

Skywaves

October–December 2026

Hope within reach



When one door closed,

your support helped another open

Mariam* wanted to know more about Jesus, so she went to a church near where she lived in Iraq. But because of her religious background, she wasn't allowed inside.

She posted a Reel on Facebook about what had happened, and someone responded:

"Contact this radio station; they will help you enter the church and will welcome you."

Mariam did.

She began attending gatherings organised by the local FEBC Partner, taking books home to read and returning with questions that...

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Jamuna spends much of each day confined to bed, with Afno FM keeping her company



You help keep the voice of a friend

beside Jamuna in Nepal

It took members of the Afno FM team more than two hours by motorbike to reach the village where they hoped to find one of their most faithful callers.

They knew her as “Janaki”, the name she used when she called the station and on Facebook.

But when they arrived and asked for Janaki, nobody seemed to know who they meant.

So they tried another description.

The woman living with disability who calls the radio station every day.

Everyone knew her.

Her name is Jamuna.

The team found her at home, confined to bed and listening to Afno FM on a small mobile phone.

Eleven years earlier, Jamuna had fallen nearly 30 metres from a tree and suffered a severe spinal injury. Her husband later left her, and their daughter now lives with him. Jamuna has not been allowed to see her child.

The radio is a companion and a close friend that speaks to her.

She shares a home with her brother and sister-in-law and is often alone while the family is at work and the children are at school.

That makes Afno FM more than something to listen to.

Jamuna calls when she can afford the phone credit. When the power is out or her battery dies, she can lose that connection altogether.

So the team had brought something with them: a solar-powered radio that local Partners like Afno FM distribute..

Jamuna’s story was later shared on air. A woman in Kathmandu who had lived with a similar disability for 17 years sent financial help, while a Nepali believer who listens online provided a replacement wheelchair. Both later spoke with Jamuna on air, praying with her and sharing the Good News.

For Jamuna, having a radio she can rely on means the voice that has become such an important part of her days can stay beside her even when the power goes out.

More than 20 years on

your support is still bearing fruit

Today, Vivaan* helps produce Christian media for young people living in rural communities across South Asia.

More than 20 years ago, he was the listener on the other side of the radio.

Vivaan listened regularly to Christian broadcasts and wrote to the team behind them. After two years of correspondence, they invited him to a listeners' meeting where he spent three days worshipping and praying with the team.

"I realised that I was a sinner who needed to confess to God," he says.

Vivaan repented, chose to follow Jesus and was baptised the next day. He returned home carrying a book called *Way to Salvation* and songs he had learned at the gathering.

Not long afterwards, his wife became seriously ill with stomach pain at a time when no doctor was available. She asked Vivaan to pray for her. He knelt beside her and prayed, and miraculously, the pain left her.

People in the village began asking him to pray for their sick relatives. Family members and neighbours gathered with him to worship, and Vivaan encouraged them to listen to God's Word on the radio.

The radio team began visiting his home at least twice a year to pray, study the Bible and encourage the growing group. One staff member later urged Vivaan to attend Bible college.

He did.

Today he is theologically trained, serves through the local church and now helps create the kind of Christian media that first reached him.

More than 20 years after first tuning in, Vivaan's story shows the kind of long-term fruit your faithful support helps make possible.

"I'm so thankful to the Lord for the radio ministry He has given me," he says.

***Name changed to protect identity**



***"I'm so thankful
to the Lord for
the radio ministry
He has given me."***

– Vivaan*



When one door closed,

your support helped another open

(continued from front) ... would lead to more conversations, prayer and, in time, a decision to follow Jesus.

Mariam came with direct questions.

"Why do you say Jesus is God?"

"Why did Jesus come to earth?"

The team listened, answered and prayed with her.

"I feel the Lord is calling me to walk on this path,"
Mariam told them.

Some time later, she called again.

"I want to become a Christian."

The team sent her the Jesus Film and asked what had brought her to that decision.

Mariam spoke about one of the ministry's women's gatherings. She had encountered a community where women were treated differently from what she had known, and she wanted to understand more about the faith behind it.

"I want to discover more and know the Lord Jesus better," she said.

The team prayed with Mariam as she committed her life to Christ.

And they stayed.

With the support of mission partners like you, the team continues to meet with Mariam, answer her questions and provide discipleship lessons as her faith grows.

Mariam is not the only one asking.

Across the local Partner's ministry in Iraq

- More than 20 Bibles were sent to listeners during the six months to March.
- Seven new listeners joined Bible study groups.
- Two listeners began attending a local church.
- The team received 214 Facebook Messenger enquiries about Christianity and Jesus.
- A recent women's gathering brought together 37 women and 15 children for teaching, hymns, prayer, games and a shared meal.

One attendee at the women's gathering later wrote:

"You teach us things we never knew, and you make us feel loved."

"I feel the Lord is calling me to walk on this path."

- Mariam*

*Name changed to protect identity

IMAGE: Listeners and family members came together at a recent gathering organised by the local FEBC Partner in Iraq.

Thank you for keeping hope close to children, families and husbands serving far from home

For a soldier in Ukraine, carrying a mobile phone can be dangerous. Its signal may reveal where he is.

So FEBC Ukraine distributes small speaker boxes loaded with Bible messages instead.

For a child struggling to sleep while a father is away serving – or has been lost to the war – churches are distributing cuddly lamb-shaped soft-toy speakers containing Bible stories they can listen to and keep close.

These are two very different needs. But they say something about the extraordinary range of challenges Ihor, Emma and the FEBC Ukraine team are trying to meet.

The pressure of war is reshaping the team itself. With older and more experienced broadcasters conscripted, Ihor, FEBC Ukraine's production lead, is recruiting and training younger staff – including young men still below conscription age.

His wife, Emma, volunteers with a particular heart for women and children.

She sees families carrying trauma, grief and the strain war places on relationships, while local churches often feel overwhelmed and under-equipped to help.

Emma is helping develop gospel-informed trauma care through church-based sessions, online resources and face-to-face gatherings. Women have reported being able to sleep again. Others are learning new ways to communicate with husbands and family members as they seek healing in damaged relationships.

Trauma-care videos online provide another way for people looking for help and hope to begin engaging privately.

Everyone on the FEBC Ukraine team knows someone who has died. Across the team, people are praying for family members serving and

caring for loved ones living with grief.

Yet each day, with your supporting prayers and generosity, they continue turning up to broadcast because they believe God offers the hope this generation of Ukrainians need.



Your support for FEBC Ukraine helps it bring the love of Jesus to children suffering through years of conflict. These lamb soft toys are also speaker boxes containing children's programming and an audio Bible.

Unprecedented generosity funds Field Emergency Response

Powerful winds brought down a massive communications tower in Central Asia in July.

The steel tower fell directly onto the local FEBC Partner's equipment container, badly damaging transmitters, receivers, satellite equipment and other technology. The Partner's Director warned that the entire station might need to be rebuilt from the ground up.

That emergency spurred the establishment of FEBC Australia's new Field Emergency Response fund – and supporters across the country have since responded with extraordinary generosity.

Thank you. Because you responded, funds have been quickly available for the collapsed tower as well as for urgent needs in Ukraine and Nepal. And greater capacity now exists to assist when damaged infrastructure, power failure or essential equipment problems threaten the ministry of local Partners.

Yemen Field Report

from Janet



Dear Friend,

I spent part of a day in July with a married couple who produce and follow up FEBC-supported programming for people in Yemen.

For security reasons, I can't share their names, location or photographs. But they generously shared something of their own journey with me.

The woman told me she had been asking difficult questions about faith from an early age. Those questions continued when she entered the workforce and found herself working alongside Christians.

One of those colleagues was the man who would later become her husband.

He had grown up Christian, but her questions prompted him to look more deeply at what he believed. Together they found a church where she could continue searching.

She slipped away from work one morning to attend a service and told me that she wept for hours. She knew there was no turning back.

What followed was extremely difficult. Their lives were threatened, the church helped them marry and leave Egypt, and they sought asylum in another country. Years of uncertainty followed, including separation from family, imprisonment and violence.

They now look back and see how God met them through circumstances they could never have imagined.

That journey shapes the ministry they share with people in Yemen today.

This faithful woman told me that because she had tried for years to help her own family understand her faith, "when I work with people in Yemen, I feel that they are all like my family".

Her husband produces the daily radio programming, while she focuses particularly on listener follow-up.

An hour of programming in Yemeni Arabic goes out each day by shortwave and online, with a longer live program on Thursdays. The team has also increased the amount of content spoken in Yemeni dialect so it feels local to the people listening.

Shortwave remains vital where internet access is weak and mobile data expensive. Facebook opens another doorway, allowing chat conversations that can move to private messaging apps to increase confidentiality, and may continue for years.

The couple told me about one Yemeni woman whose first conversation with them began in 2014. She did not tell them she knew Jesus as her Saviour and God until 2019.

Five years.

That gives you some sense of the patience this ministry requires.

The couple I met know what it is to search for answers over time. Now they generously give that same time to others.

Your prayers and faithful support help make this patient, deeply relational ministry possible. Thank you for standing with people in Yemen who are listening, asking questions and discovering they are not alone.

Until all have heard,

Janet Cousens
CEO, FEBC Australia