



Streams in the Desert Long-Term Plan

My time in Mongolia has been quite the learning experience. My plans and how they would unfold have been very different from the reality that I have experienced. I think that I had plans in the concrete way, i.e. three-story ministry buildings etc. And those are still goals, but I have learned the hard way that there is a more fundamental part of the plan, that without this aspect, no “concrete plans” have a chance of truly succeeding. That aspect is the flesh and blood team. We have greatly struggled in this area. Mainly I think for two reasons:

- 1.) Christianity is relatively new in Mongolia, i.e. really reviving a fresh and anew around 1991. That means the oldest Christian in terms of years would be about 19 years old. That also means that the Christian culture or heritage of Mongolia is just beginning. Finding mature Christians who understand and can help train and encourage the really in-bondage people we serve has been very difficult.
- 2.) I have made some mistakes in choosing team members, cultural insensitivity and how I have related to staff members. In essence, I have made some poor leadership decisions.

Therefore my first and foundational goal of the plan is to build a good team. This is basic and might not sound like a big Capital investment goal, but through the past few difficult years I have come to appreciate this more than I ever did before. **Building a good team is of primary importance. I want to put more time, energy, training and focus along with more resources into the staff and into building a good team.** I have already contacted a missionary here to lead training next year on helping people with issues of sexual abuse, deep inner healing and repentance issues. We have put one staff through the Celebrate Recovery training. I want to have someone come in and do teaching for my staff on personality and gifting differences. We will do a retreat in February of this year and spend some time just getting to know each other better. We also need at least two good additional staff, one for the women’s project and another for the men’s project.

We now have a missionary on the team with me who is heading the jewelry business area, but we need at least another woman, either a missionary or Mongolian to make a business utilizing our sewing machines. We also could use a male, either Mongolian or a missionary who could come and get another business going for the men. **So an essential part of our fundamental plan is to have another one or two missionaries join us in the next year.** Right now OMF (Overseas

Missionary Fellowship) is looking to try and send us someone who has talents in sewing, designing clothing, and a heart to come long-term to Mongolia. My hope is that also thru GO Ministries, missionaries can be recruited and sent to Mongolia to assist us.

We have now joined with another ministry that teaches English to Mongolians with low-level reading and writing skills, and we have our first woman in their class four days a week. We will continue to look for ministries that we can team up to help serve our people. **But our goal would be to have our own Monoglian language teacher to serve these ladies in this very fundamental area.**

The second part of our plan is to continuing buidling up Kingdom Businesses. Our project is always looking for new business start-up opportunities as a way to help employ men and women who have life-controlling problems as well as church members who are struggling to find employment, “Kingdom Businesses” as GO Ministries calls them. With that in mind, our plan for next year is to build up our present businesses and to also look for new businesses to start.

In the coming new year we will begin research on the feasibilty of a silk-screening business in UB. If that seems feasible we will then need to raise the capital (\$10,000) to buy the machines necessary to start the business. We need someone, either a Mongolian or a missionary, to run with this business. In order to expand our businesses we need a business-minded entrepreneur/missionary or a mature Mongolian Christian businessman.

The below plans encompass some of our goals for 2011 in the women’s ministry and the men’s ministry:

Women's ministry goals for 2011:

Jewelry business; Increase sales by:

- Distributing to more stores in Ulaanbaatar (currently we are in one Fair Trade store)
- Establishing contact with U.S. stores who will sell regularly. We are hoping that Cyndi from GO can help assist us in this area. Currently a ministry called Eternal Threads is selling some of our products.
- Supply U.S. churches with products for Christmas events
- Increase number of product designs
- Expand enough to employ two more women
- Establish website and Facebook account to:
 - Increase awareness about Streams
 - Promote sales
 - Sell products

Create another business for women using the four sewing machines we have. We need a sewing teacher/entrepreneur/missionary to assist us in this area. Again we are hoping that OMF and GO can supply us with missionaries that have business skills that can help us start new businesses as well as train our people.

Develop a curriculum for teaching our Ladies how to read and write Mongolian.

Do more outreach to women in need. We want to reach more women but are presently limited by our lack of staff. If we have at least one more staff we can expand our outreach capabilities without burning out staff.

Men's Ministry goals for 2011:

Coal business; to repay all loans, become profitable and employ at least one more person.

Our worker Tsogoo is now working full time with this business (His wife was in Korea so he was not able to dedicate himself full-time to this. She has returned to Mongolia and now is able to take care of their children) and is developing new contacts to sell coal to.

Develop the Leather business to employ two men full-time by increasing sales through our contacts and networking with Cyndi from GO as well as other outlets (In January a fair trade ministry here will begin selling our wallets in their store in UB and through their exports). We also will look to buy another machine that can thin leather for such products as money clips etc.

Expand our Celebrate Recovery effectiveness. Presently I run a CR group at my home and am hoping that next year two of the men in the group will begin leading their own groups in their churches.

Develop a ministry to disabled people. In Mongolia those with disabilities, as a hangover from the communist time, are seen as basically useless and there are very few services available to them. One of the men in the CR group is himself disabled in that he has a prosthesis on his one leg and has tried on his own to start a ministry to people with disabilities. We are praying about starting some small visitation ministry to disabled people. We would possibly take this individual on as a part-time staff.

Develop a men's Teen Challenge center in cooperation with Russia/Buryate TC. This is a work in progress and discussion. We are in contact with International Teen Challenge. The first step is to translate an abbreviated version of "The Cross and the Switchblade" into Mongolian. We are in discussions with the Russian Buryate Teen Challenge about two of their staff moving to Ulaanbaatar and assisting in reaching men with drinking problems. We will need to translate the TC materials in the future and are looking at possible places to have a "Center".

The third part of the plan is to build up the Root of Blessing Church. The plan is build up a strong local church that can sustain and take people from the project and help them become strong integrated church members. Pastor Maidar and his wife feel they need to give all of their time to the church and have now moved out of involvement with the project and feel led to trust God for their support. In 2011 they will not take a salary from the project but are open to receiving any support that is given. Their church will continue to be the church the project relates to and works with. They will now concentrate on the building up the following areas of the church in the next year:

- **Receive legal registration from Mongolian government.** This is a very time-consuming process wrought with tons of government bureaucracy. They are in the process of filing all of the paper work necessary for this procedure.
- **Develop a new leadership team and church structure.** Pastor Maidar is working with nine leaders from the church to develop a new leadership team.
- **Men's ministry to step up to the next level, which is to raise up about ten men for three groups.** Pastor Maidar is training men on Wednesday nights at the men's meeting and hoping some of these men will assist the set up of a Teen Challenge Center or something like a TC Center, a shelter for men who want to change and need a safe place in order for that to happen. He is hoping that eventually the TC curriculum will be translated into Mongolian and then that could be used in the men's group as a discipleship tool.
- **Men's ministry is going to start some business projects, through individuals and by teams.** Last month the project made a small loan of about \$150 to help four men start a new business. We are hoping to be able to make small loans if that can empower the men in the church to make a business in order to help their families.
- **Men's ministry planning to develop shelter.** Pastor Maidar is in discussions with the Russian Buryiate Teen Challenge about two of their staff moving to Ulaanbaatar and assisting in reaching men with drinking problems.
- **Build a strong worship team.** Besides training the worship leaders in worship practice, the church now has a separate offering box for musical instruments in the hopes of purchasing a drum set in the not-to-distant future.
- **Establish effective youth meeting.** The plan is to try and raise up a person of integrity and heart for the youth or to eventually hire someone that Pastor Maidar knows from teaching at the Bible school.
- **Rent a 2-3-room office until church acquires a building.** The church now has the funds to rent a better office/Bible study 2-3 room place. Pastor Maidar and church members are currently looking for suitable rooms.

The fourth part of the plan, and the long-term vision, is to build a Ministry-Church-Community Center. This building complex would house the church and project offices, Bible study and ministry training rooms, Celebrate Recovery rooms, business-work training space, Mongolian as well as English language training classrooms (English as a second language would provide another business avenue). The top floor would be a dorm to house short-term visiting teams as well as some space for single staff housing. The basement would be used as a heated garage that would serve as income generation for the project (in Mongolia this is a great business as there are not enough heated garage spaces for the 300 + cars being added to the road monthly in UB).

We are currently researching and looking for land, or a suitable building to purchase/build on. If we were able to either purchase land or a building, we then would look to have a 1-3 year

remodel or building plan where short-term teams would come in the summer and work on the project building.

We also will look to purchase two small apartments or two small fenced-in buildings to house men and women that need long-term shelter to recover from their destructive lifestyles. These “shelters” would be in separate locations both from each other and from the “Community Center”.

Partner with Us: Nothing has happened here without the team behind the scenes, that means you, the unseen team that prays, gives and encourages. Please continue to pray with us as we continue down this road.

Partner with us:

By prayer individually or gather as a group of people to meet regularly to pray for us.

By coming on a short-term team.

By contributing to the project though giving to the project or by becoming a distributor/seller of the Streams products. Please check out our under construction blog at:

<http://streamsinthedesertjewelry.blogspot.com>

If you would like to partner with us financially:

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Or you can transfer money directly to the Agricultural Bank of Mongolia:

SWIFT: AGMOMNUB

Beneficiary: Global Economic Outreach

Beneficiary Account (US \$): 5076109980

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My personal support goes through YWAM Texas:

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Nothing has happened the way I thought it would and that is probably a good thing, it has kept me on my knees, depending on the One from whom we can expect the unexpected!

Continuing in His radical grace,

John