

Into the
THIRD MILLENNIUM

Third Millennium Ministries Quarterly Newsletter

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THIRD MILLENNIUM
MINISTRIES

WHO IS THAT ON THE COVER?

Since our trip to Lagos, Nigeria to distribute flash drives, the addition of a French curriculum has been much anticipated. This is not surprising when you consider that the majority of the world's French speakers, or Francophones, reside on the African continent. Due to the French language's dominance in Africa and the continent's rapid population growth, the total French-speaking population is expected to reach 700 million people by 2050. Clearly, the necessity of adding a French curriculum was obvious, but the challenge was finding someone with the experience and capacity to tackle such a large task. That is why we are pleased to announce our partnership with Francis Foucachon, his wife Donna and their sons. Francis' experience and desire to minister to Francophones makes this partnership a natural fit.

Francis Foucachon was born and raised in Lyon, France. As a young man, he worked as a chef before being trained for pastoral ministry by a missionary church planter. He met Donna Rapacz, a French teacher from Florida who was living in Lyon as a short-term missionary. Once they married, the Foucachons moved back to Florida so that Francis could learn English and get to know his wife's family and culture.

While in Florida, Francis contemplated whether or not he should continue his career as a chef or return to France to become a church planter. With so many Francophones in countries where the gospel is advancing rapidly, but there is no biblical training available, Francis felt called to return to France and become a church planter. He attended the Reformed Theological Seminary in Aix-en-Provence, was ordained as a minister in the PCA and began church planting in the French community until he returned to the United States in 2005.



With his children attending college and getting married, Francis created the high-end French restaurant West of Paris to support his family. After five years in business, Francis decided to sell West of Paris to return to full-time ministry through an organization called Huguenot Heritage Ministries with a vision of using the internet to provide Francophones with biblical training.



It was then that Francis discovered the existence of Third Millennium Ministries and realized we were doing just that in languages like Russian and Mandarin Chinese. After talking with Third Millennium President Dr. Richard Pratt, who had been his professor during his DMin courses at RTS, Francis decided to partner with Third Millennium and focus the work of his organization, Huguenot Heritage, on producing our curriculum in French. The first course in French, The Apostles' Creed, is already available on our website french.thirdmill.org in written form and will be ready in video form in August 2013.

With over 250 million French-speaking people around the world, the addition of this strategic language will increase the number of people we can reach with our curriculum to roughly 67% of the global population. Together, we are moving toward making our seminary education accessible to the entire world.

For more information about the Foucachons and Huguenot Heritage, visit huguenotheritage.com.



THIRD MILL TAKES ROOT IN INDONESIA

Although it is not an official Islamic state, Indonesia has the world's largest Muslim population. According to the 2010 Indonesian Census, over 87% of Indonesians identify themselves as Muslim while a mere 7% adhere to Protestant beliefs. With a Christian minority, it is imperative for Christians in Indonesia have a strong knowledge of the scriptures and theology so they are able to explain the beliefs of Christianity to other Indonesians.

With this in mind, Third Millennium Ministries has had an eye toward Indonesia for over year. After many long flights and meetings with key individuals, Third Millennium has finalized their largest distribution partnership to date with Yayasan Pendidikan Pelita Harapan (YPPH). YPPH seeks to deliver education through a Christian worldview to all segments of society



to produce competent future leaders who fear God and possess Godly character. YPPH institutions range from preparatory schools to schools that serve underprivileged communities. Regardless of financial standing, the YPPH affiliated schools are the top educational institutions in Indonesia, so parents are eager to send their children there despite their religious beliefs.

“By God's grace, it was confirmed that Third Millennium Ministries will be playing a significant role in the education of students in Indonesia. Please continue praying as we nail down an implementation plan and time frame. It's an amazing time to be a part of this ministry and God's work here. For those of you who support our ministry, thank you for making it possible,” said Executive Director Michael Briggs.

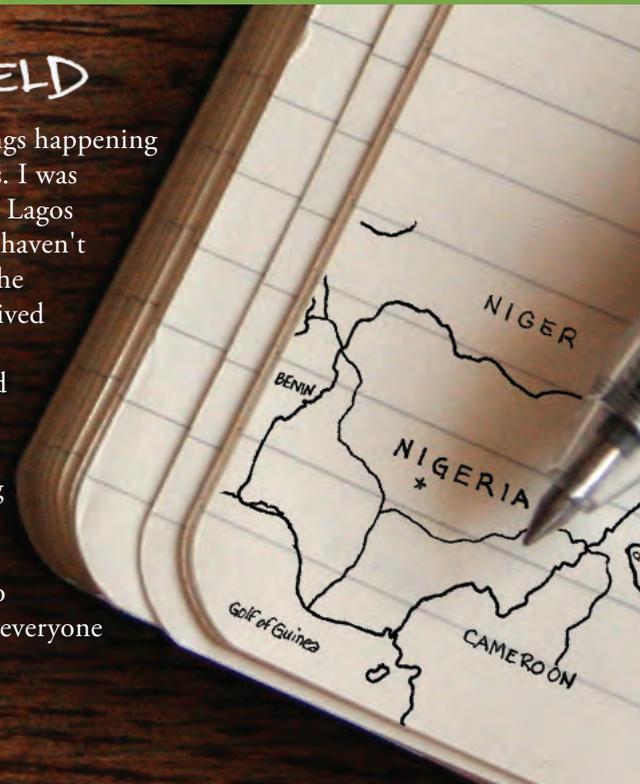


The YPPH affiliated college, Universitas Pelita Harapan, has gotten the approval from the Indonesian government to open a philosophy department under which they will offer theology programs. Third Millennium will be providing the majority of the core curriculum for the theology programs and will heavily influence the other departments in the college. In addition, Third Mill lessons will be a central part of the training required for all those who teach at any of the twenty-seven YPPH affiliated schools. The theology, ethical standards and biblical knowledge from the Third Millennium curriculum will shape these teachers' method of education and, as a result, shape the education of the children of Indonesia. By establishing such a strong presence in Indonesia, Third Mill will have the platform to expand into all of Asia.

FROM THE FIELD

“We give God thanks for the great things happening with the Third Millennium Ministries. I was at the recent PAMOJA Conference in Lagos and received one of the flash drives. I haven't completed the entire course yet, but the wealth of impacting knowledge I received from studying about the Gospels has enlightened my understanding of God and His Word. What blows my mind is that I got all that for free. This is absolutely incredible! I'll keep praying for the Third Millennium Ministries that God would grant you access, coupled with the required resources to propagate the true Gospel. God bless everyone working with this awesome ministry.”

Tamakloe Selorm, Nigeria



Thank You for Investing in the Education of Pastors Around the Globe!

We recognize that there are so many worthy ministries doing the Lord's work. We are truly grateful that from among these ministries you have chosen to invest in Third Mill. Your gift is equipping pastors and leaders around the world with exceptional biblical education at no cost.

Many thanks!



OPEN FOR DISCUSSION

With more than 60 internet regulations and popular websites like Facebook blocked, ensuring that citizens in China have full access to our courses has been a priority and a challenge. That is why we were excited to learn that Open Courses, a leading secular, educational website in China, is offering our Chinese curriculum on their website.

Open Courses is a platform where Chinese-speaking people can take free, college-level courses from leading universities like Harvard, MIT, Yale and now Third Millennium Ministries. The Primeval History, a four-lesson course on Genesis 1-11, is our first video series available on the website and it has already been widely popular. In its first week alone, the video garnered over 13,000 views and roughly 5,600 downloads.

According to Dr. Biao Chen, our director of Chinese projects and the senior pastor at Orlando Chinese Evangelical Church, the Chinese people are much more receptive to learning and debating Christianity than in the past. In fact, in the discussion forum portion of the website, viewers are enthusiastically debating God and creation with one another. Although not intended to evangelize, it is powerful to see how our lessons are prompting these critical discussions amongst the Chinese people. As more of our courses become available, we pray that they continue to be a platform for the people of China to openly discuss and debate their beliefs.

