

Snippets From KeyCom

March 2025

Seeing Clearly

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

During the month of March I completed the scripts for the radio program series we're producing on the Gospel of John. One of the things which stood out to me as I was writing them is how many times people saw the evidence of Jesus' miracles and of His resurrection, yet did not perceive. They didn't understand. In other words, they saw, but not clearly.

One of my favorite stories is the healing of the man born blind in John chapter 9. As the story progresses I love the way the man's understanding of Jesus gradually comes into focus. In contrast, because the Pharisees refuse to see the evidence, their understanding diminishes until they become spiritually blind.

Another reason I enjoy the story is because I can relate to the man's delight in being able to see. Over the years my eyesight worsened to the point that my glasses were almost half an inch thick. On camping trips it was frustrating when I couldn't see the stars others were gushing about. Street-signs or license-plates which were plain to others were often just a blur to me. To compound the problem cataracts caused lights to flare, making driving at night especially difficult. But, all that is changing. I've just had cataract surgery on both eyes. Though I will still need glasses – especially for distance, it's already made a huge difference. I praise God that seeing clearly is possible once again.

What does seeing clearly have to do with Key Communications and our mission outreach in the Urdu language? In the last couple of Snippets, I mentioned that people are turning away from Islam. Recently an ex-Muslim in Pakistan (who shall remain nameless for his own safety) wrote about some of the reasons people are leaving Islam. He said in part:

“People have greater access to information and education so increasingly more people can see that the Koran contains error and contradictions and surprisingly little detail...

Greater scholarship into archaeology, textual analysis, history, sociology etc. is giving greater insight into Islamic history and challenging the old Islamic myths.

Greater travel, migration, and information means people now can see and experience alternatives to Islamic ways...”

I found it fascinating that this man used the words “insight” and “see” to explain what's going on. Clarity of vision is making the flaws in Islam more visible than ever before.

However, there is a flip side to this. It is our responsibility to make Christ visible to these people whose eyes are being opened. It's up to us to shine the light of the Gospel where those who are

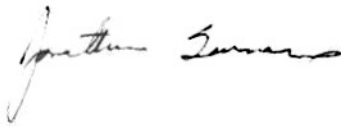
leaving Islam can see it. It's not enough to merely proclaim the Gospel. We also have to present it so people can clearly see that they can be reconciled to God through Christ. As the Apostle Paul put it, "And pray for us, too, that God may open a door for our message, so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ, for which I am in chains. Pray that I may proclaim it clearly, as I should." (Colossians 4:3-4 NIV)

Presenting the Gospel so it can be clearly seen involves much more than conveying facts. We must also engage people's hearts and imaginations so they can see the true beauty of what Christ has done for us. Paul writes, "I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and his incomparably great power for us who believe..." (Ephesians 1:18-19 NIV)

In order to touch people's hearts as well as their minds, we spend a lot of time trying to find the right idioms, illustrations and figures of speech to make the Gospel as attractive as possible. "The Teacher searched to find just the right words, and what he wrote was upright and true. The words of the wise are like goads, their collected sayings like firmly embedded nails—given by one Shepherd." (Ecclesiastes 12:11-12 NIV)

We couldn't do it without you. Thank you for your support which makes it possible for us to proclaim the riches of God's grace to those who are looking for the truth.

Yours in the Name of the One who gives us light so we can see clearly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jonathan Turner".

Jonathan Turner
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