know?

## Fun Facts about radio

- 13 February is World Radio Day
- Radio is the first mass medium and still the world's most consumed medium.



Radio is still the most widely used medium.

- Radio waves travel at the speed of light.
- Radio provides crucial information for illiterate and oral learners.
- Radio saves lives in emergencies.
- In many remote places where FEBC radios are heard, one radio is often shared amongst a group of listeners, who would come together to listen to the word of God.



FEBC has a First Response Radio (FRR) team in some countries, who are dispatched at first notice to areas hit by natural disaster. They provide critical information and encouragement where the local communications infrastructure is damaged and unable to function.

## SW, MW, FM, Internet Radio, Mobile APP?

In many countries, FEBC uses a mix of SW, MW, FM, internet radio, mobile apps and social media to reach different people groups within the same country. But just what are they and how are they different?

### Shortwave (SW)

- Shortwave (SW) radio has a huge range. It can travel a long distance from the transmitter and even cross mountains, oceans, and continents.
- For FEBC, it's perfect for reaching hard-to-reach remote places, and where Christian radio is prohibited. This is why FEBC Australia, through you, provides significant funding for shortwave broadcasts to millions of ethnic minority groups living in remote areas or across Southeast Asia.

### Medium-wave (MW) or AM radio

- MW signals are transmitted using amplitude modulation (AM).
- With a medium transmission range, it can reach isolated communities with a strong, reliable signal.
- It's popularly used for local broadcasts or where established radio networks exist.

### Frequency Modulation (FM)

- FM provides short-range radio signal, where the transmitter is in sight.
- It's great for community radio and to reach within a city or a large town.

### Internet Radio

- Web-based radio is cheap and quick to set up. It has global reach but may not be accessible to the poorest and most remote areas of the world where the internet is not available.

### Mobile APP

- Nearly 7 billion mobile subscriptions worldwide are estimated in 2024. FEBC offices have taken advantage of high mobile usage to reach peoples through apps. Podcasts can be hosted here or on the internet.

### Social Media and Chat Messaging

- Social media technically isn't radio. However, with its popularity, FEBC is reaching millions of people, particularly younger audiences.
- In countries where radio licences are not available, God's Word can still be shared through social media and chat messaging.



# Birth of Mongolia's Own Worship Songs

Just 34 years ago, Mongolia was a communist country. There were four known Christians in the country where atheism was the official belief. 11 years later, in 2001, FEBC started the first Christian radio station in the new nation.

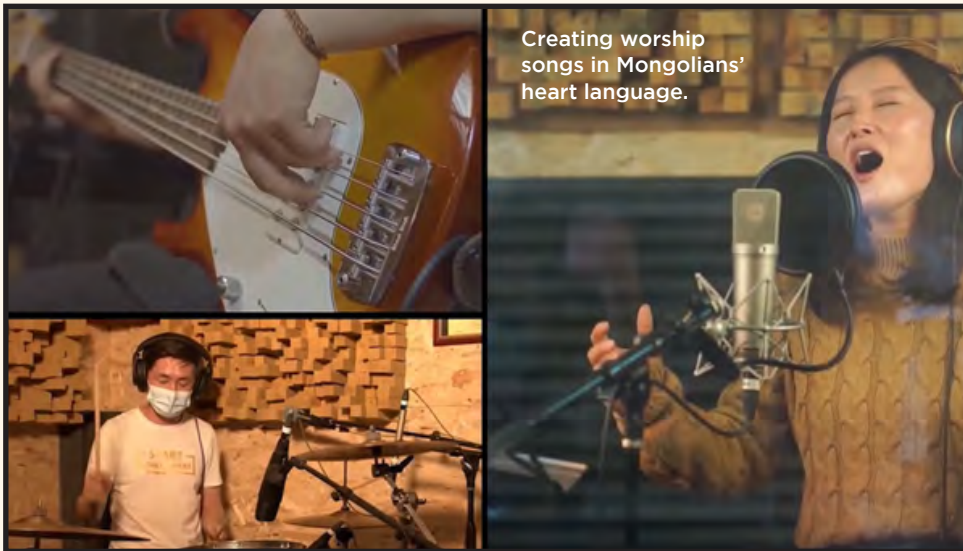
Today, 98% of Mongolia remains unreached. Atheism, ethnic religions, and Buddhism are still widely ascribed to. One of the major reasons is Christianity is seen as a Western, foreign religion.

## Awakening Mongolians with Worship

The young Mongolian Church does not have its very own worship songs. Churches have been translating 'imported' songs. Yet Mongolians are fiercely proud of their culture, and music plays a big part of that culture. Having their own heartfelt songs will sing to the hearts of their own people.

FEBC Mongolia reached out to invite local churches to write their own worship songs. Some songs, such as '... For Me', which talks about Jesus paying the debts of our sins

once and for all, have become very popular. These sound out on the airwaves, awakening Mongols to a new freedom in Christ.



[Click here to watch about the birth of Mongolian worship songs. Click on the link within the video to listen to '... For Me'.](#)

## Heart to Heart

It's not every day that someone turns 102, and this February, longtime partner Margaret Callister will! The centenarian has walked a long journey with God.

She first heard about Jesus on her mother's lap when she was about five or six. "But then through Sunday school, church and different involvements, I realised my need of Jesus. I've been growing in my knowledge of God through God's Word ever since. It's a growing process. Through large battles, the Lord is with me. Growing my knowledge in Him," Margaret shared humbly.



Some of the largest battles Margaret went through were not the Great Depression or World War II. They involved those closest to her. After the war, Margaret's brother drowned. Then her sister was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. After this, she faced the loss of her father through heart attack, and then having to send her mother to a nursing home. All these hurt Margaret deeply.

But Margaret's faith never wavered. "Through large battles, the Lord is with me. We have hope. As a Christian you know where you are going. The Lord Jesus paid the price for your salvation. And you are just so glad and thankful."

Her adoration for the Lord Jesus shines through in a life of service to others and for His mission. "I've been with FEBC

forever, so to speak," Margaret jests. She shares passionately, "I see the need. There is a great need for it. It's a voice and it's a Godly voice. It crosses boundaries. It goes into the countries where the Gospel can't be preached. The people can listen and hear it and respond. In places where there is no knowledge of God, it just changes lives! Very necessary!"

International Women's Day falls in March, and Margaret has some advice for women today. For single women like herself, she says: "God knows what's best. Unless you meet the right person, you are much better single." And for all: "Be in a Bible-based church, be involved in Bible studies, with the work in the church, read your Bible and train up a child in the way he or she should go."



### Leave a Legacy

Continue your impact on missions beyond your lifetime by leaving a bequest. We have partnered with Safewill to make the sign-up process easy and free for you.

Click here to sign up today.

### Unreached in Focus

People Group: Arab, Yemeni

Locations: 16 countries including Yemen, Saudi Arabia, UAE

Population: 8,798,200

Main Language: Arabic, Taizzi-Adeni (spoken only)

Bible Translation: Not complete

Reached by: FEBC's partner in Yemen

Statistics from The Joshua Project



### Ways to Partner with FEBC



Pray

[febc.org.au/2401-issue-dg](http://febc.org.au/2401-issue-dg)



Give

[febc.org.au/2401-n-dg/](http://febc.org.au/2401-n-dg/)



Tell

[febc.org.au/socials](http://febc.org.au/socials)

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