



VOICE OF HOPE

WORLD RADIO NETWORK

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS GROUP

December 29, 2017

Dear Ministry Partner,

Whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.” John 4:14

Re-Digging Abraham’s Wells

Genesis 26 is the story of Isaac re-digging his father Abraham’s water wells. The life-giving water had been stopped up by the Philistines who’d filled them in with rocks and dirt to keep the people from refreshment and reinvigoration from that water. It was meant to push them to utter dependence *on them* or *death*. Sound familiar? Each of those wells represented a physical life-spring necessary to life in the desert and the Philistines blocked them up to remove anything that represented God’s word of blessing to them through



Heather and John standing at the base of the Washington Monument in Washington DC

Abraham. These wells signified the sure promise God had made to Abraham - that He would make Abraham and his decedents a great Nation! Isaac *believed* that promise but had to act and receive the blessing by actually digging out the wells *to access* the fresh, life-giving water.

Well Number One: VOICE OF HOPE – AMERICAS

In 2013, Heather and I were gifted back a world-class shortwave radio station with powerful coverage into Cuba, Mexico, Central and South America and most of the United States. The VOICE OF HOPE – AMERICAS (KVOH, Los Angeles) was founded by Heather’s late father, George Otis, in 1986. It signed on the air the very month that Mexico outlawed Christian broadcasting from within their borders. The VOICE OF HOPE represented “living water” being broadcast to millions who couldn’t hear God’s word any other way in the Spanish language.

When God put this radio station into our hands it was in need of repair and restoration. Its large transmitter was in disrepair and the land around the large antenna system was cluttered with abandoned vehicles. We began to work. Volunteers began cleaning, fixing, hauling and restoring the radio station to once more perform its needed work of delivering God’s word

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throughout all of Latin America. Finally we took to the airwaves and began to hear from listeners in Cuba and Mexico who were excited that we were back on the air! This was nothing short of a *miracle* of the Lord! In those days, God spoke to Heather and me through Genesis 26 about the re-digging of Abraham's wells and that "Living Water" would once again flow through the airwaves. It was clear to us that God was going to use us to re-dig the VOICE OF HOPE radio stations that once strategically reached millions around the world, and restore them to the airwaves.



John Tayloe at the VOICE OF HOPE – AMERICAS transmitter site atop Chatsworth Peak in Los Angeles. Reaching Cuba, Mexico, Central and South America and most of the United States by

Well Number Two: VOICE OF HOPE - AFRICA

In 2014, God moved Bob Edmiston of Christian Vision in the United Kingdom to extend to us an opportunity to take over an existing world-class shortwave radio station in Zambia reaching more than 75% of Africa with the Gospel. I had contacted Bob some weeks before to inquire about a transmitter that I understood was for sale in Zambia. At the time we needed a fresh transmitter to strengthen our broadcasts into Latin America. God had another plan! As I sat with my morning coffee on our living room couch, the Lord said, *"No, these transmitters are exactly where I want them!"* That morning I asked Bob if he would be open to Strategic taking over the radio station and building upon their ministry throughout Africa. He said, *"That's the right question!"* This radio station had been turned off due to a change in ministry direction. It needed some hard work and technical refurbishment to bring it back to excellent condition. In May 2016, VOICE OF HOPE – AFRICA took to the airwaves and is right now reaching listeners in most of Africa with the Gospel! This is a big station with a big reach for God!

Well Number Three: VOICE OF HOPE – ISRAEL / MIDDLE EAST

Many months earlier the Lord had begun to speak to us about another well that He wanted re-dug and restored to the airwaves. We'd begun to make inquiries and dip our toes into the water (Joshua 3:13). George Otis had established the first VOICE OF HOPE in South Lebanon in 1979 in the Christian enclave there. Its broadcast had been heard throughout the Middle East until 2000 when it was forced off the air due to a swiftly changing security situation inside South Lebanon. The VOICE OF HOPE radio station had been silent for 17 years. During those years, the original VOH AMERICA and CHINA radio stations had been sold and it looked like the VOICE OF HOPE network was finished.

However, in 2014, the Lord said to us *"Re-establish the VOICE OF HOPE in Israel!"* Heather and I went to Israel and spoke to the government about the plight of the persecuted Christians in Syria and the region. We made a case to support the Middle East Christians and to reach out to Muslims with the Gospel of Hope and peace. In an unprecedented decision by the state of Israel, Strategic Communications Group was granted Israel's first-ever Christian radio station license and frequency. **On March 28, 2017, the VOICE OF HOPE – 1287 AM signed onto the airwaves from Galilee Israel.** Its powerful new 50,000-watt transmitter is right now

delivering God's Word into Israel, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan and Cyprus. At night we are heard in Turkey and Egypt. All glory to the living God!

As we started working on this project the Lord reaffirmed a word given to Heather over two decades ago, *"I am giving you both the upper and lower springs for your inheritance."* (Josh 15:19b) This is significant as we are working right now to restore to the airwaves Israel's last remaining world-class shortwave transmitter and antenna system. Our vision is to reach into Iran, Iraq and Afghanistan from Israel. It will be called **VOICE OF HOPE – IRAN** and will feature Farsi Christian broadcasts from Israel. It will be a mighty "air force" of effort to support the growing numbers of Christians in Iran and throughout the region not currently reached by our AM station.

NOT WITHOUT OPPOSITION

For each of the first two wells, Isaac encountered the jealousy and opposition of the Philistines. He named these two wells, *"Contention"* (or *"Strife"*) and *"Enmity"*. The third well he named *"Broad Places"*— as if he finally discovered a place big enough for his household where the Philistines would leave him alone. This would be a place where he could, with joy, *receive* God's blessings. Because Isaac *perseveres*, God prospers him in that place! In fact, God pours His blessing upon him. I want to encourage you to persevere for your blessing just like Isaac! The Philistines did not drink from Abraham's wells. In fact, they filled them in, just as though they had never existed. Can you imagine destroying the source of life in the desert? God was not pleased and later on, in a time of famine, when water was at a premium, it was spelling death for all, the Philistines included.

Heather and I have experienced our own opposition, and like Isaac, blessing has come as we have stood firmly in the place God has given to us. We've only been able to stand in the place of prayer, knowing and trusting in the promise with the full confidence in His calling upon us! The VOICE OF HOPE is a part of our *spiritual inheritance*. For, out of this inheritance flows our heritage from those who went before us and it is woven together with our personal history. Isaac also believed this about His father's wells and received them from the Lord with blessings.

Well Number Four: COMING SOON

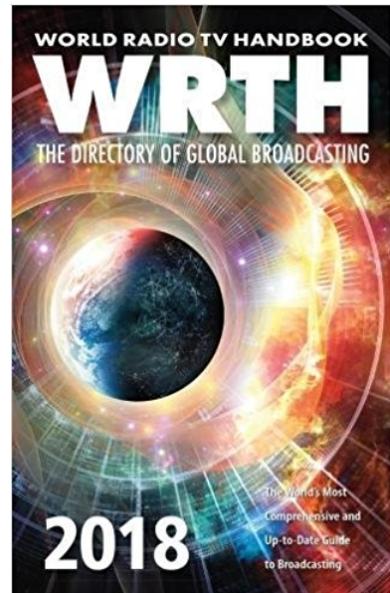
Though Isaac digs out and restores three of his father's wells, he then digs one more well... This is an exciting time for us as **God is pressing significant tools into our hands for the Harvest.** The VOICE OF HOPE radio stations absolutely represent "Living Water" wells poured out over the nations! See and *believe* it with us! They represent God's Word and His Salvation to those who hear, then believe and begin to follow Jesus for the very first time! When we are able to share about Well Number Four, you will be amazed! Its impact will be significant! Would you please pray with us for God's wisdom, timing and provision for Well Number Four? We will share more with you as soon as we can.

Please consider STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS GROUP - VOICE OF HOPE in your Year-End giving. We really need your prayers and your support, as the Lord would lead you! Consider creative giving through gifts of stock, endowment or legacy-giving as the Lord directs you. These are great ways to keep these wells offering up buckets filled to the brim with life-sustaining spiritual water.

“A New Voice of Hope In The Middle East”

I am happy to report that the 2018 edition of **WORLD RADIO TV HANDBOOK** includes a three-page article called “A New Voice of Hope In The Middle East,” announcing our VOICE OF HOPE – ISRAEL radio station. Now the world knows that the Gospel of Jesus is being lifted up in the Middle East from Israel and that the state of Israel values and supports the freedom of religion with their actions.

No other Middle East nation would ever allow an evangelical Christian radio station to broadcast from its soil. Thank you Prime Minister Netanyahu! May God bless you for this radio station in support of Middle East Christians! Your brave leadership is rewarded by God and admired by Christians in the USA, Canada and around the world! Please read the full article [here](#).



Starting the New Year in Israel

Heather and I are returning to Israel this weekend. One of Israel’s national TV news outlets is doing a story on VOICE OF HOPE in light of Vice President Pence’s visit to Israel on January 14th. The story will connect the Trump administration’s new policy to support persecuted Christians of the Middle East with the powerful outreach and support of Middle East Christians through the VOICE OF HOPE. It reflects a unique partnership of Evangelical Christians of the USA working with Israel to support Middle East Christians and evangelize Muslims with the Gospel of Hope through Jesus. Please pray for God’s words to be in our mouths and for His wisdom and favor as we share about the work He has established.

In His service,


John and Heather Otis Tayloe
Founders and President

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