

reach

summer 2013

Glorifying God by reaching all Vietnamese peoples with the Good News of Jesus Christ through the planting of indigenous rapidly multiplying churches.

TURNING BACK THE DARKNESS

Engaging in Spiritual Battle in Ho Chi Minh City



The low rumble of literally millions of motorcycles fills your ears as you move down most every road. Billboard sized display windows line the sidewalks along numerous upscale shopping malls touting any luxury brand imaginable; Gucci, Jimmy Choo, Burberry, Tag Heuer Other global brands continue to move in both as factory floor and marketplace. Early mornings the street cafes are filled to capacity as workers blue and white collar alike prepare for their day with an iced coffee. Construction cranes are found on the horizon facing any point of the compass. The night sky is awash with

color from the lights of restaurants, shops, bars and entertainment spots accompanied by the mixed sounds of Vietnamese and American pop music. The net result combines into something of a frontier boomtown atmosphere that is Ho Chi Minh City. Most are left with an impression that is positive and upbeat.

Unfortunately, on closer examination things are not so good. For all of its positive elements, this city of 10 million people is plunged in darkness. At least 98% of these urban residents are involved in ancestor worship. On a regular basis you can see them praying and offering incense or other sacrifices to spirits they believe to be their dead ancestors. Bowing and offering sacrifices to spirits or following Buddhism, Taoism Cao Dai, goddess worship and a myriad of other spiritual expressions is likewise common. Hundreds of temples and ancestor halls can be found and literally millions of other altars all stealing the worship that is rightly due to God our Father. It leaves the men and women, boys and girls of this city covered in darkness, blindly looking for hope where none can be found.

You have the opportunity to join with us in turning back that darkness in Ho Chi Minh City as in all of Viet Nam. This is a critical time in reaching the millions of lost ones. Your prayers are an integral part of the spiritual battle that is being waged right now for the soul of this city. In September we will release a new 10 day prayer guide which will be available both in digital and print formats. This prayer guide is not dated and can be used any time and multiple times. Next, we will again be promoting our 10/10 Day of Prayer for Ho Chi Minh City on October 10th. Please plan to come alongside of us in prayer with this prayer guide and focused day of prayer!



Printed prayer guide will be available for order in September



What moves you?

We aren't in the social media business or the newsletter publishing business for that matter. These are simply tools that we hope provide for us to stay connected with you better and help to facilitate your prayers for the people of Viet Nam. From that standpoint we want these tools to be the most effective they can be. So we ask the question, 'What moves you?' How can we present the information and prayer requests for the peoples of Viet Nam in a way that is most meaningful to you? Easiest to access? Easiest to share with others who might also pray? [Drop us a line](#) and let us know, we would love to hear from you. In the meantime, catch up or stay caught up with the info we have now through our website at reachingvietnam.com or receive the [rss feed](#), or follow us through your preferred social media channel: [twitter](#); [facebook](#); [Google plus](#); or [Vimeo](#). Help us increase the prayers for the work even more by using those same tools to share our updates with your friends.



- Viet Nam Fast Facts**
- **Capital:** Hanoi
 - **Population (2012 est):** 90,388,000
 - **Majority (86%):** are ethnic Kinh (Viet) peoples
 - **Minority (14%):** in 53 other people groups
 - **Area:** 331,210 km2 (slightly larger than New Mexico)



FA LA LA
LA LA LA
LA LA LA

COCONUTS, NOT CHESTNUTS. MANGO TREES, NOT SPRUCE TREES. TOO HOT FOR HOT CHOCOLATE.

The Reason for the Season?
ACTUALLY, THAT PART'S THE SAME.

COME SPEND THE SEASON TO SHARE THE REASON.
seasonreason@reachingvietnam.com

SPIRITUAL TREK INTO DARKNESS

"This is the most difficult mission trip we've ever been on." That statement coming from dear friends who have led many teams overseas didn't really come as a surprise. Their group of 8 Acteens (missions group for teenage girls) together with leaders had come to take a spiritual trek into darkness. Over the course of a week they visited 81 different spiritual locations in Ho Chi Minh City. They went to Buddhist temples and Muslim prayer centers. They went to Ancestor halls, Taoist temples and temples for native Vietnamese goddesses. They went to Cao Dai temples and shops that sell idols and altars. Braving the spiritual oppression found there (as well as the heat and humidity) they prayed the name of Jesus in each location. They talked with the people there and they prayed for the people, both monks and those coming to worship. They shared the Gospel with many they met and they called on God to send more laborers to share Hope with those they saw blind and helpless in the darkness. As they led the way, you can follow in their footsteps without ever leaving home. Visit the [Spiritual Map of Ho Chi Minh City](#), login in to the website, choose one location or several, pray for the people there and add your prayer to those who made first contact there.



Visit hcmmap.reachingvietnam.com and add your prayer to those of others.

We've had some technical difficulties recently for folks trying to register and login to the reachingvietnam website. Hopefully these are fixed now. If you are still having trouble registering or logging in, please send an email to webadmin@reachingvietnam.com.



Here's some things you might have missed
Check out these recent stories from us

- [Urban Poor in Viet Nam](#)
- [I am faithful to the Lord](#)
- [The 9 or the 9,000?](#)
- [Phil](#)
- [Mobilizing for mobile](#)
- [Why would I be afraid?](#)

Families on Mission
A GUIDE FOR EVERY STAGE OF PARENTING

PRESCHOOL CHILDREN TEENS RESOURCES

The Caravan
free missions materials for kids!

The Caravan introduces children to missions and Asian peoples. Get free Bible-based stories, games and activities! Great tools for parents or teachers at www.CaravanFriends.org

Great resources for getting kids or the whole family engaged in missions!
[Caravan Friends](#) provides children with a great introduction to Asian peoples and the work of missions. You can order a Caravan Friends Starter Packet for free right now from the [IMB Resource Center](#) (search for Caravan to see all available materials).

[Families on Mission](#) from [Asia Stories](#) also has some helpful hints for encouraging missions understanding and missions participation for kids of all ages.



Let us know!

If you were forwarded this newsletter from a friend, please let us know if you would like to be **included on the mailing list** for future mailings. Just send us an email with the subject line of 'Subscribe' to prayer@reachingvietnam.com. We will be happy to add you to the list. If you would prefer to stay connected in other ways you can subscribe to an RSS feed on our website or follow us through one of the social media options above. If you have questions, comments or suggestions we would also love to hear from you!

