

NOVEMBER 2026

HEARTBROKEN BUT HOPEFUL

Praises

- For new creative ministries God keeps starting in our midst.
- For the joy of meeting fellow mission mobilizers and learning a lot from the Asia Mobilization Summit.
- For better health.

Prayer

- For Asia's billions still unreached and so very few workers coming to this mission field.
- For a big youth mission conference, Arise Albay, that BCCL is preparing for that's slated for February 2027.
- For our ministry partnerships with mission groups, individual believers, and churches around us.

". . . He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners."

ISAIAH 61:1 (NIV)

Over the last few months, our hearts continue to break for what breaks God's heart. But the Lord keeps encouraging us to keep going and to put our hope in Him.

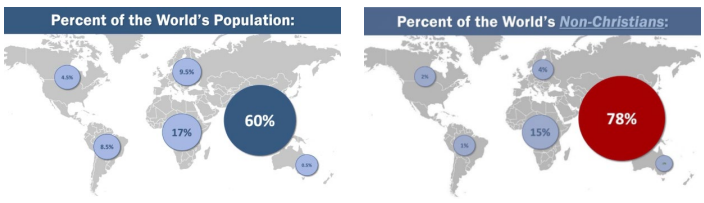
Asia: Still the Least Reached

Timothy and I had the privilege of attending the Asia Mobilization Summit (AMS) October 5–8 in Bangkok, Thailand. It was such a blessing being with fellow mission mobilizers from different parts of Asia.

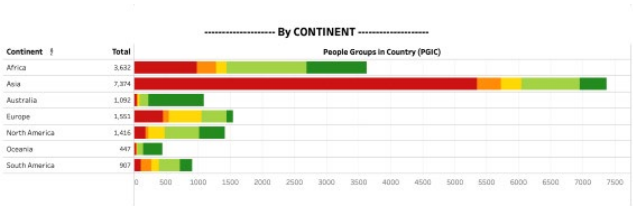
But we were heartbroken from the get-go, as we were made aware of the staggering statistics presented at the conference as follows:

Asia has the biggest population (60%) in the world. But it also has the largest percentage of non-Christians in the world.

Majority (78%) of the unreached people groups (UPGs) in the world are found in Asia. The Joshua Project shows how Asia has the greatest number of UPGs, at 7,374, and yet more than 5,000 are still in the red, meaning they are unreached with little or no access to the Gospel and Christian witness.



Sources: Statistica; Pew Research Center (2026)



Source: Joshua Project (2026)

Largest Unreached People Groups

Rank	Population in UPG	Ethnic Group	Country
1	132,871,000	Shaikh	Bangladesh
2	118,468,000	Japanese	Japan
3	71,641,000	Shaikh	India
4	61,142,000	Turk	Turkey
5	54,347,000	Chamar	India
6	40,856,000	Yadav	India
7	39,721,000	Persian	Iran
8	38,375,000	Sunda	Indonesia
9	37,456,000	Java Pesisir Lor	Indonesia
10	36,918,000	Hausa	Nigeria

Then, 9 out of the 10 largest population UPGs in the world are in Asia.

Sadly, until today, the harvest is (so) plentiful in Asia, but the workers are so (very) few. Over the last decade of visiting various mission fields in East Asia (e.g., Japan, Thailand, Cambodia, Laos, Indonesia, etc.), the cry of the very few missionaries on the field have been and still is: "*Please send more workers to help us!*" They would always quote Matthew 9:37–38 to us, but until today nothing much has changed in the little attention Asia is getting when it comes to receiving missionaries, as well as getting missional help and support. I remember one aging missionary in Japan who took us up on a hill in Aomori where we could see the communities in the area. She would point to one area and say that there's more than 100,000 inhabitants in that town, but only one Christian worker, then point to the other side with more than 200,000 people but no believer to share about Jesus. This heartbreaking situation is so real for us missionaries in Asia. Even in the Philippines, which has more believers than most other nations around us, the workers who have caught God's heart for the nations are still very few. Our area, the Bicol region, is also one of the least-reached places in the Philippines.



But there is hope. The Lord has given us the wonderful opportunity to be equippers and senders of missionaries to neighboring Asian countries. And He has poised BCCL to possibly be a missions hub for Asia. When we started our mission training course in 2023, the Lord just opened a lot of ministries that can be models for mission work around Asia. Over the years, we've received many requests from believers and churches in hard-to-reach Asian nations to conduct our biblical ministry training at their place. But because the workers are so few, we couldn't.

BCCL as an NAB ministry would like to tap into this wonderful opportunity for Western believers to work with Eastern believers to do mission work in the least-reached continent in the world. This is what we're working on as we'll receive teams from NAB churches that are scheduled to come for mission exposure trips in the Philippines soon. We've just had our first Volunteer in Mission (VIM) from Canada last spring; and we hope there will be more coming. And with this East–West partnership, we also hope that we can send more Filipinos into the mission field around Asia soon. Please pray with us on this. And to those whom God touches, go ahead and find out more how you can come and join us in the mission fields in unreached Asia.

Caring for Our Broken Earth



Just a few days ago, the BCCL ministries family went tree planting to help reforest an area in Legazpi City. I (Claire) would always say to our staff and students that creation care is the most neglected ministry of the church, and yet it was God's first assignment to Adam! Having a degree in Biology, one of my passions is creation care. With all the global warming and floodings going on around the world – one

of the worst of late being the disaster in Nepal – we thought it was high time to do regular creation care activities at BCCL.

We coordinated with our government's environment sector, which provided the 60 seedlings of Narra trees that we planted and their personnel who took us to areas that needed reforesting. We all had intense workout hiking, got close to nature, and enjoyed fresh, young coconuts after all the hard work! A lot of our students, after seeing photos of this activity, signified that they want to join us on our next one.



We did another creation care activity with our students in the past where we picked up trash on the seashores around the city. It engaged the communities to join us as well and was a wonderful opportunity for local outreach. We plan to do this trash picking initiative and tree planting alternately every few months. As believers, we need to do this as stewards of God's creation.

Breaking Facilities

It all started with a magnitude 6 earthquake in late June. After a week, some tiles at our classroom on the 3rd floor popped. Timothy had the building checked and discovered there wasn't enough support on the roofing of the classroom (which was added much later), which may have caused the popping of the tiles. Another factor could also be the siltation and scouring at the riverbank our campus building stands next to. We've experienced intense floods in the past that may have caused these.





There's a big crack on the ground at the corner of the campus. We're concerned our four-story building might be moving toward the river, as two months later, there was another incident of tiles popping at the classroom. We had an engineer – who is also a pastor and a BCCL alumnus – inspect the retaining wall beside the campus, who recommended emergency repair of said deteriorating wall or dike. It's a huge expense that we need help for, but we had to have it started just this third week of October before the big storms and floods come in the next few months.

Having just a small campus, we had to make do with the space we have and added the classroom and a rooftop just so we can continue training pastors and church leaders. We've had renovations done that may have compromised the building structure, but it's part of maximizing what we have for God's purposes. With the huge expansion of the BCCL ministries these last almost four years, we have fast outgrown this little space. We are even looking for a facility to rent for additional classroom and for other ministries like an arts hub. We are praying God would provide a much bigger campus and facilities that can accommodate the various ministries we're doing as a missions hub in the area. We know God knows the needs of His ministries at BCCL, and we continue to trust in His providence, even as we continue to join and work with Him with joy and passion.

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