

Giving to Missions Eurasia-style

Several great ideas and profound thoughts on giving to missions were overheard at this year's Eurasia Regional Conference recently.

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One person said to a district NMI president, "There are so many missions offerings. How many must we give to?" The district president responded, "How many blessings do you want to receive from the Lord? The more we give, the more blessings we receive."

When asked about their Easter Offering, a pastor said, "We only gave 150 rupees to missions, so we didn't think it was enough to send in." The district president replied, "If only 1 rupee is given to missions, send it!"

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Last year was the first time NMI took the initiative to promote the World Evangelism Fund offerings on the India Northeast District, and missions giving has increased significantly as a result.

Creative ways to give to missions:

- Fruits, vegetables, etc., which are then sold at market price— India Northeast
- · Make and sell doormats—India Northeast
- Prepare sweets and desserts for a bake sale with the proceeds going to missions—Lebanon and Germany Districts

Heidi Bowes Regional NMI Coordinator Eurasia Region

A Testimony of God's Faithfulness

A report from Asia-Pacific Regional NMI Coordinator Pauline Sheppard included a letter from a woman on the Australia Northern Pacific District. While the WEF PLUS Offering was received some time back, we want to rejoice with this woman over God's faithfulness.

The WEF PLUS offering has received considerable promotion on our district, in church, and at the recent NMI Convention.

The Lord had been laying on my heart the amount He wanted me to give to the offering. Basically it was one week's wages; as I knew that, years ago, a previous district superintendent had encouraged all of the members to trust God and give one week's salary to the World Evangelism Fund. Then I further believed that God wanted me to give one extra day's wage to the WEF PLUS Offering.

But where was this money going to come from? Recently a number of medical bills plus days off work had left me feeling like I was not going to be able to do what God was asking me to do.

Then some members of the Work & Witness team that went to Papua New Guinea (PNG) helped me see matters in a different light. They spoke of the joy of the PNG Christians, who have very few material possessions and yet give so generously. Also our field strategy coordinator posed the question, at the district assembly, "Is anyone here filthy rich?" to which only one person replied affirmatively. But we were all jolted to reality when we realised that, yes, we are all "filthy rich" when compared to the majority of people living in the world today. So I prayed to God to help me give sacrificially the amount that He was asking me to.

Just at the right time, I received my tax refund cheque, and it was twice the amount it had been in previous years! I was absolutely amazed and thankful that God had provided the means for me to give the week's wages plus one extra day's wage to the WEF PLUS Offering.

What a great big God we serve! I am forever thankful for His wonderful provision.