

HANSON HEARTBEAT

FEBRUARY 2011

Friends,

During the last two months I have traveled into some of the most desperate places I have ever been. Places where people have no opportunity to know Christ because, we, the church have not taken Jesus to them. The journey has been a sobering and challenging one. Let me share with you a few of the places we visited:

One of the most heart wrenching trips was to a S-land, a country in the horn of Africa. It is a country rocked by violence, terrorism and piracy. My colleagues and I travelled to 4 cities, two of which have seen foreigners martyred in the last 5 years. Yet for all the violence I was amazed that there is an open door. There is opportunity and a way to send people as ambassadors for Christ. Certainly the cost and the risk would be high but how else will the people have a chance to hear unless we are willing to pay the price?

On the same trip we visited the country of Djibouti, one of the hottest and most desolate places in the world. In the entire country there is only a handful of known Christ followers and no established church. The Somali and the Afar people who live there have virtually NO opportunity to know Christ.



Another stop on the journey was the Comoros, an Islamic nation made up of 3 islands. These islands have been virtually overlooked by the Christian world. The people are friendly and warm in typical island fashion but are completely lost. There are less than 200 known believers out of close to 800,000 inhabitants and only a handful of mature Christ followers involved in discipling.



The injustice of the silence of the church reverberates in my heart. Why are we not in these places? How can we allow millions of people to walk into a Christ-less eternity without even giving them a chance at knowing Christ? God is renewing a passion in Karen's and my heart that we are responsible to make

a difference. That somehow we must use our lives as catalysts to see the gospel taken to the most distant, darkest and difficult places in the world. Pray with us that God will guide us in this endeavor.

Thanks for you partnership with us!

Scott & Karen
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