



Amos demonstrates a radio



Singing to a new tune

"We Decided to Change." Yao Muslims in Malawi are turning to Jesus

LitalaFM is the FEBC station in Malawi, and Amos Siyabu is the National Director. Thanks to his faithful team and your generous support, thousands of Yao people are gathering in organised Listener Clubs in their villages, listening to special outreach programmes in their own language, and believing in Jesus Christ!

LitalaFM means "The Way," and almost every day Amos receives a phone call from a village leader asking him to visit and explain the way of Jesus further.

One listener named Fatima said that many people in her village and listener club were open to the gospel. When asked why she thought this was, she said ***"Because the voice on the radio was speaking our language."***

Another woman in another village said ***"I would like to thank you so much, because I used to be a Muslim. In fact everyone here were Muslims, but when we heard the broadcasts we decided to change."***

FEBC only broadcasts in local languages, and for the Yao in Malawi this is *Chichewa* and a little English. As well as outreach and discipleship programmes *LitalaFM* broadcasts help and wellbeing content to improve the quality of life for all listeners. Malawi is one of the poorest countries in the world. Our programmes educate on health, environmental, family, youth, marriage, water sanitation and farming topics, to name a few. We

also partner with several other ministries and NGOs to bless the nation.

Islam arrived in Malawi and surrounding nations in the 15th century via Arab slave and ivory traders. The Yao were early partners in these "industries" and embraced Islam as a result. Islam is still a vocal and powerful force in Malawi today, and there are schools, a radio station, and evangelists funded by Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. Most villages have at least one mosque.

Part of the success of FEBC's *LitalaFM* is the establishment of Amos' Listener Clubs. A leader is identified and trained, a radio is provided, and gatherings grow as the good news is heard. The average Listener Club is 25 people.

"Every time I come to a village I try to teach a new Christian song" says Amos. *"Everyone loves to sing and dance so the songs catch on."*

"This is the way, Jesus is the way."

Amos say *Thank you New Zealand*. FEBC New Zealand is funding broadcasting and the distribution of special solar-powered fixed-frequency radios which include the full audio Bible in *Chichewa* for listening anytime. Stay tuned for more on this exciting project. You can support this anytime. Thank you.

Shaman turns to Jesus.

Beem had a position of power and esteem in his Lisu village in Southeast Asia. He is 50 and has been a shaman for 10 years. In 2024, Beem turned to Jesus after hearing about him on the radio, and via other villagers for the last 30 years!

The Lisu are an ethnic minority people in Asia, traditionally animistic they normally believe that spirits animate the earth and must be appeased constantly. Shamans become experts in witchcraft, but if they upset the spirits, they themselves will suffer. Beem had suffered a serious ailment for months and enlisted the help of another shaman. Beem was unconvinced of the destructive and expensive advice he received, and so turned to the teaching he had heard on the radio about a Saviour who “destroys the works of the devil.” (1 John 3:8)

Beem put his faith in Jesus, and convinced his wife to follow. His ailment improved, and they were soon baptized by the village’s Christian leader. Please pray for their children and wider family.

FEBC New Zealand pledges funds for broadcasting to Lisu peoples. You make this possible. Thank you.



Beem and his wife baptized together.



Broadcaster glad not to be arrested. Again.

A popular FEBC broadcaster we’ll call Ponn, was recently travelling in a dangerous country in Southeast Asia. He has been arrested and detained there several times.

After teaching in several Mien churches, and gathering real life insights in order to produce more helpful radio programmes, Ponn and his local friend were travelling overland to another country. They stopped in a village and were chatting outside. Some passing villagers stopped and, recognizing his voice from the radio, asked “**Are you the person who teaches the Bible on FEBC Mien Radio?**”

Too nervous to say Yes or No, Ponn remained silent. But his friend jumped in and said “**Yes, he is.**” Before he knew it Ponn was surrounded by villagers who all knew his name and liked his programmes!

Thank you for supporting “dangerous” Christian media. Please pray for our broadcasters everywhere.



Christian gatherings in closed countries must be secretive and/or remote.



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Love Cambodia, Love Battambang.

At Christmas, thousands in Cambodia heard the good news of Jesus thanks to you and our new Mobile Studio van.

The event was a Christmas festival and outreach organised by Youth With A Mission (YWAM), and sound-engineered and broadcast by FEBC. This is a good example of partnering with other ministries so *that everyone can hear*.

“Love Battambang” was designed for Christians to bring family and friends. Around 5,000 people attended each night for 3 nights. And over 10,000 tuned-in to the livestream online via the Mobile Studio van!

Each night was full of music, the Christmas message, prayer and invitations to follow Jesus. Battambang is home to over a million people and 98+% are Buddhist. Please pray for the 1662 who responded to what they heard, prayed to follow Jesus, and asked for more!

The Mobile Studio van (the white van in these photos) allows us to create engaging content from churches, outreach events like Love Battambang, and from the streets and towns. Cambodian people love to watch videos, and thanks to New Zealand’s gifts to create the Mobile Studio, more and more people are seeing and hearing the good news.

In 2024 FEBC’s Facebook page in Cambodia had 2.4 million views! This is where many listeners can watch our programmes. 44% or 1,056,000 were aged 17-34. Reaching and influencing the younger generation is our calling in this vastly Buddhist nation.

Please pray for the growing impact of FEBC Christian media in Cambodia.



Thousands gathered and listened. Hundreds turned to Jesus.



“Come to me all you who are weary and heavy laden.”



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Q&A

Do you have a question about FEBC ministry?

Q. If I give a donation to “Where Most Needed” in FEBC, where might that go in 2025?

A. Great question. Every three years the trust board of FEBC in New Zealand prayerfully consider the broadcasting needs around FEBC International. Together we choose 8-10 countries with media projects that we feel inspired to support. Projects we believe New Zealanders will love and enjoy making a difference.

In 2025 to 2027 we have pledged to pray and help fund Christian outreach and discipleship broadcasting in these countries:

Malawi & Mozambique, China, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, Indonesia, North Korea & Yemen. You are also supporting our new trans-national ethnic minorities broadcasting in Myanmar, Laos, Thailand and Vietnam.

But wait, there’s more. We will always respond to urgent needs and opportunities if we have enough in the Where Most Needed fund. For example, FEBC Ukraine have recently asked for help with a special new programme for women. Look out for this in your inbox or mailbox soon.

Q. Can I still give for a specific country?

A. Yes. We will allocate your gift to your choice of nations if you wish, and if a nation receives more than enough, the extra funds will be used for a similar FEBC project where the need is the greatest.



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Stay on Mission.

A biblical devotion to inspire passion for Jesus and prayers for the nations.

This month’s scripture is Acts 11:21
Hearing, Believing & Turning.

“The Lord’s hand was with them, and a great number of people believed and turned to the Lord.” Acts 11:21

You may have noticed in several Skywaves stories that we talk about people in Africa and Asia “turning to the Lord.” The idea of ‘turning’ is central to Christianity and our mission, and it is where the word “to convert” comes from.

As we broadcast on the radio and all over the internet, these words give us good insight into how to pray for listeners (and our neighbours).

1. Pray for the Lord’s hand to be with us. The Lord’s “hand” represents his power and real practical involvement in events. “Them” refers to the persecuted Christians who were telling people the good news of Jesus Christ. Pray the Spirit of Jesus moves powerfully in our programme design, production, broadcasting, and of course on the hearts of listeners. May the Holy Spirit organise and orchestrate captivating creativity and communications.

2. Pray that many believe AND turn to follow Jesus. Luke is deliberate when he tells us that, as well as believing the good news, many people *determined* to follow Jesus and demonstrated the power of God in their lives by exercising their will and practically turning away from their old rebellious lifestyles.

Pray that listeners will be like the people in Antioch, and the Thessalonians (1 Thess.1:9) who heard, believed, agreed, and then turned their backs on their old idols to follow the living and true God.

Kia kaha, Matt Perry. FEBC Executive Director.

