



Staying in Touch

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Points of Interest:

- **The Work Goes On**
- **New Arrival**
- **Amulu's Testimony**
- **Conversion**
- **Prayer and Praise**

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Dear Friends:

Well, our clocks have been set back an hour, but our work of sharing the Gospel in India hasn't slowed down. Time and our teams are marching forward as you can see in the picture of Sam leading a meeting with our pastors planning for the days ahead!



As you can appreciate, with 183 worship centers, we need more pastors, so please pray about coming on board with us, in fact call me for details. I'd love to talk to you about it.



This is the Lord of the harvest making his appeal to us in John 4:34-38, "My food," said Jesus, "is to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work. Don't you have a saying, 'It's still four months until harvest?' I tell you, open your eyes and look at the fields! They are ripe for harvest. Even now the one who reaps draws a wage and harvests a crop for eternal life, so that the sower and the reaper may be glad together. Thus the saying 'One sows and another reaps' is true. I sent you to reap what you have not worked for.

Others have done the hard work, and you have reaped the benefits of their labor." As you can see the sower and the reaper can receive the benefits at the Judgement Seat of Christ! We can't win all of the 1.4 billion in India, but we can make a dent in the 3-4 million that live in the immediate area, which is about 50% more than the entire population of Tarrant County Texas!

A young guy named Paul? And yes, there's more good news! Sam and Fay introduced a healthy 7 lb. boy, Abraham Paul Samuel to the world on October 20; and now there will be another man in the house to enjoy, with his dad, all the wonderful women that reside in that home! So now there's Fay, Aradhana, Amelia, Sam and Paul! Both Fay and Paul are doing well, even with the feedings through the early mornings. Sometimes, I get a text from him at 4 in the morning (his time). Many of the pastor's wives also helped to stay the nights when they were in the hospital.



What is an idol? An idol is anything or anybody other than God that you need or look to depend upon to make your life happy or meaningful!

In the Old Testament, many of us in the Western world, have read of the idols of Baal and others but really don't give too much thought to the idols around us in this age that we live in. Even in the Apostle Paul's day, he gives an encouraging word to the church in Thessalonica (1 Thess. 1:8-10) commending them – *“Therefore, we do not need to say anything about it, for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you turned to God from idols (A separation from the past) to serve the living and true God (A consecration for the present), and to wait for his Son from heaven, (An expectation for the future) whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.”*

Meet Amulu - So please allow me to present a current testimony of that Thessalonian passage from our Amulu, who came from an Unreached People Group, the Vanniyaars. The overwhelming majority of Vanniyaars are Hindu and rather than believing in one god, they believe in a multitude of gods. {The color photos below were taken in 2013, the black and white, just the other day.}

Her Testimony - *“There are many gods in Hinduism. In my own life I chose just seven of them, ‘Murugan’, ‘Ganesh’, ‘Venkatesh Perumal’, ‘Ayyapan’, ‘Ponniamma’, ‘Sivan’, and ‘Krishnan’. In 2000, when I was 16, I was diagnosed with scarlet fever and the doctors gave me only a week to live. Then, I began to think about where I will spend my eternity. I*



began to search for a God who could help me if he/she were true and their identity. I began to research by reading books and asking the elders in my village. They told me that they were worshipping these gods because that is what everybody did.

*I began to look at the history of these gods. I looked into **Murugan** and learnt that he had two wives. He had cheated his first wife and married the second. I could not accept that a god who has the standard of morality to do this. So, I left ‘Murugan’.*

*I could not accept how the god ‘**Ganesh**’ had a face of an elephant.*

*The god **Venkatesh Perumal** had taken a huge debt and so his wife left him, it is because of this that the devotees would shave their hairs and offer monies to the temple so that he can pay his debt. I could not accept the fact that a god would be a debtor.*

*Women were not allowed to visit ‘**Ayyapan**’, since he was celibate, and did not like women, I really did not want to worship him as god, because, I was not loved by him, as I was a woman.*

*There was the god **Ponniamma**, who had many sisters and they fought against each other and all of them died. So, I wondered what was the point of worshipping a dead god?*

Sivan, Parvathi and Murguan were siblings. They fought against each other and so, I thought to myself, how these could be gods when they fought against each other.

For a very long time, I had held on to 'Krishna'. But, after learning that he would steal 'ghee', a very sweet butter and women's clothing as they were bathing and would also sleep with a snake, so it could protect him, I really did not want to worship a god who steals and slept with a snake. If he were a powerful god, why couldn't he protect himself?

I reasoned that with all these gods, they did not like women and since all of them had either died or had permanently ascended to the mountain, I could no longer accept them as god.

Then, I remembered reading the scriptures on church and school walls alongside the roads, especially John 14:6 and Matthew 11:28-30 that pointed me to Jesus. It was a GHIndia worker named James, who invited me to come to Ponnai Church. It was there that I learnt more about Jesus Christ and accepted him. Pastor James and his wife, Ruth, also gave me the Gospel of John to read. I also remember that during my school days, at 16, I prayed to Jesus whenever I had fever and He healed me. **Following that, I continued to attend and in 2001 at 17, I was saved.**

Sam - After she came to Christ, she faced severe opposition from her relatives and neighbors in her village, but she is fervent in the Lord! Even now, her own father speaks ill of her saying she has embraced the God of the low caste people.

Mack - After she finished her HSS, she enrolled at Harvesters Theological College and at 21, she had emergency stint replacement in her heart and she recovered fully, while continuing her studies, receiving her B.Th. and then went on and did her M.Div. At present she's working on her B.Soc. in Sociology. She's also been the Girl's Warden since 2003, while doing her studies. She's very dedicated and driven in everything she does. Please pray for her as she is influencing many young girls to be followers of Christ!



Wedding bells are ringing again on campus

– Last month it was Prakash and Ancy who were married on October 2 and just yesterday (Nov. 2), another pastor, Jayaprakash and Soni were married. You can see from left to right, Soni, Jayaprakash, Fay and Sam taking turns cutting the cake for all to enjoy. Through the generosity of quite a few donors in India and the USA, you paid for the wedding and even gave them a good start in life by helping to set up household and pay their rent for a year. They were a beautiful bride and groom. All our pastors will happily say, they have married far above their station in life! We've only got one more to see married.

Construction projects are almost finished – The next picture taken at night is Sam and Fay with the girls, Aradhana and Amelia. They are out for a walk down to the end of the campus from their end which includes their home, the 3 ½ story college building which is also the girl's and the student women's dorm. The road has a wall built on both sides and has been graveled. The green on the left side is a rice field which can be seen on the right side of the second picture taken in the daylight. The white building is the boy's dorm, offices for the warden and

accountant and a very fancy guest bedroom and en suite bath for visitors. Blocked out on the other side of the building are our male student dorm, our student dining hall, an auditorium for teaching and special occasions and lastly, sheds where our cows, goats and chickens reside.

A word from Mack - The conversion of a soul is the miracle of a moment. It's a new birth. You have been born again. You have become someone you never were before. You are a new creation. You are no longer fit for the world you were delivered from. You are being fashioned into a saint and the growth of a saint is the work of a lifetime! It's no longer about you, it's now all about Him. Yield your life to Him, learn to walk with Him and become one with Him and let Him take you on a journey! It's once caught, no escape! He's Lord and you'd best acknowledge Him as Lord because one day every knee will bow, and every tongue will confess that He is Lord. Don't be embarrassed on that day, do it now, bow the knee! Confess Him as Lord!

And finally, my brethren - This closes out the November prayer and praise letter which invites all of you to continue to pray for the work and the workers here and there.

Pray for all our approximately 120 orphans, students, pastors and wives and their beautiful

children, the professors and all the workers who God is using to make an unbelievable difference in that part of the world and for each of you who make this possible through your generosity.

Pray for our pastors and wives who are endeavoring to minister to all the churches in 183 locations. The American church is fortunate to have the "hybrid system" whereby they can minister to those who come in person for worship and those who cannot and are equipped digitally to "zoom" in to participate.

We teach digitally ("zoom") to our 41 college students, but the pastors are limited to reach all those in the villages, so it has to be done the old fashion way which is limited because of the lockdown in places.

So, let me praise our God - Dottie and I are remarkably familiar with our Father. He knows us by name, and we live out of His hand and call Him Faithful. We talk to Him daily and He assures us that He is able to perform everything that He has initiated. He said go into the highways and hedges and we have. He said train and educate the next generation with everything we have learned and more. He said take care of the widows and orphans and we have. And yet when we begin to waiver, He reminds us that He has promised to never, no never, not ever would He ever leave us or forsake us. He's our Abba Father and we have His DNA!

