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PRIORITY ONE INDIA, USA

804 S ASTER AVE., BROKEN ARROW, OK 74012

JUNE/JULY 2021

A WORD FROM DR. ROY PHILIP

The year 2020 had been unprecedentedly and extremely challenging for everyone. The start of 2021 has been equally challenging thus far. There is no need to explain how difficult, different, and desperate it had been. There are times when God's children need to cope and cross the challenges, forgetting the past, facing them fearlessly, and going forward. Take Moses for example. Moses was a great man, and a great leader. He is a great model for all God's servants today! He led God's people from slavery to freedom. The New Testament confirms this is a picture of our salvation from sin, and from the wicked taskmaster that seeks to hold us in chains of bondage, bitterness, and burdens. The Christian life is not lived in straight lines or the ministry done in an easy way. God deals us detours along the way, and they are for our benefit as well as for the ministry. Looking back, we see how God has graciously upheld us and the ministry with His righteous right hand. God has been using us to fulfill His divine purposes in His kingdom work.



I know in America, restrictions have been lifted and we praise God along with you. In India, that is not the case. Instead of bombarding you with information, this month we simply want to highlight God's goodness and grace as ministry has continued and lives have been changed. We thank the Lord for all our supporters. Your care, prayers, and financial support has been such an encouragement to our lives as we continue to serve the living God.



KARNATAKA MINISTRY



The Children Perform

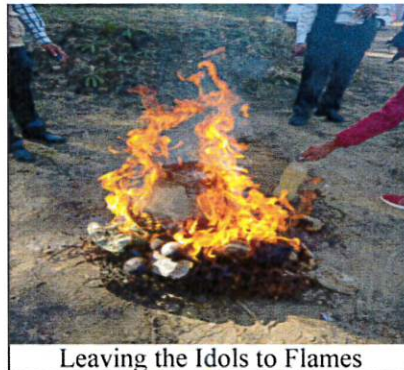
In January, Pastors Babu K P and Simon K K were able to visit the ministry field in Goa, where Brother Stevens Dumpala, an alumnus of India Theological Seminary, ministers. Bro. Stevens has been ministering in Panajim with his family for the last five years. He has a church and also does ministry among the slum children. The pastors had the privilege of ministering the Word in the church, encouraging them to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. They also spent time with the children among whom Bro. Stevens works. The children were excited to listen to the pastors as they shared the story of Christmas, the birth of Jesus Christ. They encouraged them to follow and worship Him just as the shepherds did.

ASSAM MINISTRY

Church Service: Pastor Sing Engti writes from Assam that the good Lord continues to add members to His church. Recently three God's children have testified the Lord in believer's baptism at Priority Mount Baptist Church. They were idol worshipers, having a family idol at their home. They had practiced many rituals and superstitious practices to please their idols. It is never easy for such people to leave these practices and to come to the living God. Only when they receive mercy and the saving grace of God, do they come to the salvation experience. Once they know the truth, the truth shall make them free to serve the living God. "Many of them also which used curious arts brought their books together, and burned them before all men: and they counted the price of them, and found it fifty thousand pieces of silver." (Acts 19:19). As a testimony to their genuine salvation experience this family brought all their idols and burned it in front of the church. It was a mark of their complete turning to the only living God. There are many challenges that they will have to face in future, to live with the conviction that they have now. Let us pray for these men that they may continue to experience God's unfailing grace to face the challenges while following the Lord.



Pastor Sing Engti Baptizing



Leaving the Idols to Flames

KARNATAKA MINISTRY

Church Ministry: The churches in Karnataka praise God for his unfailing love and grace through which He continues to save and add souls to His kingdom. Even in the midst of pandemic, uncertainties, troubles, and woes, God's work is in progress. Some pastors have been able to resume meeting together. Whether meeting for services or utilizing electronic media, the Word is being preached and men, women, and children are responding to the gospel. In addition, we thank God that He enabled us to reopen the Seminary in March. The pandemic forced us to close down for considerable time, however, every student was able to return and to continue in their study of God's Word.

TESTIMONY

Church Ministry: Pastor Joseph, who works in Yalandur, had the privilege of baptizing three believers recently. Pastor Joseph is a committed servant of the Lord and was very faithful in his witnessing even during the pandemic. Three members of a family were convicted of their sins and the need of a Savior. Then, they accepted Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior. They proclaimed their faith in believer's baptism. They need our prayers to hold on to the faith that they have embraced and live as true disciples of the Lord. It is never easy for a person to turn to the living God leaving behind all accustomed practices of idol worship. Yet it is the grace of God that saves people from their wretched conditions, and brings them to the marvelous light of God.

"Give thanks to the Lord for He is good! His faithful love endures forever." Psalm 136:1

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