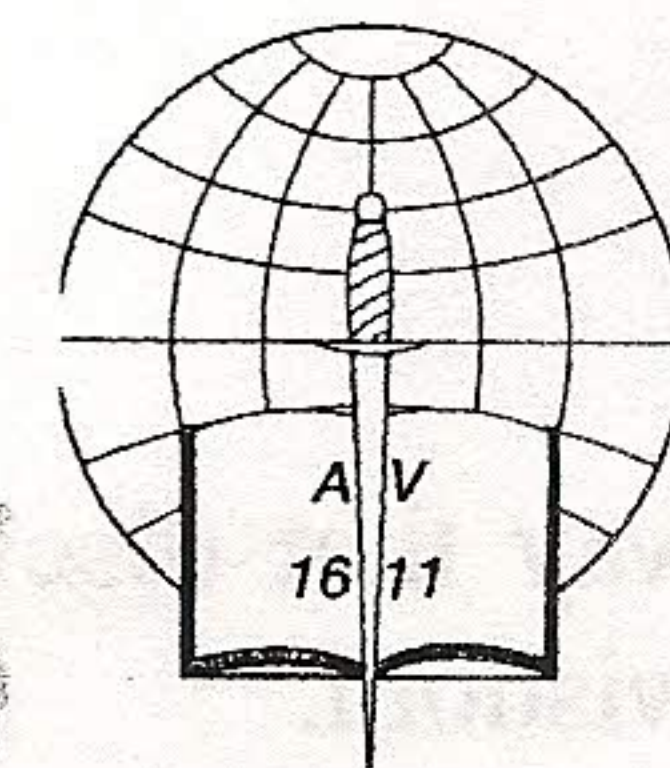
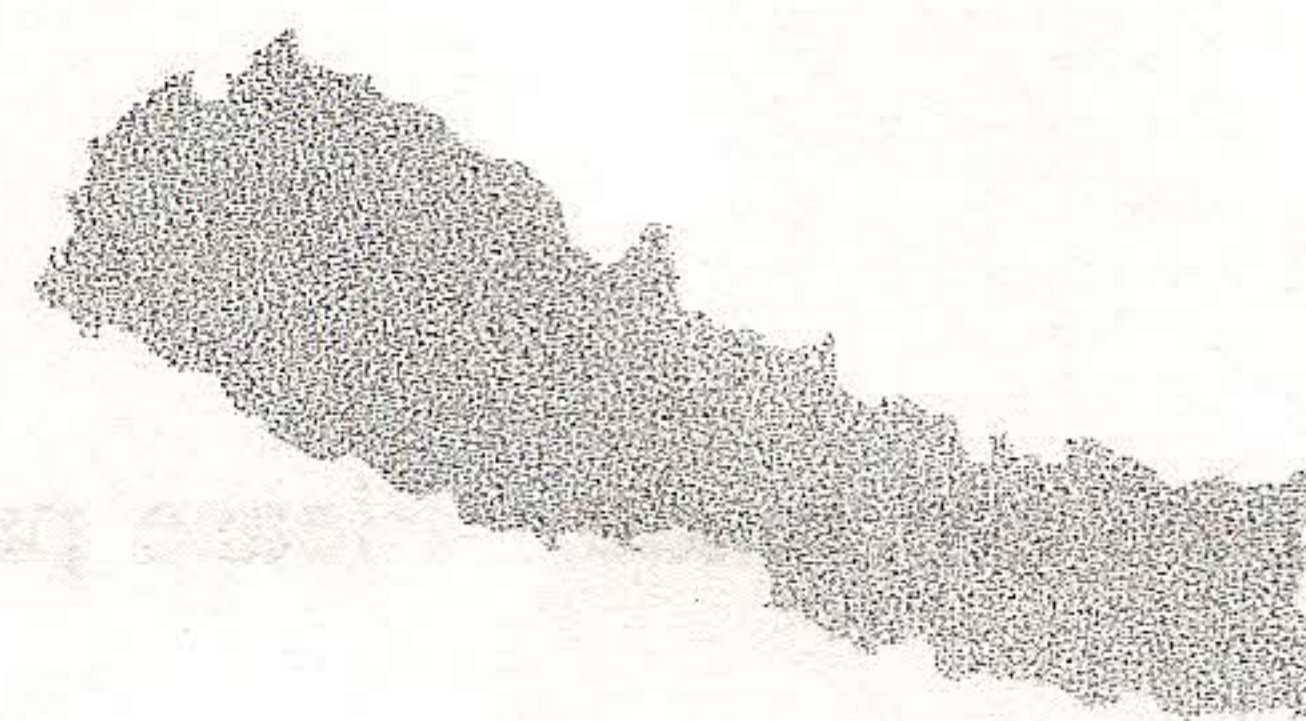


The Hearn family

Missionaries to Nepal and the people of the Himalaya



June 10, 2011

All of us here are encouraged by some recent events. About a month ago, our church held another meeting, especially for unbelievers. Members of the church had distributed some 20,000 tracts with an invitation to the meeting in each. We did not know how many responses to expect to such a large number of invitations, but finally had around twenty people contact us.

Some of those that contacted us were too far away to attend the meeting. A young woman in the east of Nepal, Anita, read a tract after her brother brought it with him from Kathmandu. She found it in his pants pocket while doing his laundry and then read the tract. She telephoned and spoke of her interest, but she had never heard of Jesus Christ before and will need someone to make a visit to see her. She is farther off the trail than most. Another man, Dipendra, called from the far west of Nepal. He had also received a tract somehow and called by phone to learn more.

But the number of people who actually attended the meeting was less than we may have hoped. Even of the twenty that contacted us and planned to attend the meeting, only four or five actually arrived. An additional fifteen people, all acquaintances who attended our last meeting, returned for this one. In these twenty we were actually encouraged, for though it is somewhat easy to entice people here to attend a meeting or program with entertainment (which we refuse to do), the people that attended this meeting only did so because of some real interest after reading a tract or hearing the gospel once before. In short, we are hopeful that it is actually the word of God working in the hearts of these few. And this made all of the difference, for they attended with apparent willingness to listen. This is the reason for our encouragement.

One man that did attend the meeting, Sri Saran, found a tract lying on the ground. He picked it up, read it, and then contacted the church. It turns out that he is a Christian and attends the national university. He realizes he has wasted much time and seems genuine in his desire to follow after the Lord more closely. He has returned to church since then. Another student, also in his late twenties, attended and listened to the sermon preached that day. I then spoke to him and another man for nearly two hours after the meeting. The younger man, Kamal, seemed moved and rather convinced. The older man was also moved, but showed great hesitancy in believing. Both men were born high-caste Hindus, but the older man, Sankar, felt much hindered. He kept saying to me, "I believe what I heard, but what will my father and mother say when I receive Jesus Christ as my savior?" He later asked, "Can I be a secret believer?" There were obvious answers to these questions, but really Shankar merely needed to be told again of Christ Jesus dying on the cross for his sins. Answers to his questions were evident in light of this. He is probably over 50 and it was sad to see such a double-heart in a grown man, but cases like these are very common in Nepal and it is important that these hear the gospel but then be given opportunity to think through the decision before them. To force a decision is not "closing the net." It is wrong to force these into a decision for the sake of an immediate result; it is an utter disservice to them and a lack of faith in the Lord and his gospel. People must understand what it is that they are believing and then must see the choice that is before them before there can be repentance. Prakash met with the younger of the two, Kamal, on two other occasions and on their second meeting was able to see Kamal trust in the Lord as his savior. Kamal has also returned to church and is reading his Bible daily. We are grateful for the Lord working in his heart.

Our group is still a very small one, but we are beginning, we think, to see the benefit of a putting the word of God before these people. The change is slower and the numbers are few for now, but this is the

way that disciples are made. Please pray for all of here, for we do need greater faith, strength, and wisdom.

Prakash is leaving June 10 for the far west Nepal and will be gone most of the week for a short evangelistic trip. He will try and meet with Dipendra, who contacted us from there. Please pray for wisdom, boldness, and safety during the course of the week.

Our family is well. Although we had health problems regularly during our first term here, we have been healthy this second term. We also remain grateful for the Lord keeping us here through many discouraging periods of apparent fruitlessness. Perhaps some of the fault was mine, but there is also much to be said for simply waiting for a field to bear its fruit.

We thank you for your prayers for us and your support.

Yours in our Lord Jesus Christ,

Andy Hearn
Missionary in Nepal