







'But Jesus called for the little ones, saying, "Allow the children to come to Me, and do not forbid them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these."' (Luke 18:16) Jesus is very fond of children, and very evidently so in the case of FEBC Indonesia's BDKA program.

Using videos, the BDKA, which, when expanded in Bahasa Indonesia means 'Adventure in the Kingdom of God' program shares about God and takes children through the Bible systematically. Teachers are also given a method to help children have quiet time with God before the lesson starts.

### Helping Children Know and Focus on Jesus

The program helps children develop a love of reading God's Word regularly and develop a personal relationship with Jesus. Ageappropriate content is available for preschoolers onwards, in schools, churches, and orphanages. Many children are hearing the Gospel for the first time and are wanting more!

> The program has exploded in popularity. Just a year ago, the team produced 40 videos and reached children in fewer than 10 schools. Now, the team has 480

Children learn to read the Bible regularly and have quiet devotion time through the BDKA program.

In this Issue Child to Child

Growing in <u>God's L</u>ove

(Melling)

Saved from Sex Slavery Heralding Peace in Pakistan

Click on the titles to read and share the story from the website

videos for children across 28 locations in Indonesia. God has also opened doors for the material to be incorporated into the regular school curriculum in both private and public schools in South Sulawesi!

### Raising Up 'Child Encouragers'

And Jesus is drawing the children unto Himself:

"I can get to know the Lord Jesus more deeply, and I want to obey and listen to what the Lord Jesus has to say through reading the Bible and praying every day" - student in South Sulawesi

"After attending BDKA, I like to read the Bible every day and learn to obey God" - student in Tangerang





Christmas last year reaching children with the BDKA program.

"The children become enthusiastic to meditate on God's Word with new method (BDKA)" - teacher in Makassar

This Christmas, FEBC Indonesia is bringing the program to 1000 children in South Sulawesi. For the first time, they are also equipping children to be 'Child Encouragers'. They will accompany other children to read the Bible daily, helping to ignite them in their faith!

### Child Protection

Apart from BDKA, FEBC Indonesia runs a Family and Children project that helps protect children, especially in communities where child abuse and trafficking are of great concern.

Webinars and online courses on parenting, daily radio programs for parents, children and youth, and physical conferences and counselling sessions reach a potential audience of 10 million. The radio station recently won the top five child-friendly radio stations in Indonesia!



FEBC Indonesia's Heartline Radio winning the top five child-friendly radio stations in the country.

### **Did You Know?**

The **4/14 window** refers to the ages when people are most likely to accept Jesus as their Lord and Saviour.

### **Christmas & New Year Closure**

Our office will be closed from 20 December, 2023 to 2 January, 2024. Wishing you and yours a rested Christmas and joyful New Year! <u>Click here</u> to follow our Facebook: <u>facebook.com/febcaustralia</u> for Advent devotions and Christmas greetings you can share.

### A note from Kevin Farewell – Thanksgiving and Prayer – Philippians 1:3-11

As I reflect on the incredible journey we've shared over the past 14 years, my heart is filled with a mix of emotions. It is with both a heavy heart and a sense of anticipation that I write my final Skywaves message and say farewell.

The past 14 years have been an extraordinary chapter of my life. Together, we've faced challenges, celebrated victories, and most importantly, witnessed lives transformed through the power of God's love and our collective dedication. The impact we've made, the lives we've touched, and the love we've shared are testimonies of God's great faithfulness and the mission's purpose.

I count it a privilege that I had the opportunity to serve as International Chairman for 4 years during a time when our present FEBC International Association was forged, and the new Charter written and agreed to by all. What a joy to work collaboratively with many fine Christian leaders, some of whom are already now in glory.

It has also been an honour and a joy to



Kevin as Chairman of FEBC International from 2010-2014.

work alongside faithful team members in Australia, from people such as David and Mari, Les and Sandy, Ric, Jenny, Mary - the list goes on and on - until today and our present team. Together God has blessed FEBC to enlarge our impact in the world, double our overseas giving, and expand the awareness of FEBC in Australia.

I want to express my deepest gratitude to each one of you – staff, volunteers, donors, partners, and prayer supporters – who have made this journey possible





Kevin with teams and peoples around the world.





and extraordinary. Your unwavering commitment, boundless compassion, faithfulness, love, and tireless efforts have been and remain the driving force behind FEBC's success.

While my role as National Director is coming to an end, my love for God's kingdom mission and the people it serves remains steadfast. I am confident that FEBC Australia will continue to thrive under new leadership, and I will be excited to see how this incredible work unfolds.

As I step into a new chapter of my life, I carry with me memories of lives transformed, prayers offered, and dreams realised. I have faith that our paths will cross again, and I eagerly anticipate hearing about the continued impact of FEBC's kingdom work across the world.

Thank you for being a part of this remarkable journey with me. I leave with a heart full of gratitude, a spirit of anticipation, and a prayer that God's grace will continue to guide and bless FEBC abundantly.

In Christ's love and with heartfelt gratitude,

Kevin Keegan National Director/CEO

# **Growing in God's Love**

One of FEBC's strengths is having locals share the Gospel to locals in their heart language. For the ethnic people groups in the hills of Southeast Asia, this can be a stretch of faith. Most people in ethnic minority groups are looked down upon by the dominant culture of the country they live in. Some experience systemic oppression too, which can greatly damage their sense of self-worth.

But God's love transforms, and He humbles the proud and gives grace to the humble.

FEBC's ethnic ministry, comprising 17 languages, has seen much fruit.



Click here to

ethnic leader's

watch an

testimony. He has

millions of listeners in

Myanmar.

Thailand and

In 2022, the ministry saw 2,796 people baptised! Each story of transformation is full of God's grace and nothing short of extraordinary. Thailand's Mien listener Cheng Jiew Saetern has one such story:

"I have been married for almost 20 years. I have two sons and one





Special Christmas programs online or onsite run by local ethnic leaders let their ethnic communities know that Jesus came also for them.

daughter. Our family believed in ghosts. Many shamans told me I would die when I turned 40 years old, and everyone in my village knew about this. I was so scared. When my 40th birthday was coming, I had no choice. I had to depend on Jesus. So I went to the pastor in a church and asked him to help me believe and receive Jesus.

"Everyone in the village was eagerly waiting to see if I would go through my 40th or not. Now I am 45 years old. Thank God!"

### Miraculous Healing

"We were poor and didn't have money to support our children's studies, so my husband went to Korea to make money. I worked on the farm up here on the mountain.

"When my oldest son finished high school, he went to find a job in Chiang Mai. He got into a motorbike accident that severely affected his brain. He had gotten cerebral palsy and had to return home to stay with me.

"I led him to accept Jesus, and Jesus healed his brain until his brain could work!"

#### Triumphing Tragedy

But Saetern soon met another tragedy. Her younger son also got into a motorbike accident when he went to work in Chiang Mai.

"His feet were utterly shattered. His hands and legs no longer worked properly. I was so sad. I prayed hard, but overthinking got me into depression. I even thought of



Shan and Hmong Ladies Cup help the women gain confidence.



suicide, but God stopped me."

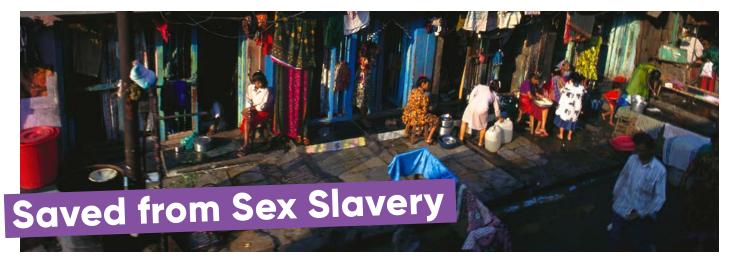
Then Saetern's cousin recommended FEBC's Mien broadcasts to her. God had helped her cousin overcome depression.

Saetern was amazed. "Everything you taught me is exactly my life. You said Jesus could help. Therefore, I decided to have God help me.

"From that day until now, I have felt better. We are hopeful when having God. I rely on God every day. There were no excellent teachings before I knew God, and I didn't understand the Bible well. Now my husband and another two children still don't believe in God. Please pray for them."

### Ethnic Ministry at a glance in 2022

Number of languages	17
Number of social media users	233,968
Number of Facebook Messenger users	208,4984
Number of Zoom meeting participants	40,496
Number of files downloaded via the mobile apps	98,145
Number of participants in events (food aid to villagers, Bible study, evangelism & follow-up)	9,129
Number of baptisms	2,796



"I trusted that man who showed compassion and promised me a bright future and good salaried job," Saachi<sup>-</sup> shared about her trafficker. It is a common tactic used by traffickers.

Whilst the factors that human traffickers prey on are varied, there are some commonalities: poverty, lack of economic opportunities, lack of education, lack of awareness, and cultural biases.

To prevent human trafficking, FEBC and partners have programs that educate and engage listeners on these issues.

Within India, experts, professionals and prominent women are invited to share in on-air and online dramas, interviews, talk shows and magazine-style programs. Topics include poverty and unemployment, trafficking, sexism and gender bias, and patriarchy, amongst others.

There are also trafficking awareness events, counselling and listener followups. These are provided to vulnerable communities.

### Delivered from Hell on Earth

New listeners Saachi and her husband belong to one such community. The couple and her two children live in extreme poverty, struggling even with basic needs. Saachi was desperate for a job to help the family. So she fell into the trap.

When Saachi's husband could not reach Saachi for a few days, he grew extremely anxious. Remembering the program he heard on the radio, he frantically rang the response line.

FEBC's partners wasted no time. They immediately collaborated with another organisation that specialises in combating human trafficking. A police report was lodged. Soon after, a massive search for Saachi ensued. The team prayed fervently. And God responded.

When the team finally found her, Saachi was visibly shaken and broken. She had been sold into prostitution.

"I lost all my hope and thought that I will never be freed from that hell and never see the faces of my children." But through FEBC's partners and the police force, God would be her deliverer.

"Now, I am happily living with my family. My happiness and freedom are only because of the program which saved my life."

Please pray for God to heal and restore Saachi and her family. Pray for others like her to be rescued too. Pray for God to use the programs by FEBC's partners in India to prevent more trafficking incidents.

## **Ukraine Update**

Thank you for your support for the team in Ukraine. Though some of the team have been drafted into the army, the whole team is safe. Please continue to pray!



Click here to watch Inna and Igor share about the new station.

## **Heralding Peace in Pakistan**

25 December is a public holiday in Pakistan to celebrate the birthday of the country's founder. Pakistani Christians also celebrate Christmas – 'Barra Din' or 'Big Day'. While 99% of the country's population, or more than 237\* million people, may know about Christmas, they do not know about Jesus as God incarnate.

For 49 years FEBC's partner in Pakistan has been introducing the love of Jesus. Community radio programs give a voice to the voiceless. They address the people's concerns with solutions based on Biblical principles. Free medical camps and media skillset training serve the least of the community. Programs that highlight the disabled serve those lost in society.

### Meeting Jesus for the First Time

On Easter and Christmas, the team can share factually about these Christian festivals. Listeners are meeting Jesus for the first time on-air or online. A\*\* is one such listener:

"I am a teacher regularly listening to your FM program 'The Rainbow'. Most FM stations just play music and entertain. But this is a community-based program where different issues and solutions are discussed.



Pakistani Christians celebrating Christmas.

One day I tuned into your FM radio channel and there was an announcement that today was Christmas. I was amazed. I had not heard about Christmas and Jesus before. I have many Christian students in my school, but I never asked them religious questions. So, I listened to the whole special Christmas program.

"The guest speaker, a pastor, explained about Christmas, the actual birth of Jesus Christ and the plan of salvation in detail. I had many questions. Thank God the pastor explained them very well. I came to know about Jesus Christ and His purpose to come to this world. I believe Christianity teaches us love and peace."

\*Statistics from The Joshua Project \*\* Name abbreviated for security reasons.





## Heart to Heart

Eight hours a day, three to four days a week of hard manual labour. No holidays. Would you take on this job? Graham and Sandra have been doing this, unpaid, for eight years. The couple faithfully volunteer

their time and money to scrap metal to fundraise for missions.

### Tireless Volunteers

They started this when Graham was 71 years old. They are not slowing down. "I'll keep doing it while my health is good," Graham shares. The longest break the couple has had was two weeks!

The pair have always been mission conscious. They have partnered with FEBC for 20 years. "We mainly want the missions who preach the Gospel, as well as provide



The couple's backyard is often filled with items that will be

scrapped to fundraise for missions.

humanitarian aid. FEBC covers all that," Graham explained.

### Need for God

"We know we couldn't live without the Lord, and we want other people to realise their need of Him," Sandra shares with conviction. The couple tragically lost their three-year-old son to cancer. "We spent

> a part of our early married life being fairly wishy-washy. About a year before he died, we grew in our walk with the Lord. He was just so very real and so close to us then. He got us through that."

> The size of the task can sometimes be daunting. "At times the picked-up items cover most of our backyard, waiting to be dismantled and sorted," Sandra shares. But the love of God motivates them. Romans 8:38-39 are their favourite Bible verses. "Knowing that no one can take God's love away from us is very encouraging."



### Unreached in Focus

People Group: **Yao** 

Location: Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia

Population: **3,653,600** Main Language: **Yao** Bible Translation: **Complete** Largest Religion: **Islam** Christian<sup>°</sup>: **1.26%** 

Reached by: FEBC's partner Litala FM in Malawi and Tanzania

Statistics from The Joshua Project ^ Anyone who professes to be Christian. It is not an indicator of the degree of commitment or theological orthodoxy. **Gift Catalogue** This Christmas, <u>give a gift</u> that loves, gives and saves. Click here to give a gift and let them hear.

febc.org.au/socials

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