



<p><b><i>Introduction : CRF Media Ministry</i></b> 1999 to 2009</p> <p>Part 01, Ch. 00 CRF Media Chronicles</p>	<p><b>Final:</b> 9/15/13 <b>Time:</b> 16:00</p> <p>© 2013 Carl and Arline Ryan</p>
---	--

**Carl:** There are many road blocks in sharing God's Word to the diverse people groups around the world. Likewise, missionaries have a difficult time telling those back home what it is like in the far away places where they are serving. Words, short stories and a few pictures often fail to convey the hardships, the complexity and the successes in their place of ministry.

Recognizing the needs and problems, CRF Media was established as a volunteer ministry to missionaries around the world to make things easier with their media development.

The mission trip that my brother Bill and I took in 1999 to the Asheninca people ... located in a very remote area of eastern Peru ... was an experience of a lifetime. It was also a time of learning about producing meaningful multimedia material suitable for distribution in the United States.

The Asheninca video, ... produced on VHS tape, ... had a limited distribution; however, the corresponding website, ... with detailed information about the people and their homeland, ... was available to a much larger audience.

With this small beginning, CRF Media was now taking shape.

The next step was setting up a web site describing the media ministry, our policy and methodology. We also obtained better equipment and computer software. The office in our home became a production studio. The response was overwhelming with several requests for help in media development. During 2000, the first full year of operation, Arline and I traveled to Peru, the Philippines and West Africa.

We produced and distributed several VHS video tapes and CD ROM's from the material obtained on these and subsequent visits. Web sites for the missionaries were also set up enabling interested individuals to obtain more detailed and current information about the particular people group.

**Arline:** Our media ministry was now a full-time endeavor. The production included much more than just visiting a mission field. Prior to the visit many things needed to be accomplished. We would spend several weeks learning about and researching the area as well as trying to learn a few words in the native language. In addition, it was necessary to make travel

and living arrangements well in advance. Travel and equipment was our personal responsibility. At times, visas were required. Medical insurance and necessary inoculations were essential. Often, we stayed in the homes of missionaries. However, at times, it was necessary to go to a nearby hotel. Security issues were a vital part of each visit so gleaning information from the missionaries involved was an important prerequisite so that we could arrive ready to go to work. Communication between us and those out of the U.S. was conducted with great care. A specific secure web site was set up for this purpose.

After a couple of years, security became a serious issue. At that time, all personal information concerning us was removed from the web site. It was extremely important that we remain as tourists and no connection be made between us, CRF Media, those with whom we were working and those for whom we sponsored and maintained web sites. From that time on, we became anonymous to most of the world.

**Carl:** A typical visit required about two weeks. Early on, we did some script writing, narration and editing on-site; however, it was best to do this when we returned to the United States with videos, still pictures and detailed notes. Continual communication with the responsible missionaries was essential to ensure accuracy and relevance of the videos that were in the production process. It usually took about three months to complete a set of eight to twenty chapters covering a specific mission activity. As the ministry evolved, the central theme of the videos became the people and country and did not feature the missionaries.

VHS tapes were replaced by DVD discs in 2002. These DVD's provided better quality video than the tapes and were lower in cost. Fortunately, most churches and individuals had access to a DVD player by that time.

**Arline:** During the ten year period from 1999 to 2009, we produced 15 DVD's with an average of 14 chapters each. The various chapters covered details about the culture, the religious beliefs, history and living conditions as well as specific work of the missionaries. The chapters varied from 3 to 20 minutes. A total run time of each DVD averaged about 90 minutes.

The replicated DVD's were packaged in standard cases with appropriate labeling and content description including an insert with a synopsis of each chapter. Occasionally, volunteers from our church helped package the material for distribution. The missionary's home church was a large part in getting the DVD's out to those on the distribution list. Our grandkids, Alec and Sydney, also helped us copy and package the materials. We provided these at no cost to the recipients, the missionaries or their organization. After the initial distribution, we continued to fill individual requests derived from our web site.

To date, approximately 25,000 copies of the CRF Media DVD's, VHS tapes and CD ROM's have been distributed to churches, libraries, individuals and other organizations.

**Carl:** Up until 2005, all of the material was filmed and produced in standard definition format. That same year, we purchased two High-Definition professional camcorders. We also set up a larger production studio in our new home located in Rogers, Arkansas. In 2006, we began posting the 720p High-Definition format on our web site.

Also, in 2006, we produced the 13 minute DVD, *Greetings from Rogers, Arkansas USA*. This video about where we live was given to many of those we visited during our mission trips.

The trip to Kazakhstan during the fall of 2008 was a major achievement with 27 chapters and a total run time of three hours. We spent four weeks in the country traveling to most of the major cities including Astana, Almaty, Atyrau, Karaganda, Temirtau, Kokshetau, Borovoye and other smaller towns.

This was a particularly difficult trip for Arline with her recently diagnosed Rheumatoid Arthritis and knee problems. The following year she required knee replacement surgery.

Because of health issues for both of us, Kazakhstan was our final foreign mission trip. We miss the travel and meeting others throughout the world but the media ministry continues as we share with others the CRF Media productions developed during the period 1999 to 2009.

**Various pictures with script below followed by song, *People Need the Lord*:**

**Arline:** The time spent among dear people in far away lands and different cultures has been one of the most rewarding experiences of our lives. Each picture of someone we met along the journey reminds us of the visit and to wonder what has happened in their lives over the years. Someone had shared the Words of life with many of these people and they are believers in Christ. Others had empty eyes as we passed them on the street or visited in the villages. They desperately need the Lord and a life of meaning.

Thank you, God, for the opportunities to walk with people around the world. We praise You for those who are a shining light to People Who Need the Lord.

In our retirement, we asked God “How can you use us to tell others about Jesus?” He led us on an astounding journey.

**Carl on-camera:** In 2013, we added an introductory chapter to each of the countries we visited.

**Arline on-camera:** These chapters are personal comments and observations of the mission activities, religious beliefs and the lifestyles of the people.

**Carl:** The new chapters, along with the original mission videos, were compiled on ten Blu-ray discs. These files contain 247 chapters with a total run time of 33-1/2 hours.

**Arline:** Our deep desire and prayer is that, in years to come, our family and close friends will be inspired to be available to God.

**Overlay:** List of 22 countries:

**CRF Media Chronicles  
1999-2009**

Peru	Bangladesh
Philippines	Mexico
Guinea	India
Cote d'Ivoire	Belarus
Venezuela	Kazakhstan
Bashkortostan	South Africa
Niger	Argentina
Lesotho	Senegal
Swaziland	Russia
Bosnia	Croatia
Montenegro	Lithuania

**On-camera:**

**Arline:** This is September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2013.

**Carl:** Yes, and we finally have the CRF Media videos finished and ready. They're all on Blu-ray now.

**Arline:** And they're just terrific!

**Overlay:** © 1999-2012

**Background Music:**

*112-10 CRF Media Ministry*

**From:**

- ◆ Steve Green 01 – *People Need the Lord*