March 2018



Dear Friend,

This past December, just a few days before Christmas, my wife Kathy and I stood at Hacksaw Ridge in Okinawa, Japan. If the name sounds familiar, it's probably because you've heard the story of Desmond Doss, that faithful Seventh-day Adventist army corporal and combat medic who single-handedly rescued 75 wounded and dying American servicemen at that very location on May 5, 1945.

Desmond experienced an incredible miracle as God protected him from the rifle fire of multiple Japanese soldiers during his rescue mission. But there is another side to the story that I hadn't heard—the enemy's side, and I happened to learn it by accident.



Duane and Kathy McKey standing at Hacksaw Ridge, Okinawa, Japan.

THE JAPANESE SOLDIER'S STORY

As we stood there on the ridge, contemplating that terrible but miraculous day, a man noticed our interest and approached us. He said he was an ex-Japanese soldier and proceeded to tell us the most amazing story. His friend, a comrade in battle, had been right where we stood now on that fateful



day in 1945. He'd had Desmond Doss in his rifle sights. Three times he fired, but each time the rifle misfired!

He explained that other Japanese soldiers were also attempting to kill Desmond, because if medics could be killed, the troops would be disheartened. But they were never able to harm him.

We listened in amazement as this man recounted the experience we knew so well, but this time from another point of view. As he spoke, I couldn't help but recall



Desmond T. Doss pictured on the escarpment at "Hacksaw Ridge.

Desmond's words and the prayer he kept repeating all through-

out that day as he rescued one soldier after another: "God, give me one more, give me one more!"

The thought came to me then, that this battle cry wrenched from Desmond's soul should be our battle cry at AWR360° as we battle for souls, "God, give us one more!"

This takes on a special significance as we begin our new AM radio broadcasts into North Korea. Even now, stories are trickling in of how God is at work, preparing the way to light up North Korea with the knowledge of truth until "one more" becomes a thousand points of light shining throughout this darkened country.

One such example is the story of Jun Su Lee, which he personally shared with us from South Korea.

JUNG SU LEE'S TESTIMONY

"In 1988, I was a North Korean attending Muhan University in China. In a city of 7 million people, there were fewer than 100 Koreans, and I longed to speak my mother tongue.

"I began searching radio stations to find one in Korean, and by sheer chance I came upon Adventist World Radio. An atheist since childhood, I had received only a communist education, so the Christian broadcast piqued my curiosity. As hard to believe as it may seem, I had never seen a Bible nor a Christian church. All I had been taught was that Christianity was a religious myth. I couldn't even imagine what it meant to have faith.

"AWR's broadcast was literally the gospel to my ears. I recorded the program and listened to it multiple times. I remember one of the things that touched my heart was the announcer's prayer—I had never heard someone pray. Also, the hymns I heard were from another world, and they touched my heart. I was indeed on the verge of experiencing another world completely different from what I had known.

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AWR sent a Korean Bible to Jun Su Lee. It was the first Bible he had ever seen.

"I wrote a letter to the broadcast, requesting a Bible. They sent me one, but it was strange and unfamiliar. I tried reading it repeatedly, but couldn't understand it. They also sent me their Daniel and Revelation Bible studies.

"When the other Korean students at the university heard of my efforts, they decided to join me not only in listening to the broadcast every day, but in studying the Bible. Those meetings changed my life. By the time I'd finished my studies in China, I had embraced the Seventh-day Adventist message, and from that group of students,

one of them later went to South Korea and became a pastor.

"In 1990, I finished my studies and returned home with my heart set on sharing the gospel message with my people. By 1994, there were 50 of us studying together. Later that year, I went to Japan to study theology, and today, I'm a pastor in an undisclosed city in China.

"I often think of that 'sheer chance' that led me to Adventist World Radio, and I know it was God. I am now living a life I could not have dreamed of in my previous communist existence. What would my

life be now if I hadn't heard those words of hope? God used AWR to change my life."

What a powerful testimony! Pastor Lee adds: "Through Adventist World Radio's broadcasts, we will finally have unrestricted programming in North Korea! This has been a dream and a prayer of mine. The internet is restricted, and shortwave radios are illegal, but AM radio can't be blocked and its transmission is secure. Now, many people will be able to hear the gospel for the first time, just like I did all those years ago."



AWR broadcasts into North Korea on AM radio will provide listeners with unrestricted access to messages of hope.



It is so encouraging to hear testimonies from people whom God has reached through the broadcasts of Adventist World Radio! It reminds us that even though our task is huge and the field vast, if we are faithful in presenting the truth, God does the work of changing hearts.

Each one of us has a vital part to play in the salvation of souls. Your support is no less important than the work we do on the front lines of AWR. I especially like this quote:



"The members of the church are not all called to labor in foreign lands, but all have a part to act in the great work of giving light to the world." *Christian Service*, p. 12.

That's what it's all about—working together to finish the task so that Jesus can return to take us home! Thank you for your support of Adventist World Radio, for partnering with us in the greatest calling ever—the saving of souls. May the cry of our own soul be like that of Desmond Doss, "Please God, give me one more!"

Yours in the Blessed Hope,

Duane McKey President

P.S. I had never before heard the story of Desmond Doss from the enemy's point of view, but both accounts show God's special intervention to save. You and I are also in a battle for the saving of souls, and we can expect God to intervene just as He did for Desmond Doss years ago. As we begin to broadcast the gospel message into North Korea, please keep this project in your prayers. God's Spirit is like radio waves—it knows no walls, no borders, and no limits! Thank you for making this project possible.