



Points of Interest:

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Staying in Touch

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Greetings to all our GHI friends! Thanks for making 2019 an outstanding year!

As we are now just a few days into the New Year, we normally think of perfect eyesight whenever we see that number—2020. So, it's making me more determined to keep my eyes on Him, prayerfully allowing Him to perform His perfect sovereign will for all our lives and the ministry of GHI. I want to start fresh but in addition, always remembering His past faithfulness to us. He is a great and mighty God!



Most people we see from week to week regard us as everyday friends, and Bible Study Teachers and we're very comfortable with that, but Dottie and I see ourselves first and always as evangelists and missionaries who are still being blessed due to what God has started and sustained through our obedience over the years. In spite of being 76 and Dottie 80, we're realizing several promises that God has given us through the years. The first, Phil. 1:6 is very much alive and well at this moment, ***"...that He who has begun a good work in you will carry it until completion until the day of Christ Jesus."*** NIV. The next was Isaiah 58:11, ***"The LORD will guide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail."*** NIV

By the grace of God and my imperfect faith, the ministry in India that began in 1990, has become as a beautiful garden that God loves to showcase. So, what began with myself and my brother in Christ, James Sundar, has blossomed to 73 vibrant missionaries that are far more competent to reach their own people than I ever was! Moreover, out of the 600+ Unreached People's Groups in India, we have reached 17 in the space of 17 years, **AND** we're not finished! So, this brings me to **Sam's December Report written on the 30th**, which I've edited a bit to conserve space. Enjoy!

Planning for our outreach began in the early weeks of November. Our usual Christmas ministry consisted of "Evangelistic Flag Hoisting" in our seven centers; "Evangelistic Caroling" in several villages and a concluding with an "Evangelistic Christmas Meeting" at our main church on December 25th. So, we moved the main outreach from the one Mother Church and "decentralized" to our seven outlying centers closer to our 172 worship centers, giving us eight, total!

Some pastors felt that this would be too risky, while others encouraged this. After much discussion and prayer, we came together feeling we could reach more people as well as strengthen all our centers. We divided leadership responsibilities and had several prayer sessions for the Christmas outreach ministries this Christmas season.

We printed flyers and distributed them in 83 villages within a 20-mile radius. All the pastors, missionaries and the Bible College students teamed up to make this happen! Unfortunately, later in the month, there was a death in one of the villages and we had to postpone the outreach work for a while!

When our outreach program began, I was invited to preach at Asian Christian Academy in Bangalore, a premiere campus with a large Higher Secondary School, orphanage, Bible College and Hospital. The President said there were many Non-Christian teachers, bus drivers, gardeners, janitors and office staff. He wanted me to preach the Gospel, so I preached on Matthew 2:1-12 and encouraged them not to long for a “white Christmas”, but a “wise Christmas”. When I gave the altar call, many of these non-Christians trusted Christ to the glory of God! The President was happy when he heard many repeat the sinner’s prayer, he said they never give an altar call. Go figure! So, I know Heaven Rejoiced!



So back to our evangelistic flag hoisting in the villages - By the grace of God, we hoisted the flag of the cross at the beginning of the advent season in our seven centers. We put up posters, inviting many non-believers for these meetings and we preached the meaning and the significance of the birth of Jesus Christ and the cross. It was well attended and many trusted in Christ. I would like to highlight the flag hoisting in K_____. Pastor Edwin and his wife Uma have been serving there with Amulu, our girl’s warden and lecturer at the college. Priya, our missionary and a few college students went door to door along

with them, inviting people for this celebration. By the grace of God, many came. I preached the Gospel as to what happened in the “Garden of Eden”, the “Wilderness” and the “City”. In the **Garden of Eden**, death entered as a result of sin, but God promised that Satan would be crushed (Gen 3:15) and covered man’s nakedness with the skin of the animal (Gen 3:21). In the **Wilderness**, sin brought



death, but God told Moses to raise the bronze serpent to heal those who were bitten by the snake (Num 21:9). **In the City** of Jerusalem, Jesus was lifted up (John 3:14, 15) on the Cross to pay for our sin and destroying death by his resurrection. As most of them were illiterate, I shared the Gospel in a story form. When I gave the altar call, many

responded to the Gospel, including our long-time Mason, Anbu, a *Hindu from an unreached peoples group. He was very bold in his profession of faith.* This was the highlight of this outreach. Please continue to pray for him. We had been praying for his salvation for at least 12-13 years!

In addition to the flag hoisting, there were **the evangelistic carol singings** - With the promise that God would go before us, we boldly went into five villages for caroling and our loud music gathered the people. We sang, danced, distributed cakes to celebrate the birth of our Savior and then preached the Gospel. We sensed a mighty presence of the Lord in these outreaches. We only faced opposition in one village, B_____, as many trusted Christ to the glory of God.

The highlight of these meetings came at G_____, where we only have a few believers; but our focus was on the lost. Like Peter in Acts 10:44, as I was about to finish the message and give the altar call, they began to loudly shout, **"We will worship the Lord Jesus"**. They were already under conviction and I wasn't finished, what should I do? I immediately led them in a sinner's prayer! It was just a God moment with many coming to Christ!

I would like to highlight the ministry at R_____ from a report by Barnabas' wife, Sugi, who is also the campus nurse! *"This is the 1st Christmas celebration at R_____ center. It was wonderful by the grace of God and your prayers. More than 250 people came in-*



cluding children. All the high caste and low caste people sat together and heard God's Word. God's Word went with power and we felt His presence. They understood that Christianity is not a religion, but a way of life and many accepted Jesus Christ and believed on Him. The young boys in the community gave six large cakes for the celebration. It was a joy to see the high caste and the low caste eat together. Please do pray for follow up. Pray that those who believed would come to church regularly".

At our main church, 400 yards adjacent to the campus, we expected about 900 to come, but about 1000 people came. After the singing, worship, and nativity drama by our Father's Home children and Bible College students, I began to preach. After my introduction, suddenly and never before, the power went off and even our generators did not work. There was no other choice but to continue and immediately God gave me strength. *I shouted the Gospel aloud to a 1000 people!* I kept telling myself that I was born for this, the Gospel is true, people need to know that Jesus is God and I am not going to let them go without hearing the Gospel message. They stayed focused to the message and during the altar call, I was absolutely amazed at the response to the Gospel message. It was all about God: His Gospel, His Son, His Spirit, His servant, His People!!!



Christmas get-togethers in our Pastors' homes

- By the grace of God, our Pastors' ministries do not end in the church or in their mission field but extend to their homes and their neighbors. Four of our pastors and wives organized "get-togethers" for their neighbors at their homes where they shared the Gospel and a meal. They cooked and took packets to the neighboring homes and shared the Gospel. They shared the message and the joy of Christmas. This outreach was aimed at non-Christians. Many of them trusted Christ to the glory of God. These outreaches were conducted on their own, with their own money and resources. ***Ministry is not a job for them; it is their life and an overflow of God's life in them!***

With one more outreach center remaining, it is a joy to report that in all our Christmas Outreach Ministries, we shared the Gospel to over 3,400 with nearly 2,500 trusting Christ. Thanks so much for your prayers and financial support toward us. He has used you mightily this past year. Would you please

continue to stand with us in this coming year? We're a nation of 1.35 billion ruled by a militant government! We will not be pushed or bullied away from our responsibility, so we're trusting you would continue to do your part for the sake of the lost in obedience to our Lord's command.

Dottie and I look forward to serving another year and being a part, as you are, in taking the gospel into all the world. Praise God from Whom all blessing flow. We are blessed!

Mack and Dottie

P.S. Receipts will be mailed with next month's prayer letter.

Each new year brings us new opportunities
to know Him more, to walk in faith,
and grow by His grace.

May your year be
blessed in the Lord.

"...Eye hath not seen, nor ear
heard, neither have entered
into the heart of man, the
things which God hath
prepared for them that love
Him." — 1 CORINTHIANS 2:9 KJV

Jim Lewis