



## Revival in Iceland

By Hilmar Gudsteinsson

*Hilmar Gudsteinsson*

*[[hrobjartur@internet.is](mailto:hrobjartur@internet.is)] hopes to see a revival among Christians in Iceland.*

Iceland is an island nation of glaciers and volcanoes. Most of the country's population of 300,000 people, according to *Operation World*, is nominally Christian. The state recognizes the Lutheran Church of Iceland, but other churches and religious bodies operate freely. Evangelical, Charismatic, and Pentecostal believers are a minority. Hilmar Gudsteinsson describes the situation of Christian publishers in this country.

My church, Vegurinn (The Road) <http://vegurinn.is/> has published a few books: *The Authority of the Believer*, by Kenneth Hagin, as well as children's Bibles for two age groups. A church called Krossinn (The Cross) <http://krossinn.is/forsida/> is publishing books for Pentecostal churches, as is another church called Filadelfia <http://www.filadelfia.is/index.php>. Lindin Ministries <http://www.lindin.is/missions/>, which includes a radio broadcasting station managed by Mike and Sheila Fitzgerald, publishes materials for youngsters, the PowerMark comics series that has modern renditions of Bible stories. There is also another publishing house, called Salt <http://www.saltks.is/>.

I have a little book publishing house called Vakning [hrobjartur@internet.is](mailto:hrobjartur@internet.is), which is Icelandic meaning revival or awakening in Jesus Christ. Vakning was begun by

someone else, but that person did not have time for this service and nobody was doing anything. so it was kind of "dusty." So, three or four years ago I started to drive to Christian bookstores to sell books.

I work at the Alcan aluminum plant in Iceland, so this is like a part time job. I also have a family, and publishing takes time. We publish about one or two books a year, 1000 books at a time. I serve churches and bookstores in Reykjavik myself and send our books to the countryside by mail. We have already published 21 Christian books. Sales are minimal. We just published the Icelandic translation of *Adam the Raccoon at Forever Falls*. I have only sold a few so far, but it is a classic, and [sales] take time. The market for Christian children's books is extremely difficult. Many parents would rather buy less expensive secular books in supermarkets.

Other titles we have already published include: *Good Morning, Holy Spirit*, by Benny Hinn; *Demons: The Answer Book*, by Lester Sumrall; *Isn't There Anybody Out There Who Can Help Me?* by Sandy Brown; *The Jews: People of the Future*, by Ulf Ekman, and *The Power of Prayer and Fasting*, by Marilyn Hickey. We also have books on holding on to your dreams, meditating on the Word of God, and more. I am a volunteer. This is not a business to make money, oh no! I pay for the petrol myself, and a supporter pays for the publishing each time [we add a new book.] I

do not have the money I wish to put into it,  
but God is good all the time.

*In September 2007, the Frankfurt Book Fair  
<http://www.buchmesse.de/en/portal.php>  
announced that its guest of honor for the  
2011 Fair is Iceland. Noting that Iceland  
and Finland “each have rich literary  
traditions and cultures,” in March 2008 the*

*Fair issued a statement  
[http://www.buchmesse.de/en/index.php?content=/en/presse\\_pr/pressemitteilungen/details/16762/content.html](http://www.buchmesse.de/en/index.php?content=/en/presse_pr/pressemitteilungen/details/16762/content.html) refuting claims that its  
decision to grant the honorary status to  
Iceland was influenced by anti-Finnish  
sentiment in Germany.*

© 2008 [David C. Cook Global Mission](#). First printed in *Cook Partners*, March, 2008.

**ChristianTrade Association International**  
PO Box 62187 • Colorado Springs, CO 80962-2187 USA  
TEL +1 719 432 8428 • FAX +1 719 325 7001 • [info@ChristianTrade.com](mailto:info@ChristianTrade.com) • [www.ChristianTrade.com](http://www.ChristianTrade.com)