

# Ideas from Heaven

RECORD PRODUCER & PODCASTER BROADENS MINISTRY HORIZONS

Shelly Miller



BRIAN HARDIN SIPPS FRESH COFFEE under the blue glow of computer screens. Leafing through the pages of the Bible on his desk, he finds the spot he is looking for and adjusts his microphone. "Welcome to the Daily Audio Bible," he softly announces. "Today we are reading in the book of Chronicles." Over a million people around the globe tune in to his distinctive voice, listening to ancient text read with precision and awe.

After relocating to Nashville in 1993, Brian established a multifaceted ministry as a record producer, photographer and designer. Working with a number of artists, he has a discography of over 100 records that have achieved several Grammy and Dove award nominations and numerous hit singles. As the son of an Assemblies of God Pastor, he grew up learning how the Holy Spirit guides believers, but he was still caught off guard when he awoke one December morning in 2005 with these words in his mind: "I want you to podcast the Bible."

"I had only discovered what podcasting actually is a few months earlier, and so it was a really strange thought," Brian admits. "It stayed with me for days, and I began to ask God if this was what He wanted me to do."

That idea birthed the Daily Audio Bible (DAB). Boasting more than thirty-five million podcast downloads to date, DAB is one of the most popular programs on the internet; at times, nearly one third of his audience tunes in from communist China. Broadcasting from home or from hotel rooms in places like Rwanda and the Mohave Desert, Brian adds the color and passion of his own Christian journey as bookends to daily Scripture reading.

"I have seen incredible stories come from this...you simply can't remain the same if you're exposing yourself to the Bible on a daily basis," he affirms.

In their fifth year as an online community, DAB has established a thriving children's ministry, added daily Bible readings in Spanish, Hindi and Japanese and launched the Daily Audio Proverb. The WindFarm Prayer Initiative is the heartbeat of the DAB community. Based on Ezekiel 37:9 (calling the four winds

to breathe life to the valley of dry bones), this virtual prayer room is available 24/7 in every time zone. Brian is convinced that if hundreds of thousands of people come together to pray and agree, things will change.

Looking the part of a Nashville creative, Brian's trademark black soul patch of whiskers and wisps of long hair frame his face. This former record producer is now venturing out behind the microphone to join theAM as a church planter. This new work - Four Winds Mission - launches officially this fall and is reaching out to the high concentration of working artists that live south of Music City near Brian's home.

"What compels me to join theAM is an authentic desire for Christ and an entrepreneurial spirit represented among its leaders," he explains. "They attract a really cool, postmodern crowd that resonates with me. The philosophy isn't just a better version of modernism - people are willing to lay down ambition to pursue Christ."

Brian's blend of broadcasting the Word of God, encouraging commitment to prayer and building a new, artistic congregation represents the creativity marking so many of theAM's emerging leaders committed to mission.



The core of Four Winds Mission in Spring Hill, TN.



 **FOUR WINDS MISSION**  
an artistic, socially conscious community of faith

For more information, visit  
[www.dailyaudiobible.com](http://www.dailyaudiobible.com) or  
Brian's website, [www.brianhardin.com](http://www.brianhardin.com).