

## **OUTREACH**

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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 2010

Suffering for the Gospel

2 Timothy 1:8

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# The General Secretary's Thoughts

ll of us love humour. Humor is attracts all age

groups around the world. We love spending time sharing jokes and watching humour shows. Why do we like humour? It makes us happy. Humour and entertainment offered by the world is like anesthesia to temporarily numb the pain and sorrow in our souls.

Have we ever forced ourselves into sadness? The first time I was very sad was when my uncle died because of cancer at a very young age. I was just 10 then. This was the cry. At last, I cried, not because of the feeling of loss or the feelings of physical separation but because of one thought that suddenly gripped me: Who will buy chocolates for me hereafter?

There are many who feel sad about base and menial things. Someone asked me, "Were you ever disturbed or grieved in your spirit recently because you saw or heard something?" As Christians, we ought to feel sorrowful when a friend who does not know the Lord dies suddenly, when a relative who was a nominal Christian passes away without knowing Christ or when you as a believer misses an opportunity to share the love of Christ. We must be disturbed when a believer does not walk worthy of his calling. Yes, a

### 'I had never been sad in his presence before.'

Nehemiah 2:1

first time I was pushed into sadness and lived in the shadow of death. My uncle had no children so he loved us as his children and poured all his affection on us. I remember standing near the coffin wanting to weep like others. To be honest, I did not feel remorse but because everybody around me was crying, I did not want to be the odd man out. So I made a sincere effort to cry. No tears came. Then I thought if I think of some good things about how he loved me and treated me, I would

child of God who is filled with the love of God ought to be disturbed by the things which disturb the heart of God.

Nehemiah was a man of God who was sad, when he heard that the wall of Jerusalem "is" also broken down, and its gates "are burned" with fire. "I sat down and wept, and mourned for many days; I was fasting and praying before the God of heaven."(Nehemiah 1:4) Why? Because he saw the destruction of God's plan, was worried about the wastage of God's resources and the indifference of God's people who were supposed to be concerned about the construction of God's

Kingdom. This should burden our hearts and make us feel sorrowful.

As we focus on our theme, "suffering for the Gospel," let our hearts be filled with sadness that brings sorrow to the heart of God. On the other hand, we are sad about many things which are worthless. We can sad because of the worries of this life, the deceitfulness of wealth and the desires for things. (Mark 4:19) We could be like the rich young man who came to Jesus and went away sad (Matthew 19:22) because he had great wealth. May be, our Lord ought to rebuke us like He did to Martha in Luke 10:41, "'Martha, Martha,' the Lord answered, 'you are worried and upset about many things' '

Let our hearts be sorrowful with the things that initiate the building of God's Kingdom. Many have come to us over years and asked, "we have no call to go as full time missionaries. How can we get involved?" Or, "I feel that God is calling me into full time service, but my spouse does not have the same call. How can I be involved?

In order to give opportunities to those who have such an urge to serve the Lord, we created posts like Area Secretaries, Area Coordinators and Mission Coordinators. In this issue, we explain their role and responsibilities and allow them to share their thoughts. If you are prompted to join the team, do not hesitate to get in touch with your State Secretary or the Head office in Bangalore.

We were happy to see the Bison Horn Madiya people receive the

New Testament in their hands on February 10, 2010. On January 31,we had the ground breaking ceremony for the construction of our Girls' Hostel in Krishnagiri mission field. This is a Rs. 50,00,000/- (5 million) project and to start with, we have just Rs 3.50.000/- in hand. We know that the Lord will provide. If 10 donors contribute Rs 1,50,000/- each to build one room where 6 girls can be accommodated, 60 girls can enjoy the privilege of good education and spiritual nurture. Right now we have 32 girls living in a rented building. These children need to move to this new facility by June 2010.

On January 23, 2010, during the Thanksgiving Memorial service in memory of Rev Dr Theodore Williams, we launched the "Theodore Williams Memorial Fund earmarked for Missionary Training" To fund one missionary candidate's training, we need Rs 40,000/-. Two donors pledged to give the total seed money of Rs. 20,000/-towards this fund. I request you to promote this fund because Rev Williams' heart was always keen to train young men and women for the cross cultural missionary work.

Our hearts are filled with gratitude to the Lord for His bountiful supply during the last financial year. A BIG THANK YOU to each one of you for standing with us in prayer and supporting the ministry of IEM.

With loving regards, Yours in His joyful ministry,

P John Wesley

Editorial

A Band of Encouragers

t's great to meet you page to face yet again! Time has sped by and believe it or not, we're already in the third month of 2010. Although you might have had a tumultuous 2009, it's time to move ahead. Someone said, "If we dwell in the past, we will have no future!" Like the apostle Paul, can we say, "Whatever I have, wherever I am, I can make it through anything in the One who makes me who I am.

(Philippians 4:13 The

Message) What an

encouraging verse!

Encouragement is an important characteristic of a true Christian. We live abundantly because we are sustained, strengthened and satisfied by the Lord of the Harvest Who is Jehovah our Provider. In turn, we live to encourage fellow Christians by word and deed. This has a snowballing effect and soon we find numerous people encouraging one another because we belong to the family of God. Encouragement does not need a language to communicate a message: it needs an attitude of gratitude to God first followed by a willingness to be available and able to "spread" ourselves for the

We need encouragement at sometime or other! None of us can deny this. For

sake of others.

instance, our missionaries encourage the contacts, seekers, believers and local church leaders in their respective mission fields. In the course of sharing the Gospel, they spend hours on end, encouraging, motivating and praying for the people, using the Word of God as their basis. On the other hand, our missionaries need encouragement as well. Living in a cross-cultural situation by choice does not mean that they are selfsufficient. This is where each one of you come in. Your encouragement, prayers and financial support is vital and directly proportionate to the wellbeing of our missionaries. This "partnership in the Gospel" over the years has resulted in seekers turning to the Lord, Worship Groups being established local leaders being nurtured and established in our mission fields. You hold the ropes for our missionaries as they hold the ropes for our brothers and sisters in Christ out there.

In this issue, we feature the testimonies of people from all walks of life, who have made deliberate decisions to encourage our missionaries. While some of them work full-time in IEM, others use their leisure time to spread the word around, organise missionary prayer meetings and even identify potential missionaries. Theirs is an enormous task and their reward will be great in heaven.

God bless you!

Timothy Austin

Bible Studi

# Peter the Encourage of Sufferen

(Continuing to focus on our theme for 2010, taken from II Timothy 1:8, former IEM General Secretary, Dr R Theodore Srinivasagam takes a look at the Apostle Peter from three distinct aspects or stages of his life. Peter went through the grind as it were and therefore was able to write with Godordained authority in his epistles, as he neared the end of his life. Drawing from Peter's words of encouragement, Dr Srinivasagam declares, "that we are not perplexed or lose faith, but be able to face trials, persecution, hardship and suffering knowing that it is not something strange but is something to be expected as children of God in this world. Read on)

Testament we see 3 stages in the life of Peter as far as his attitude towards suffering is concerned. They are as follows.

I. Peter, the Escaper from Suffering

II. Peter, the Enduring Sufferer

III. Peter, the Encourager of sufferers

### I. Peter, the Escaper from Suffering

In the Gospels we come across Peter as an impetuous person and also a person who did not like to suffer. We see several instances where this character is shown. First of all when Jesus began to talk about and predict His suffering and death on the Cross, it was Peter who vehemently opposed it and began to admonish Jesus for talking along those lines. So Jesus had to rebuke him in very strong words and said "Get behind me, Satan" (Matthew16:21-23). Then we see him stepping out and

cutting off the ear of the servant of the High Priest in the Garden of Gethsemane when soldiers of the High Priest came to arrest Jesus. This could be to prevent the arrest and consequent suffering of Jesus (John 18:10,11). Later we find Peter denying he ever knew Jesus, perhaps to escape his capture and consequent suffering (Luke 22:54–62).

Very often we are like this as none of us want to undergo suffering. We may even go to the extent of denying Jesus. But Jesus said, "If any one would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." So suffering for the sake of the Gospel is inevitable. We should either deny Him or deny ourselves. What is your choice?

### II. Peter, the Enduring Sufferer

But Peter's attitude towards suffering changed after Pentecost. We will briefly look at a few instances as recorded in the book of Acts.

After being in jail overnight, when Peter was questioned by the Jewish religious leaders about his preaching about Jesus, he was not looking for a way of escape; on the contrary he replied boldly. "They saw the courage of Peter

and John", "they were astonished" and "they took note that these men had been with Jesus" (Acts 4:7-13).

When the priests imprisoned Peter and the other apostles in the public jail, an angel of the Lord opened the doors of the prison and let them out and Peter and the others preached the "full message of this new life" in the temple courts as instructed by the angel, without any fear. Further Peter and the other apostles answered the leaders who questioned them and replied, "We must obey God rather than men"(Acts 5:18–32).

When King Herod arrested and imprisoned Peter and he was miraculously released from the prison by an angel, he continued to be fearless and carried on with the ministry entrusted to him (Acts 12:1-19).

Where did Peter get his boldness and endurance from? It was the conviction of the truth of the Gospel, the certainty of the resurrection of Jesus and the fullness and power of the Holy Spirit that helped him to withstand the pressures of persecution and suffering. Do you have this in your life so that you can be bold in times of adversity?

### III. Peter, the Encourager of Sufferers

We see Peter as an encourager from his writings in the epistles, particularly in I Peter. He writes about suffering and hardship and also how to "shape up" and face suffering.

What should we know about Suffering and Hardship? (1 Peter 1:6-9)

- 1. Suffering and hardship is only **for a short while**, and it is going to be only on this earth (1Peter 1:6).
- 2. As followers of Jesus we will face all kinds of trials and so may have to suffer grief (1Peter1:6).
- 3. These trials are for testing our faith so as to prove that our faith is genuine. Like gold is refined in the fire, our faith also has to be refined (1 Peter 1:6).
- 4. If we come out of them successfully, it will **result in praise, glory and honour** when Jesus is revealed (1 Peter1:7).
- 5. Suffering and trials will not destroy us, but we will receive salvation (1Peter1:8,9).

It is important that we understand and absorb this wonderful teaching about suffering so that we are not perplexed or lose faith, but be able to face trials, persecution, hardship and suffering knowing that it is not something strange but is something to be expected as children of God in this world.

### How to "shape up" and face Suffering? (1Peter 3:13 -4:19)

As we have been told to expect trials and suffering in this world, it is but prudent that we prepare ourselves to face them. Peter gives us some important and encouraging instructions on this matter for us to understand and follow.

### 1. Suffer Boldly (3:13,14)

We have to suffer with boldness. We need to suffer for what is right and not 'fear' or be afraid of suffering or threats. If you do so you will be blessed. So ask God to give you boldness.

### 2. Suffer Believingly (3:15,16)

We have to suffer believing in Christ. This is a test to our faith and we should be able to give answers and reasons for the hope that you and I have in Jesus. Do not make excuses of various kinds about your belief in Jesus. How can you give reasons for your faith? The only way is to study God's word diligently, obey him completely and develop a strong faith in Jesus Christ.

### 3. Suffer Blamelessly (3:17)

We have to suffer without blame. If we have to suffer, then suffer for doing good than for doing evil. There can be accusations that we are serving Jesus or involved in missions for ulterior motives. However, we should keep a clear conscience and speak with gentleness and respect. If we do this, then those who speak maliciously and slander us may be ashamed because of this. So continue to do 'good,' maintain a clear conscience and live a blameless life.

### 4. Suffer Remembering Jesus (3:18-22)

We have to suffer remembering Jesus. We particularly need to remember the cruel death of Jesus on the cross and his glorious resurrection. He is our example. What are the main things that we need to remember about Jesus? Peter shares with us a few things we need to remember and what he has done for us.

### a) It is remembering Christ's death because of which we

are redeemed (3:18). We should remember that Christ died for our sins once and for all.

- b) It is **remembering the meaning of baptism** (3:21,22). Jesus was put to death in the Body, but made alive in the Spirit-through his resurrection.
- c) It is remembering that Christ suffered in his body and has done away with sin (4:1). So we should have the same attitude and also do away with every kind of sin.

Then Peter goes on to instruct us in the things that we should "put away" or "should not do" (4:2-6). These include debauchery, lust, orgies, carousing, drunkenness and idolatry.

He also asked us to "put on" or "do" certain essential things (4:7-11) and be clear minded and self controlled. The things that we need to do are to love each other deeply, offer hospitality, use our gifts to serve others, speak God's word to others and serve with God's strength.

So follow these things and show that you really remember Jesus Christ and may God be praised through this.

### 5. Suffer Joyfully (4:13,14)

We need to suffer with joy. 'Rejoice that you participate in the sufferings of Christ'. When we do this, we will be overjoyed when His glory is revealed. The face of Stephen shone when he was martyred showing his joy in the Lord. So have a joyful attitude in life and feel privileged that you can be in partnership with Christ when persecuted and undergoing suffering (Phil.3:10).

### 6. Suffer Unashamedly (4:14,15)

We should suffer praising God and without shame. Peter admonishes and writes that we should not suffer as a criminal, murderer, thief etc., but suffer as a Christian unashamedly and praising God. So develop an attitude of praise to God which can carry you through in times of suffering.

### 7. Suffer Committed to Christ (4:19)

We need to suffer committing

ourselves to God's will and our faithful Creator. This is what Stephen did when he was martyred.

What is your attitude towards suffering? Do you want to escape from suffering? Or are you willing not only to endure suffering as a good soldier of Christ but also encourage other disciples of the Lord to also suffer boldly, believingly, blamelessly, joyfully, unashamedly, remembering Jesus and committed to him?

### Students Shepherd

The Lord is my teacher, I shall not fail in my exams.

He leads me from page to page and gives me the ability to retain everything I study.

He reminds and helps me to study with consciousness and enables me to concentrate on what I read.

Though I walk near March, I shall fear no exam, for the Lord is with me. Your love and support will make me succeed in the exams.

You have prepared me and my class mates for the final exams and will help us to write the exams without any fear. Out hearts bubble with Joy.

Highest score in the exams and highest positions in life shall follow me. I will dwell in the shelter of the Almighty all through my life.



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# Serving In An Unshakable Kingdom

(Missionary work is not the job of a chosen few. Of course, only some are called to leave their comfortable confines their homes and cross cultural boundaries to impact the lives of untold millions. In this challenging article, **Rev E D Raja Singh Elias**, our Associate Central Secretary for Church Ministries (South) presents the pressing need for the men and women in the Church to involve themselves in the Great Commission through the local church. The gripping challenge thrown out to God's people is unmistakable.)

pertinent question for God's people in our country could

be, "What is the greatest need of the church of God today?' This question was posed to a group of Roman Catholic cardinals by none other than Pope St. Pius X himself in 1903. Some said, " more churches,' others wanted, "more schools." The Pope replied, "Neither! Give me in every parish a handful of lavmen - alert, wellinformed and devoted, and I will change the face of the earth.'

Ever since the Lord Jesus laid the foundation of the Christian faith, it has become increasingly important for both men and women to get involved in the life and mission of the local church. The early Christians worked with the disciples and missionaries in proclaiming the salvation message, teaching new Christians and establishing local Christian communities. This is essential for the qualitative and quantitative growth of the church in India.

### 1 Reasons for Participation

Some information presented here was compiled from our former General Secretary Dr. Theodore Srinivasagam's articles, an India Missions Association (IMA) report and statistics from the Survey of India. It analyzes our present status in reaching the unreached people and sets off the alarm bells in our hearts.

The population of 200 countries can fit into India! There are only 237 countries in the world.

The anthropological survey of India has identified the existence of 4635 people groups. Church growth scholars say that there are only 3000 people groups. So far, only 639 people groups have been reached with the Gospel so that leaves 2341 groups still unreached.

While Hindus comprise 82 percent of the population, Muslims make up 12 percent which is the highest in the world! However very little Gospel work is being done among them. Christians come a distant third at 3percent and Sikhs follow closely at 2.2 percent. Buddhists come fifth at 1percent (10,000 Dalits converted to Buddhism in 2001). Jains comprise 0.5percent of the population.

In North India has less than one Christian for 100 people. In the South, all states except Karnataka have 4 Christians for every 100 people. Among the North Eastern states, Mizoram, Meghalaya and Nagaland have been declared as Christian states.

India has 27145 pincodes. Every pincode area represents 35,000 people and about 35 villages on an average. There are Christian workers in only 8468 pincode areas. This means that there is not a single Christian worker, evangelist or pastor in 18677 pincode areas.

The 1971 census estimates that there are 1652 spoken languages in our country. About 370 are unwritten, each having 10,000 speakers. Eighteen are major languages spoken by millions and are officially recognized. Fifty two languages have the whole Bible, 83 have only the New Testament and Gospel portions are available in 100 languages. Translation work is progressing in 80 languages spoken by 100 million people. There is an urgent need for Bible translation teams in 200 languages.

Fifty four percent of India's population is under 25 making it the youngest nation in the world. Seventy percent are under 35 and 64percent are under 29. Young people are the future leaders. There are 228 universities and 40 deemed ones, 11,089 colleges with 7,417,968 enrolled students, 34.7 percent of whom are female. Only 4000 colleges have fellowships, Bible Study or Prayer Groups.

India has 150 million (15 percent of the total population) specially-abled people who need discipling and integration into our communities.

These statistics propel us to see the need and participate in the Great Commission, especially in cross-cultural missionary work. Paul explained in Romans 10:13-15, someone - specifically missionaries need to proclaim the Gospel to these people.

### 2 Role and Opportunities of an Area-coordinator

Missionary work belongs to the Body of Christ. In I Corinthians 12 and Ephesians 4, Paul compares the church to the human body. As each part of the body does its work, Paul talks about the church when every part does its share and this results in the growth of the body "for the edifying of itself in love." (Ephesians 4:16). Each member needs to take part in reaching the unchurched people. The churches and faithful Christians can together reach the nation.

IEM has Area secretaries, Area coordinators, Mission coordinators and Associate Church ministries personnel, paid and honorary. Their contribution is great. They are like a vision building team within the Mission.

### Prerequisites

Must be a born again person Should be the member of a local church which teaches sound doctrine

Should be a person of good testimony

Should be known and accepted by the local pastors and church leaders

Should have a vision for missions, especially for IEM

Should have a right understanding about IEM and its

goals and objectives

Should be willing to serve in IEM as an honorary Area secretary

### 3 Responsibilities

Be a contact person or representative of IEM in the area Conduct and develop regular IEM prayer groups Challenge churches and Christians to be conscious of their part in missionary work Coordinate the IEM ministry with other Area coordinators and missionaries Collect contributions for IEM in their area Identify and alert Mission leaders about suitable Area secretaries and new missionary candidates Counsel people needing prayer and guidance Communicate the Gospel and lead people to salvation in Christ

### 4 Rewards

IEM's promotional wing is known as the Church ministries
Department and responsible to edify the church through God's
Word and passionate service. All the workers rejoice in this service to God, that brings blessing to our personal and family lives. It is a joy to serve an unchanging King

(Hebrews 13:8), for an unshakable kingdom (Hebrews 12:28) with unlimited grace (Hebrews 13:5-6). Our involvement is an investment in God's kingdom and He honors our submission to Him.

India has 28 states and 7 union territories with 626 districts. We need at least one person to be an Area coordinator in each district. Those who are already involved try to motivate and introduce others to the ministry. The harvest truly is plentiful but the laborers are few. Can you be one of those willing to take up the task of sharing the burden in your district, in the cross-cultural context? Brother R Stanley declared, "If not you then who and if not now then when?"

Kindly contact the following persons in your region

Rev. John Wesley, General Secretary 09845665507

Mr. Shailesh Amin - North India: 09662542682

Rev. Lalchawl Thang Thiek - North-east India: 09435144797

Rev. E D Raja Singh Elias – South India: 09791136393

We are happy to annouce that our missionary, Mr Vickuga Sema was married in January 5, 2010. We rejoice to announce that our missionaries Rev & Mrs J Daniel's son Samuel M Daniel was united with in Holy Matrimony with Miss Kezia at South India Bible Seminary Chappel on February 15, 2010. Rev Daniel



and Malathi are our Church Ministries missionaries in Bangarapet. May God enable these dear couples as they begin life together.

### Birth



We praise God for blessing our missionaries with healthy babies.

Praise God for Mrs Saka Moiran Maring our missionary in Arunchal Pradesh she as delivered a girl baby in January 24th 2010.

# Men and Women with a Mission!

### Working Behind the Scenes...

Often, battles are won or lost not only because the soldiers were ill-prepared but because the back-up people in the barracks were not ready or able to meet the challenges behind the scenes. This can be also true when it comes to missionary work. We praise God for our blessed back-up force who not only spend but are also spent for the sake of the Gospel. They walk the second mile just to talk about what God is doing in our land! May their work reports inspire you!)

## Inspiration and Involvement in the ministry

B Stella Benjamin (Thanjavur) I was brought



up in a Christian home in Madurai. After my marriage to Mr. S M S Benjamin, I began helping my

husband in his Church Ministry work through IEM. Earlier, I collected Rs 260/-for the General Fund. Now, I have increased it to Rs 5000/-.

Apart from collecting contributions from our supporters, I conduct 4 IEM sponsored prayer cells for women and support my husband's ministry among young people.

I plan to start 10 ladies' prayer cells and raise one lady missionary support at Thanjavur.

### S.M.S. Benjamin

(Thanjavur) I came to the Lord from a



I came to the Lord from a Hindu family of magicians in Madurai. My parents and brothers threw

me out. Bible verses from Joshua 1:5, 6 strengthened me. In the morning, I distributed news papers and did a part time job at a private office. I did my theological studies from New Life Institute at Bangalore and completed a diploma in Textiles at Madurai ITI

When I committed myself to serve the Lord, I was appointed as Area Secretary in Madurai in 2000. After 2 years, I was given the responsibility of Area – Coordinator for Madurai and Usilampatti Taluk. In 2004 I was trained in Chitradurga, Karnataka. In July 2004, I became a Mission Co-ordinator Madurai district and in 2006, we moved to Thanjavur district. My wife and I raise prayer and finance for missionary support, missionary child support and so on.

We want to start a"Happy Evening Programme" for youth in Tiruvarur, Mannargudi and Nagapattinam towns. We are planning to conduct the 21st Tamil Nadu State Youth Camp at Thanjavur from October 1–3 2010. We want to see atleast 20 young people committing themselves to serve God. We need to raise 2 more missionary supports and we also need more Area secretaries and Area coordinators.

Saramma Jose(Tuticorin) I was



brought up in a Christian atmosphere in Kerala. I taught in Sunday School, participated in the Women's Fellowship and

other church activities. After marriage, my husband and I moved to Tuticorin and began attending the CSI church regularly. I fellowshipped with the E.T.Sunder Singh (Pudducherv) women in the church and was burdened to serve the Lord. I served in Grace Ministries for five years and am now involved in the ministry of IEM. I was appointed as a Area cocoordinator in 1994 and began visiting many houses in Tuticorin. I attend prayer cells and pass on information about IEM. Apart from raising funds, I encourage people to participate in IEM conventions, one-day retreats and get togethers. By God's grace, I could raise 4 child supports and one missionary support. I want to find more sponsors, child supports, missionary supports and funds for church constructions, medical fund and so on

Prasanta Kumar Roul (Cuttack) I was raised in a Christian family.



I accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as my personal Savior in 1974 and have been serving the Lord since then. Later, I decided to be missionary. Once

a team from India Every Home Crusade visited our village. I worked with them for 25 years and then joined Indian Evangelical Mission as office staff. Now I am working as Mission Coordinator in Cuttack. I visit 5 districts to raise missionary support and alo to share God's burden to reach the

unreached. He is faithfully helping me. Pray that God will guide me continually. I was appointed as Office staff for seven years and gained experience in promotional work. Now I am a Mission coordinator and am responsible for different districts in Orissa. I want to raise more prayer groups, prayer supports and more funds the ministry

I am the second son of the late Rev Jeyaseelan Thanam, Presbyter



and personal assistant to the late Rt Rev Lesslie Newbegin, former bishop in Madurai. I worked in a big concern called TVS & Sons from 1960 to 1994 in Madurai

and Coimbatore. My wife the late Sumathi Sundersingh was a senior Staff Nurse until she resigned in 1978 and worked as Area Secretary along with me. After my retirement we moved to Puddecherry and worked as Area Coordinators. My first daughter Omana and her husband Joseph and my second daughter Shobana and her husbandNelson Dinakaran are IEM missionaries. For the glory of God, I can say that our family is the only family fully involved in the ministry of the Mission.

In 1978, I was challenged by Rev Dr Theodore Williams during the IEM meetings in Coimbatore. From then on, I have been helping the ministry of IEM. I want to involve more families to pray for and support IEM besides visiting more mission fields to encourage the missionaries who are in a remote places. Please pray that my failing eyesight and general weakness should not be a hindrance to my ministry. Continue on page no. 24



(Many events happen in March as winter gives way to summer and the heat is literally turned on! People shed their blankets, sweaters and socks for comfortable cottons. Now is the time for action! Follow up programmes on the mission field, field conventions, Short Term Bible Schools, State Conventions and so on are some of the numerous events in March. Obviously, this also means more prayer fuel to

keep you busy as well! Please stand with us in prayer!)

# Praise and Prayer Calendar

### 1 Kullu, Himachal Pradesh

### Praise God

For keeping our missionaries healthy as they gear up for future programmes in March and April

For enabling the believers in our Worship Groups to be vibrant and active in their witness

### Pray

That Anchal, a young girl who is under the influence of evil spirits will experience freedom and salvation from bondage to sin

For the ministry among young people to gain momentum

### 2 Manali, Himachal Pradesh

### Praise God

For church members who are helping our missionaries in counselling families

For the profitable family seminar which was conducted recently

For His healing touch on a few new families

That more new people are attending the church regularly

### Pray

That the people who are attending the church and house group meetings will commit themselves completely to follow the Lord

That the new believers will grow steadily and witness for Him wherever they are placed

That the ministry in new villages will flourish

### 3 The General Secretary

### Praise God

For good team of central secretaries who ably assist Rev John Wesley in his work

For wisdom as he ministered at various meetings since the beginning of 2010

### Pray

That Rev P John Wesley will be enabled to cope with his heavy travel schedule during March



That the decisions taken by the Administrative Committee and Board will be efficiently carried out

For protection and guidance to his wife Mercy as she looks after the home in his absence

### 4 Fatehpur, Uttar Pradesh

### Praise God

That our missionaries were able to visit villages, pray for the sick and encourage them with the Word

That Ramdass and his family opened their home for prayer meetings in Faridpur

That Inderjeet in Miyapur and Ravinder Pal in Maderiapur also opened their houses for prayer

### Pray

For our seekers Ramesh, Ramdass and his family, Ganga Vishnu and his family and Inder as they prepare to openly confess their faith in the Lord very soon

That all our seekers will grow spiritually strong

That Suresh and his wife, Gowrisankar and his wife and Manju and his wife who do not have children will be blessed by the Lord according to His will

That the children who are being tutored by our missionaries will grow in their knowedge and experience of our Lord Jesus Christ

Pray for the Bonagiripally
Field Convention which begins
from tomorrow till March 7. 2010.
Pray that many will attend and
God will use our missionaries
effectively for His glory

### 5 Balrampur, Uttar Pradesh

### Praise God

For the Worship groups which are growing steadily in this mission field

For the good relationship we enjoy with the Prem Sewa hospital in Utraula

### Pray

For Susheela, a seeker who is suffering from AIDS. Nobody including her family is willing to accept her. Her husband passed away recently. She regularly attends the Worship service along with her husband

Continuously for believer Sridevi from Suganau village who is being ostracized by her own people – that she will stand firm in her faith

\* The Koya Field Convention begins today till the 7th in Palagudem village. Pray for a special annointing on the speakers and that the precious Koya people will respond to the Lord's voice through His servants

### 6 Community Health & Development

### Praise God

That 25 missionaries were able to attend the Motivational Workshop on Health care and Development on January 25, 2010 at Christian Medical College(CMC), Vellore

That the Workshop enlightened the participants and challenged them to get involved in helping the community they serve

That CMC has offered to train and support to all our field missionaries who are willing to undertake Primary Health Care For the Lord's guidance and enabling to our missionaries Amiyanand & Anna Mary as they work despite various limitations

### Pray

That the Lord will send the right people for the Trainers' Training programe

That this training programme will be launched in several locations throughout India

For the proper selection and preparation of venues for the training programme

\* **Pray** for the Missionary Dedication service today at Chennai

### 7 Robertsganj, Uttar Pradesh

### Praise God

That Christmas programmes were conducted peacefully in Robertsganj

That people responded to the preaching of the Gospel during these programmes

That our missionaries were able to conduct a prayer meeting in a new village – Adalganj

For His protection over our missionaries during the severe winter months

### Pray

That those who have made commitments to the Lord during the Christmas programes in Adalhanj will be firm in their decisions

That our missionaries may establish more contacts in Kargara, Bhabhayich, Alavur, Gurda, Putpuri and Mahuvayas villages

That our believers Mahinder and his parents will grow steadily in the Lord

That our missionaries will be able to start some medical work in order to develop the ministry here

That the Lord will keep our missionaries in good health

### 8 Koraput, Orissa

### Praise God

That the believers and seekers from Latchamani village took a firm stand for the Lord and confessed their faith in the Lord in spite of being excomunicated from the village

That our local leaders Pokiro and Buri who were interrogated by anti Christians continue to preach the Gospel fearlessly

### Prav

That our believer Kunthi's son who was born premature will experience His healing touch

That the third phase of the Leadership Training Programme and Entrepreneurs Training in the forthcoming days will be successfully conducted

That our missionaries will be able to adopt new strategies in order to establish culturally relevant Kuwi speaking churches in the field

### 9 Lakhnadon, Madhya Pradesh

### Praise God

That new people from Amanalla and Dongaria are attending the worship Gorakhpur village

That many people heard the Gospel for the first time

### Pray

For good health for Naresh, a 1 year old boy in Gorakhpur village

That a new Worship Group will be established in Dongaria village

That more people will turn to the Lord in Sunvara village

### 10 Chhatarpur, Madhya Pradesh

### Praise God

That Short Term Worker, Samuel expressed his desire to work among the Bundeli people

That our missionary Zimik and Samuel are living inside village without being disturb by anti-Christian elements

That the Christmas and New Year programmes went off peacefully

### Pray

That the children from Saura village who were ministered to by our missionaries will respond to the love of Christ

That Zimik will be able survey a new area hoping to begin ministry there

That the case against our missionary Kunal Parichha scheduled to come up for hearing on February 15, will be quashed

Pray for the Chinnoor field Women's Convention which begins from today till March 12, 2010 in Chinnoor

### 11 Digod, Rajasthan

### Praise God

For the fruitful children's ministry in Digod village every Sunday

For the open doors to proclaim the Gospel in Renodiya village – the Siyaram family and Mukesh Varma family are keen seekers

For seeker Sathyanarayan Meghwal who is helping our missionaries in

the Phonology and Grammar write up in Hadothi language

For granting Sumithra the wisdom and ability to sing Christian songs in Hadothi language – this is first time Christian songs are being sung in Hadothi

### Pray

For the seeking young people in Digod village – Rinku, Sathu, Ajay, Hari prakash, Bhubanes, Gajendar and Monu to accept Christ as their own Saviour

That the Lord will heal Saritha from Raythal village. She has a swollen leg for many days.

That 2 ladies Kiran and Rukhmani will accept Christ as their personal Savior

That Nirmala's husband who is a drunkard will stop is bad habits and turn to the Lord

That the Lord will open new doors for ministry in Getha Ganesganj, Ayana and Suvasa villages

That the phonology and grammar write – up in Hadothi language will be completed soon

### 12 Nasik, Maharashtra

### Praise God

That 10 believers openly confessed their faith in the Lord on December 30, 2009 in Borgoan village will be strong faith and testimony

That the Christmas programmes in 2 places including Harentakdi went off peacefully

### Pray

That new contacts should be open to listen to the Gospel

That the evangelists' training programme in the last week of

February will be effective and yield long lasting results

### 13 Bastar, Chhatisgarh

### Praise God

That the Bison Horn Madiya people have the New Testament in their heart language, after our missionaries Joseph & Omana Soundararajan and their team laboured for over 25 years. Over 500 people attended the dedication service in Bacheli village

That Sounder, a Madiya believer has taken charge as an evangelist in December, 2009

### Pray

That new believer Somru who decided to follow the Lord in spite of threats may be strengthened and encouraged to persevere wholeheartedly

That believer Pakli Lakma's mother will stop drinking and turn to the Lord

Those seekers Prya Palo and Naude will not be afraid of those who oppose the Gospel

That our missionary Ida Mercy and her new born baby will be healthy and strong as they return to the mission field

Pray for the Area Secretaries' Retreat today in New Delhi

### 14 Finance Services, Bangalore

### Praise God

For the provision of funds and for new supporters who are being added daily

For the easy avenue through which That the 5 people who are in the contributions can be made -Payment Gateway

For the completion of 2-year Provident Fund auditing

For the Lord's healing touch on our Finance Secretary, Solomon **Swamidoss** 

### Prav

That the problems faced with the accounting package will be resolved quickly.

That all the gadgets used for accounting will work well and data stored will be safe

That the Lord will provide for our faith budget which is 850,000,000

That the Finance staff will be kept heathy as they cope with the heavy workload

Pray for the IEM Sunday today at the CNI Malayalam Church, New Delhi. **Pray** that the Lord's chosen servant to deliver God's message will be annointed by the lord and many will be motivated to get involved in missionary work

### 15 Chikaldara, Maharashtra

### Praise God

For the good response during the revival meeting at Atmaram's house in Bhiroja on January 28, 2010

For protecting the house of Sivaram, a SISU staff member while they were attending a prayer meeting

For healing Anita a 16-year old girl in village Manbhang village who was nearly paralyzed

That the Worship Group in Badnapur village is growing spiritually

### Pray

process of making a decision to follow Christ will be firm and

steadfast in their decision to follow Christ

That Gaulan, a believer from Bori village will grow in the Lord

For the families of Chotelal in Khadimal, Goma in Awagad and Sriram in Mangia will grow in faith in spite of hindrances and difficulties

That the families of our evangelists will be enabled and used by the Lord

Pray that God will heal our missionary Sam Sukumar's father Mr Vijayam who is suffering from cancer

### 16 Shibla, Maharashtra

### Praise God

That 2 bhajan meetings were successfully conducted in Surla and Pendri villages

That many new people came to the Christmas service in Shibla and heard the Gospel for the first time

That 6 people are now ready to openly confess their faith in the lord

### Pray

For the believers' children who are preparing to write their school leaving exams

That those who have openly confessed their faith in the Lord will grow in faith

That our evangelists will be effective in ministry

### 17 Khamman, Andhra Pradesh

### Praise God

For the 250 Koya young people who attended the Youth convention – 50 of them surrendered their lives to the Lord

For the 14 people who openly confessed their faith in the Lord in December 2009 - 6 in Nadigudem, 5 in Bonagiri and 3 in Nagaripeta Worship Centers

For our missionaries Sallikutty Joseph, Mary Yesudial and Jerin who laboured hard to reach out to these believers

That a new Worship was started in Kachinapally in January 2010

For the new seekers Errabore, Patha Maredpaka, Jaggaram, Kommugudem, Kattamerunaru and Lingalapally because of the efforts of our missionaries VineethKumar Masih, Rebecca, Sushanthi, Stanley Tatpati and evangelist Narsimharao

For the 20 men who attended the Men's retreat in Lankalapally

That many attended the Jaggaram church dedication in November 7, 2009

For the 500 radios which were distributed in Koya field through TWR

### Pray

That the church building construction in Gattumallu and Oddugudem village will be completed soon

For the speedy renovation of the kitchen and dining hall in the Koya Girls' hostel at Morampally Banjar

For our plan to begin a Short Term Bible School in the last week of February, 2010.

### 18 Bonagiripally, Andhra Pradesh

### Praise God

That 120 women attended the Women's convention which was conducted recently. The speakers were our missionaries Suseela Prabhakar and Rebekah. Many were touched by the Lord

For protecting a believer Suseela when she came in contact with an electrical source

For the new believers who were added to the church

### Prav

That 2 more Worship groups will be established soon in this field

For the 20 believers who are waiting to openly confess their faith in the Lord

### 19 Chenchu, Andhra Pradesh

### Praise God

For the 2 Worship Groups already established and the 2 more which are going to be formed in the near future

For the new seekers who were added to the church

For the 10 believers who are waiting to openly confess their faith in the Lord

For the blessed one-day believers' retreat

For the Field convention which was conducted during the second week of March

### Pray

That the hostel children will be kept healthy and also do well in their studies

That 2 more new Worship Groups will be established quickly

### 20 Chinnoor, Andhra Pradesh

### Praise God

For the blessed dedication service of the new church building in

Bheemaram on February 27, 2010

For the 28 believers who are waiting to openly confess their faith in the Lord

That the 210 children who attended the camp in Chinnoor were greatly blessed

### Pray

That 8 more new Worship Groups will be established in 8 villages

That our missionaries and evangelists will be kept in good health and protected from harm as they minister to the people

### 21 Administrative Services, Bangalore

### Praise God

For His enabling grace given to Rev P Vethanayagam as he coordinated the conducted of the IEM Board meeting, the new missionaries' orientation programme as well as the Commissioning Service on February 8, 2010-02-11

For his team of able young men who booked train and bus tickets and did other tasks to ensure the smooth functioning of the administrative setup.

### Pray

That all the electrical equipment will be well maintained at the Head office

That an efficient electrician and plumber will be appointed to take care of these tasks

For plans to construct a second floor in the Head office

For the speedy registration of the land and the fencing of the Koya hostel building

### 22 Chitradurga, Karnataka

### Praise God

For His protection over a believer Raju when he was attacked and badly beaten by anti-Christian elements on January 24, 2010 while he was leading a Worship Group in Bitherikere

For the peace that is prevailing after the incident

For the 2 seekers who are attending the Worship service at Gowaramahakki village

### Prav

That our evangelists Manjunath and Umesh will be able to carry out their ministry fearlessly

That believer Lakshman will be able to complete his theological studies successfully

That believers' children Suma, Asha, Danamourthi will be able to write their school leaving exams successfully

That 2 families from Alekatu village will know the Lord

That an elderly seeker Parvatha Haji will experience good health

That a young boy Maheshan, will come to know the Lord.

That all our believers will be protected by the Lord

### 23 Hosur, Tamil Nadu

### Praise God

For the 10 women who completed the tailoring course successfully and received their certificates on February 2, 2010.

For the 10 new students who joined the course on January 7, 2010.

That the Doddagavinipalli Church is nearing completion

### Pray

That the believers will grow in the Lord

That our missionaries will be kept in good health

### 24 IEM Youth Ministry

### Praise God

That Youth Conventions were held in Gujarat and Kerala where 13 and 2 young people respectively committed their lives to the Lord

For the new youth work started in Bhubaneshwar. Orissa

For the North East Youth wing coordinated by our missionary Yokestar

### Pray

That the 90 young people who committed themselves to the Lord during the Tamil Nadu Convention and twenty five who made commitments to be missionaries will be firm in their commitment

For the newly initiated Metro ministry among IT professionals in Chennai, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Kolkotta and Mumbai where the ministries of IEM will be presented

For a new opening for ministry in Kolkotta

### 25 Church Ministries, New Delhi

### Praise God

For the new openings for ministry in New Delhi

That the Vaiphei Christian Fellowship has started supporting 2 missionaries

For the faithful service rendered by Area Secretaries

### Pray

For more Area Secretaries to take up the challenge to spread missions awareness in new areas of the Capital

### 26 Krishnagiri, Tamil Nadu

### Praise God

That the Poovathi church could celebrate her third anniversary on February 17, 2010

For the hostel children who are writing their school leaving exams – Boys' Hostel: Michael, Vinothkumar, Kumaravel and Chinathammbi; Girls' Hostel: Mangamma, Rebecca, Meenakshi

For Balakrishnan and Manjunath who are pursuing specialized courses

For the blessed Ground-breaking ceremony on January 31, 2010. God willing, a beautiful girls' hostel building will be built here

For the good support received from the CSI Elathagiri church

### Pray

That all our hostel children will know the Lord Jesus as their personal Saviour

That the girls' hostel building will be completed soon

### 27 Andamans

### Praise God

For the exciting and encouraging Field Convention at Rangat from January 8–10, 2010

For the gifted preacher who ministered the Word to the missionaries and believers

For the commitment made by many participants to reach the unreached in a dying world

For the pastor, elders and deacons who offered the use of the Methodist Church premises in Rangat

For the 4 people openly confessed their faith in the Lord during the conference

### Pray

That the 4 people who openly confessed their faith in the Lord will remain firm in their decision For the field programmes during March – seekers' meeting at Nimbutala Jetty and Sitanagar,

the Jesus film screening at Kadamtala and the believers' Retreat at Billiground will be fruitful

For our missionary Ngailhing as she has begun a monthly prayer cell at the Girls' Hostel in Port Blair from January onwards

### 28 Missionaries' Children

### Praise God

For helping our children, especially those who are away from home to study well and give a good account of themselves

For the provision of funds to meet their educational expenses

### Pray

That each one of them will write their exams well and come out in flying colours

That they will be able to spend a restful time with their parents during the forth coming holidays

### 29 Personnel Services, Bangalore

### Praise God

That the first phase of the OTI building construction plan has been completed

For the provision of water for OTI from the panchayat water supply

### Pray

That the 20 candidates will be able to complete the Missionaries' Training Course by May, 2010

For the residential staff team headed the Director, Mathews P Mathew

That more missionaries will join the Mission because the harvest is truly plentiful but the labourers are few

For the smooth transition as Personnel Secretary, Mrs Selina Mohandoss retires from the Mission

That the second phase of construction consisting of dormitories will begin soon

### 30 Church Ministries, Tamil Nadu

### Praise God

That our missionaries Nelson & Shobana who were unwell for sometime are now much better

For our Area Secretaries who are working very hard to raise prayer and financial support for the Mission

For the 2 missionary dedications last month

For our supporters who sponsored the purchase of motorcycles for our missionaries

### Pray

For our Associates as they preach the Word in various churches during the season of Lent

That the Tamil Nadu State convention Steering Committee

meeting as they meet every month to plan for the next convention

For our Area Coordinator Mr Chelliah and his wife who is an Area Secretary, both of whom are suffering from various ailments, to be completely healed by the Lord

### 31 Communication Services, Bangalore

### Praise God

For the new computers which will now speed up the work

For the publication of a booklet titled, "Chosen, Loved, Forgiven" containing a brief biography as well as tributes paid to our founder, Rev Dr Theodore Williams

For the 12- minute video DVD produced on Rev Williams'life

### Pray

For the regional editors, translators and others related to magazine production who will gather for the Communication Sub-Committee from April 14-17, 2010. The focus will be on creative writing

For the urgent need of high end video camera to produce mission field documentaries

That books like the DailyDevotional, Field Happenings, Servants of the Cross -2 and so on will be published quickly

For the translation of Oswald Chamber's devotional, "My Utmost for His Highest" into Telugu and Khasi will be completed soon

That the IEM Website will be developed further

For a definite decision to be taken on the production of an overseas bulletin

### Continued from page no. 13 Somabhai P Christie



(Vadodara) I was brought up in a nominal Christian family in Dhabhsarin village in Gujarat. By God's grace, I got a job in Webb Memorial School Vadodara. Though I worked in a

Mission school, I was very far from the Lord. In 1992, I accepted Jesus as my personal Saviour.

Rev Harold Waghela would visit my house regularly to share about IEM's ministry. I attended IEM's conventions and missionary retreats.

In 2004, I visited the Chikaldara Mission field along with Rev Harold and some supporters. The Lord challenged me to pray more for IEM and to raise funds for the ministry of IEM. I worked as an Area secretary for 3 years and presently I serve as an Area coordinator. I visit our supporters, conduct prayer meetings and raise funds for IEM. At conventions, I look after physical Arrangement. I also handover PADKAR magazine to our supporters and Prayer Partners.

I want to see that every church in Gujarat, every Christian home, and every person may know about IEM's Ministry. I would like to see more funds raised for IEM and men and women from Gujarat may come forward to support IEM.

### Paul S Macwan (Ahmedabad) I



worked as a Chemical Engineer in Gujarat Agro Ltd. of Saurashtra. At a meeting in our Methodist church, I accepted the Lord

Jesus as my personal Saviour in

2002. During these days, I grew in the Lord by personal meditation of the Word. I rededicated my life to the Lord when Mr. Jenny Christopher, IEM Communication Secretary spoke in our Methodist Church in Maninagar.

After I took voluntary retirement I had many opportunities to attend National Conventions at Vadodara and Nasik. I also visited the Dangs mission field in Gujarat along with my older brother and was burdened and challenged to serve with IEM. I prayed and expressed my desire to Mr Shailesh Amin and my elder brother Mr John S Macwan. They requested me to be an Area secretary in Maninagar, Ahmedabad.

Mv vision is to increase more volunteers for the collections and to raise Prayer Partners and supporters for the ministry of IEM. I also want to encourage youth to join Missionary work and go to serve the Lord. Please pray for me and my family as we continue serve the Lord.

PA Silva (Nazareth) I accepted



Jesus as my personal Saviour only after joining IEM. I began to read the Bible with great interest and started praying for others, especially

missionaries, leaders, mission fields and so on.

I had the privilege of meeting missionaries from various states and came to know about their dedicated service in spreading the Gospel, their simple life and the way they mingled with others. We attended National and State Conventions and this enabled me to know how our missionaries

involved in ministry. Presently, I am an Area coordinator and I raise funds, conduct monthly prayer meetings and encourage my wife to conduct 3 weekly prayer cells as well. This challenged me to do something more for the Lord. By God's grace, we support 16 missionaries and 15 children.

I want to send a missionary from our area, to raise more general funds, children education funds, medical funds, missionary child supports and church construction funds. We are trying to increase the number of prayer cells. We invite missionaries every month, and take them to our sponsor's house and thus let the people to know more about IEM.



Nallaraj Edward (Hyderabad)

I accepted the Lord Iesus Christ as my personal Saviour in 1959 when Mr Augustine Salins spoke from Revelation 3:20. Later I served full time

ministry in Gideons International as office manager from May 1978 till 1994. Then joined IEM in 1994.

I am challenged by the simple lifestyle of our IEM missionaries in different mission fields and the beautiful harvest of souls in the fields. Now I raise prayer and financial support for IEM as well as minister to children and young people in schools and colleges in Hyderabad.

As long as God gives me strength to continue the ministry in IEM and help in different ways, I will serve

Grace Nallaraj (Hyderabad) I accepted the Lord at 15 through VBS ministry. From then on, I have



been walking with the Lord, having fellowship with Him through His Word and prayer.

I know that IEM is a missionary organization which is

burdened to send missionaries to the unreached places of our country. The functioning of this organization appealed to me very much. They totally depend on people's prayer and support raised in our country. My ministry is to pray, raise support and be a part in it.

I want to raise many more prayer warriors and increase the financial support as well.

### Sam D Arputharaj (Sivakasi) Till



40, I was an average Christian, attending church services regularly. In time, certain problems drew me closer to God and I began to

participate in church activities and administration. I was made convener of evangelism and I began to pray with a great burden for souls. By God's grace I helped in establishing 1000 churches though I did not actually visit villages and preach the Gospel. I prayed for hours and conducted all-night prayers. I served God through IEM in various roles. Now I am 76 and can stand in the gap as He wants me to do.

In 1972, I received a letter from the IEM central office askina me whether I would be willing to serve as an Area secretary. My pastor encouraged me to accept the responsibility. God enabled me to conduct 12 prayer cells in our

town and on my recommendation, Area secretaries were appointed in Sathu, Arupukottai, Rajapalayam and Sivakasi. In 1992, I conducted the State Women's Camp in Sivakasi. During the camp, 2 missionaries, Nirmala Rai and Celestina were dedicated.

Presently, I am 76 now and am unable to be active.

I don't have any plans because I am very weak, I pray for a few more area secretaries to join the team.

# What is Good Friday?

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# Our Heartfelt Thanks!



he year 2009 was unique in many ways. Apart from the usual ups and downs, the joys and sorrows, the struggles and victories and so on, we walked through hitherto uncharted territory, depending on the Lord to guide and provide for us in His own beautiful way. God honoured our faith and used each one

of you to stand with us and strive

alongside us as we ventured fearfully into the future, depending on our faithful God. Every soul won for the Lord is because you prayed; every new Worship Group formed is because promoted the cause of missions among your prayer partners, every tribal hostel child's academic achievement is because you sponsored them, every New Testament translated is because you supported the efforts of our translators, every church building constructed is because you invested generously so that fellow brothers and sisters could have a roof over their heads. Many received medicine through our medical missionaries and they recovered completely.

Today, many of our missionaries' children are blossoming because you invested in their education. You supported our missionaries financially so that they could put their heart and soul into the ministry! You did all this because you loved the Lord and loved His people. For all this, dear brethren, we offer our praise to God and our heartfelt thanks to you! We praise God for the prayer groups, churches, families and individuals who sacrificially sent missionaries and supported them through IEM.

Your partnership is vital, vibrant and eventually victorious! And your reward will be great!

As we look ahead, may we ask you to prayer for us continually as our missionaries claim new ground for the Lord. May we plead with you to support the ministry financially? In case you have inadvertently forgotten to send in your support, kindly do so. When you do this, all glory goes to God and the blessing will be yours and ours! Thanks once again.

Rev P John Wesley

and the IEM Family



### Youth page

### Here are some timely titbits from a talented Teacher!

Dear children.

The "exam fever" is catching on. You will be quite busy in the coming months to prove yourself on the papers before you take off for your holidays. As you get ready, here are some basics to remember.

- Begin every day (even 'exam days') with a quiet time with the Lord. This is irreplaceable.
- Remember the goal that you've set for yourself. The higher the goal, the better the results! Determine to achieve the goal. Persevere!
- Read your entire text book thoroughly and comprehensively. Mark the important terms and topics.
- Collect many previous question papers and try to solve them. Answering atleast 7 model papers and evaluating them will not go unrewarded!
- Be careful in your choice of questions. Avoid choosing questions that need lengthy answers. They may consume more time. Answer clearly and concretely.
- Let your diagrams be neat and accurate. Label the parts legibly. No science prefers beautiful, artistic diagrams to neat and labelled ones.
- Plan your day. Take a recap of lighter topics at nights and the heavier ones in the mornings.
- It is not advisable to study all the time. Have a break.
   Relax!
- Eat well and sleep well. A healthy diet and good sleep are absolutely necessary to have an alert mind
- Above all, honouring the Lord through your studies is a witness for the Lord in your student days. So, Get ready. Cheer up. Do your best. Work hard. Trust the Lord.

And children, may this small prayer be always on your lips. "Lord, nothing is impossible, when you and I work together."

God bless you!

### Mr Rajaiah

Retd. Government School Headmaster Tamil Nadu State best teacher awardee Ex- Board member, IEM



People Group Profile

The Misso Deople of China

(The People's Republic of China can boast of one thing – PEOPLE! In spite of stringent measures adopted by the Government, China continues to be the world's most populous nation. Tucked away in China's billions is a people group called the Miao. While it might sound like the call of a cat, the Miao people consist of approximately 9.6 million! Though friendly, they still need to hear the Gospel! In order for missionaries to be sent, people need to pray. May God help us to touch the Miao people through prayer!)

### The Miao Minority

he **Miao** are a linguistically and culturally

related group of people recognized by the government of the People's Republic of China as one of the 55 official

minority groups.
Miao is a
Chinese term
and does not
reflect the
self-

designations of the component

sub-groups. The
Miao people live
primarily in southern
China, in the provinces
of Guizhou, Hunan,
Yunnan, Sichuan, Guangxi,
Hainan, Guangdong, and
Hubei. Some have
migrated out of China
into the Southeast
Asian countries of
Vietnam, Laos, Myanmar
and Thailand. The term

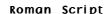
part of a larger effort to identify and classify minority groups in order to clarify their role in national

government.

"Miao" gained official

status in 1949. This was

In China, the Miao people are traditionally classified according to the most characteristic colour of the women's clothes. According to the 2000 census, the number of Miao in China was estimated to be about 9.6 million.



Despite comprising several dialects, the Miao peoples' language as a whole belongs to the Sino-Tibetan family. They had no written script until 1957, when a Romanization system was created. With no written language, oral history and tradition was passed on by songs and dances.

### Culturally Distinct

The friendly Miao are known for their hospitality. Living in mountainous communities, they generally depend on farming and animal husbandry. Close-knit, they often work together on farms and



construction. Besides song and dance, Miao also excel at embroidery. Women's head-dresses take special importance in Miao culture. When a girl is born, her parents will start saving money to make fancy silver head ornaments that can weigh several kilograms. Traditional Miao religion is animistic. Important celebrations include the Miao New Year (Eighth Day of the Fifth Lunar Month) and the Dragon Boat Festival.

The Miao people tend to form villages based on clan. Each clan will build their own village on separate mountain slopes. Most houses are made out of wood with a mountain-shaped structure and greatly varying styles. The houses at the foot of the Qingshui River are the "tongue-mouth-shaped" single-storey structures with three rooms in a row. The middle room is shaped like a tongue and mouth. One side room is used for fire-pit, dinner, meeting and receiving guests, while the other is for sleeping. In the mountain areas, houses are mainly hillside pile-dwellings, usually of three stories. The ground floor is used

as the kitchen and animal fold, the second floor for sleeping in, and the third floor for storage.

### Peaceful existence

The environment surrounding Miao villages is also vibrant, yet peaceful. It is their tradition to plant bamboo and trees in order to beautify their village environment. This greenery is plentiful both inside and outside the village. A large variety of trees have been planted including: Chinese sweet gums, verdant pines, and cypresses while stools have been installed to give visitors a scenic place to take rest and enjoy the surroundings. This pleasant environment and graceful hillside dwellings combine to form a truly charming scene.

### Very few Believers

Very little mission work was ever undertaken in eastern Sichuan and western Hubei prior to 1949, except for work in the city of Chongqing. Today, there are thought to be only a few hundred Christians among the Miao, mostly Catholic believers living in the townships. Most Miao have never heard the Gospel.

# Electronic Money Order

Some supporters send money to the IEM Head office by Electronic Money Order wanting to place orders for books or audio visual products. While this is an efficient and quick way of sending your money, we request you to kindly inform us by email or telephone about the purpose for which it is sent. Otherwise we will never know the reason why the money was sent. Therefore your orders cannot be processed. Thank you for helping us serve you better!

# History Scripted Again

### God's Word in the Bison Horn Madiya (Gondi) Language Bacheli, Dantewada district, Chhatisgarh

wenty five years of hard labour, sweat and tears went into the translation and production of Poona Niyam, the New Testament in Gondi language. Our missionaries, Joseph Soundararaj & Omana, their precious daughters Eunice and Charis and their wonderful team of fellow missionaries rejoiced along with the Gondi people who had waited for years to see the Word of God in their own heart language. On February 10, 2010 will go down history as the day on which God began to speak to the Gondi people in the language they understood. The historical celebration began with a culturally colorful procession led by

Gondi believers which



culminated at the venue of the function. The participants included friends and relatives of Joseph & Omana, Church Ministries Associates from Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Chattisgarh, former and present IEM missionaries and leaders and supporters.

Rev Philip Masih from Jabalpur represented Bible Society of India, Mr Mathew Kodur from New Tribes Mission and Mr Prabhakar from New Life Computer Institute(NLCI) also graced the occasion. More than 10 pastors along with some of the congregation members representing churches and organizations in Chattisgarh lent



color to the event. IEM
Central leaders like Mr Solomon Swamidoss, Mr John Mathai, Mr Nelson Dinakaran, Mr Justus Sathiasingh, Mr Dinesh Patel and Mr Ramesh Elanchezhian were present.

The presence of Senior missionary, Rev Jeyapaul Sitther from Chennai needs special mention.

Our General Secretary Rev John Wesley dedicated the Gondi New Testamant and presented the first copy to Mr Sondar, a keen believer and leader of the IEM ministry in Bastar. He presented a momemto and a letter of commendation

to Joseph & Omana as a mark of appreciation for their labour of love. Former General Secretary, Dr R Theodore Srinivasagam exhorted the Gondi church on the importance of Scripture and need

Bison Horn Madiya is the external name which is used anthropologically and linguistically to refer to the Gondi people of Bastar and Danthewada district exclusively. You can see linguists, anthropologists and reserach scholars and tourism people use this name extensively.

The Gondi New Testament, costing Rs 25/- sold like hot cakes. Inspired by the missionary team consisting of Rajkumar & Ebenezer and Jeevan Paul & Mercy, the local believers were the backbone of

this momentous event.

History was scripted yet again! First it was the Koya New Testament, then it was the Garasia New Testament and now the Gondi New Testament. We are grateful to God for our supporters, prayer partners and sponsors who ably involved themselves in this project



to use it in their churches using I Peter 1:23-25 as his text. He emphasized that the Scriptures

are eternal, it brings salvation and therefore it must be preached. He also acknowledged and appreciated Joseph & Omana and the team for their hard work. Finally, all the participants were treated to a delicious lunch.

**Rev Jonathan Chavan**Central Secretary for Field
Ministries, Nagpur



### An Eternal Investment

"He was a bridge between the Church and the Mission." This was how our General Secretary, Rev P John Wesley described the role played by Mr K S Samuel, our former Board Member and Mission Coordinator.

On January 29, 2010, our beloved "Samuel Uncle" bid farewell to his earthly existence after spending many years, serving the Lord who loved him dearly. Although, totally unexpected, we know that there are no accidents in God's sight. Mr Samuel was an active member of the CSI Wesley English Church in Bangalore. Apart from playing an active role in the pastorate committee, he was committed to informing his church members about the needs of missionary work and inspiring them to get involved in Missions. For many years, he nurtured the IEM ministry in the Krishnagiri mission field and regularly participated in the life and ministry of our work there.

He loved children, especially the budding blossoms in our girls and boys hostels in Bargur and Krishnagiri respectively. In fact, he used to visit them during January/February and give them some goodies to make these precious children happy. So when the children were informed of his homecall, they were shocked. "Samuel thatha" will not be around to cheer them up anymore.

Uncle Samuel used to visit the IEM head office at least once a month. He would visit every room and enquire about each one's family. He had a good sense of humour and cheered those who were downcast. He never appeared to be ailing even during his last visit to the office. Such was his tenacity!

Wesley English Church was packed to capacity during his funeral service on February 1, 2010. Apart from those who paid tribute, many were overheard talking about how he impacted their lives. His son spoke about his wonderful relationship with his beloved father. The Pastor spoke of his missionary "heart beat." Rev John Wesley outlined Samuel Uncle and his links with IEM in various capacities.

On behalf of the Indian Evangelical Mission, we offer our heartfelt condolences to Mrs Samuel and their beloved son as well as to the extended family.

Another soldier has fallen...but the battle must go on. Though the memory of Uncle Samuel may fade with time, the legacy for the sake of the Lord Jesus, which he has left behind, will live on for time and eternity. Thank you Uncle Sam!



## Memorable Memorial Thanksgiving Service



eople poured into Richmond Town Methodist Church on January 23, 2010 to celebrate the life and ministry of Rev Dr Theodore Williams. Well known Bangalore-based choir, "Glorious" set the tone by leading in a meaningful time of worship, lifting up sagging spirits of the people. They also sang many meaningful songs during



the service. Some IEM Mission Support Staff sang 2 of Rev Williams' favourite hymns, "Blessed Assurance" and "My Jesus I love Thee."

Many people whose lives had been impacted by Rev Williams made recalled those fond memories. People spoke of his efficiency, his pastoral heart, his

godly advice and many other hitherto unknown qualities. Rev Dr Richard Howell, General Secretary, Evangelical Fellowship of India(EFI) preached on the occasion. A DVD documentary on the life of Rev

Williams was screened. A booklet containing a brief history of his life and tributes from people from around the globe whose lives he had impacted was released.

Our General Secretary, Rev P John Wesley also recalled some special moments with Rev Williams.



He said that the Theodore Williams fund for missionary training was instituted and urged people to make generous contributions towards the fund. This was followed by a sumptuous fellowship dinner.

Pastors from St John's Church, Bangalore as well as the Richmond Town Methodist Church were also present.





# New Initiatives in Missions

### Mighty "Middlemen" in Missions

n a typical mission field, you will find missionaries and suvarthiks (evangelists) actively involved in missionary work. While the missionaries are educated and qualified, many suvarthiks have not studied in a school. There is another group of young people who were unable to study beyond standard 7. These people cannot be missionaries but have a deep desire to serve the lord.

Accepting this as a strategy, we plan to induct such people into our task force. For the first time, we plan to send a team consisting of a cross-cultural missionary, a suvartik and a couple from this new category to a new mission field in Solapur area of Maharshtra.

### "Send IEM missionaries"

### To North East India

We are convinced that in order to serve our generation, the need of the hour is pioneering partnerships. "Please send missionaries as teachers and pastors to teach in our churches!" This is the desperate cry from our north eastern friends.

We sent missionaries to revive the church in Doimukh, Arunachal Pradesh. Now this church is teaching neighbouring churches as well. Our missionaries are doing this in other places as well. Now, we plan to help churches in Assam, Meghalaya and so on. This partnership is not fostered by funds alone but is bound together by a common vision and commitment to reach the unreached and to establish strong churches.

### Church planters and Bible Translators

New Life Computers (NLCI) is one of our active partners, especially in the area of Bible translation. They have invited us to send church planters to 2 people groups, one in Madhya Pradesh and another in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. Bible translation projects are already underway in these places. A survey team will explore this possibility and recommend further action. How beautiful it is when 2 organizations come together to work, using their varied expertise!

These initiatives require much prayer and financial support. Will you partner with us?

### Rev Jonathan Chavan

Central Secretary for Field Ministries, Nagpur



### Believers' Retreat -A Transforming Experience

We praise God for enabling us to conduct the first one-day retreat for believers on November 28, 2009. Sixty people including our missionaries participated. Our Zonal Field Secretary, Mr Luke Vinod Titus shared an inspiring message on the theme, "Standing firm in the faith" based on I Peter 5:9.

Most of the seekers and contacts have expressed their faith in the Lord after understanding who the living God is. Please pray for all the seekers and contacts to be transformed in their personal lives, in keeping with the image of God.

### Livng Examples Before the People

Fifty five new contacts attended the Christmas programme at Nayagaon village on December 24, 2009. It was good to see a big difference in those who attended the programme. The Lord is speaking clearly to the people are opening their minds to listen to Him

Manoj Kumar is a young man who did a short course on the Bible and began working among 15 children from his own village. A Gospel meeting is being conducted in 3 villages in additional to cottage prayer meetings in believers' homes. Pray that all the believers will be living examples before the people.

Rev Athang Serto, Dehra Dun

### Raxaul, Bihar

Whenever I visit villages for ministry, I take medicine with me. Once I met a contacts who told me that he had been unwell for over one week. He had taken many medicines all in vain. I gave him a paracetamol tablet and prayed for him. Within a day the man was healed! I said, Bhai(brother) it is not the medicine that cured him. On the contrary, God had done the job because God answers prayer. Glory to God!

A Andrew, Raxaul

### Chitradurga, Karnataka

### Peace in the Midst of Persecution

On Sunday, January 24, 2010 one of our believers, Raju was conducting the worship service in Bedhari village. Suddenly some 40–45 people opposed to the Gospel arrived on the scene and severely beat up Raju. They also burnt Bibles and dragged him to another village. Somehow he escaped and managed to file a case against those who had beat him.

On January 27, police officials called our missionaries and believers for an enquiry. They went to the police station and remained there till 11.30 at night. Meanwhile, our General Secretary contacted Mr Sajan George, an influential well-wisher of IEM who in turn called the Superintendent of Police and the Tahsildar and requested them to help. Now things are under control. Please pray that God will grant our missionaries the wisdom to deal with this situation and that our believers will not be discouraged.

**Rev Ramesh Elanchezhian** Associate Central Secretary for Field Ministries(South)