



Third Quarter '11

Third Millennium Ministries Quarterly Newsletter

Third Quarter 2011

## WHO IS THAT ON THE COVER?

Vivek Jones is a pastor living and preaching God's word in Pune, India. When he calls himself a "cross-eyed pastor," he is not referring to the glasses he wears to see, but states that, "Ever since I was made a Christian by God, my vision was perfected... and now it is wonderfully cross-eyed!"



PART OF THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY AT KERUSSO

His ministry is aptly named "Kerusso" after the Greek word meaning "proclaim," and he credits Third Millennium's educational instruction for helping him do just that.

"I must thank you for the great blessing that Third Millennium resources are to us in India. Words will not be able to express adequate gratitude. To understand the depth of it, I must let you know the situation in our country.

India, like many countries in the developing world, has been affected by what some refer to as 'theological starvation.' Maybe it can be better understood as 'theological malnourishment.' Do we get Christian literature? Oh yes... but of the worst order! Most of the stores are filled with teachings that make prosperity the end goal. Among

those penned by conservatives, the books are, at best, shallow. There is no theological undergirding for the layman. He picks the Bible and looks at it like a baptized voodoo text that is mystical and supernatural. He expects the text to come alive like a shaman offering his services to the gods. There is absolutely no framework based on which even the best of them interpret and preach/teach the Scripture.



THE "CROSS-EYED PASTOR"

Third Millennium helped break the jinx... Third Mill sent us an entire set of Bible School level DVD tutorials. We in India were thrilled to hear of it, and that is an understatement... You have given me the necessary tools to help accurately preach his word better and be an unashamed workman. You have even bailed me from the tedious task of preparing a curriculum to train the emerging leaders. I thank you as I praise God for this gift!"

If you would like to learn more about Vivek's work in India, please visit [www.crosseyed.blog.com](http://www.crosseyed.blog.com).



SHARING CHRIST IN INDIA

## CREATIVE FUNDRAISING

Redeemer Presbyterian Church in Evans, Georgia believes supporting ministries should be fun! This year, they chose Third Millennium as the beneficiary of their annual VBS collection. In keeping with their theme, "Big Jungle Adventure: A Faith Journey with Jesus," helpers garbed in safari clothes and "Bobo" the gorilla passed around the collection plate. Add the



incentive of a pie-throwing party once the goal was met, and you have a recipe for success (and mess!). We're not sure who had more fun—Bobo the gorilla or the kids with the cream pies. We do know that we are thankful for the money they raised to benefit the mission of Third Millennium Ministries. Please share your stories of creative ways to contribute at [csawyer@thirdmill.org](mailto:csawyer@thirdmill.org).



## HOW CAN I HELP?

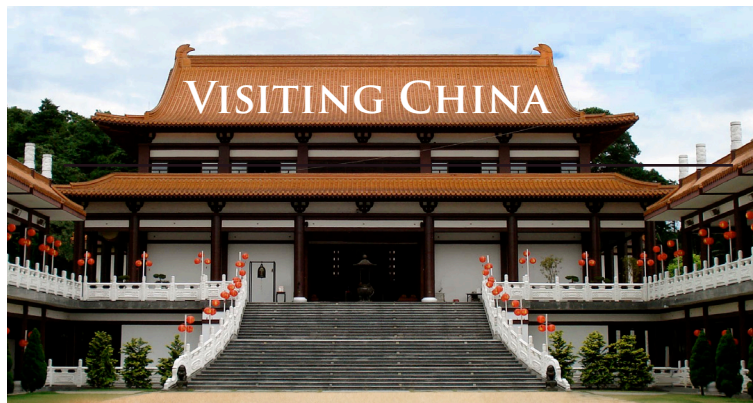
Because of the remarkable impact Third Millennium is having around the world, people often ask us “How can I help?” We are constantly creating and distributing new lessons, and opportunities to contribute are always available.

### Current funding needs include (but are not limited to):

- Four new series: *He Gave Us Scripture* (partially funded); *Kingdom, Covenant & Canon of the New Testament*; *The Books of the Old Testament*; and *The Books of the New Testament*.
- Foreign language lessons in Chinese (Mandarin), Spanish, Russian or Arabic.
- Discussion forums for several lessons. (Discussion forums clarify and contextualize Third Mill’s training materials and are a key component of our curriculum.)
- MOODLE implementation. (Third Millennium Ministries is a curriculum provider and not a school; we are not accredited and cannot award degrees or certificates, but MOODLE allows us to provide a customizable, turnkey seminary platform to any and all educational institutions around the world, regardless of their size, location or accreditation.)

### Another Opportunity

One of the best ways you can contribute to this ministry is through the power of prayer. Please join us in praying for Third Millennium, and together we will see God do amazing things. Your prayers make a difference!



A member of our development team recently returned from a trip to China. While there, he visited with several house-church network leaders, pastors, and lay leaders who are using Third Millennium’s training materials to minister in two of the country’s largest cities. The response of these leaders to Third Millennium’s materials was incredibly encouraging.

One leader of a large house-church network praised Third Millennium’s theological consistency and told us he hopes to create a “virtual classroom” with our materials that will enable him to train his network of hundreds of church leaders in a systematized way. When he was told that we are in the process of developing a new course management system (MOODLE CMS) in Mandarin that will facilitate his needs, he responded, “God bless you and Third Millennium!”

Another leader was particularly grateful that Third Millennium’s curriculum is so much more theologically sound than what is typically available in China. He said that pastors need to understand the big picture story of the Bible and how God’s redemptive plan fits together to accomplish His Kingdom purpose.

We also brought several copies of The Spirit of the Reformation Study Bible in Mandarin to give as gifts. The leaders were overjoyed! This study Bible is available in Hong Kong, but it is extremely expensive because it is the only study Bible produced in the CNV translation (which is an “updated” Mandarin translation, as opposed to the archaic translation that the government authorizes). Several leaders who received the Bibles expressed a desire to see this Bible made more available so that members of their congregations could have their own copies for personal Bible study.

It truly is exciting to see the impact that Third Millennium is making in China.

## FROM THE FIELD

I would like to thank [Third Millennium] for giving us the video of Paul's Prison Epistles. I assigned it to our senior translator, Leonard Ben, during our Choctaw Bible Translation staff retreat this week. He began watching it and really liked it right away. Then Wednesday morning he came in,

"I feel like I'm getting a completely new look at the Bible because of this video! I'm so glad I came [to the retreat]! I can't wait to teach it to my congregation."

And he went back and watched the section on Ephesians all over again. Then he asked if there were more. And he wants to open up our resources at the Bible Translation office as a library for pastors (his idea).

The Choctaw Bible Translation Committee is translating the Bible into Choctaw. We are located on the land of the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, where Choctaw is spoken in daily life.

-Laura Christel Horlings, SIL  
(Summer Institute of Linguistics, Inc)



Third Millennium Ministries recently launched new mobile applications for Apple iOS (iPhone and iPad) and Android devices! These free apps provide access to all of the English series currently available on our website.

Third Mill debuted the new apps at the Presbyterian Church in America General Assembly this past June. In just over a month, the apps have been launched more than 500 times, providing free wider access to some of the best biblical educational materials available.

What's more, users can download over 50 English videos of our lessons via the Third Millennium Podcast on iTunes.

Soon, Third Millennium Ministries will be making our Spanish, Arabic, Chinese, and Russian videos available for mobile access as well. Keep visiting [thirdmill.org](http://thirdmill.org) for more information on their release.

To obtain the applications, visit either the App Store on iTunes to download our free iPhone and iPad applications or the Android Market to download the free app for Android based devices.

## With your help today...

we will continue to bring theological training to thousands of Christian leaders around the world. Every enthusiastic note and email we receive reminds us how much our work here matters. Become a part of the Third Mill family and help us provide *Biblical Education. For the World. For Free.* You may send your gift in the enclosed envelope, or if you prefer the convenience of online giving, visit [www.thirdmill.org](http://www.thirdmill.org) and click the “Donate” button. Thank you!

