# GOSPEL HARVESTERS INTERNATIONAL



#### **Points of Interest:**

 The Father's Home Rewards

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# Staying in Touch

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## Dear Friends,

Before I say anything else in this update, I want to say a huge THANK YOU to each of you, our beloved friends, who have continued to stand with us during this ongoing Covid19 season. This is a challenging time for all of us, and each person reading this letter has issues of their own to deal with every day. Your



routine has been interrupted, your finances have been affected, and your life has become unpredictable. And yet, you have remained faithful to support the ministry of GHI with fervent prayer and faithful financial support. Dottie and I are ALWAYS grateful for your love and support, but we are especially so during these days of uncertainty. So again, THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH for being with us, and staying with us, as we carry on this work in India, day by day.

### **FINANCIAL NEEDS**

I normally say something about this in our prayer requests, but I am just going to mention this briefly. The pandemic has affected ministry finances over the past few months. In India, there is no such thing as drawing unemployment or stimulus assistance monies. Since all our brothers and sisters live by faith from month to month, it is imperative that we stand with them. There are over 120 men, women and children that look to God and GHI for support, so could you dig deep this month and do without something that we can keep things going there? Our thanks in advance to each of you.

## Read on for an unbelievable report from Sam...

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord God! I hope and trust that you are doing well by His grace and mercy.

The root of Fayma and I getting involved with The Father's Home Orphanage

Some of you may wonder as to how GHI, an evange-

listic ministry, got involved in social work. I have also wondered how, with my deep desire to be a traveling evangelist at large, I ended up as the Director of The Father's Home Orphanage. Well, our **Great Grand Weaver** has his gracious hands in all of this. This is how it all began for Fayma and me.

I sensed the Lord's call for ministry at a very young age, following my father and grandfather who were evangelists. I wanted to pursue my theological studies but one

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Jeremiah 29:11

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of the requirements for admission was that I complete a Bachelor and Masters in a secular discipline. I chose "Zoology" for my Bachelors, as I liked science and chose "Social Work" for my Masters as I wanted to be in touch with people. I sensed that ministry is not just preaching on Sunday, but it is one of living, loving, and relating with them.

After, I completed my Masters in Social Work, I came to Dallas Theological Seminary to pursue my Masters in Theology. Though I wanted to be a traveling evangelist, everything changed after I completed my internship with Gospel Harvesters of India in Ponnai in the summer of 2003. I was drawn to church planting and teaching ministry.

In 2004 after the Tsunami, my Dad called me from India and told me that GH International and GH India were wanting to start an orphanage to help children who were orphaned. Initially, I was not for it as I thought GHI would be sidetracked from the Gospel ministry. One evening, my Dad called me over the phone and handed the phone over to a small boy. The little boy just said hello. Then my Dad told me that this little boy did not have a home and does not have food to eat. The voice of the little boy and the reality of him not having a home or food to eat just broke my heart.

It was then that I was able to connect the dots as to why the Lord allowed me to get a Masters in Social Work. In my field work in college, I was a school social worker for one year in a rural school. In my research, my thesis was on the "The Problem faced by Adolescent Missionary children placed in boarding homes." I analyzed the physical, social, psychological, sexual and the spiritual development of the children. All of this helped me to better understand the children and their needs. In addition to this, according to the India government, only those having a Masters in Social Work could be the director of

an orphanage. It seems God was going before me and working all the

while.

While my parents were looking for a suitable wife for me, I asked the Lord for a wife who can be a mother to the children of The Father's Home Orphanage. My mom heard about "Fayma" through a common friend and learned that after marriage, she wanted to adopt a child. When I heard this, I told my parents that there was no need for me to have a look at this girl, she is the one for me. My parents told me that I had to see the girl face to face before we decide. When we went to see Fayma, it was love at first sight and I told my parents that she was God's will for me.

A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies.
Her husband has full confidence in her and lacks nothing of value.

Proverbs 31:10-11

As I look back at the past 15 years, I am so thankful for her being a mother, sister, friend, mentor, and role model to the children at The Father's Home Orphanage. Only two weeks back, a child who had rebelled and went on her own after being with us for 13 years sent a message to her, "I am sorry for hurting you. I am missing your love, care, and affection. I love you very much." Fayma responded, "You are always my daughter, I have forgiven you. Come back home, the mangoes are waiting for you."

## The fruit of the ministry of Fathers Home Orphanage

This past week, I received a call from G...., one of our girls who grew up in our orphanage. A family was interested in getting her married to their brother after seeing her in a matrimonial site. She then asked

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that family to contact me and asked me to decide for her. It is a huge responsibility on our part to help our children take these kinds of important decisions.

The groom's family called, and I interacted with them on the phone. After the conversation and going through the profile of the groom, we both felt that this was not a good choice. We conveyed our decision

to her, and she was okay with it. We are glad that even though G.... is 25 years old, she still looks to us for guidance. We thank God for the GHI funding that educated G.... through primary, middle, high, higher secondary school, nursing college and finally helping her secure a job at a premier hospital in India. Each of you reading this have played a significant part in her life and the life of many children. This is just one the example of the many lives that has been transformed.

In addition, K.... is a radiographer (CT scanner) at a Medical College Hospital in Chennai; P.... and K.... are in Catering and Hotel Management industry; P.... (below) is a nurse taking care of Covid19



patients in Chennai; C.... K.... is an assistant Pastor; S....K.... is a mechanical engineer; P.... and S....P.... are missionaries who did their Bachelors and Masters at Harvesters Theological College and Seminary. The list goes on and on. Just last year we graduated 41 with various degrees, PTL!



## The testimony of the government about the fruit of Father's Home Orphanage

Last week, the government referred S....P...., a 17-year-old girl to us. The Chair-person of the District Social Welfare Board called Fayma, and updated her history. S.... P.... was born out of wedlock. Her mom was brutally raped and mentally unstable. She was an unwanted child and was placed in a foster home. Later, she was shifted to an orphanage and because she was looked on as a problematic child. She was moved from one orphanage to the other, about 6 orphanages to be precise.

Finally, the District Child Welfare Committee decided to send her to us. The Chairperson told Fayma, "We decided to refer her to The Father's House Orphanage because we are aware that you have transformed many lives through love." We praise God for this testimony. We are thankful to all of you for making The Father's Home a gift from God, a happy and loving home.

A couple of days back, I asked S....P.... as to anything she could do well. She said she could make "Samosa" a south Indian snack. So, she went into our kitchen and made some very tasty and crunchy "Samosa" for the entire campus. She was so happy to see many enjoying her snack. Love, recognition, encouragement, and appreciation can make people smile and transform them. On Father's Day, she came up to me with a smile and wished me "Happy Father's Day Appa" (Dad)!

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R..., I....and S...., (in the center of the picture on the right) are all victims of sexual abuse. They came a few years ago to TFH and just a few days ago led us in worship songs. It was joy to listen to them rehearsing the song the previous day as I was going for my evening walk. They are so very precious to us.

G.... who came to our orphanage about 15 years ago is working on his Masters in Theology. He recently preached a fiery sermon. It was an amazing time for us. I am sure the Lord would be pleased, and I am sure you would also be pleased by your faithful involvement in the lives of these precious ones.



## Will you please continue to plant? Will you please continue to water?

Mount Isa Baptist Church, Australia has enabled us to start and continue the "Dorcas Tailoring Unit." The teacher has taught the children how to make wire bags. Last week, I received a small wire bag as a gift for Father's Day from the children. They were happy to make these bags for me and I was happy to receive this gift. This is the gift that keeps on giving.



The Apostle Paul was thankful to God for the fruits of his labor in the church in Corinth and Thessalonica. Likewise, your labor in The Father's Home Orphanage is bearing much fruit by the grace and for the glory of God. Your giving is not in vain!



One plants, another waters, but it is God who makes it grow. Will you continue to plant? Will you continue to pour water? You have and you can continue make a difference in the lives of these precious ones so they will bear fruit for the glory of God the Father.

To the left is a picture of K.... who came as a 6-year-old in 2005, carrying Jevi, our van driver since 2000! Jevi used to carry little K.... to school by van, now big K.... is strong enough to carry Jevi on his shoulders.

The other day on Facebook Messenger, Uncle Mack asked me if anyone has asked me to leave here and go to work at their university. I replied, yes, a very prominent one has asked me to head up their Center for Islamic Studies. I told him I turned it down! I am living, serving, and dying here where God has

planted me! We are so thankful to all of you. The Covid19 is all around us, so pray for us, please!

Yours in His Bonds...Sam

What else can we say? As you can see, our Heavenly Father has taken care of his children. We are blessed to have been a part of this through the years as He has brought lives together for His glory. Again we say thank you to each of you as you partner with us in God's work. We are blessed!

Mack and Dottie