ANNUAL STATISTICAL REPORT

Reporting on 2019 Data
Dear Partners,

How grateful we are for those who fuel mission work among the nations by praying, giving, going, and sending! Thank you for your investment in the Revelation 7:9 vision, where we see heaven as it will be, with a great multitude from every nation, all tribes, peoples, and languages standing before the throne and the Lamb.

As you will see from this report, our prayers for workers in the harvest have resulted not only in workers but in an eternal harvest of souls. We have cause for rejoicing as we see what the Lord is doing among and through our missionaries and partners. The report also helps us understand where we need to focus our energies and resources as it identifies peoples and places where there is no witness. Seeing the numbers of souls who die daily without any indication that they have confessed Jesus as Lord is a sobering reminder of the significance of our witness and the priority of our 2025 Targets.

As you read through this report, please join us in praising God for those who are being reached. And continue to pray that the gospel will be proclaimed to all who have yet to hear.

Blessings,

Paul Chitwood
Global Highlights

12,368
NEW CHURCHES PLANTED

89,325
NEW BELIEVERS

47,929
BAPTISMS

90,532
RECEIVED LEADERSHIP TRAINING

3,615
TOTAL FIELD PERSONNEL

535,325
HEARD GOSPEL WITNESS

396,499
OPPORTUNITIES TO RESPOND

How to Read this Report

THE FORMAT: This annual statistical report, based on 2019 data, looks initially at global totals and trends. Then, each of the nine global affinities that make up the global totals are examined in greater detail. The report and associated numbers are based upon ministry faithfulness and the resulting impact in the six core components of the missionary task. The numbers and examples provided represent work done by IMB personnel or their baptistic partners, as reported by IMB field leaders. Care has been taken to provide accurate numbers that represent IMB’s commitment, like the Apostle Paul, to not report upon work done outside of the sphere apportioned to us by the Lord (2 Cor 10:12-18).

THE NUMBERS: The large numbers display the 2019 statistic for that category. Approximate population numbers and dying daily numbers are calculated using United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs 2019 World Population Prospects, CIA World Factbook 2020 Estimates of birth and death rate statistics, and IMB global population and evangelical Christian estimates. The total personnel number includes all field personnel employed by the IMB plus team associates. Team associates are individuals or couples who are part of an IMB missionary team after being assessed and job-matched, but who are not funded by the IMB.
Global Progress

Six Components of the Missionary Task

Trend Analysis - Globally, the number of individuals who had an opportunity to respond to the gospel in 2019 increased nearly nine percent from the previous year. This points to the faithfulness of IMB missionaries and their close indigenous baptistic partners as they continue to share the gospel boldly. Given this increase in gospel sharing, it is hardly surprising there have been corresponding increases in the number of individuals seeking to know more about Jesus Christ, as well as those who committed their lives to following Him. As it is the Lord who ultimately changes hearts, we celebrate His moving in the lives of those who heard. At the same time, with an over 200,000 net increase in global population daily, the need for every disciple of Christ to share the gospel regularly is apparent. Research indicates that evangelical Christians are currently not sharing the gospel regularly enough to keep up with population growth worldwide.

HEARD WITNESS 535,325
BECAME BELIEVERS 89,325

Trend Analysis - The discipleship metrics, such as believers in Bible study and baptized believers meeting, show a decrease compared to previous years. The primary driver for this trend appears to be a continued loss of access by IMB personnel to some active harvest fields. Over the last five years, several global regions have suffered governmental persecution resulting in the expulsion of IMB missionaries from certain countries. Given the loss of access, the downward trends most likely do not represent church planting realities but rather IMB’s inability to report on such efforts done through Baptist partners. Both the persecution and the decrease in IMB personnel in those locations should cause us to intercede with the Father for continued boldness and sending.

NEW GROUPS FORMED 15,394
NEW CHURCHES STARTED 12,368

Trend Analysis - Praise the Lord for His clear work in growing His church! While the Holy Spirit continues to move in extraordinary ways globally, parts of South and Southeast Asia have been especially open to the gospel. In recent years, the number of new groups and churches formed has steadily increased. Globally, healthy church tracking processes and software tools are continuing to see widespread use among IMB teams. Such tools have helped indigenous pastors and church planters learn to start churches and disciple those churches to health and multiplication. Coupled with the rise in indigenous leadership training and development by IMB personnel, groups intending to become churches continue to grow in health with biblically equipped indigenous leaders.

HEALTHY CHURCH FORMATION 38,866
NEW CHURCHES STARTED 33,068

Trend Analysis - There continues to be a marked increase in the number of individuals who have received advanced theological, church planting, and pastoral training. This change is due to a greater emphasis in recent years on the entire missionary task (all six of the core components – Entry, Evangelism, Discipleship, Healthy Church Formation, Leadership Development, Exit to Partnership). While long-term discipleship and leadership development have always been a part of the missionary task, in the last 11 years there have been examples, case studies, and dissertations demonstrating more healthy multiplying church planting when the church planter from the outset developed holistic strategies encompassing all six of the core missionary components. IMB teams and their close indigenous partners have been building entry and gospel strategies with a forward view to the end goals of healthy church formation and leadership development. This continues to result in increases of theological and other long-term discipleship training.

ADVANCED THEOLOGICAL TRAINING 33,068
LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT 15,394
CHURCH PLANTING TRAINING 38,866
BAPTIZED 47,929
BIBLE STUDY PARTICIPANTS 174,593
3,213 Languages have over 10,000 speakers.

6,363 Unique Languages Worldwide including 367 deaf languages

2,504 Languages have at least one Scriptural translation project currently underway.

204 Languages are listed as still in need of Scripture translation projects, with another 1,536 potentially needing such projects.

“...how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard?”
— Romans 10:14 (ESV)

GLOBAL POPULATION
7,662,517,383

1,498,402 PEOPLE ARE ADDED TO THE GLOBAL POPULATION WEEKLY
(Roughly 215,057 added every single day)

Our best estimate of gospel sharing by Christians worldwide reveals a staggering reality — We are failing to keep up with the global population growth rate! While almost 1.5 million people are added to the global population every week, recent estimates seem to indicate that on average evangelical Christians only share the gospel around 275,000 times per week. This reality should spur Christians everywhere to share their faith regularly.

Across the globe, God continues to raise up missionaries from the nations to go to the nations. IMB’s Globalization effort is an instrumental part of the core missionary component “Exit to Partnership,” as many of these global missionaries are coming from mission fields where IMB personnel have labored for many years alongside indigenous partners in the planting of healthy reproducing churches. Since a major component of church health is local indigenous ownership in the Great Commission, these churches are sending missionaries to reach the nations. Only as more and more Christians from all nations share the gospel on a regular basis to those near and far will we win this war of gospel sharing.

“I trust that God’s blessing will rest upon our efforts to supply the people with His word in a form that all can understand.
— R.H. Graves
FMB Missionary to China for 56 years (1870 FMB Annual Report)

Languages and translation data provided by progress.Bible™ as of December 31, 2019. (https://progress.Bible)

Global Summaries

**ENTRY**

- **11,730** PEOPLE GROUPS TOTAL
  - **5,983** Engaged by Great Commission Partners Only
  - **149** Engaged by IMB Only
  - **678** Engaged by IMB and Great Commission Partners
  - **4,920** Unengaged

**EXIT TO PARTNERSHIP**

- **21** Indigenous people groups reverted to unengaged status due to loss of engagement by IMB personnel or their partners.
- **214** Indigenous people groups have self-sustaining ownership in the missionary task
- **91** Indigenous people groups are engaging other people groups inside their own country
- **40** Indigenous people groups are engaging other people groups outside their own country

**EVANGELISM**

- **535,325** Gospel Witness
- **396,499** Opportunity to Respond
- **107,760** Seekers
- **89,325** New Believers
- **47,929** Baptisms

**DISCIPLESHP**

- **174,393** On-going Bible Study participants
- **36,642** Being personally mentored

**LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

- **18,598** Pastoral Training
- **38,866** Church Planting Training
- **33,068** Advanced Training
- **56,055** Other Training

**HEALTHY CHURCH FORMATION**

- **New Groups** 15,394
- **Groups** 35,659
- **New Churches** 12,368
  - 1st Generation 645
  - 2nd Generation 342
  - 3rd Generation 11,381
- **Total Churches** 57,886
  - 1st Generation 16,205
  - 2nd Generation 5,314
  - 3rd Generation 36,367
- **Baptized Believers Meeting** 364,530

**IMB ENGAGEMENT IS NO LONGER NECESSARY FOR SUSTAINABLE GROWTH**
AMERICAN PEOPLES

Highlights

23
NEW CHURCHES PLANTED

28,286
HEARD GOSPEL WITNESS

26,544
OPPORTUNITY TO RESPOND

2,195
NEW BELIEVERS

578
BAPTISMS

3,518
LEADERSHIP TRAININGS

1
NEW ENGAGEMENT
Deep in the desert mountains of Mexico is a small community completely isolated from the outside world with a language and culture that is quickly disappearing. Because of the community’s isolation and devout adoration of idols, it has been almost impossible to reach them with the truth of the gospel. However, after a team of Mexican nationals and summer students worked in the area researching and building relationships, the doors have opened for a U.S. church partner to begin working with a local Mexican seminary to bring the truth to this community with no known believers.

**Evangelism**

Through a soap-making class, Afro-Ecuadorians are learning a valuable and useful skill that has earned governmental recognition in their community. While learning about business and helping their community, they are also being taught the gospel in a very clear way that is transforming their lives. Through this method of evangelism, almost 50 Afro-Ecuadorians have come to a saving knowledge of Christ over the past year.

**Discipleship**

As a new believer, a leader of an indigenous village in Ecuador began to feel convicted that his tribes’ healing rituals — using certain rocks and other sacred objects to channel the earth’s healing power — was contrary to what the Bible teaches. One IMB missionary couple has a long-time relationship with this tribe and is mentoring this leader and other leaders of nearby villages as they seek to follow the Holy Spirit on this issue.

**Healthy Church Formation**

In Guatemala, there is a church plant intent on sharing the gospel with those around them. The church has a missional foundation that is resulting in people coming to faith. As the church grows and leaders are trained, the church is guiding its members and caring for those in the congregation, often holding church services in the homes of those who are sick and unable to attend regular meetings.

**Leadership Development**

Among the N people group, six leading couples are learning about biblical and culturally relevant ways to worship the Lord. These couples are totally committed to the Lord and eager to learn. As they learn, they are telling everyone they meet how Christ has changed their lives.

**Exit to Partnership**

In 2019, an IMB family had to exit their engagement among the P people of Guatemala much sooner than they had expected. Because of this family’s seventeen year dedication to the Missionary Task, the P people now have several healthy churches and equipped leaders who continue to reach their own people.

The Lord said to me, ‘You are my Son; today I have begotten you. Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession.’

— Psalm 2:7b-8 (ESV)
Engaged IMB Only

Unengaged

AMERICAN PEOPLES

PEOPLE GROUPS TOTAL

1,297

Engaged IMB Only

Engaged by IMB and Great Commission Partners

Engaged by Great Commission Partners Only

Indigenous people groups reverted to unengaged status due to loss of engagement by IMB personnel or their partners.

Gospel Witness

Opportunity to Respond

Seekers

New Believers

Baptisms

Engaged by IMB and Great Commission Partners

Indigenous peoples and urban centers engaged by IMB teams

New indigenous engagement of people groups or urban centers

Engaged IMB Only

705

Unengaged

Engaged by IMB and Great Commission Partners

77

Engaged by Great Commission Partners Only

705

Unengaged

IMB ENGAGEMENT IS NO LONGER NECESSARY FOR SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

Indigenous people groups have self-sustaining ownership in the missionary task

Indigenous people groups are engaging other people groups inside their own country

Indigenous people groups are engaging other people groups outside their own country

5,007

On-going Bible Study participants

772

Being personally mentored

Pastoral Training

Church Planting Training

Advanced Training

Other Training

Pastoral Training

Church Planting Training

Advanced Training

Other Training

1,146

1,610

762

7,199

Total Churches

140

3rd Generation

0

New Churches

23

1st Generation

18

2nd Generation

5

New Groups

102

Groups

186

Baptized Believers Meeting

3,518

Healthier Church Formation

Entry

Evangelism

Discipleship

Leadership Development

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Highlights

CENTRAL ASIAN PEOPLES

62
NEW CHURCHES PLANTED

48,648
HEARD GOSPEL WITNESS

20,546
OPPORTUNITY TO RESPOND

2,192
NEW BELIEVERS

1,265
BAPTISMS

937
LEADERSHIP TRAININGS

1
NEW ENGAGEMENT
Our IMB teams created 9-minute “Creation to New Life in Christ” videos for 99 different languages spoken by the peoples of Central Asia. In 2019, these videos were shown and promoted through social media, resulting in 21 full views of the gospel videos every day of the year. An average of 17 people a day clicked the like or share buttons. Work has begun to produce a gospel video for the last 11 languages of Central Asia, which have no Bible tools of any kind.

In Central Asia, one of the world’s most repressive countries has caused thousands of young people to question their faith and relocate to a more open neighboring country where our IMB team is providing discipleship opportunities for many who have come to faith in Christ. This year, our IMB team enlisted the help of several Baptist churches from the USA and paired them with new believers from the oppressive country for a two week discipleship sprint. Over 30 believers were trained how to make their churches healthier and how to properly share the cost of following Jesus. During the next three weeks, 68 professed new faith in Christ.

Despite growing government pressure in Central Asia, a community Christian worship service was planned by the pastors of several churches. Christians from over 20 churches met for the worship service — an amazing fact since the number of attendees represents one-tenth of all the Christians in the country. As an IMB worker looked around the room, he saw healthy church leaders, many who had been trained this year in theology and Bible-teaching courses taught by an IMB team.

Twenty-five years ago, there were few believers in the countries of Central Asia under Communism. Now, several of the countries have movements of churches which are starting to send their members to less reached people groups. An IMB worker in a large city is partnering with one of these cross-cultural Central Asians who trained 85 pastors this last year, many in a country where our workers are unable to train pastors themselves. A man who came to faith through the ministry of an IMB worker is now helping an IMB church-planting team in another country to engage a people group which has no church.

Therefore, let it be known to you, brothers and sisters, that through this man forgiveness of sins is being proclaimed to you. Everyone who believes is justified through him from everything that you could not be justified from through the law of Moses.

— Acts 13:38-41 (CSB)
**CENTRAL ASIAN PEOPLES**

**ENTRY**
- **383** PEOPLE GROUPS TOTAL
  - **158** Unengaged
  - **28** Engaged IMB Only
  - **54** Engaged IMB and Great Commission Partners
  - **143** Engaged by Great Commission Partners Only

**EXIT TO PARTNERSHIP**
- **5** Indigenous people groups reverted to unengaged status due to loss of engagement by IMB personnel or their partners.
- **6** Indigenous people groups have self-sustaining ownership in the missionary task
- **16** Indigenous people groups are engaging other people groups inside their own country
- **8** Indigenous people groups are engaging other people groups outside their own country

**EvangELISm**
- **48,648** Gospel Witness
- **20,546** Opportunity to Respond
- **9,261** Seekers
- **2,192** New believers
- **1,265** Baptisms

**DiscIPlesHIsh**
- **6,971** On-going Bible Study participants
- **719** Being personally mentored

**LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**
- **214** Pastoral Training
- **526** Church Planting Training
- **197** Advanced Training
- **3,112** Other Training

**Healthy Church Formation**
- **New Groups** 163
- **Groups** 317
- **New Churches** 62
  - **1st Generation** 41
  - **2nd Generation** 14
  - **3rd Generation** 7
- **Total Churches** 847
  - **1st Generation** 479
  - **2nd Generation** 187
  - **3rd Generation** 181
- **Baptized Believers Meeting** 20,601
DEAF PEOPLES

Highlights

- 8,356 HEARD GOSPEL WITNESS
- 3,938 OPPORTUNITY TO RESPOND
- 193 NEW BELIEVERS
- 138 BAPTISMS
- 113 LEADERSHIP TRAININGS
- 3 NEW ENGAGEMENTS

NEW CHURCHES PLANTED

15
Recently Deaf Southeast Asian partners worked overtime and holidays to save vacation time and money to travel to a nearby country to work among Deaf believers on Scripture translation process and church development, training national leaders to share their faith with others in their city and country.

The seeds sown in South Asia for more than six years by now-retired workers recently sprang to life as one of our Deaf apprentice missionaries shared Scripture stories with a group in the capital city. Several Deaf then dreamed of Jesus and seven professed Christ and followed in believer’s baptism.

By 2019, one of our Macedonia Program workers, who began outreach as a Journeyman among the Deaf of Southeast Asia, led several Deaf nationals to faith and witnessed the birth of a stable new Deaf church in a city. These young believers are being discipled and reaching out to other Deaf in cities and towns close by where there are plans for new believers to begin new churches.

In Sub-Saharan Africa, two Deaf from another faith background came to faith and were baptized. In 2019, they came to the Deaf Theological Training Center in Tennessee where they received training in Old Testament, New Testament and church planting. These two young men have returned to West Africa and led other Deaf to faith, baptized them and started church planting in several towns.

In September 2019, a group of 40 Deaf gathered outside a city in Europe for training in church planting and partnership. Deaf national partners working in West Africa, Southeast Asia, Central Asia, Eastern Europe, Central America, and East Asia gathered for this training. This new network of Deaf evangelicals is now making plans to work together in the months to come for global outreach in places where Deaf communities have no gospel witness.

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**ENTRY**

**DISCIPLESHIP**

**LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

**HEALTHY CHURCH FORMATION**

**EXIT TO PARTNERSHIP**

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"Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples."

— 1 Chronicles 16:24 (NIV)
Indigenous people groups reverted to unengaged status due to loss of engagement by IMB personnel or their partners.

Indigenous people groups have self-sustaining ownership in the missionary task.

Indigenous people groups are engaging other people groups inside their own country.

Indigenous people groups are engaging other people groups outside their own country.

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**DEAF PEOPLES PIE CHART**

**EVANGELISM**

- **Gospel Witness:** 8,356
- **Opportunity to Respond:** 3,938
- **Seekers:** 1,960
- **New Believers:** 193
- **Baptisms:** 138

**DISCIPLESHIP**

- **On-going Bible Study participants:** 1,702
- **Being personally mentored:** 120

**LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

- **Pastoral Training:** 55
- **Church Planting Training:** 48
- **Advanced Training:** 10
- **Other Training:** 103

**HEALTHY CHURCH FORMATION**

- **New Groups:** 10
- **Groups:** 30
- **New Churches:** 15
- **1st Generation:** 15
- **2nd Generation:** 0
- **3rd Generation:** 0
- **Total Churches:** 181
- **1st Generation:** 164
- **2nd Generation:** 17
- **3rd Generation:** 0
- **Baptized Believers Meeting:** 2,030
Highlights | EAST ASIAN PEOPLES

426 NEW CHURCHES PLANTED

92,821 HEARD GOSPEL WITNESS
82,529 OPPORTUNITY TO RESPOND
14,548 NEW BELIEVERS

5,021 BAPTISMS
6,727 LEADERSHIP TRAININGS
4 NEW ENGAGEMENTS
Scripture Planting is the combination of Scripture translation with Church Planting. The purpose is to create Scripture resources for people groups with limited or no Scripture resources and immediately use those resources to share the gospel, make disciples, develop leaders and grow the health of the church. In one region of East Asia, every IMB team was involved in at least one Scripture Planting project. Due to these efforts among one unreached animist people group that previously had no churches, there are now six churches. In other areas, animist people groups now have Scripture in their language and two unengaged and unreached people groups are now engaged with the gospel.

Through faithful visits and personal teaching in Japan of the MY SEED book — an introduction to Christianity created by a Japanese Christian partner — two students recently came to understand the message of the gospel and their need for the Savior. They stepped forward in obedience and accepted Jesus as their Lord and Savior.

The Lord has been at work mightily among an animist people group living in the mountains of East Asia. The church has grown and there are now hundreds of believers among this remote group. As they have grown in maturity, the local church is now working to send out missionaries to reach other unreached people groups with the gospel. These local churches have since sent a missionary to reach an unreached people group in an area IMB missionaries can no longer access due to security restrictions.

For more than 2,000 years, there was no church among an isolated East Asian people group. That is no longer the case, thanks to the prayers of Southern Baptists, the diligent efforts of IMB missionaries, and the power of the Holy Spirit. This year the first church was planted among this very difficult to reach people group!

Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, and whose trust is in the Lord. For he will be like a tree planted by the water that extends its roots by a stream, and will not fear when the heat comes; but its leaves will be green, and it will not be anxious in a year of drought, nor cease to yield fruit.

— Jeremiah 17:7-8 (NASB)
**Summaries**

**ENTRY**

- **263** Unengaged
- **277** Engaged by Great Commission Partners Only
- **29** Engaged IMB Only
- **81** Engaged by IMB and Great Commission Partners

**EVANGELISM**

- **92,821** Gospel Witness
- **82,529** Opportunity to Respond
- **165** Seekers
- **14,548** New Believers
- **5,021** Baptisms

**EXIT TO PARTNERSHIP**

- **240** Indigenous peoples and urban centers engaged by IMB teams
- **4** New indigenous engagements of people groups or urban centers

IMB ENGAGEMENT IS NO LONGER NECESSARY FOR SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

- **6** Indigenous people groups reverted to unengaged status due to loss of engagement by IMB personnel or their partners.
- **30** Indigenous people groups have self-sustaining ownership in the missionary task
- **14** Indigenous people groups are engaging other people groups inside their own country
- **3** Indigenous people groups are engaging other people groups outside their own country

**DISCIPLESHIP**

- **12,339** On-going Bible Study participants
- **1,952** Being personally mentored

**LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

- **1,689** Pastoral Training
- **1,211** Church Planting Training
- **3,827** Advanced Training
- **8,517** Other Training

**HEALTHY CHURCH FORMATION**

- **New Groups** 435
- **Groups** 254
- **New Churches** 426
- **1st Generation** 231
- **2nd Generation** 128
- **3rd Generation** 67
- **Total Churches** 4,065
- **1st Generation** 2,553
- **2nd Generation** 1,068
- **3rd Generation** 444
- **Baptized Believers Meeting** 114,388

Indigenous people groups are engaging other people groups inside their own country

Indigenous people groups are engaging other people groups outside their own country

Indigenous peoples and urban centers engaged by IMB teams

New indigenous engagements of people groups or urban centers

**EAST ASIAN PEOPLES**

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Highlights | EUROPEAN PEOPLES

- 59,196 HEARD GOSPEL WITNESS
- 25,363 OPPORTUNITY TO RESPOND
- 1,583 NEW BELIEVERS
- 682 BAPTISMS
- 2,536 LEADERSHIP TRAININGS
- 4 NEW ENGAGEMENTS

EUROPEAN PEOPLES

40 NEW CHURCHES PLANTED
“Pause Break” is a Christian community outreach at a public school. During finals weeks, churches and Christian organizations give away free food to students. One IMB worker serves as a volunteer chaplain with the Spirituality Centre and helps distribute the food, which has opened opportunities for many spiritual conversations with students from many other countries. One student said she wasn’t looking for physical food but needed spiritual food. Jesus used food and celebration all the time to share His story. This worker is following His lead.

Through prayer, evangelism goals and open dialog about progress toward those goals, we have seen national partners grow in vision for evangelism and make active, bold attempts to evangelize. One brother started a youth street evangelism ministry to train and send out young workers to start a youth movement of evangelism. Another has also taken initial steps to start his own group of youth evangelists to engage the city with support of a local church.

In 2019, our team in London saw more than three dozen immigrants from a southeastern European country come to faith in Jesus Christ through the dedicated work of our local partners. Just over 18 months ago, we trained these partners in the tools of entry, evangelism, discipleship, church formation, and leadership development. Through faithful use of these tools, a whole new network of disciples and leaders was formed that now stretches from London all the way back to the immigrants’ homeland. We ask for prayer as these new disciples gather in a new church plant. They are already training new leaders and disciple-makers to multiply this church and these disciples for the glory of God among the nations!

Initially sent to reach Central Asians, IMB workers are now partnering with European churches to mobilize their own missionaries to reach the nations. God has used this partnership to revitalize sleepy national churches and rekindle a passion for God’s mission. Churches across this European country are now responding to God’s call to reach millions of international students and migrant workers who have moved into their cities with the gospel of Christ.
EUROPEAN PEOPLES

**Summaries**

**ENTRY**

- **426** Engaged by Great Commission Partners Only
- **375** Engaged IMB Only
- **55** Engaged by IMB and Great Commission Partners
- **2** Unengaged Indigenous people groups reverted to unengaged status due to loss of engagement by IMB personnel or their partners.

**EUROPEAN PEOPLES PIE CHART**

- **112** Indigenous peoples and urban centers engaged by IMB teams
- **4** New indigenous engagements of people groups or urban centers

**EXIT TO PARTNERSHIP**

- **6,566** On-going Bible Study participants
- **1,279** Being personally mentored

**Healthy Church Formation**

- **New Groups** 69
- **Groups** 169
- **New Churches** 40
  - 1st Generation 18
  - 2nd Generation 17
  - 3rd Generation 5
- **Total Churches** 153
  - 1st Generation 95
  - 2nd Generation 45
  - 3rd Generation 13
- **Baptized Believers Meeting** 10,489

**Evangelism**

- **59,196** Gospel Witness
- **25,363** Opportunity to Respond
- **9,073** Seekers
- **1,583** New Believers
- **682** Baptisms

**Leadership Development**

- **Pastoral Training** 1,037
- **Church Planting Training** 1,035
- **Advanced Training** 464
- **Other Training** 5,635

**Discipleship**

- **Indigenous people groups are engaging other people groups inside their own country**
- **Indigenous people groups are engaging other people groups outside their own country**

- **Indigenous people groups have self-sustaining ownership in the missionary task**

**IMB Engagement is no longer necessary for sustainable growth**
### NORTHERN AFRICAN AND MIDDLE EASTERN PEOPLES

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A few months ago, three workers went out to share with people in the park. They met Amina* and shared the gospel with her. Amina said she's wanted to know more about Jesus for some time now, because once while getting on the ferry to North Africa she got a packet with a New Testament and the Jesus film in it. She said she kept the New Testament and watched the film and that she was deeply touched by the story and the love of Jesus. She still holds to Islam but when the workers asked her if she wanted to read more stories of Jesus together, she said yes. Since that time, they have been meeting together. Even last week, she said she believes that only Jesus can forgive sins and that he died and rose again.

A clinic, a gym, a coffee shop, a living room, the barbershop, the park, a classroom — these are places where evangelism is happening as people are asked, “You are different from other foreigners we know. Why?” or “I am [another faith], and you are Christian. We are all the same, right?” Praise God for the life-on-life evangelism going on every day as Christian workers interact with people in their communities.

Amal* came to faith from conversations she had online with someone in North America, but she wanted to study face-to-face with other believers. She met with two workers, and the fellowship was sweet as they opened the Word together. When they came to the lesson on prayer, Amal was afraid to pray out loud. “It’s a conversation with Jesus. You can do it.” And she did. Praise God for each step as new believers grow in faith.

A small group of men sit together in a simple apartment. They have fellowship, study the Word and pray together. They are not a church, but they are the “beginnings” of what will become a church one day. Praise God for the many small groups who are meeting. Praise God with faith, that each will grow to become church.

A seasoned worker in North Africa with a passion for training leaders began to devote most of his time to training local and foreign believers in evangelism, discipleship, church planting, and leadership. During this year, he was able to train national leaders across North Africa as well as many new foreign leaders. They are eager to put this material into practice.

Many national leaders from Asia and NAME met to get to know each other, share stories and discuss what God is doing in their lives. Workers from each country explained their own strategies, translating and explaining culture in the process. Together they began to formulate strategies for sending and receiving workers to take the gospel throughout NAME. What a picture of the Body of Christ, working together as partnerships are formed with people from all over the globe.

"But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God."

— Acts 20:24 (ESV)
### Summaries

**ENTRY**

- 797 People Groups Total
- 511 Unengaged
- 227 Engaged by Great Commission Partners Only
- 22 Engaged by IMB and Great Commission Partners
- 37 Engaged by IMB Only

**EVANGELISM**

- Gospel Witness: 31,460
- Opportunity to Respond: 19,325
- Seekers: 4,072
- New Believers: 4,686
- Baptisms: 1,394

**DISCIPLESHIP**

- 4,203 On-going Bible Study participants
- 495 Being personally mentored

### EXIT TO PARTNERSHIP

- Indigenous people groups reverted to unengaged status due to loss of engagement by IMB personnel or their partners.

- Indigenous peoples and urban centers engaged by IMB teams: 81
- New indigenous engagement of people groups or urban centers: 1

**LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

- Pastoral Training: 116
- Church Planting Training: 1,590
- Advanced Training: 0
- Other Training: 336

### NORTHERN AFRICAN AND MIDDLE EASTERN PEOPLES

**HEALTHY CHURCH FORMATION**

- New Groups: 140
- Groups: 332
- New Churches: 162
- 1st Generation: 71
- 2nd Generation: 42
- 3rd Generation: 49
- Total Churches: 268
- 1st Generation: 163
- 2nd Generation: 56
- 3rd Generation: 49
- Baptized Believers Meeting: 3,336

Indigenous people groups are engaging other people groups inside their own country

Indigenous people groups are engaging other people groups outside their own country
Highlights

SOUTH ASIAN PEOPLES

9,911
NEW CHURCHES PLANTED

103,328
HEARD GOSPEL WITNESS

89,385
OPPORTUNITY TO RESPOND

35,183
NEW BELIEVERS

29,286
BAPTISMS

65,334
LEADERSHIP TRAININGS

62
NEW ENGAGEMENTS
In 2019, many people were affected by floods in South Asia. One village of 60 families was nearly destroyed. Because the area was not registered as being flood prone, no governmental aid is available. Give thanks to the Lord that believers were able to provide relief supplies in the name of Jesus and the people both heard and saw the love of Jesus!

Recently some pastors along with their small congregations decided to dedicate 30 minutes a day for 30 days to talk to people intentionally about Jesus. Over the course of one month, these faithful individuals shared with more than 7,000 people! Praise God for their gospel witness and that many people living in darkness have now seen a great light!

Amit* is a faithful disciple maker who, over the past two years, has been sharing the gospel in new un-reached places. For example, in one village he began visiting a home to share 35 chronological Bible lessons. This family was saved, becoming the village’s first believers. Over several months, this family began sharing the gospel with others. Now there are 18 believing families and 35 in-home Bible studies in this village where they are sharing 35 chronological Bible lessons with the help of SD cards.

In October, some mature believers began an eight-month training cycle to mentor other believers in church planting. They are mentoring church planters in the components of the core missionary task: abiding in Christ, entering new harvest fields, proclaiming the gospel, grouping and discipling believers, forming healthy churches, developing leaders, and entrusting the work to local leaders and churches.

*Name changed

Rather as it is written: ‘Those who were not told about him will see, and those who have not heard will understand.’

— Romans 15:21 (NIV)
Summaries

**ENTRY**

- **1,141** Engaged by IMB and Great Commission Partners
- **863** Engaged by Great Commission Partners Only
- **276** Engaged IMB Only
- **6** Unengaged

**PEOPLE GROUPS TOTAL**: 2,286

**EVANGELISM**

- **Gospel Witness**: 103,328
- **Opportunity to Respond**: 89,385
- **Seekers**: 57,315
- **New Believers**: 35,183
- **Baptisms**: 29,286

**INDIGENOUS PEOPLE GROUPS**

- **337** Indigenous peoples and urban centers engaged by IMB teams
- **62** New indigenous engagements of people groups or urban centers

**DISCIPLESHIP**

- **73,110** On-going Bible Study participants
- **27,530** Being personally mentored

**LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

- **Pastoral Training**: 10,644
- **Church Planting Training**: 27,647
- **Advanced Training**: 27,043
- **Other Training**: 27,905

**EXIT TO PARTNERSHIP**

- **146** Indigenous people groups have self-sustaining ownership in the missionary task
- **2** Indigenous people groups are engaging other people groups inside their own country
- **0** Indigenous people groups are engaging other people groups outside their own country

**IMB ENGAGEMENT IS NO LONGER NECESSARY FOR SUSTAINABLE GROWTH**

- **0** Indigenous people groups reverted to unengaged status due to loss of engagement by IMB personnel or their partners.

**SOUTH ASIAN PEOPLES**

**HEALTHY CHURCH FORMATION**

- **New Groups**: 10,680
- **Groups**: 28,067
- **New Churches**: 9,911
- **1st Generation**: 181
- **2nd Generation**: 66
- **3rd Generation**: 9,664
- **Total Churches**: 45,514
- **1st Generation**: 11,522
- **2nd Generation**: 3,360
- **3rd Generation**: 30,632
- **Baptized Believers Meeting**: 128,996

- **INDIGENOUS PEOPLE GROUPS**

  - **SUMMARY**: Reverted to unengaged status due to loss of engagement by IMB personnel or their partners.
Highlights

SOUTHEAST ASIAN PEOPLES

1,615
NEW CHURCHES PLANTED

67,767
HEARD GOSPEL WITNESS

46,466
OPPORTUNITY TO RESPOND

7,955
NEW BELIEVERS

5,581
BAPTISMS

7,029
LEADERSHIP TRAININGS

1
NEW ENGAGEMENT

LEADERSHIP TRAININGS

HEARD GOSPEL WITNESS

OPPORTUNITY TO RESPOND

NEW BELIEVERS

BAPTISMS

LEADERSHIP TRAININGS

NEW ENGAGEMENT

SOUTHEAST ASIAN PEOPLES
Stories from the Field

**ENTRY**
Due to volunteers constructing a drinking water system for a local prison, guards who were initially restrictive allowed IMB workers access to several prisoners, including 10 women. Many prisoners sang songs to Jesus, and one believed. We are praying to meet and teach more.

**EVANGELISM**
Threats can come when sharing the gospel among hostile people groups, but prayer and the Lord’s direction can lead to salvation. Despite persecution while delivering Bibles, two young workers listened, obeyed, and were able to share the gospel and begin Bible studies among an unreached people group.

**DISCIPLESHIP**
A family among a large unreached people group had to flee their community because of vengeance killings and found refuge in a local church. The family heard the gospel and watched the life of believers in the church. The family was saved and baptized. The Pastor and his church have discipled the family and are equipping them to return to their community so others may hear the gospel and experience a transformed life.

**HEALTHY CHURCH FORMATION**
IMB held a training event for 600 house-church leaders in Southeast Asia in December of 2019 using curriculum for New Testament Survey and studying the parables.

**EXIT TO PARTNERSHIP**
IMB helped establish a national-led sending organization, which has projected sending six families this year to serve among UPGs. This is fruit from IMB’s 15-year investment in national partners.

‘’Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord ... but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God, who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began.’’

— 2 Timothy 1:8-9 (ESV)
**Summaries**

1,431 Engaged by Great Commission Partners Only

1,191 Engaged by IMB Only

16 Engaged by IMB and Great Commission Partners

3 Indigenous people groups reverted to unengaged status due to loss of engagement by IMB personnel or their partners.

**Evangelism**

- Gospel Witness: 67,767
- Opportunity to Respond: 46,466
- Seekers: 11,358
- New Believers: 7,955
- Baptisms: 5,581

**Discipleship**

- 32,279 On-going Bible Study participants
- 2,414 Being personally mentored

**Leadership Development**

- Pastoral Training: 2,790
- Church Planting Training: 3,825
- Advanced Training: 414
- Other Training: 162

**Healthy Church Formation**

- New Groups: 3,366
- Groups: 5,601
- New Churches: 1,615
- 1st Generation: 25
- 2nd Generation: 14
- 3rd Generation: 1,576
- Total Churches: 5,631
- 1st Generation: 530
- 2nd Generation: 335
- 3rd Generation: 4,766
- Baptized Believers Meeting: 40,211

**EXIT TO PARTNERSHIP**

- IMB engagement is no longer necessary for sustainable growth

**ENTRY**

- Indigenous peoples and urban centers engaged by IMB teams: 118
- New indigenous engagement of people groups or urban centers: 1

**Indigenous people groups are engaging other people groups**

- Inside their own country: 6
- Outside their own country: 5

- Indigenous people groups have self-sustaining ownership in the missionary task: 0
Evangelism through teaching English, as well as partnerships with both West African students and a Fusion team, have led to an on-going Bible study with 25 people and increased the spread of the gospel and people coming to Christ.

**EVANGELISM**

Using LifeStyle evangelism, IMB workers in this West African country saw a 300% increase in the number of witnesses and people coming to faith in Christ in our local Baptist churches.

**DISCIPLESHIP**

Working with U.S. Baptists and nationals, IMB workers in West Africa saw five new believers, the first on this island, who are being discipled and baptized. These new believers are evangelizing and growing their faith. More believers are added each trip, and a movement towards church formation is beginning.

**LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

Responding to requests of local church leaders, four churches partnered to train leaders and church members. IMB and Brazilian Baptists are training and equipping African pastors to be effective leaders with sound theology.

**HEALTHY CHURCH FORMATION**

VBS ministry and neighborhood evangelism were used to plant two new churches. Partnerships between national leaders and U.S. pastors resulted in three other new churches. In addition, God worked in the hearts of an elderly couple to plant another church in a nearby village complete with mud block walls and a grass roof.

**ENTRY**

Approximate numbers calculated using IMB global population and evangelical Christian estimates.

**SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN PEOPLES**

Population: 875,801,255

*Behold, you shall call a nation that you do not know, and a nation that did not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, and of the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.*

— Isaiah 55:5 (ESV)
**Summaries**

**ENTRY**
- 1,742 Engaged by Great Commission Partners Only
- 752 Unengaged
- 62 Engaged by IMB and Great Commission Partners
- 19 Engaged by IMB Only

**EXIT TO PARTNERSHIP**
- 1 Indigenous people group reverted to unengaged status due to loss of engagement by IMB personnel or their partners.
- 11 Indigenous people groups engaged in the missionary task
- 16 Indigenous people groups are self-sustaining ownership inside their own country
- 2 Indigenous people groups are engaging other people groups outside their own country

**EVANGELISM**
- Gospel Witness
  - 95,253 Opportunity to Respond
  - 82,193 Seekers
  - 14,176 New Believers
  - 20,775 Baptisms

**DISCIPLESHIP**
- 32,216 On-going Bible Study participants
- 1,347 Being personally mentored

**LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**
- Pastoral Training: 907
- Church Planting Training: 1,374
- Advanced Training: 351
- Other Training: 3,086

**HEALTHY CHURCH FORMATION**
- New Groups: 428
- Groups: 703
- New Churches: 111
  - 1st Generation: 42
  - 2nd Generation: 56
  - 3rd Generation: 13
- Total Churches: 1,084
  - 1st Generation: 573
  - 2nd Generation: 229
  - 3rd Generation: 282
- Baptized Believers Meeting: 40,961

**SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN PEOPLES**

Indigenous people groups are engaging other people groups inside their own country

Indigenous people groups are engaging other people groups outside their own country

New indigenous engagements of people groups or urban centers
2025 Targets to engage unreached peoples and places

- Mobilize 75% of Southern Baptist churches prayerfully and financially supporting LMCO
- Send an additional 500 fully funded missionaries
- Mobilize 500 global missionary partners on IMB teams
- Engage 75 global cities in comprehensive strategies
- Increase LMCO receipts 6% annually
Every church. Every nation.

For more information about this report, contact the Global Research Information Center at gric@imb.org