



Vietnam Project

May 29 – June 9, 2017

This trip has been amazing! I have learned a lot about Vietnam and CrossTalk Global.

On June 9, seventeen pastors and leaders in the only government authorized Protestant church in North Vietnam completed their three-year course with CrossTalk Global and became Certified Biblical Communicators. Many people in the United States will not understand the impact that these seventeen pastors and leaders will have in North Vietnam.

1. Christianity was introduced to Vietnam as early as the 17th century but after the Vietnam war, it is estimated there were less than 1,200 Christians in North Vietnam. It is estimated that less than 5% of North Vietnam's population are Christian.
2. In 1963, the North Vietnamese government authorized the Evangelical Church of Vietnam North (ECV-N) to operate Christian churches in North Vietnam. However, for many years, there was no formal pastor training available. In September 2013, the government allowed the ECV-N to reopen the Hanoi Bible College that offers a five-year degree program for pastors. With an enrollment of approximately 50 students, the Bible College cannot train the pastors needed throughout North Vietnam.
3. ECV-N has almost 2,000 churches throughout North Vietnam, but less than 300 pastors, and few of these have any type of formal training. And another 15-20 new churches are starting every year in North Vietnam.

These seventeen Certified Biblical Communicators will have vastly improved skills to communicate the Bible to the approximately 1,700 people they teach. One of these students is a pastor of a church in northwest Vietnam. His church has over 200 members and he oversees another 120 pastors in his province. Imagine the impact this high-level training will have throughout his province!

But the Vietnam story is just starting. If funds are available, in 2018, Kent Edwards and Nathan Norman, will each lead a new three-year group of 24 pastors and leaders, assisted by the top Vietnamese students who were just certified. This will also give the other 10 students who completed part of the course work an opportunity to complete their studies. If another 50 students complete the next course, the number of trained pastors throughout North Vietnam will more than double through CrossTalk Global.

Founded in 2013 by Dr. J. Kent Edwards, CrossTalk Global has completed three-year training courses in Romania and Vietnam. Second-generation training courses are underway in Romania and Ukraine with students from the first program serving as apprentice instructors. Courses are also underway in Myanmar, Cuba, and India and courses will be starting in Panama next year.



CrossTalk Global meets an urgent need. Eighty five percent of pastors throughout the world have no formal training. While CrossTalk Global is not a seminary, we equip pastors how to understand and communicate Scripture in ways that resonate with their culture. And then we leverage our efforts by asking the best of the best to help us equip others. It costs an estimated \$3,600 to cover the costs for one student to complete a three-year course of study consisting of two weeks of resident training each year and monthly course work between residencies.

Jesus changed the world by equipping people who would equip others. Join us as we follow our Master and help reach North Vietnam for Christ. One person at a time.



Steven E. Smith
Executive Board Member
CrossTalk Global
Herdon, VA