



"...to equip God's people to do His work..." Ephesians 4:12

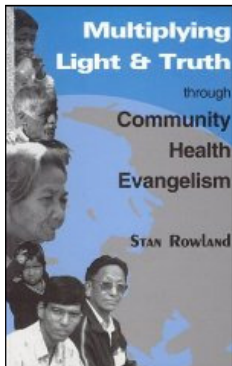
Spring 2009

Issue 2

Multiplying Light and Truth

What does clean water have to do with preaching the gospel? ReachGlobal staff in Asia see a connection as they do evangelism through teaching hygiene and sanitation. Elsewhere in Asia locals have been trained to set up a dried fruit export business. Two EFCA churches in the US sent a team to the Sudan to teach basic health skills to returning refugees.

These and many other situations, which have opened doors and ears for evangelism and church planting around the world, are examples of a strategy known as "Community Health Evangelism" or CHE. CHE began with a missionary who, when faced with tremendous spiritual and physical needs in Africa, was inspired to meet both through community health training. This man, Stan Rowland, later wrote what is still regarded as the seminal book on this approach, *Multiplying Light and Truth through Community Health Evangelism*.



Stan Rowland (middle) leading a group through principles of Community Health Evangelism.

CHE is now being used in 2500 villages in 80 countries. It is also used in many urban poor neighborhoods around the world including a dozen cities in the USA. The vast majority of those trained in CHE, now numbering more than 3000, are local lay people. Stan says the main purpose of CHE is to integrate evangelism, discipleship and church planting with training in basic community health.

Dr. Tom Cairns, chief medical officer for ReachGlobal, has worked with Stan to create an introduction to CHE in a convenient four-week online book course that is available



through EFCA EQUIP. A number of our RG staff who have taken previous offerings of the course are now using this innovative strategy in Asia, Africa, Europe and elsewhere. Leaders of our

African sister churches have adopted CHE as the primary strategy they will use to reach their own nations for Christ. More than 200 have been trained in CHE in a central Asia location, opening up a whole network of villages to the gospel.

Stan has seen more than one missionary in this course come to realize the vital difference, as he puts it, between "doing things for people to empowering people to do things for themselves." This reflects a foundational principle of the CHE approach: multiplying through empowering the people, then releasing them to help their own.

ReachGlobal missionaries and others have a unique opportunity to learn directly from Stan, the guy who literally wrote the book, about a strategy with a world-wide track record of effectiveness. During this four-week EQUIP online course, *Multiplying Light and Truth*, Stan and Dr. Tom will lead you through Stan's very readable and practical book. This EQUIP online learning platform provides an easy way to discover how CHE might apply in your ministry context. The next course opens on May 27.

To register go to...

<https://my.efca.org/NetCommunity/SSLPage.aspx?pid=481>

EFCA EQUIP

learn...better...now

April 2009, PT LIVE
served 24
missionary
candidates and 17
of their children!

Equipping missionaries to go the distance

Too Busy?

Too busy to take *Intentional Living* or too busy not to? Karen Paulson is a busy mom and director of women's ministries at Grace Bible EFC in Laredo, Texas. "As a wife, a mom of six and a woman in ministry, I am continually assessing how intentionally I am loving God and others," she said. After enrolling in EQUIP's *Intentional Living* course,



Karen found that it helped her sort out her priorities. She is now recommending the course to others in her church. Please visit <http://www.efcatoday.org> for more details regarding *Intentional Living* in the latest edition of *EFCA Today*.

Et Cetera...

More new missionaries are being served by EFCA EQUIP. *Pre-field Training (PT) Live*, formerly known as candidate school, is an EQUIP customized training event that is held twice a year. The number of ReachGlobal candidates attending *PT Live* went from 10 adults/2 children in April 2008 to 14 adults/2 children in October 2008. In April 2009, we were thrilled to host 24 missionaries and 17 of their children! A big "Thank You" to the 30 families from South Suburban EFC in Apply Valley, MN who helped us house families, coordinate children's programs, prepare food and much more. Thanks also for the use of that wonderful facility!

Contact Us! equip@efca.org

Be on the look out for two NEW courses coming soon to EFCA EQUIP:

Ministering in the Muslim Context - This four-week course will provide a basic introduction to issues facing those who work with Muslims, both in and outside the USA.

Teaching in a New Culture - Short Term - This two-week course gives some basics for pastors and others who will do a short-term teaching module outside of their home culture. We are also planning a more comprehensive course for missionary staff who will be teaching long term.



Please visit our learning site at:

<http://equip.efca.org>

For a complete list of upcoming online courses, visit our calendar at:

www.efca.org/equip/calendar

EQUIP Prayer Corner

Please pray for...

- The success of the ReachGlobal Church Planting School at the EFCA national office (coordinated by EQUIP) and the 30+ missionaries and instructors who will participate. The dates are June 9-13, 2009.
- Mike and Roy as they work with EQUIP to develop the new course, *Ministering in a Muslim Context*. Pray this course will be used by God to better prepare those who serve among the Muslim people.
- The 24 candidates who have just completed their pre-field training. Pray that their support and other details would be taken care of so they can get to their various fields of cross-cultural service. Give thanks to our God who continues to call people into missions.

reachglobal

EFCA EQUIP is a ministry of ReachGlobal, the international mission of the EFCA, www.efca.org

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