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Big Cities Big Needs
The biggest evangelistic challenge of the 21st century is not some unentered country that needs pioneering evangelists, but the urban fortresses of big cities.

Because more people today live in cities, television is an important tool for big city evangelism. Cities are no longer metropolises—single cities. They are megalopolises—multiple big cities stacked side by side, connected by unending ribbons of asphalt. New York, Atlanta, Los Angeles, London, Paris, Cairo, São Paulo, Delhi, Tokyo, the list goes on and on.

Big cities present huge challenges. Distracted by unending sporting events, cultural festivals, and the intense pace of just making a living, it is difficult to capture the attention of city dwellers. Yet, in spite of the obstacles, many are searching for a better way to live. This email we received speaks of the need:

“I watch Hope Sabbath School regularly. I was once a violent drunk, but Jesus had mercy on me. Now I am an elder in my church.”

God loves people and our urban challenges have not caught Him by surprise. I believe God has opened up digital TV technology because it is a way to connect to people behind locked gates and concrete walls.

Hope Channel programming is built on the principle that people learn and gain confidence in a non-confrontational environment where they don’t feel threatened. That is why the Christ-centered shows on Hope Channel are so important!

“Through Hope Channel, I have been introduced to so many resources that have helped me on my spiritual journey. The free offers in your online store have especially been useful.

“My husband and I attend our local Baptist church on Sunday mornings and on Wednesday nights, we study with your television Bible class. Since finding Hope Channel and learning about the Sabbath, I have begun observing the seventh-day Sabbath.”

Hope Channel is opening pathways of discovery for this couple. Step by step, God is leading them to a deeper understanding of truth. This is the power of Hope Channel in the big cities.

When Jesus saw the multitudes, “He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd” (Matt. 9:36). What a picture of big cities: people “weary and scattered.”

Here’s another letter from a Hope Channel viewer:

I’ve been watching Hope Sabbath School for three years now and feel closer to Jesus every time I am with your Bible study group on television. I live in a town without a Seventh-day Adventist Church or a bookstore where I can find more material. But I am thankful for all the extra material you have for me on your website.

There are millions in the big cities who long for a better way of life. For each of them, Hope Channel wants to be there with a wholistic message that prepares them for Jesus’ Second Coming.

Thank you for your partnership of prayer, financial support, and sharing Hope Channel with others—particularly with those in big cities.

Your friend,

Brad Thorp
I strongly believe that God is using Hope Channel to reach the hearts of many. I’ve been so blessed by your Bible-based teachings. My prayer is that God will continue to provide you the knowledge and wisdom needed to spread His Word.

—Alice, Belgium

I used to watch Hope Channel on television in Jamaica. Now I watch it online in Canada. I learn so much from this channel. Your programs satisfy the whole person. When I want to watch something uplifting, my choice is Hope Channel.

—Janet, Canada

I feel Jesus by my side when I watch Hope Channel.

—Flavio, Brazil

I got acquainted with Hope Channel when my father bought a satellite dish for our family. When I moved to go to school, I was glad to find out that I could watch Hope Channel online. Your programs give me hope in a world full of crisis.

—Fredrick, Ghana

I watch a lot of different ministries on TV. After watching different preachers, I’m touched by what I see on Hope Channel. I’ve been watching Hope Channel for an hour every morning. For a whole hour, your channel does my heart good. Oh how I wish I had that kind of teaching growing up. My heart cried out for years to see such faith and hear straight from the Word of God.

—Frank, Kansas

Talia is seven years old. She loves her family and Sponge Bob. And she loves Hope Channel. Talia watches Hope Sabbath School with her mommy every week. “I like to see and hear the different people in the class and watch for the different flags that pop up,” says Talia.
Similarly, Novo Tempo’s investment in media ministry has been blessed. Within just the last 18 months, more than 55 million dollars have been put into the purchase of new broadcast licenses throughout Brazil. Expansion and growth in 2012 included 130,000 square feet in new construction to accommodate new corporate offices, a museum, a 450-seat auditorium, studios, and new equipment. And yet, Novo Tempo is nowhere near done growing!

The Seventh-day Adventist Church in Brazil works diligently to make their ministry thrive. Every day, the reach of Novo Tempo extends to more and more places. Today Novo Tempo is a household name in Brazil. In 620 cities, including 13 capital cities, Novo Tempo is there. From São Paulo, Porto Alegre, Curitiba, Goiânia, Boa Vista, Teresina, Maceió, Porto Velho, Palmas, Brasília, and beyond, Novo Tempo is heard and seen.

The potential audience of about 70 million in Brazil is no match for the vision, dedication, and plans of the Seventh-day Adventist Church and Novo Tempo.

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Vividly expounding on the guaranteed return on faithful investments, Jesus told a story of a man who challenged his managers to grow his portfolio. Making decisions with the boss’s money is risky business. So one did nothing at all; another took a moderate chance. But there was one who took a risk with the best of intentions, with all of his abilities and with complete faith in his employer. The result: Big return. Big success. Big compliment: “Well done, good and faithful servant!”*

* Matthew 25:21

Novo Tempo came into our lives at just the right time, just when we needed hope the most. We were trying to overcome the death of our two children. Novo Tempo filled our emptiness and transformed our lives. —Emerson
Because satellite dishes are not allowed in many cities in Germany, traditional broadcast of Hope Channel is not always feasible. And that’s why live streaming is so very essential to the work of Hope Channel Germany. Whether it be densely populated Frankfurt or the quaint village of Jübar, whether it be a satellite dish or an Internet browser, biblical truth is reaching many and making a difference in people’s lives.

Home to about 2,000 inhabitants, Jübar is steeped in history and tradition. From its first mention in the history books in 1308 AD, Jübar has been home to generations of families. One of the families is Mrs. P.’s.

Flipping through the channels one day, Mrs. P. was intrigued by the name of a show: faith.stories.* Klaus Popa, the speaker, appealed to her just as much as the name of the show. Something about his voice and his mannerism kept Mrs. P. from changing channels.

“Klaus Popa is a wonderful teacher,” says Mrs. P. “It is like sitting at the table with a friend.” Soon Mrs. P. became a Sabbath keeper. Every Friday evening, her home was blessed with her commitment to spend quality time with God.

But that wasn’t enough. Eager to find out more, she began browsing the Hope Channel Germany website. There she discovered the free enrollment to a Bible Correspondence school and asked for lessons.

But that wasn’t enough either. She then began searching the Internet for a Seventh-day Adventist church close to her. The closest church was 30 kilometers away. Suffering from multiple sclerosis, Mrs. P. could not tolerate the long journey to church. So she phoned the pastor to see if there was some way she could learn more about the Bible without being in church. The pastor replied saying he’d travel to her house and study with her. “I wanted to learn everything I could about the Bible,” recalls Mrs. P. “If I could have, I would have watched Hope Channel all day and all night.”

Mrs. P. just could not let her physical condition get in the way of fellowshipping with others. So she invited four of her friends to spend Sabbath in her home. Using Hope Channel shows that she records during the week, Mrs. P. now leads out in regular Bible studies. “I love to tell people everywhere about Hope Channel. I want to tell the world,” said Mrs. P. in a recent letter to Hope Channel Germany.

Mrs. P.’s determination to share God is much like the town of Jübar that has survived time. Mrs. P.’s story will live on in the annals of Hope Channel much like the famous two Linden trees in Jübar.

Almost a thousand years old, the trees have stood through the test of nature and the test of time. They are so old that they are hollow inside. Yet they stand tall, harnessing the attention of everyone.

* a verse-by-serve explanation of the Bible, beginning at the start with Genesis 1:1.
When financial troubles came swooping into their lives, Ramanathan and his wife were confused and distraught. Staunch Brahmins, they couldn’t understand why bad things were happening to them. They were good people—they worked hard, they were honest, they gave to the poor. Their good life and good deeds should have resulted in good karma. But instead, they lost their business and the bank was on the verge of foreclosing on their home and stripping them of personal property and valuables.

Walking down the busy, littered streets of Chennai one day, Ramanathan noticed a crumpled flyer on the road. There was paper and trash strewn everywhere, but for some reason this one piece of paper caught his attention. It was an announcement of Hope Channel India’s upcoming meetings. The dirty piece of paper said the meetings would bring hope and answers to life’s questions.

Hope and answers—that’s what Ramanathan and his wife wanted. So they hurried off to the meetings. Right in the middle of the city, they found themselves with hundreds of others who had gathered to listen to the speaker.

Sharad Babu, a regular presenter for Hope Channel was on stage, teaching from the Bible and sharing his personal experience: At the age of 10, Sharad became completely blind. It was at a time in India when there weren’t many resources to help him overcome this handicap. While growing up, independent living, education, and family life were never part of young Sharad’s dreams. But all that changed when he met Jesus and he learned to put his faith into actions. Boldly he set out to experience the fullness of life by relying on God’s promises and God’s presence. Today Sharad is a professor of theology and blessed with a wonderful wife and a daughter in college. Whenever Hope Channel India has a need, Sharad takes time off from work to take the stage and speak of the wondrous love of God.

Touched by Sharad’s stories, hearing about how they too could have hope during tough times, Ramanathan and his wife were brought to tears. At the end of the meeting, they met with Hope Channel India personnel who helped them through their difficult times. It has been a long journey, but Ramanadhan and his family are slowly building their life back again. They may never be where they were once were financially, but they now have faith that in all things, God and their new friends will be there for them.

The dirty piece of paper said the meetings would bring hope and answers to life’s questions.
Warsaw, Poland

Going Where the People Are

Whether a city has snagged you momentarily as a visitor or you are a permanent resident in one of its high rises, there’s a certain magnetic pull towards the bustle that envelopes a city. There are so many things to experience in a city. So many options that cater to different types of people.

Capitalizing on this natural draw of events in the city, Hope Channel Poland ventured to implement some innovative marketing strategies in the capital city of Warsaw.

In studying the types of attractions that lure people, Hope Channel Poland identified museums and exhibits as major draws. Next, they organized a Bible exhibit in the capital city. The unique element of this exhibit was that it was not the typical lone display begging for the attention of the passerby. Instead it was part of the annual European Night of Museums experienced every year in Warsaw.

Hundreds of people stopped at the exhibit to see numerous editions of the Bible, antique and rare Bibles, educational charts, artifacts, and Hope Channel programs. Many portions of the exhibit were free to the public, making it a big hit. Also present were area pastors who volunteered as guides and experts to answer questions.

As a result of this community service, one family joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church and many others began studying the Bible with local pastors.

Another innovative project that received a lot of public interest was the production and distribution of 100,000 copies of a documentary about how Anna German, Poland’s internationally-acclaimed singer, found a new life in Jesus and joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church shortly before she died of cancer at the young age of 46 in 1982. The movie found its way into the homes of many, including the president of the Republic of Poland and leaders all across the country.

Identifying common ground where biblical truths can be shared openly and comfortably is at the core of Hope Channel Poland’s operational model. Where the people are, where the interest is, Hope Channel Poland is also there.

“Hope Channel brings me the joy and peace I need. Listening to other people’s stories of how Jesus performed miracles in their lives gives me courage to live in such a way that my life is proof that Jesus really is active in everything I do.”

—Mary

Go here to see a short video about the Seventh-day Adventist Church in Poland [http://bit.ly/sdapoland]
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**Hope Channel Program Guide – Apr–June 2013**
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Walking the Streets

Bible stories, church, prayer, a strong Christian home—all of these were part of Anusha’s growing up. But somehow, as she entered adulthood, these stalwart values that anchored her slowly crumbled.

Before long, Anusha was married and living a life that was very different from that of her childhood. She had little room for God in her thoughts and plans. All in all, life was good, and she felt no need for Christianity or a community of Christians.

Her mother, on the other hand, had not given up praying for Anusha. One day, she even gave her a Bible, hoping that it would spark a need for the Holy Spirit again. But there was no change in Anusha. More time went by.

And then, completely unexpected, Anusha began to have health problems which led to other difficulties in life. In her pain, she remembered the God of her childhood. And she remembered the Bible her mother had given her. Picking it up, she began reading it. She read it through her illness and problems. For two years, she read the Bible and soaked in the promises and bathed herself in God’s presence.

Slowly, she crawled out of her shell of indifference and began to yearn for the fellowship of other Christians. Not knowing which church she should pick, she began to look for Christian shows on the Internet. And that’s how she happened upon Hope Channel Russia. Pleased with the knowledge and peace she gained from the shows, she would lock herself up in a room for hours—it was just a laptop, Hope Channel Russia and Anusha.

Today Anusha is an active advocate for God’s Word and Hope Channel Russia. She boldly travels the streets of Moscow, meeting strangers and making friends. To anyone who shows an interest, she shares her story and introduces them to a life in Jesus. Every week, she gives away about six Bibles. In these past two years of ministry, she has given away over 500 Bibles.

Whether on the streets talking to strangers or in church with her husband and children, Anusha exudes the peace and contentment she now has in Jesus.

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Life, especially in big cities, is lived at a breakneck speed. From fast food for sustenance, to high speed for travel, to short nights for longer days, there is no time for time out. In such a quagmire of hurried living, Hope Channel is an oasis of prayer, spiritual growth, healthy choices, and personal reflection.

For William, a DIRECTV technician always on the go, Hope Channel brought happiness. “After I started watching Hope Channel, everything started making sense to me,” says William. “Soon I noticed my wife changing. My kids are happy too; they know that Jesus Christ is their dad. And it all started with Hope Channel.”

For Jill, who grew up without hugs and always feeling she wasn’t good enough, Hope Channel brought love and acceptance. Twelve years of alcoholism and depression had brought her to a dangerous low. “I just didn’t want to be around people any more. I didn’t even want to get out of the house.” One day in the middle of her deep dark depression, she dropped to her knees and cried, “I just can’t do this anymore, Lord. I need you to help me.” Almost immediately she felt peace. She quickly went to the TV, searching for something. “It was pretty amazing when I saw a channel called Hope Channel brought purpose, “I love working for the Lord. Yet, I was starting to feel a little down,” she says, remembering how it all began. Perplexed by this feeling, she prayed and was impressed to tell the people of Malibu about Jesus’ love. Anyone who knows Malibu, California could have told her it was a crazy idea. A town of affluence and influence, it was not the typical place for evangelism, let alone the efforts of just one woman.

Why Malibu? Why a place an hour away from where she lived? Judith didn’t have those answers, but she knew her answer to God’s calling—YES! She’d go to Malibu! Driving around, scouting her new territory, she noticed there were no Seventh-day Adventist churches. A phone call confirmed that the closest church was 25 miles away.

For five long years—every weekend and every holiday—Judith hit the pavement, reaching out to anyone who’d listen, passing out Hope Channel flyers. The thought that the exercise was futile had no room in her faith walk. Judith clung to the promise, “If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there’ and it will move.” Nothing will be impossible for you” (Matthew 17:20).

Praise God Judith didn’t give up. Today, the fruit of her seed of faith is the Malibu Seventh-day Adventist Church—a congregation of 50 that is growing every day.
**GO HEALTHY FOR GOOD**

recently aired an episode on **genetically modified foods**. Surprised by the inordinate amount of feedback that's been coming in, a week-long series is being produced that will again feature Jeffrey Smith, author of *Seeds of Deception*, the world's bestselling book on the subject. The series will focus on the potential dangers of GM crops on animals and humans, and will include historical facts about how GM foods found their way into 70% of the foods we buy today. You will also learn how you can avoid buying these foods.

Nicotine is more addictive than heroin. That and other compelling information on nicotine addiction are often heard on *Go Healthy for Good*. Now, we're taking a step further to help break the habit of **nicotine dependence**. Our new show is for anyone wanting quit smoking. In this series, you will get everything from how to plan your quit date, where to get support, what to eat and drink, how to stay on the wagon, what to do if you fall off, and tips to help you stay free. Mark April 29 - May 2 on your calendar. Make a date to be free.

**CROSS CONNECTION**

has added to its show a new segment, *Jesus Lives*. Here's what the hosts, Oleg and Sergio, have to say about it:

The Word of God sets hearts on fire. When the mind wrestles with the Word, the heart is transformed. On *Cross Connection*, through our study of the Gospel of Matthew, we have felt this energy and transformation in a very powerful way. While Matthew is packed with penetrating, life-giving insights, the passage that stood out for us was: “And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age” (Matt. 28:20). The Jesus with whom we had spent an entire year studying doesn’t just live in the pages of Matthew or up in the clouds somewhere; He lives with us right now. This thought propelled into plans of how we could show our viewers how we can take Jesus out of history and place Him in our lives. And that is how *Jesus Lives* evolved.

A series of short segments shot outside of the studio, *Jesus Lives* unwraps the passages discussed around the table in the studio and gives them real-life application and significance. Only when the Bible moves us from theory towards a desire to live like Jesus will there be true transformation. Only when we are ignited to live like Jesus will the world see that Jesus still lives today.

We invite our viewers to join us in living out the Word of God. Email your stories, photos, and videos to crossconnection@hopetv.org or post them on our Facebook page. We’d love to include your story, charity event, or ministry in a future *Jesus Lives* segment.

—Sergio Gonzalez and Oleg Kostyuk

www.hopetv.org/JesusLives
UNHOOKED
premiers April, 2013. Packed with 26 episodes, this new show focuses on common addictions and unhealthy behaviors that are widely prevalent today.

Drugs—selling them, using them—were part of Juan’s growing up. He was even used as a mule to carry drugs as a child. And he grew up to sell drugs. That was his job, his life. At one point, his wife and he were homeless and their children were taken away from them. But today they are reunited; their lives are restored.

“It’s about fighting the good fight,” says Juan. “And in fights, you lose rounds . . . . But there are many rounds in a fight. As long as you keep fighting, you’re going to come out on top because God is going to be pleased with what you’ve done with what He’s given you.”

On Unhooked, you will hear survivors like Juan tell their stories, clinical experts explain behaviors and treatment options, and pastors point to Jesus who brings emotional and spiritual strength. If you are fighting an addiction or if you are interested in learning more about this topic to support someone in your life, this program will bring you the understanding and tools you need.

This series is made possible through a partnership between Hope Channel, the Health Department of the North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists, and Adventist Recovery Ministries. This joint effort evolved from the need for a concentrated effort to educate and provide support and solutions to those in the snares of addiction. With this in mind, the topics covered in this show were chosen with attention to research, expressed needs, and feedback from clinicians.

Guest experts along with hosts Dr. Kiti Frier Randall, Pastor Bernie Anderson, and Dr. David Sedelack bring clarity and hope for change to viewers. Each addiction is approached from a scientific perspective and yet the content is kept practical, simple, and easy to understand. The show will also include contact information for those who need immediate help in overcoming their addictions—or who are just looking for someone with whom to talk or pray.

Don’t miss this show. Share it, watch it, and give us your feedback.

“God is there to help me. He gives me the strength to keep going and to not give up. Without God helping me through this, I wouldn’t be able to make it.”

—Tammy, a shopaholic
John Huynh, our newest team member, brings to Hope Channel expertise in fundraising and enthusiasm for ministry.

He moves to Hope Channel from the Adventist Media Center (Simi Valley, California), where he worked for Breath of Life Ministries. His background includes a wide range of hands-on involvement in all aspects of fundraising and marketing. Additionally, he was recently nominated as a board director for the Association of Fundraising Professionals.

John is responsible for designing, implementing, and coordinating a comprehensive fundraising program that will connect Hope Channel supporters to the many opportunities in television ministry.

“My goal is simple. I want to satisfy our supporters’ thirst to serve God. Jesus has commissioned us to be in the business of bringing others to know Him. And my desire is to connect the right supporter to the right opportunity so that their thirst to serve God is fulfilled,” says John.

John was baptized through the Acts 2001 series with Mark Finley. “Evangelism saved my life! I joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church because of a simple Bible prophecy flyer. Now I have dedicated my life to fundraising so I can find supporters who are passionate about reaching out to others like me,” says John.

“The partnership shared by Hope Channel and the Loma Linda School of Medicine for this 13-part TV series was a special privilege,” says Kandus Thorp, Vice President of Production, Hope Channel and Co-Executive Producer, Vital Signs. “Dr Hadley’s vision for the series and the excellent cooperation of all involved made the production a pleasure. Vital Signs portrays the spirituality and excellence of the Loma Linda School of Medicine while showcasing the real, everyday life of medical students on their journey to becoming health professionals.”

Evangelism saved my life! I joined the Seventh-day Adventist Church because of a simple Bible prophecy flyer.
Resources to Grow and Share Your Faith

NEW FROM HOPE CHANNEL

Natural Lifestyle Cooking
Ernestine “Teenie” Finley’s prized cooking tips can be yours! Taste-tested recipes from her popular seminars… and the Finley family kitchen! Hardcover, spiral binding, full-color pictures, and easy-to-follow recipes. $24.95 Book #425696

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AS SEEN ON HOPE CHANNEL

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Jim is a hard-working farmer and a careful saver. For the last several years he has watched the rate of return on his bank CDs drop significantly. He was looking for more income and a way to provide income to his four children after his demise. One day, while watching Hope Channel, he saw my announcement about our different tax-saving instruments. That’s when he contacted me about a charitable gift annuity (CGA) with Hope Channel that would do exactly what he wanted.

A CGA is simply a contract in which you exchange a gift of cash or securities for a generous, fixed income each year of your life (or the lives of two people). A CGA is an extraordinary way to support Hope Channel’s successful global ministry, increase your income, and slice your tax bill—all in one transaction.

I helped Jim set up five different CGAs. Based on his age at the time, his CGA would pay him 8.8 percent. The other four each paid an average of 5.7 percent—first to Jim, then to his children—much better than the matured CD he used to fund the annuities. The percentage of his payments that are income tax free delighted even his accountant!

Jim, and ultimately his children, received fixed payments from the CGAs that are significantly more than he was receiving from his one-year bank CD. He is pleased with the increased income…and the significant tax savings.

If you would like a charitable gift annuity for yourself, a spouse and yourself, or an adult child and yourself, that ultimately helps Hope Channel, call Dr. Al Navarro today at 888-339-PLAN(7526).

Plan for Your Life

With the financial solutions on this DVD, you will learn what the pros know to avoid expensive tax and probate headaches. These powerful-yet-simple solutions will help you achieve financial security and peace of mind in unstable financial times! Understand your options.

Master the basics and beyond…

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