

CHINA RADIO

In 1982, while I (Russ) was still with Far East Broadcasting Company (FEBC), OC began to help provide a portion of the funding needed to launch a radio program to be broadcast into China. This program was specifically designed to provide teaching and instruction for pastors and Christian leaders, especially those who had very limited, or no, formal seminary or Bible college education. That included the great majority of pastors and Christian workers in China, especially the house church leaders.

The programs are broadcast on a two-year cycle. During those two years approximately one-third of the programs cover Old Testament studies, one-third cover New Testament studies, and one-third cover practical theology—specifically, what is a church, how does it operate, what are the sacraments, how do you prepare a sermon, etc.—very practical things that pertain to starting and maintaining a congregation.



During these two years the students listen to the programs six days a week. Students have workbooks in which they take notes from the programs and work on various assignments. At the end of each quarter they have an evaluation of their work which is sent to the FEBC office in Hong Kong, where it is corrected, commented on, questions answered that the students have, etc., and mailed back to them. The programs are not only broadcast over regular radio signals (AM, FM, and shortwave), but the students can now also go online and listen to the programs and download materials.

After almost 30 years, the China Radio program is currently having its greatest impact ever (and OC is continuing our fruitful partnership with FEBC!). There are approximately 10,000 students currently enrolled in the two-year study program, although several million more listen to the program and are helped in their lives and ministries, even though they might not be actively enrolled for the study program.

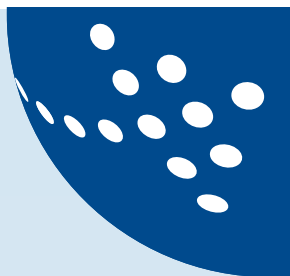
Here is a sample letter from one listener which will give you a good idea of the need and effectiveness of the China Radio program:

I was converted to Jesus 10 years ago. At the time I was illiterate. I was called by the Lord and soon brought three others to Christ. Later we set up a church. I forced myself to learn to read Chinese characters so I could read the Bible. A year later I began listening to your radio broadcasts. Your nurturing and training programs helped foster my spiritual life and improved my skill in reading the Bible. One year later the church had 100 believers. With God's love and care our church expanded quickly. At present, we have 17 churches and more than 500 believers.

As you pray for us, please pray as well for the tens of thousands of house church leaders in China who are being encouraged and equipped for more effective ministry through the China Radio ministry.

With deep gratitude for your partnership,

Russ & Sylvia



As You Pray

Sepal 2012 and beyond

Pray

for the Brazilian church as it expands and rapidly grows, sending many more missionaries around the world.

Pray

for recruiting “new generation” missionaries for Sepal; by 2015 to have 30 percent of Sepal to be under 30 years of age.

Pray

for an increase of the digital ministry to 10 million people ministered to through the Sepal website.

Pray

for continued godly and obedient leadership as Sepal expands.

God is on the move!

What would you do if you could impact one third of all the pastors in a country which is larger than the continental United States? That is part of OC’s story in Brazil (OC Sepal) which began in 1963 when OC was invited into Brazil in association with the Billy Graham Association. Today, after five decades of ministry, Sepal is being used by God to help facilitate the multiplication of healthy churches throughout Brazil. God chose Josue Campanha to lead the recent dramatic expansion in Sepal’s ministry. Following is Josue’s story in his own words...



Aug. A. S. Jr.

President, OC International



February 16, 2000, God showed me clearly I was missing something I could give him: My life as a missionary.

I understood that this was an irresistible call of the Lord. Immediately I asked: “What should I do as a missionary?” His response was clear: “Be a missions strategist.” I was willing to obey, but I did not understand what being a missions strategist was and did not know if I could be it one day. In 2002

we became Sepal missionaries. In 2005 I was invited to be the first Brazilian Sepal director.

In the same period Sepal started experiencing a process of expansion and internationalization: growing from 26 people in Sao Paulo, to now — 134 missionaries in nine Brazilian cities and 10 countries worldwide.



A Decade of Growth?

- From ministry in São Paulo expanding to Londrina, Curitiba, Rio, Brasilia, and Recife
- Impacting 8 million people yearly through digital ministries
- From being a mission field to a “mission force” — a sending agency
- Becoming one of the 10 mobilization centers of the OC Global Alliance
- Sending 30 Brazilian missionaries to 9 other countries on nearly every continent

Recently in my devotional time I asked God if I was able to do the things that he called me to do and He reminded me about the areas in which Sepal operates today: Training Leaders, Planting Churches, Missions Mobilization, New Generation, Evangelization through the Internet, Production of Ministerial Resources, Sending Missionaries, Indigenous Outreach, Research, Digital.

My only reaction was: WOW! Ten years have passed and God has taught me what it means to obey his call. He has given me a wonderful staff to fulfill this calling, a blessed family that walks beside me, and people like you, who have stood by us as supporters, intercessors, encouragers, and friends.