MEET DIEGO

At age 20, Diego’s studies in computer technology landed him a job at a federally-run radio station focused on multilingual broadcasts to different ethnic groups. There he learned more about the diverse people groups of Mexico and their languages. God was preparing him! As he became involved in a local church, Diego responded to the Lord’s call to full-time ministry.

“Here we are, Lord. Send us.” Shortly after their wedding in 2010, Diego and his wife Luz humbly accepted the invitation to move from Baja California to Oaxaca, Mexico. They had met at seminary while preparing for pastoral ministry, but when they heard about the need for a recording technician, they prayerfully discerned God’s leading.

After two years of traveling throughout Oaxaca state, recording, editing, and distributing audio Scripture materials together as a couple, God blessed Diego and Luz with their first child. They started a church in Mitla, close to the recording studio. Today they have three young children, and their thriving multicultural congregation is doing outreach in a neighboring village.

We thank God for Diego and Luz! Diego continues to be an integral part of our team in Oaxaca, a servant leader in every sense of the word. He serves… quality work—all to the glory of God. Let’s pray for more recordists for Diego to mentor, to expand the team’s work!

A SHEPHERD SOAKING IN GOD’S WORD

As followers of Jesus, we are called to go and make disciples of all people groups. What can help us be effective as we strive to be obedient in this great task?

Like this Gabra shepherd in Kenya, four out of five people alive today are oral learners. Additionally, the majority of unreached or least-reached people groups are comprised of oral learners. At ASM, we believe getting God’s Word recorded in audio, in the local language, is absolutely crucial, so all will hear!

Once the audio Scripture is recorded, we want to distribute God’s Word widely. Recently we were able to help send audio Bibles with ministry partner Genesis Waters (Grand Rapids, MI). Through their local connections, this Gabra shepherd received his own audio Bible. Later, they visited him again and were amazed at what they heard.

This shepherd spends hours in the fields listening to and memorizing God’s Word. Now, as he plays his audio Bible, he can repeat much of what he hears right along with the player! This audio Bible helped bring to reality what the Apostle Paul prayed for the Colossians: “May the Word of Christ dwell in you richly…” (3:16, KJV). Would you pray with us that God’s Word will continue to flow into what this man does and says, and that he would share with others so that many more hear and respond to God’s Word?

See the video of this shepherd listening to and reciting God’s Word: www.audioscripture.org/stories

COMMUNITY SEES NEW HOPE

Prepare the soil, plant the seeds, bring in the harvest. It might sound simple, but being without access to tools and updated agricultural methods means many obstacles to a successful crop, even before the devastating cyclones earlier this year in Mozambique. In the Mozambican communities where ASM teams serve, many rely on subsistence farming for their food, too often barely eking out a living.

In July, ASM Africa Director Chad Vanden Bosch led the public kick-off event for New Harvest Farm. We praise God that it was well received by those in the community! One man attending said, “If we are able to have access to this [technology and training], it could transform our farms.” Then the community leader spoke up: “This could transform our entire community.”

The team is excited for the open doors this program is already bringing to share the Gospel and distribute God’s Word, while also addressing food security in the community, which is especially urgent in the wake of Cyclone Idai.

ASM had made plans to send a 20 ft shipping container with a small tractor and agricultural tools, medical supplies, and audio Bibles for ministry use. However, thanks to the amazing response of generous donors and partners, we were able to expand to a 40 ft shipping container, and send additional audio Bibles and other items that will impact ministry work for years to come! We praise God for His provision, and for the volunteers helping coordinate this project. Would you pray for the container to arrive on time for Mozambique’s October planting season?

Learn more about New Harvest Farm and see Chad’s “walking tour” of the farm at: www.audioscripture.org/mz-container

Visit www.audioscripture.org/give

Audio Scripture Ministries
760 S Waverly Rd, Holland, MI 49423
info@audioscripture.org
/audioscriptureministries /audioscripture @audioscripture

Follow us on social media for more stories and updates!
ENCOURAGE YOUR CHURCH IN MISSION

God is on the move in and through ASM around the world, and we’re available to share with your church in person, or through a personalized video update! ASM’s missionaries and representatives can preach or share an update with your church, mission group, or Sunday school, and bring a vivid glimpse of what God is doing on the frontlines. Between the team members currently working from the Holland, MI office, we have 105 combined years of international ministry/missions experience.

Does your church have a missions-emphasis Sunday this fall? We would love to come share the vision of what God is doing through His Word in audio, why it is important, and equip your group with practical ideas of how they can use their skills and resources for the Great Commission. Together, we’ll celebrate how God is working globally and share the testimonies of what God is doing through your partnership and support! To schedule, please send an email to info@audioscripture.org, or call our office at 616.396.5291.

FIXING OUR EYES ON JESUS

I’m a natural-born klutz. That’s not self-deprecation; I’m just being truthful. I don’t gracefully glide across the floor. No, I have to intentionally watch each step, aware that a misstep could find me on the ground, looking up.

Adding in a slight case of positional vertigo (from recent ear-nerve damage) just makes my lack of gracefulness more evident. Now if I walk with my head down to ensure the safety of each step, it brings on slight vertigo. Those of you experiencing vertigo know what I mean (I praise the Lord that my vertigo goes away after pausing a few seconds).

In August, I had the pleasure of being in Mozambique with Chad and Dara Vanden Bosch (ASM Africa Director and ASM Compassionate Care Coordinator, respectively). During that time I visited Dara’s Compassionate Care Patients, and participated in the kick-off event for the New Harvest Farm and Agricultural Institute. What a privilege to see how the Vanden Bosches and their teams are being the hands and feet of Jesus to those who need to know of the forgiveness, love, and hope offered through His name.

While there, my vertigo made walking—on the red dirt paths in the bush, watching for rocks, ruts, and snakes, or even on the uneven pavement in Chimoio—a bit more challenging.

While looking down, I missed what makes Mozambique special … the people, colors, textures, and landscape. I’m not saying that I should have walked without looking where I was going … that would have been foolish! However, it made me think of Hebrews 12:1b-2a (NIV):

“... And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfector of faith.”

Sometimes, like vertigo, life may seem to spin out of control. Family issues, work challenges, health concerns, etc. can cause us to take our focus off of the Lord. We get distracted by the obstacles, or the uneven path. Yet as believers, the writer of Hebrews instructs us to keep running on the path set before us with our eyes on Jesus—our solid, immovable, unfailing Lord. This also applies to ministry.

Audio Scripture Ministries helps connect people to God’s Word in their own heart language. We do that by recording and distributing the Bible and Bible engagement resources in audio. At the heart of this ministry is our firm belief that everyone has the need—and the right—to hear God’s Word. Audio Scripture Ministries helps connect people to God’s Word in their own heart language. We do that by recording and distributing the Bible and Bible engagement resources in audio. At the heart of this ministry is our firm belief that everyone has the need—and the right—to hear God’s Word. We’re keeping “the main thing, the main thing.”

As you read about ASM’s partnership in the new Mozambique agricultural ministry, providing medical care or disaster relief, or helping setting up radio stations in Mexico, know that every effort is earnestly prayed about and evaluated based on getting God’s Word to more people. The agricultural institute is already opening hearts in the community to hear about the Creator God who loves them. Medical care is demonstrating Jesus’ care for every aspect of their life. Radio stations are offering wider community broadcast of God’s Word.

God is opening incredible ministry doors for ASM, and we remain committed to running “...with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus.” Prayerfully and carefully, we’re stewarding the resources He’s entrusted to our care, so more people may hear God’s Word—wherever the Lord leads.

Thank you for joining this race, so that all may hear!

Naomi A. Frizzell
Executive Director
nfrizzell@audioscripture.org

Globally, a staggering 80% of the world’s population are considered “oral communicators,” by necessity or preference. These are people who can’t, don’t, or won’t read, or who prefer to learn and communicate by methods other than written text.

Even North America is increasingly becoming a post-textual society, more and more influenced through oral and visual means such as art, stories, songs, drama, audio, film, and digital media. We see this in many oral/visual-focused cultures now in North America, including many indigenous or First Nations people, the elderly, blind, the Deaf, and young “digital natives.”

This shift in the way people communicate and are influenced has a significant impact for all those seeking to share God’s Word. The message of the Gospel has not changed, but how to best communicate it does change.

The 2019 International Orality Network (ION) North America Regional Conference will be held in Toronto, 3-5 October, and is open to everyone interested in sharing the Gospel and making disciples of Jesus Christ. Naomi Frizzell, ASM Executive Director, serves as Program Director for the ION Gathering. Joshua Harrison, ASM Communications and Development Manager, serves as the Platform Coordinator.

Would you join us there as we celebrate the centrality and truth of God’s Word, and seek ways to more effectively bear witness to Jesus Christ in this changing world?

Go to www.oralitycanada.com to register!