



The Sprout Report

"The Kingdom of Heaven is like a mustard seed..."
Matthew 13:31

The Newsletter of Mustard Seed Ministries

"But their idols are silver and gold, made by human hands. They have mouths, but cannot speak, eyes, but cannot see. Those who make them will be like them, and so will all who trust in them. " Psalm 115:4,5,8

Cindy and I recently traveled to Nepal as part of a team of missionaries invited to help network with Nepali church planters. What a privilege to listen to the reports of what God is doing in that place. The church there is very young and faces significant persecution. The ministry is challenging on just about every level.

One testimony came from a church planter in the Himalayan/Tibetan region. Many former Buddhists from this region are coming to Christ in the capital city but there are still virtually no churches established in the Tibetan border regions. They are hoping to change that.

This gentleman shared that as a young man he had a lucrative career as a Sherpa in a trekking/climbing business owned and operated by his uncle. At one point he carried oxygen bottles up Everest for his clients. The risks and demands of that work required a manual and protocols for all involved. One day one of the trekkers told him that he had another "manual", one that had answers to the biggest questions in life, and he gave it to him. Later, his uncle found him with the Bible and he was immediately fired. He decided that if he was going to lose his high-paying job over this book, he should go ahead and read it. Over the next four years he wrestled with the concepts in the Bible but really felt drawn to Christ. One day he entered a Christian church and saw people praying and worshipping. He looked around to see who they were praying to but couldn't see a single idol in the room. The light came on for him and he knew it was real, not man made. At that moment he became a follower of Christ.

He ended up receiving an opportunity to work on a cattle ranch in the States and took it. He loved the work and life in the U.S. However, he began to have dreams of home and couldn't shake the image of Tibetan people not knowing about the one, true God.

Over the past several years he attended seminary and developed an extensive network of Nepali believers doing church planting and outreaches along the northern border of Nepal.

The persecution is fierce and logistics are a huge challenge. In 1892 Hudson Taylor famously said, "To make converts in Tibet is similar to going into a cave and trying to rob a lioness of her cubs." Please pray for these brothers and sisters. Please also pray that we would have wisdom in how to best support and encourage them in this effort.

Love, Scott and Cindy