

A Complete Failure



Pastor Peter in Bangladesh

Recently we received an unexpected gift package in the mail. It was from Peter Henderson and it contained an original piece of art, a check for Creative Impact Ministries and a Thank You card. For us, the meaning went beyond Peter being thoughtful. It came a year and a half after we started working on the Bangladesh project with Peter and about 6 months after Jim completed the final edit. Peter was thankful for the results – for the success of the Initiative which they called *Bloom Bangladesh*.

New Information

Soon after receiving the gifts, we scheduled a video visit with Peter. He is a pastor and a District Missions Representative for the Foursquare Gateway District based out of Denver, Colorado. It was great to connect, since we hadn't talked in nearly 6 months. One piece of new information, something we'd never heard, made a huge impact on us. We had always been impressed with Peter as a Missions Representative. He is a gifted leader and a skillful communicator. So he really surprised us when he said, "I had tried for years to involve our pastors in missions to unreached people groups. But it was a complete failure."

New Results: \$40,000 & 45 Churches

Peter and Sam Rockwell and the staff of the Gateway District did a tremendous job of promoting an initiative to pray and support and send teams to Bangladesh over a three year commitment. And they asked CIM to help grab the hearts of their pastors by telling the wonderful story of God's move in this country that is 90% Muslim and almost 10% Hindu.

We produced a short promo about the Initiative that was shown at the 2014 Gateway District Conference. The pastors and leaders gave \$15,000 to jumpstart the initiative.

Then we traveled to Bangladesh with Peter & Sam and others to film a documentary. We were only in country for 8 days. When the documentary was shown in pastors meetings the next year (2015), the District received an additional \$25,000 in offerings. And 45 churches committed to active participation in the initiative. Peter told us that *our film was instrumental in touching the hearts of the pastors and moving them to action*. As a partner with us, how does that make you feel? We can tell you, it made us feel great.

New Enthusiasm!

We don't make missionary films because we think the places and people are interesting. We are absolutely focused upon sharing these stories so that the work of global missions is advanced, churches are planted and leaders trained. Most of our work is at the grass roots level – telling individual missionary stories to inspire their partners back home and help them find new partners. Their work in these countries must be supported!

So we are renewed in our enthusiasm whenever a missionary tells us that they are experiencing good results from their film. It is rare, however, for us to get actual "numbers" like what we got from Peter.

New Edit

Some of you may already know this, but we were unable to show the Bangladesh film because of certain security issues. Bangladesh can be, under some circumstances, a dangerous place. So the original video was pretty much kept under lock and key except for when it was shown personally by Peter.

Jim recently completed a new edit which was reviewed and given the ok for sharing with the public. It leaves out about 6 minutes of really powerful footage about the initiative (sorry). It required Jim to do a voice-over in place of one of the people who had to remain unidentifiable. But it's still shows the amazing heart of love that these people have as they share Jesus even when persecuted.

Though it might sound a bit routine, we mean this with all our hearts: Thank you for partnering with CIM. Thank you for your prayers and support - together we are making a difference. We are touching peoples hearts to move them to action. We appreciate your heart for this mission and your decision to engage by taking action.



Pastor Peter: Rooftop interview with CIM.

See the documentary *Bangladesh: It's About Love* on our website. ➔