



Geography, decades of time, or wars cannot separate us from the love of God or His plans for our lives. What a wonderful joy and privilege to consider that a German CBSI class in Bend, Oregon fit in God's plan to reach the heart of Trudi and make her His daughter. Only the work of the Holy Spirit can connect the message of "good news" with the prepared heart in the precise point in time and place. Are we making those Spirit-led connections? **Community Bible Study International's USA-Ethnos Ministry** is praying, working and preparing for those divine connections. There are certainly signs that now is the "time" of His choosing. The unique and constantly-changing demographics in the USA indicate that we need to be preparing for just such a "time." The "place" may, in fact, be determined by many of you as the Spirit leads to a foreign language outreach into the many nations representative of your community. The precision of the Spirit's divine connections or intersections to reach and transform lives is a beautiful thing. Certainly none of us wants to be too busy or distracted that we miss being a part of this marvelous movement of the Holy Spirit. With 47 different translations of our Bible studies, we believe the Lord is multiplying the transformational connections through His Word and the Spirit in the hearts of those He is drawing to Himself.

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Ministry Newsletter
 MAY 2011

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ETHNOS - ἔθνος



From the Greek word ἔθνος *ethnos*, normally translated as "nation". The term refers currently to people thought to have common ancestry who share a distinctive culture • In North America; 'ethnics' are the descendents of relatively recent immigrants from **non-English-speaking countries**.

From Wikipedia.



Zurich, Switzerland

Almost 90 years of my life are already behind me and I will now briefly tell of the turning point in my religious life.

I was born in 1921 in Zürich and was taught as a child to pray: "St. Mary, pray for us poor sinners." When I asked my mother about the "poor sinners," she said they were mostly adults, but that I, too, should be good and not lie. I attended confirmation classes but shortly thereafter stopped going to church. I went to Germany to live with my grandparents and there fell in love with a young man named Willi.

In 1939 he was sent to the front. Although we wrote to each other, we would never see each other again. He died in 1943 in Russia from a war wound. I did not want to stay in Germany anymore and tried to return home to Switzerland.

But before I left, I was offered a position in Berlin with the Swiss Embassy. I accepted this post and worked in Berlin amidst bombings and destruction. I returned to Switzerland shortly before the end of the war in a yellow Swiss mail truck.

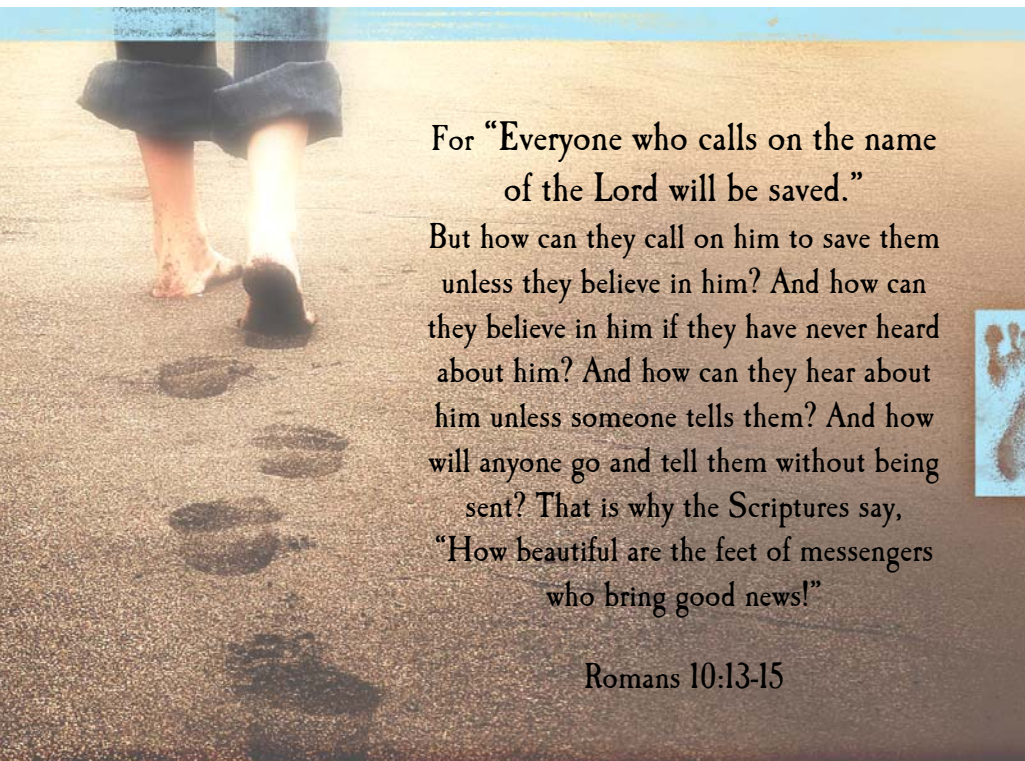
My family and I were so grateful to be safely reunited, but with whom? Fate? God?

Ten years after marrying my husband, my daughter was born. I had no idea that I needed her to get to know and respect Jesus better.

My daughter grew up, married an American, and eventually moved to Oregon. She was very religious and encouraged her husband to go to church regularly. They both took a 9-month long ministries course and practically memorized the Bible. My husband passed away and I moved to America to live with them. I began attending my own Bible course, "Community Bible Study International," and have learned the life and works of God's Son, Jesus. I honor Him and also pray to Him. People cannot thank Him enough for His sacrifice. He is for us the resurrection and eternal life.

I have been living in Bend for five years and am grateful for my daughter and son-in-law, because they showed me the way to Jesus.

Thanks be to God!



For "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them? And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? That is why the Scriptures say, "How beautiful are the feet of messengers who bring good news!"

Romans 10:13-15

SERVING
so others will hear...

Is GOD calling you to help USA - Ethnos reach the nations of the world at our doorsteps with the message of His love and salvation?

Please contact us; we have many opportunities available for you!

Shirley Adams

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Understanding Our Times

CBS Teaching Directors Conference – January 2011

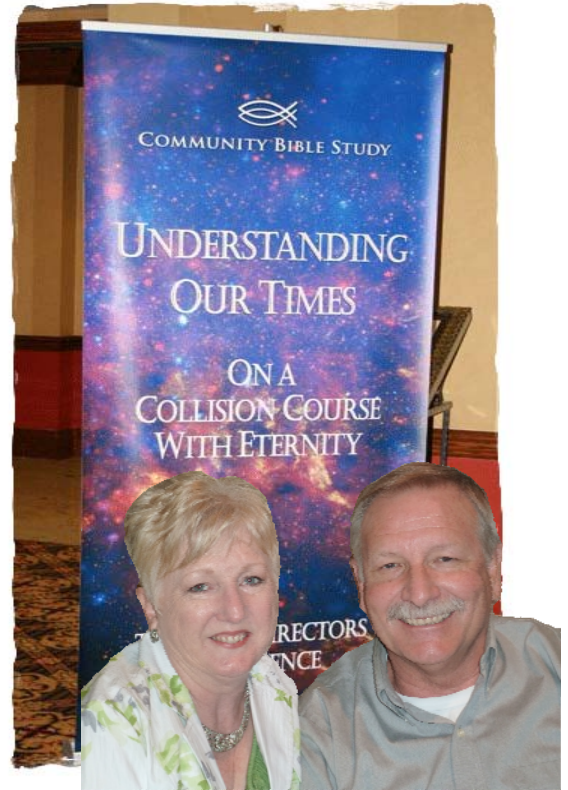
It truly was a **"for such a time as this"** moment at the TD conference held in January 2011 and what is clear and becoming clearer to us is that **this is God at work**; He is driving this outreach while we simply follow Him. The time is NOW and there is urgency to the mission of making God's Word and CBS Bible study "available to all" right here in the US who speak a foreign language.

It was my privilege to be able to share with over 600 Teaching Directors about how to look beyond their classes to their communities. It was so exciting to see the vision being passed along and the understanding of the limitless possibilities being absorbed as the week went on.

There was much interest as Teaching Directors learned that they have the resources to reach out to their communities using the structure, format and facilities of the existing CBS classes. Mealtime and shuttle trips became convenient forums to share with enthusiastic and supportive Teaching Directors.

Our hearts were encouraged by their hearts as we discovered that some had such a burden for people in their communities that they have been praying for a way to reach out to them. They had been praying for something just like Ethnos!

Steve and I are so honored to be part of this mission that will have an eternal affect on hearts, lives, families and this nation in ways that will bring more glory to our God. We are currently working with 14 Teaching Directors who are already moving towards providing an **Ethnos core group within their CBS classes**. Some are right now praying that God would provide a bilingual core leader so they can begin. In addition, there are numerous others who have expressed that desire and are praying about the possibilities for their classes as well.



Please pray for these TD's. They are stepping out into a new arena of outreach. Pray that their Servants Teams and Classes will be encouraging and supportive of the new Ethnos core groups.

Steve & Marcia Buskirk

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There is neither Jew nor Gentile, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Galatians 3:28

One of the overriding themes of the Bible is unity, a unity that transcends age, culture, race, class, gender, party affiliations, political tendencies, and biases about hair or dress. Unity is, at its core, about Christ and the oneness that He achieved by His death on the cross. CBSI USA –Ethnos prays that "everyone in the USA will be in the Word." Think about it... Today in the United States of America, we have a unique opportunity to reach the peoples of the world:

US Population 313,232,044 (July 2011 estimate)

Population 5 years of age and older 283,149,507

Out of this last number, **only 80% of the population speaks English at home.** 12% speak Spanish, 4% speak other Indo-European languages, 3% Asian or Pacific Island languages, 1% other, such as native North American Languages.

The 2011 Statistical Abstract – U.S. Census Bureau

INTERCESSION

I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people... This is good, and pleases God our Savior, who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

1 Timothy 2:1a, 3-4

Your prayers are very important.
Please take a few minutes to bring our requests before the Lord.

Growth in the classes and new members for the Servants Teams for the year 2011-2012.



Pray for more National USA-Ethnos leaders and representatives.



Pray for the ongoing translations for the many language groups.



Praise for our National USA-Ethnos treasurer, Juan Rada



Vision for CBSI ministry among foreign language churches in the US.



Solid beginnings for new foreign language core groups.

We invite you to partner with us in bringing Bible study to people in the USA who desire to do it in their heart's language. The worldwide ministry of Community Bible Study is funded by donors like you, and we praise the Lord for the support, both monetarily and through your prayers. If you would like to make a donation...

- Online, visit : www.cbsinternational.org
- By phone call: 1-800-826-4181
- By mail, please send your check to:

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You will receive an immediate receipt for your tax records. **CBS** is a not-for-profit ministry 501(c)(3) and supported by those of you led by the Lord to give. We are also members of the Evangelical Council on Financial Accountability (**ECFA**).

