

Easter Week Conversation

This conversation is inspired by Holy Week and this quarter's "Movement of Grace" in which we are sponsoring the Jesus Film being produced in two new languages and shown to people groups who need to hear the gospel. It is designed to be discussed as a family around the table or as a personal devotional time.

The Gospel and The Great Commission

This Easter week we remember the gospel of Christ's death and resurrection. It is the greatest news anyone can ever hear, and it changes everything. As disciples of Christ, we have been instructed to continue to share this great news and live in light of it.

Matthew 28:18-20 says, "Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.""

1. Share at your table a story of when the Gospel first made a significant impact in your life. What do you remember about that experience?
2. Share a time when you shared the Gospel with someone else. How did it go? What feelings do you have about that memory?
3. What does faithfulness to the great commission look like for you at this time?

The Jesus Film and the Takia and Piapoco people

As believers we want everyone everywhere to encounter Jesus. When people come face-to-face with Jesus they are forever changed. While we cannot personally go to every part of the world to share the gospel, we can partner with ministries that seek to do that.

Why the Jesus Film? Because it is a highly effective ministry tool. Movies can touch the heart and break barriers. Film can bring the story of Jesus to life in ways that transcend written communication. This is true especially in oral cultures—places where written communication is scarce. When people see the life of Jesus portrayed on screen—when they see him smile, when they hear him speak in their own language, with their own accent—it is life-changing.

So we are looking to reach two people groups by sponsoring the Jesus Film in their language. Takia is spoken several places in Papua New Guinea: Karkar Island, Bagabag Island, Megiar and Serang coastal areas and the Madang Province - all eastern parts of PNG. The best estimate is that 40,000 people speak this language. The strategy is to show the film in local villages and follow up is down with the closest church.

The other people group lives along the Western Colombian and into Venezuela up in the mountains and speaks the Piapoco language. It takes 3 days hiking just to begin to reach this people group of over 20,000 native speakers. The film will be taken in by a native mission agency called *Reliec* and shown in the “*primary city*” then in the Corolla Wabier area and then move out to the Savena Bichara region. From there, they will move to other regions showing the film.

With the sponsoring of these languages, you’ll be able to help Grace Fellowship become a footnote in the salvation of many people.

1. Imagine you had never heard of Jesus, and a missionary who spoke your own language came to you. How important would it be for you to hear the gospel in your own heart language?
2. Will you pray together about how you can partner together with us in this new Movement of Grace to cover the production of the Jesus film in these two new languages?

Table Prayer

Lord God,
Six days before his death, your son sat with Lazarus,
Whom he had raised from the dead,
And ate dinner with his friends.
Once again, your gospel tells us, Martha served,
And Mary knelt at Jesus’ feet
To anoint them with costly perfume.
The disciple who was about to betray him
Said that it was a waste.
He didn’t care about the poor, really –
He just wanted to fill his own pockets
And make Mary feel ashamed.
Lord God,
Often we cannot discern what is best:
When to pour out costly perfume for your sake,
Even if the world thinks it a waste.
When to be busy serving,
Or when to rest at your Son’s feet and learn.
Give us ears to hear you and eyes to see.
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ.
Amen.