



# OUTREACH

November 2009

Vol. XLV No 9

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## Magazine Statement

“To inform our readers and create an interest in missions and impact them to get involved in IEM’s missionary work and mission in general.”

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Theme for 2009

*Holding on to faith*

1 Timothy 1:19

Contact

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## The General Secretary's Thoughts

### Faith in the faithfulness of God

A man and his son were in a big super market. The man struggled to control his son who wanted to free himself from his father's tight grip. He yelled, "Tom, you will be alright. Nothing will go wrong. You are caring and loving. You are trying your best.... don't give up. Yes, you will be all right." A supermarket staff came to the man and said, "Sir, why are yelling at your son, when he is right beside you. I have never seen such an encouraging father." The man replied, "No I was not talking to my son... I was yelling at myself!" As fathers, how many times have we felt this way when dealing with uncontrollable and disobedient children?

Sometimes, when our Heavenly Father looks at us, He might have to do something similar when dealing with us. The Bible talks a lot about God's faithfulness. In Romans 3:3 we read, "What if some did not have faith? Will their lack of faith nullify God's faithfulness?" No. None of us can make God's faithfulness ineffective. In Exodus 34:6, Moses saw the Lord, and he proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness." **He is faithful to call you and to be untied into His fellowship.** (1 Corinthians 1:9) God, who called you into fellowship with His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful. Though we are

unworthy to be united with a holy God, we are given the privilege to fellowship with Him through Jesus. Even if we are faithless, He will remain faithful, for he cannot disown himself. (2 Timothy 2:13) As humans, we tend to change in our attitude, perception and affection for others in our relationships. We comment about people, when we face disappointment in our relationships saying, "He has completely changed. He is not the same person now." Child of God, this is not true of our Lord. He is the same always and His faithfulness endures forever.

**He is faithful to deliver you in all the circumstances.** The Amplified Bible says, "But God is faithful to His Word and to His compassionate nature, and He can be trusted not to let you be tempted and tried and assayed beyond your ability and strength of resistance and power to endure, but with the temptation He will always also provide the way out, the means of escape to a landing place, that you may be capable and strong and powerful to bear up under it patiently." (1 Corinthians 10:13) We need to convert our testing periods into trusting periods. A deep realisation and faith that God is in absolute control of our lives will help us to go through any situation.

**He is faithful to strengthen and protect you,** (2 Thessalonians 3:3) "But the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen and protect you from the evil one." "The one who calls you is faithful and he will do it." (1 Thessalonians 5:24) Paul experienced the strengthening and protection of the Lord on numerous occasions. Paul's concern was that the Word ought to spread rapidly, in the midst of a crooked and evil people. We are forced

to live and work among faithless people. Every servant of God has to risk his or her life, but the Lord is faithful. Therefore, he boldly recommends that we need to have faith in the faithfulness of God. Let us not reduce the rapid momentum of the Gospel. Paul also discovered that all “believers” are not believers. God is able to protect us from such people as well as from the perils of Satan.

Let take time to understand our God by studying His Word, trusting Him and being transparent before Him in all circumstances. We will be powerful when we put our faith in God’s faithfulness.

We visited Ukhrul, Manipur, the first place where the Gospel reached through William Pettigrew. We saw the first believer - the headman of the village who was a head hunter in 1901. We praise God that the Tangkhul people who live here were reached the Gospel. Today, a very strong church is sending missionaries all over the world. We signed a MoU to partner with the Tangkhul Baptist churches Association to see different ways of reaching the unreached. It was our privilege to participate in their Missions Conference.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Mehalaya State Convention took place at Smit, near Shilong. We praise God for the partnership between IEM and Khasi Janita Presbyterian church. It was very large gathering and I admire the faith of the organisers who arranged the convention in an open space during the rainy season.

Our Field ministries’ leaders met at Chikaldara to reflect and evaluate the work in the context of forming 250 new WG by 2011. The Lord’s promise was that the land is open before us and we have to go up take possession of it. We decided to intensify our efforts in spotting more local leaders and empowering them.

When I visited Chikaldara, I was burdened yet again to reach the Kurkus, Gowlans and Gowlies who live here. In this issue, we focus on our ministry which started in 1983. Please pray that the Lord will help us to build strong churches in these beautiful hills.

With much love, thanks and regards,

Yours in His joyful ministry,

**P John Wesley**

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## Koya Mobile Bible Dedication

A milestone in Koya Bible Translation! Keeping up with the times, the Koyas can now read the New Testament on their mobiles. This is indeed a unique achievement because Koya is the first tribal language to have their heart language on their mobiles.

On October 2, 2009, at the Tamil Nadu State IEM Youth Camp at Tuticorin, young people witnessed the dedication of the Koya Mobile by the Bishop of Tuticorin. Of course the mobile should support the Telugu font. Now, the precious Koya people can receive Bible verses as text messages and even Koya songs as ring tones!

The first volume of the Koya Song VCD with Koya cultural information as clippings was also released. It is a good tool to teach Sunday school students.

**Dr D Devagnavaram**  
Koya Bible Translator



## The Seed of the Church



Believe it or not, the festivity of Christmas will engulf the world in a little over a month's time. Gradually, as the economic divide collapses, a majority of people in our global village will celebrate the birth of the Prince of Peace, without even knowing Him as Saviour or acknowledging Him as Lord! No wonder true peace is non-existent, despite world governments brokering bilateral and trilateral agreements, all in the name of peace.

In our mission fields however, fledgling Worship Groups, born after years of tears, toil and testing are preparing to present their Saviour and Lord to their own people. So amid the customary decorations and delicacies, there will always be a determined effort to reach out to a dying world in need of a living Saviour. Kindly take time to pray for our missionaries, local evangelists, church elders, helpers and the young people as they put their heads and hearts together, for the sake of our Lord Jesus.

This month we travel to Chikaldara in Amravati district of Maharashtra. Bestowed with a salubrious climate, this hill station is home to a number of animals including tigers, wild boar and deer which roam freely across the

undulating hills. We will also come across a number of tribal groups, many of whom long to be liberated from various vices, social stigmas and belief systems. Right from the inception of our ministry here, we have been focussing on the Korku people. The annals of missionary work among the Korkus record work and witness of Western missionaries who lived and died for the Master. A dilapidated graveyard in Chikaldara bears testimony to the fact that these precious people looked for a city, whose builder and maker is God. Unfortunately, thieves vandalised these graves, looking for silver and gold...and found none! In spite of their hard work, very few turned to the Lord. Yet their labour for the Lord is not in vain because the blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church. Today, the church is gradually gaining ground. Potential leaders are being equipped to shepherd their own people. The complete Korku New Testament will be in the hands of the people in about 2 years. This will help the emerging churches to grow strong and more dependant on the Lord. Children are being groomed in hostels run by Pundita Ramabhai Multi Mission (PRMM) as well as by our missionaries in the villages in and around Chikaldara.

The best is yet to come because the future is as bright as the promises of God. As you turn the pages of this magazine, may the story of the Korku people stir you to pray for them and spur you to participate in our ministry among them.

Timothy Austin



“...better to have taken some risks and lost than to have done nothing and succeeded at it...”

## Bible Study

# Rhythm of FAITH

*(For many, faith is an abstract concept, much preached about but seldom understood or appropriated. In our mission fields, the outworking of faith is an absolute necessity. Faith to entrust, faith to equip, faith to endure and faith to move on. Our Central Secretary for Field Ministries, Rev Jonathan Chavan helps us to understand how the rhythm of faith operates when God's people are available for Him to use.)*

I have a friend who is serving the Lord wholeheartedly. Though highly qualified, he does seek for more money than what is due to him. His small family includes a 15-year old daughter. My friend is unaware of where his income comes from. He conducts workshops for Christian workers besides youth camps and so on. I have never seen him seeking sympathy from others. He has no sure source of income and no steady bank balance. Truly, he lives by faith! In my mind, this is true spirituality. Sometimes we “colour” ourselves with so much Christian jargon that it becomes impossible to live normal Christian lives.

**Relationship: “One WITH another” Not “OVER the other”**

Missionaries are not indispensable! They need to deliberately build local people who will eventually succeed them. Tribal leaders may be able to do better than them. Please look this well-known verse on missions. *“After these things I saw, and behold, a great multitude, which no man could number, out of every nation and of [all] tribes and*

*peoples and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb.”(Revelation 7:9)* In this multitude, I am sure we will find some tribal leaders as well.

Do we believe that tribal leaders are capable of bringing their own people before the Throne of Grace? The Lord Jesus disciplined 12 ordinary men, most of whom were unschooled fishermen. Their lives were marked by failure. These disciples can be compared with the local people whom our missionaries are trying to equip. We also find that the apostle Paul deliberately witnessed to the Gentiles, not just to “convert” them but also to develop responsible leaders like Timothy.

### How can we do this?

1. **Build** each other up (1 Thessalonians 5:11)
2. **Until** Christ is formed in you (Galatians 4:19)
3. **Do not think of yourself** more highly than you ought (Romans 12:3)
4. **Honor** one another above yourselves (Romans 12:10)
5. Be willing to **associate** with people of low position (Romans 12:16)

This process can be compared to childbirth. The Apostle Paul calls Timothy his “son” in the faith, drawing inspiration from the intimate relationship between a father and his son. The Lord delights in those with sincere hearts.



Local leaders cannot be ordered around. They are not for sale. In IEM we make sincere efforts to develop and empower them till they are able to make decisions on their own. In II Corinthians 13:5, we see the Jesus model. He became the **weakest** of all so that the grace of God could work in and through Him. He let others supersede Him. He kept quiet when people persecuted Him. He willingly suffered injustice, and vulnerability marked His life. Therefore, the rhythm of grace echoed through Him.

## II. In missions, faith is best demonstrated by the local church

The Body of the believers breathe out faith in the Living God.

- a) **In simple and sincere worship** After working for 16 years with poor, non-literates, un-influential and un-structured people, I have witnessed the destruction of evil forces in the mission field! The tiny, timid “worship group” with mustard seed sized faith moves mountains. Therefore, I believe in the Village Church!
- b) **In speaking out against evil** When city churches speak out against societal evils like homosexuality, the village church to have courage to speak? The church cannot be defined without its overcoming struggle against the powers of darkness. That is why Jesus said, “I will build my church and gates of Hades will not overcome it.”
- c) **In suffering** Only the suffering church can become the triumphant church. As the church is cleansed, she becomes stronger. Wrong teaching declares that if you believe in Jesus everything will go well. Give to God and He will bless you! This doctrine defeats the growth of faith.

**3. In missions** - Faith means moving towards the unknown, unseen and untried. “Now faith is the assurance of [things] hoped for, a conviction of things not seen.” (Hebrews 11:1)

## Perspective: Not poverty but God’s plenty

Whether we like it or not the attitude which says, “for the poor anything will do” exists. This gives us the freedom us to do our work “some how.” In Hindi we say, “*Challega!*” No wonder missionaries are frustrated at times, basically because they have not done our home work. When an axe is not sharpened, it takes more time to do the work. Because tribals are poor and the enormity of the task before us, we doubt the living God. On the contrary, we ought to look at God’s perspective which focuses on God’s plenty! When God can do wonders in mission fields with Indian missionaries over many decades in spite of our poverty, why can’t we trust God’s plenteous provision?

## The un-reached are at our doorstep now

In the early days of missionary work, missionaries had to search for people and live among them. In those days, the emphasis was on “going”, today it is on “seeing.” India’s villages are moving into the cities. The people are now in our neighbourhoods. This move seems to be more a clamour acceptance rather than for survival. Village folk want to be heard in high levels of the society. There is hunger and thirst among people in villages for acceptance and respect. And this is the “*Kairos*” for missions. ‘Kairos’ (Greek: *καίριος*) means the *right time or opportune moment*.

In many cities, there are large groups of construction workers. there are colonies of various tribal groups in Mumbai. In Nasik you will find Kuknas,

Nepalis in Nagpur, Biharis in Kohima and Tibetans in Mysore. There are also many tribal hostel children in different towns and cities. We need to take a step of faith.

Author and pastor of Moody church, Ervin R Lutzer declares, "...better to have taken some risks and lost than to have done nothing and succeeded at it..."

### Finally

"If you do not stand firm in your faith, you will not stand at all." (Isaiah 7:9). God has called us to be faithful not smart! God wants our best not our excellence. Followers will not grow in faith if leaders did not leave enough space for them to grow. Will I let God disturb the cozy nest that I have built for myself?



Field News: Andamans

## A Memorable and Meaningful Visit

The IEM Andamans mission field was privileged to welcome Bishop Rt Rev Cristu Doss, his wife and a team of pastors from the Tirunelveli diocese in September. They arrived at Kadamtala mission station on September 9 and the believers and missionaries accorded them a hearty welcome. Believers from Foster Valley Church walked for 2 hours through the forested hill slopes to attend this function.

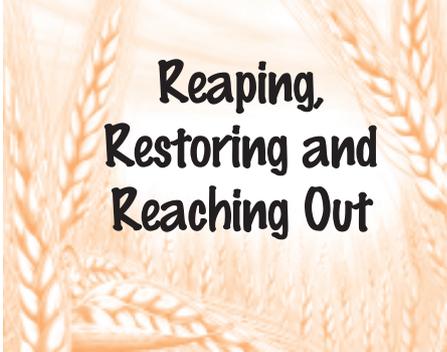
Our Zonal Field Secretary, Rev Akhai Haokip from Port Blair and Mr David Vaiphei from Diglipur were present. In his welcome address, Rev Haokip said it is a great day for Christ Church, Kadamtala, which had a sizable number of believers. Bishop Rt Rev J J Christu Doss, in his reply read Isaiah 55:13, "Instead of the thorn shall come up the fir tree, and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree: and it shall be to the LORD for a name, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off." He said that 200 years ago, Tirunelveli was a spiritually dry place. However, because of the work of missionaries, it has grown into a big diocese with 650 churches and is involved in a lot of educational and

medical services. IEM started a good work in the Andaman Islands, and according to the promise of God, the churches established here will one day become a big diocese with the many people worshipping the Lord Jesus Christ. The next day, he planted a coconut sapling in the church compound to mark the occasion. Mr and Mrs. Paul Newton, in their vote of thanks recalled that some of the pastors who were present had nurtured them spiritually. The pastors appreciated the commitment of the missionaries and invited them to visit their respective churches during their vacation.

On September 16, a team from UESI-TN visited us. They wanted to start a student ministry in colleges in the Andamans. We introduced them to our youth studying in a Mayabundar college. Our helper Masidas gathered 7 students, 3 of whom are from Kadamtala. They formed the first college prayer cell in the Andamans. We praise God for using our children to start this historical event.

**Paul & Chella Newton,**  
Kadamtala





## Reaping, Restoring and Reaching Out

**M**aharashtra located on the western coast of India is India's third largest state by area and second largest in terms of population. Maharashtra has 34 districts western is bordered by the Arabian Sea to the west, Gujarat and the Union territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli to the northwest, Madhya Pradesh to the northeast, Chhattisgarh to the east, Karnataka to the south, Andhra Pradesh to the southeast, and Goa to the southwest.

The name "**Chikaldara**" name means "mud pond" and indicates a source of water! Situated at 1118.6 metres above sea level, the hills which run from east and west through Central India, has a sizable population and is considered to be a "low hill resort" in the heart of the Melghat Tiger Reserve where an estimated 80 tigers roam freely, protected by the Government. It also boasts of a famous fort named "Gawaligadh", botanical gardens and some magnificent scenic spots overlooking the plains of Maharashtra. Many Korku(tribal) and Gowli(Hindi) villages dot the surrounding hillsides."

The **Korkus** are one of the many tribal groups which have made this region their homeland.

"Korku" means "people." They speak the Korku dialect. The Korku people number approximately 500,000 and are spread across Amravati district as well as in parts of Madhya Pradesh.

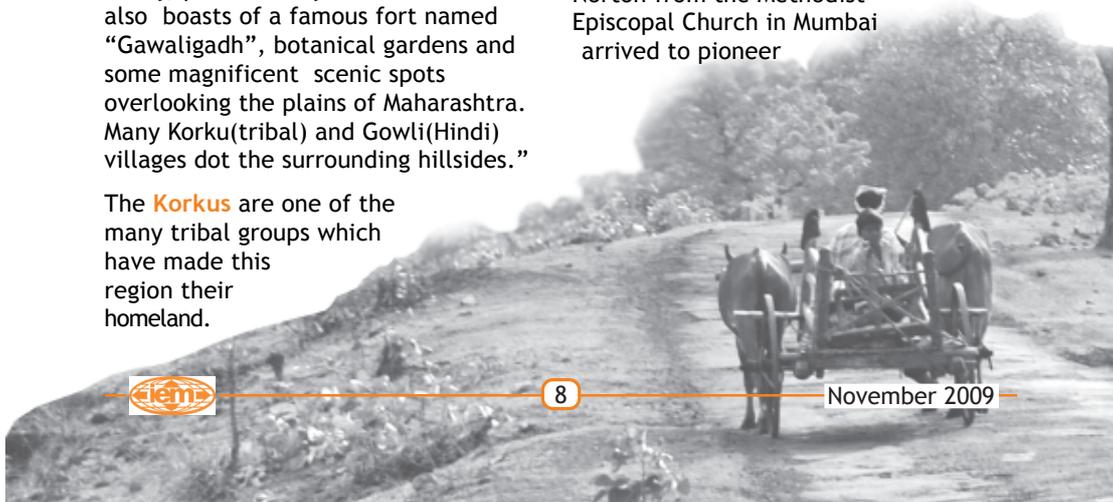
Originally, the Korku people belonged to the Munda people group from Bihar and Orissa. Gradually they moved westward. Even the Korku language belongs to the Munda group of languages. Over the years, some Hindi and Marathi words were introduced into the language by virtue of their location.

They are animists but have been greatly influenced by Hinduism. A majority of the people are agriculturists or daily wage labourers. Some educated Korkus have found jobs in Government offices as well.

### The history of ministry among the Korkus

The preaching of the Gospel to the Korku people has a long and exciting history. In **December 1873**, Mr & Mrs Golonel George Oldham were holidaying in Chikaldara. While enjoying the beauty of the hillside, they felt burdened to reach the Korku people. So they prayed fervently that God would send missionaries to work among them.

God heard their prayer. He heard the cry of the Korku people as well. In **January 1874**, an American, Rev. Albert Norton from the Methodist Episcopal Church in Mumbai arrived to pioneer





the work among the Korku people.

In **1890**, the Korku and Central India Hill Mission began its work among Korku people.

In **1950**, the Conservative Baptist Foreign Mission Society (CBFMS) formed the Baptist Christian Association (BCA) at Paratwada near Chikaldara and took on the responsibility of reaching the Korku people.

From **1976-1988**, the Church Growth Missionary Movement (CGMM) sent a missionary to work in this region.

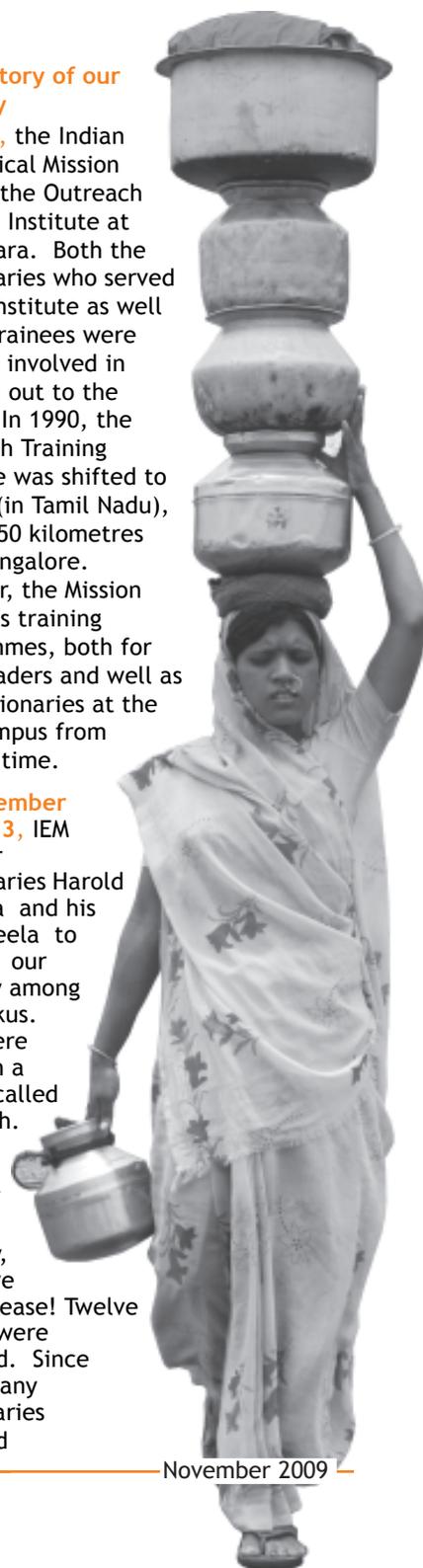
In **1979**, a tripartite partnership evolved between the Baptist Christian Association (BCA), Indian Evangelical Mission (IEM) and Zoram Baptist Mission (ZBM) to concentrate on reaching the Korkus in the Melghat region alone.

We praise God that till today, these mission movements continue to work together for the glory of God.

### The History of our ministry

In **1980**, the Indian Evangelical Mission started the Outreach Training Institute at Chikaldara. Both the missionaries who served at the Institute as well as the trainees were actively involved in reaching out to the Korkus. In 1990, the Outreach Training Institute was shifted to Bagalur (in Tamil Nadu), around 50 kilometres from Bangalore. However, the Mission conducts training programmes, both for local leaders and well as for missionaries at the OTC campus from time to time.

On **November 22, 1983**, IEM sent our missionaries Harold Waghela and his wife Sheela to pioneer our ministry among the Korkus. They were based in a village called Semadoh. After two years of tireless ministry, God gave the increase! Twelve people were baptized. Since then, many missionaries followed

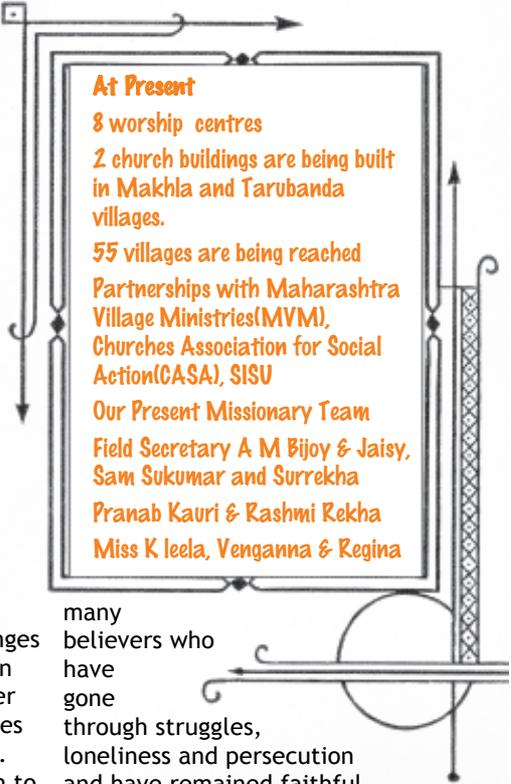


### Towards Restoration and Growth

Our missionaries reach out to remote villages in remote, heavily forested areas, replete with dangers. They serve the Lord with determination and commitment, hoping to see God's mighty power transforming in the lives of the people. In time, churches were established in remote villages and even people from Gowlan, Chamar and other people groups were ushered into God's kingdom.

Besides church planting, ministry among children, developing local leaders and initiating development projects meant to hasten the social uplift of the people, we are involved translating the Bible into the Korku language. There are no short cuts to progress and this is true in missionary work. The challenges

increased even as the number of missionaries was reduced. Yet the vision to reach out to the precious Korkus remains as clear as ever. There have been times of tears and tireless toil. Now we have



**At Present**  
8 worship centres  
2 church buildings are being built in Makhla and Tarubanda villages.  
55 villages are being reached  
Partnerships with Maharashtra Village Ministries(MVM), Churches Association for Social Action(CASA), SISU  
Our Present Missionary Team  
Field Secretary A M Bijoy & Jaisy, Sam Sukumar and Surrekha  
Pranab Kauri & Rashmi Rekha  
Miss K leela, Venganna & Regina

many believers who have gone through struggles, loneliness and persecution and have remained faithful in their witness for the Lord.

We work with a 2-fold objective in mind. First, our missionaries are working towards reviving previously formed Worship Groups. Keeping this in mind, our missionaries, local evangelists and church elders from different villages are systematically gathering for prayer and worship. In turn, they are visiting other villages and encouraging the believers to do the same. The results are encouraging.

The second objective is to ensure that new Worship Groups are established in new villages. The small but hard working team of missionaries, Local Eevangelists and helpers are actively involved in preaching the Gospel and reaching out to seekers, hoping to lead them to the Saviour.





Hundreds of years ago, western missionaries crossed the oceans to work among the Korkus. They served the Lord faithfully and chose to die among

the people they served. Their blood and sweat will not go unrewarded. IEM and other Missions have carried on the good work. Now after more than 25 years of ministry, the Lord continues to give the increase.

#### **We cannot rest!**

Large areas of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh are still unreached. The Korkus in these areas cannot be reached unless our missionaries are backed up by people who are committed to constantly pray for them. The stronghold of Satan will be destroyed and mighty things will happen among our precious Korku people. Will you join us?

## **They Also Served...**

*A Host of IEM Missionaries served in Chikaldara mission field. Their labour of love is priceless and accounted by the Lord of the harvest.*

Rev. John Garrison & Leona	Mr. Jonathan Chavan
Mr. P S Thomas & Mariamma	Mr John Mathew & Mercy
Rev A John Raj & Grace	Mr John Mark
Mr Chandy Varghese & Mariamma	Mr Regi Samuel
Mr David Shanmugam	Miss Ebenezer Gnanakumari
Mr Noel Kotian & Yashodha	Miss P I Mary
Mr A Raja Mohan Doss & Selina	Miss Mary Yesudial
Rev Ganeshapandy & Ida	Mr Jackin Isravel & Jeya
Rev Harold Waghela & Sheela	Mr Deepak Kumar
Mr Johnny Desai & Kokila	Miss Saramma Philipose
Rev Prakash George & Dr Jameela	Mr Cheriachen & Rosamma
Dr Koshy George & Sharon	Mr Morcha Maring
Mr Cornelius Christy & Shillah	Mr Abraham Devaprasad
Miss Christy Daisy	Miss K Leela
Miss Rachel Suhasini	Miss Sam Sukumar & Surekha
Miss MM Sosamma	Mr G K Ngaihte
Mr Mathew P Mathew	Mr Sukku Kachhua
Mr Anil Kumar Das & Aradhana	Mr Jam Za Kap & Hau Khan Niang



## Sold out for God

*(One of the brightest stars that shone in the western church, George Whitefield's story is unique in its intensity. It's like a light that blazed brightly on both sides of the Atlantic and finally came to rest. We can only marvel at this powerful preacher who rose from obscurity to become a mighty man of God.both in the British Isles and also in America.)*

**G**eorge Whitefield was born in the Bell

Inn in Gloucester England in 1714. His father who was a wine merchant and innkeeper died when George was two. His widowed mother struggled to keep the family of seven together. She remarried when he was ten, but the union was an unhappy one.

### Drawn to God

He went through many ups and downs in his childhood education. There was a desire to preach at the back of his mind and he would often stay up the whole night when a boy, and read the Bible. Finally he entered Pembroke College at Oxford in 1732. There he met John and Charles Wesley and joined the Holy club. A book loaned by Charles Wesley plus a severe sickness both led to his conversion to Christ in 1735.

He left school in May 1735, returning home to recuperate for nine months. His activity during this time drew the attention of the bishop of Gloucester who offered to ordain Whitefield as a deacon. Whitefield returned to Oxford where Bishop Benson ordained him on June 20 1736.

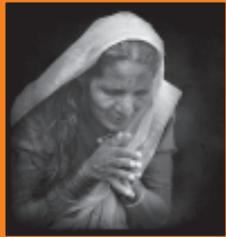
The following Sunday Whitefield preached his first sermon at the church of Saint Mary de Crypt. People flocked to hear him, including his mother. Somebody complained to the bishop that his first sermon drove fifteen people mad! In his lifetime he preached over 18,000 sermons but less than 90 have survived in any form. Following this he received his BA degree in Oxford.

The Wesley brothers who had gone to Georgia in America pressed him to join them there. He did go one year later in the meantime preaching to great crowds all over England. He set sail and arrived in America on May 7, 1738. Whitefield loved Georgia and helped several orphans and girls by collecting funds and opening schools for them. On his return to England, his friend Bishop Benson ordained him as a priest in the Church of England.

### Spectacular Service

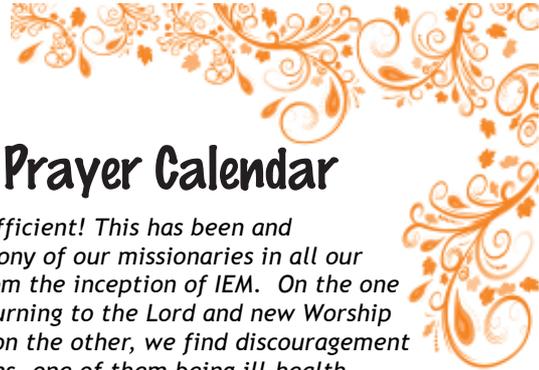
The doors of the established churches were closed to Whitefield when he returned to London. He continued to preach however, in as many churches as would receive him but these were too small to hold the crowds. Finally he hit upon the idea of preaching in fields, in the open air. The first such meeting was held in a coal mine district in 1739. In this way he continued preaching to ever-increasing crowds in various places. His style of speaking was so vivid and lively that people would fall prostrate under the power of the sermon.

*Contd. on page 21*



Two hands working can do more than a thousand clasped in prayer.

-Author Unknown



## Praise and Prayer Calendar

*(His grace is always sufficient! This has been and continues to be testimony of our missionaries in all our mission fields right from the inception of IEM. On the one hand, we see people turning to the Lord and new Worship groups being formed; on the other, we find discouragement creeping because of various reasons, one of them being ill-health. When you pray us through October, kindly spare a little time to pray specifically for the health of our missionaries. Thank you!)*

### 1 Manali, Himachal Pradesh

#### Praise God

For His grace and strength given to our missionaries to faithfully serve the Lord

For His healing on some new families who are attending church

For the new seekers who are attending church every Sunday

#### Pray

That the new seekers will make definite commitments to follow the Lord wholeheartedly

That our Sunday School teachers will continue to display the love of Christ to the children they are trying to reach

That our 50 Sunday School children will make definite commitments to the Lord

That those who experienced the Lord's healing touch will turn to Jesus and acknowledge Him as their Saviour and Lord

That the worship service started in a nearby village will become a full fledged Worship Group

That the church leadership team will wisely plan programmes for the house

groups, youth and women's groups

That our missionaries will be enabled to effectively counsel families who are facing difficult issues in their lives

### 2 Raxaul, Bihar

#### Praise God

That 6 believers openly confessed their faith in the Lord on August 5, 2009

That Bible study fellowships could be started in Trivani and Bela village on Wednesday and Thursday respectively

For the wholehearted support rendered by EHA's Duncan hospital staff during seekers' meetings, believers get-togethers, medical camps and so on

For the 40 children who attended the Vacation Bible School and now are regular at the tuition classes

That people are willing to listen to the Gospel in Basatpur, Birshing and Gudra villages

#### Pray

That the 6 new believers will grow spiritually and witness to their own people

For funds needed to construct a Prayer shed in Triveni village

That seekers from Tilkahani, Duboliya, Laxmanawa villages turn to the Lord

For one motorcycle for use in this mission field



### 3 Chhatarpur, Madhya Pradesh

#### Praise God

For the blessed seekers meeting conducted by our missionaries on August 15

For the new missionary Tamrechan Zamik who has arrived in Chhatarpur

That 2 believers, Dasarat and Mahesh who attended the local leadership training programme at Chikaldara

That our missionary Kunnal was invited to restart the ministry in the village where he was beaten earlier

#### Pray

That the case registered against Kunnal will be quashed in court at the next hearing on December 8, 2009

For believer Doulat Sahu who currently studying at the Asian School of Evangelism & College in Jaipur

### 4 Zonal Field Secretaries (ZFS)

#### Praise God

That our ZFSs were strengthened as they ministered to and motivated our missionaries during the month of October

For the fervent prayer and fruitful planning that went on during the Zonal Field Secretaries' meeting in Chikaldara early last month

#### Pray

That the strategies adopted to reach 250 New Worship Groups by 2011 will be prayerfully implemented in all our mission fields

That our ZFSs' families will be protected by the Lord when their loved ones spend long periods away from home

### 5 Dharamshala Himachal Pradesh

#### Praise God

For healing our missionary Mrs Ching who suffered a set back in health soon

after delivering her first child on the mission field

For granting both Ching and her husband safety as they traveled back to their hometown for rest

#### Pray

That our missionaries will be able to return to the field soon so that the contacts who are waiting to hear the Gospel may turn to the Lord

That the vision to reach the Buddhist community will be clear and dear to our missionaries

### 6 Church Ministries, Manipur

#### Praise God

For the successful conduct of the Manipur State convention at Ukhrul from September 24 - 27, 2009

For those who contributed generously to meet the expenses of the convention

For the new support groups that are responding to the challenge of missions every month

#### Pray

That effective follow up programmes will be conducted by our missionaries in Ukhrul and surrounding areas during November

That suitable Mission coordinators and Area Coordinators will be identified and appointed in Ukhrul, Senapati and other districts of Manipur

That God will continue to protect our missionaries as they travel through difficult and disturbed areas of Manipur

### 7 The General Secretary

#### Praise God

For the anointing and enabling granted to Rev P John Wesley during his extensive ministry in missionary conventions as well as during preaching engagements in churches and other forums



### Pray

That as he gives direction to the Mission, the Lord will prosper the work of his hands

That his son Jonathan who suffered a set back in health recently will know the Lord's healing touch

### 8 Bible Translation Projects

#### Praise God

That the **Garasia** New Testament is gradually being used not just in churches but also during family devotions

That our missionary Bible translators Mr & Mrs Senthil from **Hadothi** mission field in Rajasthan have been completely healed after their accident

That the checking of the books of 1 & 2 Timothy, Titus & 1 Thessalonians in **Tharu** language has been completed

#### Pray

That the typesetting of **Bison Horn Madiya** New Testament will be completed soon

That the checking work of 1 & 2 Thessalonians & 2 Corinthians in the **Bhatri, Ho and Banjara** languages will gain momentum

### 9 Fatehpur, Uttar Pradesh

#### Praise God

That our missionary Jaimon Joseph and his family could move into a new house and begin ministry in new villages

That many seekers are keen to know about Christ

That through the tuition classes in Haswa village our missionaries were able to find openings for ministry in new villages

#### Pray

For the need of a motorcycle for use in this mission field, especially to take sick people to the hospital and to visit new villages

That our missionary Theba Timothy will benefit from the Community Organizer training programme conducted by EFICOR

That seekers may commit themselves to the Lord in the future

That the Lord will open the doors for ministry in Bakanda, Salimabad, Madireapur, Visouli and Gadariyapur villages

**\*Pray for the Inservice Training for IEM missionaries from today till November 27 at Outreach Training Institute**

### 10 Kheri, Uttar Pradesh

#### Praise God

That our local helper Kaseri benefitted from the insights he received during the local leadership training programme at OTC, Chikaldhara

That our tribal hostel children performed well in their monthly tests

For the believers who are ready to openly confess their faith in the Lord

#### Pray

For funds to purchase a piece of land a construct a hostel in Chatrawas village

For funds to construct a Prayer shed Bankati village

### 11 Utraula, Uttar Pradesh

#### Praise God

For the believers who openly confessed their faith in the Lord on May 9 and August 5 in Balrampur and Utraula respectively

That 2 Local Evangelists and one believer Binesh were able to attend the Local Leadership Training programme at Outreach Training Centre, Chikaldara.

That our Local evangelist's son Paulus could secure admission in a Christian hostel. Now his parents can devote more time for ministry

### Pray

That new missionary Samuel Thiek will adjust to the field situation and learn the local dialect soon

That funds will be available to purchase a land for a church building in Utraula.

That the believers will grow spiritually

That seeker Durgesh from Rateina village will experience the Lord's healing from his paralysis

## 12 Church Ministries, Kerala

### Praise God

That we have received 3 new sponsorships for our tribal hostel children

For the favourable response to the challenge of Mission from the Ernakulam area

That 2 prospective missionary candidates have been identified

For protecting our Church Ministries team during their extensive travel

### Pray

That our Area Secretaries will continue to actively perform their labour of love in their respective areas

For God's guidance in identifying and appointing potential Area Secretaries

For the Church Ministries team as they prepare for the IEM Regional Convention from

December 4-6, 2009. Our General Secretary will be ministering the Word during the convention

## 13 Finance Department

### Praise God

For His provision funds to take us through the first half of the fiscal year

For His healing touch on our Finance Secretary Mr Solomon Swamidoss.

Stones were removed from his bile duct at CMC Vellore

### Pray

That the internal audit which is now in progress will be completed on time

That our God-given resources will be effectively used by all the ministries of IEM

That suitable and sufficient computers will be provided to optimise the work in the Finance Department

**\*Pray for the Tamil Nadu State Planning Committee from today till the 15<sup>th</sup> at Courtallum, Tirunelveli district**

## 14 Khond, Koraput, Orissa

### Praise God

That He protected our missionaries during the recent spurt of persecution

That our Local Evangelists Fokino, and Buri Muska were able to continue the ministry in their respective villages during the absence of our missionaries in the mission field

That a discipleship camp could be conducted from October 13 -16, 2009

### Pray

That lasting peace may prevail in this region so that the Gospel can penetrate hitherto untouched regions of this mission field

That the village leaders will understand the purpose of our missionaries' activities and get to know the Saviour

## 15 Andamans

### Praise God

That work on the multipurpose hall in Nimbutala Jetty area will begin soon

That seeker Lokanathan and his family are ready to openly confess their faith in the Lord in the coming days

For the blessed visit to the Andamans of the CSI Bishop in Tirunelveli and his team of pastors recently



### Pray

That our Sunday School children will be able to meet in the multipurpose hall instead of a rented place very soon

That other programmes too will be able to be conducted here

### 16 Khammam, Andhra Pradesh

#### Praise God

For the 11 believers who openly confessed their faith in the Lord in Uppusaka village during the first week of September

For the young people in Thumulacheru and Jaganathapuram who become literate because of the efforts of our missionaries

#### Pray

That New Worship Groups will be formed in 22 villages in the coming months

That 10 committed Local Evangelists will be appointed to carry forward the ministry among the Koya people

That volunteers will be appointed to carry on the ministry in Katukapalli and Pathamaradupaka Worship Centers

### 17 Church Ministries, Maharashtra

#### Praise God

For blessing the Church Ministries team over the last 10 months

For the blessed IEM Marathi State Convention from October 16-18, 2009 at Ahmednagar

#### Pray

That our missionaries will be able to conduct effective follow up programmes in Ahmednagar and Solapur

That the Church Ministries team will be kept in good health especially during the winter months

For more openings for ministry in new areas

### 18 Tamil Nadu Church Ministries

#### Praise God

For the exciting IEM Youth Camp in the Pearl City of Tuticorin from October 2-4, 2009. More than 350 delegates attended

For the young people who made various commitments to the Lord

For the provision of sufficient funds to conduct the convention

That one missionary was dedicated on the October 27, 2009 in Karur area. Thank God for the family who agreed to support the missionary

#### Pray

That the Sponsors' Christmas programmes at Coimbatore, Mettupalayam and other places in Tamil Nadu will help bring the mission field closer to our supporters

For the Church Ministries office staff office staff and their family members

That Rev A Dayavan and the team will enjoy good health as they travel to various places for ministry

### 19 Communication Department

#### Praise God

For the provision of funds to publish the magazine in English, Tamil, Kannada, Malayalam, Telugu, Oriya, Marathi, Gujarati, Hindi

For our translators who faithfully efficiently carry on their work in spite of the deadlines before them

#### Pray

That the books "Servants of the Cross Part 2", "Following in His Steps", a devotional and so on will be widely distributed after its release

For strength and wisdom for our Communication Secretary, Mr A Jenny Christopher and the team

For the CDs and DVDs containing messages by Rev Dr Theodore Williams to make a lasting impact on people



## 20 Church Ministries, North East India

### Praise God

For the many organisations who have signed and are willing to sign MOUs with IEM for the propagation of the Gospel

For the many openings for ministry across the North East belt

### Pray

For more Church Ministries missionaries to serve in the North East

For protection for our personnel in the midst of a restless situation

For more openings in mainline organizations and churches

## 21 Chikaldara, Maharashtra

### Praise God

For helping our Korku Bible translators Sam Sukumar & Surrekka to speed up the translation work

For the 8 Korku young people who turned to Christ and for the 11 who renewed their commitment during the Youth Meeting from July 21 -22, 2009

### Pray

That those who decided to follow Christ will be true to their decision

That the Lord will heal our missionary Miss K Leela, who is suffering from earache. She is also searching for a suitable house in the field

That our part time Local Evangelists Buda Jamunkar and Santhosh Chimote will gradually increase their involvement in the ministry

## 22 Kolam Ministry, Maharashtra & Andhra Pradesh

### Praise God

That many believers and seekers gathered from far off places to worship the Lord in Junauni village recently

### Pray

That the seekers in new villages will respond to the love of Christ and that vibrant Worship Groups will be established

That a family of a believer Suresh will decide to follow Christ. Suresh was miraculously saved from the clutches of Satan before he could commit suicide

That the ministry among the Kolami and Telugu people in Bela area of Andhra Pradesh will be fruitful

## 23 Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh

### Praise God

That our hostel children were protected from viral attacks during the recent monsoon season

For the fruitful ministry in 6 Chenchu villages

That mission field convention during the last week of October was well-attended

### Pray

For a revival among the Chenchu people as the Holy Spirit ministers to each one according to their needs

That believer Nagamma who is unwell will experience the Lord's healing touch grow strong in her faith

## 24 Lakhnadon, Madhya Pradesh

### Praise God

For encouraging and strengthening our missionaries Mr & Mrs Satyajit Desai and their children to continue serving Him in spite of ill-health and related problems

For the new believers who are growing in the Lord

That some believers are willing to serve as Local Evangelists among their own people

### Pray

For our new missionary Akhai who is in the process of mastering the local Dehathi dialect

That many seekers will respond to the preaching of the Gospel and accept Jesus as their personal Saviour

### 25 Robertsganj, Uttar Pradesh

#### Praise God

That 2 motorcycles were given by Living Water Mission for use in this mission field

That missionaries Pranicharan & Kimboi could complete their first term missionary training course at Outreach Training Institute(OTI)

For the blessed seekers and women's meeting' in August. Many heard the Word of God for the first time

#### Pray

That the seekers who attended these meetings will have an unquenchable desire to search the Scriptures to know the Saviour of the world

That our missionary Mrs Taramani whose delivery is scheduled in 2 weeks will be kept in good health and deliver a healthy baby

That local helper Mahinder who is suffering from Tuberculosis will experience the Lord's healing touch

### 26 Chitradurga, Karnataka

#### Praise God

For the good rainfall after an extremely warm summer. People were able to complete the sowing season successfully

For the new seekers who are attending the worship service at Bharamasagara

#### Pray

That the young people will desire to follow the Lord wholeheartedly

For the urgent need of a 2-wheeler for our missionary Mr Anandkumar

### 27 Hosur, Tamil Nadu

#### Praise God

For the good rainfall and abundant harvest

That believers Tar, Prathap and Rajammal will be openly confessing their faith in the Lord

That some of the seekers from the Gypsy community have accepted the Lord and have begun attending the church. They are sending their children to school as well

#### Pray

That funds will be provided for the construction of a church in Doddagoundar village

That believer Sarah who is being taunted because she believes in the Lord Jesus will be firm in her faith and witness

That our believer Muniraj and his wife will commit their differences to the Lord and stay united as husband and wife for the sake of the Gospel

That some of believers who have stopped attending worship at Sonnepura will return to the fellowship

### 28 Outreach Training Institute, Bagalur, Tamil Nadu

#### Praise God

For the 23 committed missionary candidates who were trained at OTI

For the Sunday House Worship services which were started in Attur and Perumalpalli villages

For the Lord's healing on our missionary candidates and staff's children

#### Pray

For their second phase of training in mission fields which began on October 1 and will conclude in the second week of January 2010

For the required funds to complete the multi-purpose hall at OTI

**\*Pray for the IEM Kerala State Youth Camp which begins today at Kottayam**



### 29 Krishnagiri, Tamil Nadu

#### Praise God

For the 6 ladies who are participating in the income generating tailoring project

For the 9 believers who openly confesse their faith in the Lord

For the 15 people who gather for worship at Velahalhalli and the 10 who meet at Kandagabail villages

For the boys and girls in our hostels who are keeping good health and doing well in their studies

#### Pray

That our ministry among young people will take root and bear much fruit

That our young believers will find suitable believing life partners

That those who openly confessed their faith in the Lord will serve Him diligently

### 30 Chinnoor, Andhra Pradesh

#### Praise God

For the 10 new believers who were added to the church

For the good rainfall in this region

For the steady progress in the Bheemaram church construction

That the 20 hostel children are healthy and growing spiritually

#### Pray

That the Lord will heal Raj Babu, Kotari Chandraiah, Sunil kumar, Lachanna, Banu Laxmaiah & Suguna, Laxmaiah & Banu, Posam & Swaroopa who are suffering from various ailments

That new believers Bude Mallaiah and Prakash will be firm in their commitment to the Lord

That a tube well will be dug in Udumpur village

## Meet Our Society Members

**Mr C Stephen** works as Director of Technologies, based in Chennai, Tamil Nadu. Orphaned when he was very young, brother Stephen understood the feelings for orphans and started an orphanage besides being involved in the ministry of The Mission to the Blind. He is also actively involved in his local church.



Brother Stephen played a leading role in the organisation of the IEM Missioanries' Get together at Chennai in May, 2008. As a member of the IEM Society, he hopes to attempt great things for the Lord and His Mission. He and his wife Daisy have 2 grown up children Daiphen and Stepsy.



**Dr James Martin** is professor and head of the Agricultural University in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu. After accepting the Lord in 1969, he benefitted not only from his secular experience but also had the privilege of pursuing his theological studies. Bible teaching is his passion so he has varied responsibilities as Bible college professor as well in his local church. In IEM, he actively mobilizes support for our ministries besides serving on the IEM Board. Dr Martin and his wife Suganthi has one son, Samuel Theodore.

**Mr John Amalraj** is the National Director of Interserve. Drawing from his experience both the Corporate sector as well as in India Missions Association (IMA) is curenly involved in mobilizing local churches to send missionaries into cross cultural situations. He is also involved in mentoring and leadership training as well. Brother Amalraj serves on the IEM Board and has supported a missionary through his church youth group. He and his wife Jessie have 2 children Jason and Joash.



*Contd. from page 12*

He was denounced by the Bishop of London, but made a second trip to America and traveled to several places there preaching to thousands. There he withdrew from his Wesley connexion and was henceforth the unofficial leader of Calvinistic Methodism. People would weep at his meetings and he loved preaching so much that he expressed the desire to die preaching. This was more or less fulfilled in his life.

#### **Marriage and near Martyrdom**

He married Elizabeth James in 1741 at Wales and a son was born to them in 1743. However the child died at age four months. He also made a second trip to Scotland and traveled throughout England and Wales. He was nearly martyred in 1744 when a man beat him unconscious and he was also accused falsely of misappropriating funds. He had to sell most of his earthly possessions to meet expenses and died as a pauper.

On one of his trips to Ireland he had the 'honor' of being stoned by a crowd after preaching. He is known as the most traveled preacher of the gospel up to his time and spent 782 days of his life traveling. He possessed a powerful voice that could be heard a mile away!

#### **The Star that shines no more**

When he arrived at the First Presbyterian Church parsonage in Newbury port he had to preach to a large number of friends who begged him for a short message. He obliged them although he was unwell, and his last words to his traveling companion were 'I am dying.' This great soul breathed his last at 6.am on September 30, 1770.

Thousands came to his funeral and as he had requested he was buried beneath the pulpit. John Wesley has given a fitting tribute to his memory: 'Oh what has the church suffered in the setting of that bright star which shone so gloriously in our hemisphere. We have none left to succeed him; none of his gifts; none anything like him in usefulness.'

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**Report:** Family Retreat at IGL Church, Salem, Tamil Nadu

## **Family in Missions**



A one-day Family Retreat was conducted in Salem on September 27, 2009. IEM church ministries missionaries, Rev J Isaac from Bangalore and Rev & Mrs. Edwin and Getzie from Coimbatore. Rev Edwin ministered the Word during the morning service.

The topics dealt with were a) Christ the Foundation, b) the roles of the husband and wife in the family, c) Christian communication, d)

Christian parenting, e) the family and missions. Apart from direct teaching, the team used skits to communicate the message.

A children's programme was conducted by a children's ministry team.

About 50 families participated and made definite commitments- some to walk closer to God and others to get involved in missions as families.

The programme was totally sponsored by IGL church. In fact they also gave a monetary gift to IEM as well. We are grateful to God for Pastor Daniel and his team for inviting us.

**Rev D Devapaulraj**

Associate Secretary, Salem



## The Madura People of Indonesia

The Madura people form the third largest people group in Indonesia. They make up 7% of the entire Indonesian population. Currently about four million Madura people still live on the island of Madura while another nine and half million live primarily on Jawa (Java). Other major pockets of Madura people can be found in Jakarta, Kalimantan,

and Sulawesi. The Madura people are renowned for their harsh character and lifestyles. This is probably caused by their natural surroundings and their history of oppression by others, both of which make life very difficult for them. Nevertheless, their harsh temperament can be seen positively if one examines their work ethic. Most of them work extremely hard and refuse to give up. Both men and women do not shrink from hard work in order to meet basic needs. The Madura have their own language, Bahasa Madura (literally translated as Madura language) that includes several dialects. The Bangkalan dialect is used in the regencies of

Bangkalan and Sampang. People employ the Pamekasan dialect in the southern portion of Pamekasan

Regency and in the central part of Madura Island. The Sumenep dialect is found in the Sumenep Regency. Furthermore, one finds the Girpapas and Kangean dialects used by smaller populations.

### What are their lives like?

The majority of Madura living on the island reside in closely-knit farming communities. But

very few Madura living on the island



*Indonesia is made up of 17,508 islands and has a population of approximately 327 million people, making it the fourth most populous and the largest Islamic nation in the world. On October 1, a devastating earthquake struck Padang city and surrounding areas on Sumatra Island on September 30, 2009, leaving hundreds dead and thousands injured and homeless.*



sate (skewered meat kebabs) and soto (meat soup). According to tradition, the first step in Madura marriage customs is to seek a young lady for one's son (nyalabar). The next step is taken by contacting the woman's family (narabas pagar). If well received, the proposal leads to engagement. Among the Madura people, the family does not

gain their only income from farming. The climate is very dry and the land is not very fertile and thus yields only two harvests of rice and tobacco each year. Also, many Madura are fishermen, salt farmers and sailors on boats carrying inter-island cargo. The Madura who live on Jawa generally do not own land, but become fishermen, sailors, businessmen and unskilled laborers. The Madura are also known across Indonesia for their

merely include close relatives, brothers, sisters and parents. They maintain large family structures called pon popon gik semak meaning that even pupu (distant ancestors) are still considered close. It does not matter if they are close relatives from the same grandparents or distant cousins.

#### What do they believe?

The majority of Madura people are known for being very devout Sunni Muslims. Nevertheless, many Madura people seek security from the use of magic spells that are used in an attempt to control both good and evil spirits. Those who complete the five pillars of Islam by going on the Haj (pilgrimage to Mecca) receive a special place of honor in the eyes of the people.

#### What are their needs?

Madura people generally have a low income. Medical services, better nutrition and education are greatly needed. Education, especially jobs skills education, is an immense need in order for the Madura people to participate in the economic growth and spreading industrialization that is beginning to have an impact on the island.





## In An Eggshell and Outside

Once upon a time, a boy was

born to a lovely pair of parents working among the Garasia people group in Rajasthan. Soon after he was born, his parents took him to Nichlagad, a remote village in Rajasthan. Life as a child was quite adventurous and happy. Early memories include living in a mud house on the top of a small hill, peering at books and listening to Bible stories under a hurricane lamp, running around in the fields with his Garasia friends, learning the Garasia language, cycling around, going to the village school and being picked up by his mom on a cycle and so on. What fun he had with his village friends, especially Zonyo and Berjaa who were always there to play around with their innovative village games like the "Hoothe Car." (a contraption with wheels)

When he was 4 they shifted to a town called Abu Road and there he started "proper" schooling. Life was different, but still fun. His peers now were the Missionary children who met every now and then and especially during the monthly prayer day. While the older folk used to strategise how to reach out for the Lord, the children had fun listening to each other's stories and just playing around.

He did his high school at St. Mary's where he grew in many ways. From being among the puniest of boys in his class, this little boy grew up to be one of

the tallest... from being the last to be chosen for anything sporty to being the fastest runner of the school. His teacher's believed in him and gave him many opportunities to be a leader in several fields. He had many talents and participated in many events especially related to music.

Soon after, the "little boy" moved to Bangalore to do his 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> at Bethany High. Here he encountered this other half of society called "girls!" (St. Mary's was a boys' school). At first it was tough but then he got used to it because he had no other choice! He continued his climb, doing well in sports, drama and music which continues even to his first year in college.

After you've reached the top, the only way left is down and thus life went in a downward spiral. Living in a city with noisy traffic, cooking his food, taking part in various events... everyday was filled with college, choir practice, band practice, church worship practice, church choir practice and long walks, trying to find some purpose in life. In all this he did not forget the God he had grown up with, yet he had so much faith in himself that every time he crashed he was empty. A verse saying "return to me and I will restore you" brought back his attention to His Friend Jesus who had brought him up to where he was. His friend, Jesus who never left him and helped him grow.

Returning to Him didn't make everything right instantly, but it sure brought him peace and now he lives facing normal everyday struggles with his friend Jesus by his side. Witnessing several miracles, various tough times, various happy times- this was the boy's life in an eggshell! Want to know who this boy is? It's me!

Elisha Patel, New Delhi

## Reflections of a Senior Missionary

*(In the Lord's service, there is no retirement! Right from the time we step out in faith until we reach heaven, we are expected to work while it is still day. However, as the Mission grows older, it's missionaries grow older too! This month, our dear Annan(elder brother), Rev Jeyapaul Sittther will step into a brand new phase of ministry after serving the Lord through IEM for the past 35 years! He graciously spent time with us, reflecting on his exciting journey as an IEM missionary. Here are some excerpts)*

### What in your opinion are the qualification of a missionary?

Basically it is commitment to the Lord, not to the ministry! Only that can sustain him through discouragements and help him overcome problems. "Unqualified" people have done a great job in IEM. Take me for example. I had cleared my standard 11 exams when I joined IEM. Another missionary Mrs Arul Janaki Vethanayagam had just done her standard 8 when she applied to IEM. Our General Secretary, Rev Dr Theodore Williams, knowing her potential convinced the Board to select her even as other Missions refused to take her. Though from Tamil Nadu, she was sent to a Hindi medium Bible college in Allahabad where she learnt Hindi as well as English and worked among college students alongside another missionary, Miss Sathyavani.

In the Bible, when the rich young man desired to follow the Lord Jesus, he was told to sell all his wealth first and then follow the Lord. Unfortunately, he could make that commitment and went away sad. When I joined IEM in January 1974, I received a

salary of Rs 150/-. After marriage it was raised to Rs 200/-. When my first baby Judy was born I received Rs 250/-. We needed 2 packs of milk powder for Judy every month, each costing Rs 70/-. We lived happily and God wonderfully provided for our needs. We decided not to ask people including our family for help and there was not even one day we went hungry. One Sunday, we expected medical missionaries Dr RAC Paul and his wife Dr Iris to visit us. We had very little rice so we added lots of water and cooked it for a long time. Moreover, Judy did not have her milk powder. When they arrived, Dr Iris told me not to bother about lunch because she had brought Iddli flour, biriyani and chicken curry which we had never eaten for a long time! How God provided!

### Missionary work risky at times. Can you tell us how God protected you?

In 1975, one year after I joined IEM, I was traveling in a van along with the Pauls and Mr G Sasikumar, another IEM missionary from Chennai to Orissa. I must add here that the first contribution of Rs 5/- for this van was given by Radhika, a Hindu student who came to the Lord while studying at Baldwin Girls' High School, Bangalore! At Metharametla village in Andhra Pradesh, the van toppled and rolled 3 times! While the others sustained injuries and had to be treated in hospital, I manage to escape unhurt. My Bible reading that morning was from

Romans 8. As I lay on the ground and asked God why this had happened, a Muslim boy, who spoke a little Tamil too me to his house, fed me t so I was questioning God how this can workout for myself and then the Lord was trying to teach me and a Muslim boy came who could have speak little Tamil he took me to his room and cared for me. In fact I had lost my purse and had no money. I know that everything in my life will work out for my good and for God's glory.

We've faced sickness - my wife Evelyn was very sick in the field and even our daughter Judy, who we left in Chennai went missing suddenly. We faced opposition from local people too. I did not know the local language, but God helped me to communicate with the local people. We have many wonderful experiences to relate.

**How did you choose to be a field missionary?**

After I committed by life to the Lord, I thought I'd join Child Evangelism Fellowship(CEF) because I loved working with children. However, during my time in seminary, someone challenged us about missionary work. He said, "you cannot make a greater sacrifice than what Jesus did!" We cycled great distances, did not have mobile phones and lived on a low salary. But these are nothing compared to Jesus' sacrifice on the Cross.

**Mobility is the mark of a missionary? Can you elaborate?**

When the Mission asked us to move, we had to move without questioning. Sometimes we did not have time to book our tickets! I was enjoying my ministry in Bastar in Chattisgarh, when



suddenly , Rev Williams asked me to shift to Hosur in Tamil Nadu. He asked to buy a land for our missionaries' training institute. I was in-charge on one church at that time. When I broke the news to the congregation, they asked, "What is your mission doing?" Since I joined IEM, I have moved to at least 6 places for the sake of ministry. Our children had to study away from us. That is our commitment.

**What are your future plans?**

By God's grace, the Mission permitted me to complete my M Th through TAFTEE. I am grateful to God and to the Mission for this. Since I have been in the mission field for most of my time in IEM and of course in Bangalore and Chennai too in leadership positions, my wife and I are prayerfully considering taking up a teaching ministry in churches, seminaries or at special events like family retreats and so on.

**The IEM family assures Rev Jeyapaul Sittler, his wife Evelyn and their daughter Judy of constant prayer support as they move on to serve the Lord in His harvest field.**

Tamil Nadu State Youth Camp, Tuticorin  
October 2- 4, 2009

## Changed and Charged Up Lives in the Pearl City

Under the able leadership of Rev Irwin Charles, Pastorate Chairman of St. Patrick's church, Tuticorin, the Steering Committee bathed their planning in prayer! Bishop Caldwell Higher Secondary school was spruced and buzzing with activity as over 350 young people trooped into the campus from all over Tamil Nadu on October 2. The school auditorium resounded with melodious singing led by a local choir. The camp was formally inaugurated by Rt Rev JAD Jebachandran, Bishop in the Tuticorin - Nazareth Diocese.

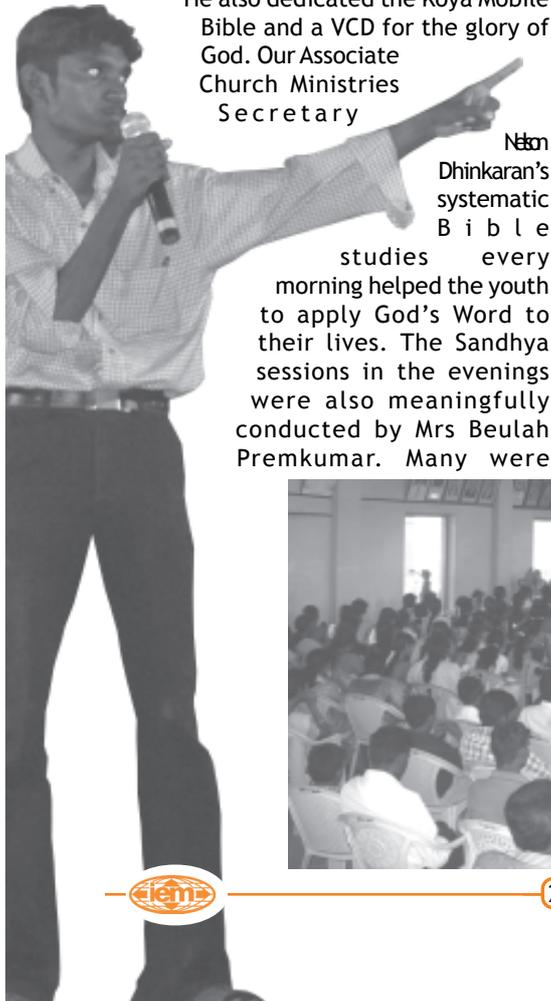
He also dedicated the Koya Mobile Bible and a VCD for the glory of God. Our Associate Church Ministries Secretary

challenged to commit their lives to the Lord. Our missionaries including D Devagnanavaram, Koya Bible Translator, Mr & Mrs Sathyaraj from Chinnoor field and Mr & Mrs James from Krishnagiri field effectively created an awareness about missions among the youth. The skillfully conducted quiz time, camp fire, question and answer sessions coupled with the tasty food served to make the camp an unforgettable experience.

The final session led by noted song writer Mr Arputharaj Margashius impacted the youngsters. During the altar call, many responded, some with tears in the eyes. During the testimony time, many spoke of how God had transformed lives. Truly these are pearls from the Pearl City of Tuticorin

A word of sincere thanks to the School authorities and the local steering committee members who did their best to make this camp a great success. Many God strengthen those to made commitments to Him.

- Rev V E Ravikumar,  
Camp Coordinator, Tuticorin.



Rev  
Dhinkaran's  
systematic  
B i b l e

studies every  
morning helped the youth  
to apply God's Word to  
their lives. The Sandhya  
sessions in the evenings  
were also meaningfully  
conducted by Mrs Beulah  
Premkumar. Many were



23rd Andhra Pradesh  
IEM Youth Missionary Camp 2009

## Beyond Our Expectations

**S**rikakulam lies close to the Andhra Pradesh- Orissa border. Normally the response to missions related meetings is quite low. So it was decided to hold the Andhra Pradesh State Youth Camp here, our Mission Coordinator D J Prasanth Kumar accepted the challenge and the entire State Church Ministries' team backed him up in prayer and encouragement. God honoured our commitment and performed way beyond our expectations!

God used His chosen instruments Brother Duke Jayaraj from Hyderabad and Pastor A S Samarpan Rao from Vinukonda in Guntur district mightily. Many young people responded to the ministry of the Word and responded in various ways - some made first time commitments while others offered to go as missionaries wherever God wanted to use them. Even at the time of writing this report we are receiving telephone calls and letters from those who attended saying how God transformed their lives. All glory to God.

I praise God for the Steering Committee who work tirelessly alongside Prasanth so that we could break new ground in this city. I thank the pastor, elders and members of Telugu Baptist Church, Srikakulam as well as the management of St Paul's Public School where the delegates were comfortably accommodated.

-Rev Gideon Vijay Kumar,  
State Secretary, Andhra Pradesh



## IEM News



### A Bundle of Joy!

We rejoice with our missionaries Kishore and Jagdeshwari

who were blessed with a baby boy on September 16, 2009. The Kishores are serving the Lord in Bonagiripally mission field of Andhra Pradesh. Please pray that this dear couple will bring up their precious bundle of joy in the fear and nurture of the Lord!

## Called Home



We regret to announce the sudden and tragic passing away of **Lianlalpaul**, the brother of our missionary Mr David Vaiphei (Andamans) on October 10, 2009 at Churachandpur, Manipur. He came under the wheels of the truck he was travelling on when the driver suddenly accelerated on a hillslope. Lianlalpaul was only 17. For our missionary David Vaiphei, this was quite a shock. In fact, lost another brother in 2007. David was unable to attend both his brothers' funerals because of his ministry in the Andamans. Kindly uphold him and his family at this time.