



Michio Ozaki (Kazuo's son), Jonas Santos, Kazuo Ozaki

Kazuo Ozaki - Home With Jesus

Dear Friend,

Recently I learned that our Japanese program producer, Kazuo Ozaki was struggling with serious illness. Sadly, we have received news that Kazuo passed away. He was 92.

There is great joy in knowing Kazuo is home with our Lord, after many years of faithful service and, incredibly, 60 years behind the microphone.

Kazuo not only produced his weekly program but was the voice of the program and fondly referred to as "HCJB Ozaki" by many of his listeners.

He was an amazing man of God who I had the privilege to meet on several occasions.

Kazuo first started producing Japanese programs for *Reach Beyond* in 1964 (back then HCJB), broadcasting from Quito, Ecuador's capital, and later from Reach Beyond's Kununurra broadcast site.

His half-hour weekend program has always enjoyed a great following in Japan with thousands of shortwave enthusiasts tuning in every week.

With a population of more than 120 million people in Japan – and evangelical Christians making up less than one percent – the impact of Kazuo's broadcasts and his friendship with listeners has been profound.

Using the popularity of shortwave, Kazuo created a window of opportunity to share the good news and developed a close connection with listeners he would meet face-to-face each year across Japan.

Reach Beyond's Media Manager, Jonas Santos, took part in some of these listeners' events in Tokyo and said it was always incredible to see the bond between Kazuo and his listeners and the testimonies shared.

"Though many were not Christians, some considered Kazuo their own pastor," Jonas said. "He was a man of great integrity with a strong commitment to the Gospel."

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On learning of Kazuo's death one listener wrote:

"I was shocked at the news of Mr Ozaki's death. I am very sad to hear that.

His voice had been encouraging me. I had met him in person twice. The last time I met him was in May, 2024. He remembered me and I enjoyed talking with him.

In the program I heard, he put an emphasis on his sad memory of bullying at school. I am a school teacher. I have so many chances to talk to my students that I am going to keep teaching how valuable our lives are."

The *Yodobashi Church* in Tokyo and other churches across the country actively support Reach Beyond and Kazuo's broadcasts.

Kazuo recently wrote: "These churches are very special to me; each congregation has known me since I was a seminary student; meeting listeners and visiting churches is such an important and special part of my year."

Reach Beyond remains deeply committed to reaching the people of Japan with the message of Christ via shortwave and other media tools.

With God's help we will build on Kazuo's wonderful legacy and our shared vision to see Jesus known and loved by the people of Japan.

Please pray for Kazuo's family and the thousands of listeners across Japan who are now grieving and for clarity of thought as we prepare the next ministry season which seeks to honour the wonderful legacy Kazuo has left behind.

Kind regards

Dale Stagg

Chief Executive Officer

October 2025

India

'I've come to understand who Jesus is'

Since the first broadcast of a short Christmas message transmitted from towers in Australia's remote Kimberley more than 20 years ago, Reach Beyond has been a light in the lives of the unreached across Asia Pacific.

In the tribal interior of Central India, programs broadcast in the 'heart language' of Kuruk, are a message helping bring social, economic and spiritual transformation.

"Through your program, I've come to understand who Jesus is and what He has done for me," one listener, Anuj, said. "I never knew how to pray before, but your program has taught me to speak to God with faith and honesty. Please pray for me – that I may grow in trust and learn to follow Jesus with all my heart."

Across the state of Andhra Pradesh in India's north, where Hindi is the primary language for more than 60 million people, there are more messages of hope and gratitude.

"My name is Shekher," said one. "I was a Hindu, but after listening to your radio programs in Telugu and Hindi, I began to trust in Jesus, my life has changed for the better, now I love Jesus, deeply. Please send me the new broadcast schedule. Sometimes I miss the program and don't want to lose out!"

The focus of Reach Beyond remains firm – through a range of dynamic media – reach the unreached.

Languages include Hindi, Punjabi, Bengali, Chhattisgarhi, and Kuruk which continue to be broadcast from Reach Beyond Australia's shortwave site.

With more than 500 million Hindi speakers across India and Kuruk spoken by one of the least reached catchments in the nation's centre, translating the Gospel in listeners' own language remains critical.

Dolly Shipley and Christopher K, our program partners from GMTA India, said the broadcasts remained vital. "Through changing schedules, shifting frequencies, and even times of uncertainty, God's mission to reach the unreached does not change," Dolly said.

Shortwave remains an important medium. Just one transmitter can serve multiple nations where Christian stations do not exist. Signals are received in some of the most remote parts of the country – but also reach Nepal, Bhutan, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, and Gulf diaspora communities.

Dolly and Christopher said the contribution from Reach Beyond supporters was deeply valued.

"We thank God for you, your faithful prayers and generosity," they said. "Because you are praying and sowing with us, God's mission continues through transformed lives one at a time. Change is constant and it is because of your partnership, lives are being transformed, listeners are discovering Jesus. We remain grateful to God for you as we press on together to make Jesus known and worshipped above all."

Reach Beyond's shortwave broadcasts are now complemented by GMTA's internet radio station which is 'on air' 24 hours a day.

You can listen to Jeewan Dhaara (Stream of Life) radio by clicking, <u>here</u>. Please pass it on to friends you think would be interested.

A Kingdom in the Himalayas

'Because of this device, my faith became strong'

It was in the bathroom of a prison in a closed Kingdom in the Himalayas that the lives of two inmates changed forever.

In hushed tones, they were each baptised in a bathtub after accepting Christ, following frequent visits and counselling from Pastor B, a member of Reach Beyond's team in the region.

The mother and her eldest daughter had been behind bars for four years and had all but lost hope.

While serving time, she had been forced to send her two younger boys to a monastery where they were preparing to become monks. But through the renewing strength of the Holy Spirit, this remarkable woman sought the release of her children from the monastery – and they too would eventually come to know the love of Yeshua (Jesus).

Amid such trying times, this broken family now shares a bond in Christ. The two younger children are twins, and plans are underway to send them to Bible school. With so many challenges still ahead, we ask you to pray that God will create clear pathways for them.

"What a joy to witness God's kingdom expanding in the toughest of environments," recalls Ps B who sends us periodical reports like this from the field.

Still in prison, the mother and her eldest daughter continue to grow in faith, thanks to an MP3 player loaded with programs from Reach Beyond.

"Thank you so much for providing us with this device, which is the only source through which we can hear the gospel message," the mother said. "Because of this device my faith becomes strong. My eldest daughter who is with me is growing stronger daily in the Lord. We are so thrilled to learn Christ is our Saviour."

Please continue to pray for Pastor B. He is part of our media team in the Himalayas, promoting programs that Reach Beyond airs weekly, visiting many isolated communities, encouraging listeners and sharing Jesus' love. He regularly takes batches of radios and MP3 players, distributing them in small villages and underground churches.



REACH BEYOND



Spotlight Kununurra — Brent & Shelley Weeks

Brent, Shelley and their three boys left their home in Canada in 2000 to work with HCJB in Ecuador. They left Ecuador in 2012 to work at the studios in Melbourne, and in 2022 started making jaunts up to Kununurra to help out at the transmitter site. By July 2023, they had made the decision to relocate to Kununurra.

Their eldest son, Trevor, is married to Chelsea and they are expecting their first child

in January 2026. He works as a Diesel and Electric Bus Mechanic in Canada.

Nelson married Kelly in March this year. He studied Tourism and currently drives city buses in Melbourne. He is a puppeteer and loves to use his skills on beach missions.

Malcolm has a bachelor's degree in Biochemistry and is a youth leader at his church in Melbourne. He has recently been diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis, and is working through treatment and what that means for his future. Please pray for him as he navigates this challenge.

Kununurra, **Brent** (Broadcast broadcast Engineer) looks after automation systems as well as the network infrastructure and IT systems. participates in antenna transmitter maintenance, including tower climbing (see photo below) and anything else the Kununurra Manager throws at

Meanwhile, Shelley (Technical Producer & Broadcast Technician) liaises with our program producers, and prepares the programs to go to air. She also maintains the

> transmitters and helps with antenna maintenance (see photo top middle). Shelley has also been known to participate in 'lawn mowing therapy' at the site property.

Brent and Shelley just celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary and are looking forward to meeting their first grandchild next year.

(Banner photo: Trevor, Nelson, Malcolm. Brent & Shellev)



REACH BEYOND GIVE, GO & PRAY

GIVE: Help us continue to be the VOICE and HANDS of Jesus to the unreached. GO: Has God been speaking to you about serving or volunteering with Reach Beyond? PRAY: Pray that God will continue to open doors for us to be able to share the love of Jesus to the unreached.