



Shepherding the NATIONS

Resourcing Native Leaders to Shepherd Their Nations



J E S U S I S A L L T H A T T H E Y N E E D

By Paul S. Brown

The story is told of a Puritan who sat down to his meal and found that he had only a little bread and some water. His response was to exclaim, “**What?! All this and Jesus Christ, too?!**” Quite simply, “Jesus plus nothing = everything!” But we live in a world filled with people who do not understand this perspective. All around us are people having no hope and without God in the world (Eph. 2:12). They may participate in a religion but they don’t know absolutely for sure that they will spend eternity in Heaven with God (1 Jn. 5:11-13).

India and Nepal are filled with religious people like that. In one state in northern India there is only 13/100 of 1% of the people that are believers in the Lord Jesus (only 13 believers out of every 10,000 people!). There are so many that don’t know our joy of being saved entirely by grace alone through faith alone in the finished work of Jesus Christ alone. But by God’s grace we still have the opportunity to participate in His Great Commission (Mt. 28:18-20). Won’t you join us? Your prayers, volunteer labor, frequent flyer miles, or financial contributions will help us plant healthy churches that will make mature reproducing disciples in the midst of over 1 billion lost souls.

A man told me a long time ago, “**When you come to the place in your life where Jesus is all that you have, you will find out that Jesus is all that you need.**” Would you be willing to go without a little so people in India and Nepal can have their greatest need met? Jesus is all that they need! 

INDIA TRIP REPORT - SPRING 2011

By Ryder Kumar

Hyderabad: This seminar was held from Feb 28th through March 4th and was attended by 48 participants. One could observe how well dressed they were, looking healthy and diligent to grasp the studies. Ravi and Timothy taught a couple of sessions and Dr. Vijay and Timothy helped with the translation. On the last day, everybody received Book # 5 in order to prepare for the fall 2011 seminar. There was a special glow on the faces of the participants; they seemed to grasp their studies and there was a general sense of being more equipped for the ministry in the churches. The course was taught passionately so as to enable the participants not only to dive into the course book but also to become equipped to teach the truth to their people. The center where we had the seminar had been upgraded with better lighting, greater cleanliness and air conditioning. The food provided there was excellent, surpassing previous trips. The management was so kind that they didn’t charge us for the use of a guest room for an extra day or for the room and food provided for the board meeting held on March 5th.



Lucknow: This seminar was held from March 7th through the 11th and was attended by 39 participants. One of them (KB) was sick and had to go back home on the second day. The participants came from five different states of North India (approximately one out of seven of the Indian population live there). Some of these participants had travelled for over 27 hours to get to the seminar. Kishore (from North India Bible Institute, who teaches the BTCP material in their institute) and Suresh Mathews helped by teaching a few sessions. There were lots of questions from the pastors. Every session was blessed by the Lord. We observed a special glow on all of their faces and a sense of satisfaction in drinking in the Word. The pastors expressed gratefulness and thankfulness for the provisions made in order for them to receive this teaching that is so helpful in their ministries. One senior pastor who missed one of the past courses openly confessed his regrets for having missed the prior course. (cont. page 2)

(India Trip Report 2011 cont. from page 1)

Ministry in the local churches: On the first Sunday, the Lord enabled me to preach four times that day. There were around 600 in the morning two services, 100 in the youth meeting in the afternoon and around 700 in the evening service. Several made decisions of commitment to Christ at the evening service when the Pastor gave an altar call. On the second Sunday, I preached once in a local church to about 400 people. This church extended a pressing invitation to spend the whole day and teach at a seminar for parents. On the third Sunday, I preached at a Sunday gathering of around 25 people.

Growth among the participants: The participants experienced more freedom with an interactive style. This time, more than ever, they asked questions to receive answers. There was a great expression of satisfaction both at Hyderabad and Lucknow. Personal interviews with several of the men pointed out the fresh revelation of truths that they are now going to teach to their congregations. A senior pastor of PCI told me that all these years he had taught that a believer could lose his salvation when he sinned. But this pastor is now turned around to teach biblical truth!

Ministry among the participants: Teaching the Word is helping the pastors to mature in Christian living. One pastor from West Bengal (North India) mentioned in a personal conversation how he has refused to compromise with another Christian ministry. Though he would be paid (and probably more money than he now receives), the difference in vision kept this pastor where he is now to minister to people. Another participant who works in a remote village of North India was able to select 16 people from a congregation of 200 believers and taught them course # 1. This has proved that the participants are not only receiving the study but also imparting it to others faithfully and sacrificially. One of the participants who appears to be particularly diligent taught course #6 to another pastor who had missed the course due to illness.



STN'S FRUIT IN THE BIRTHPLACE OF BUDDHISM By Ryder Kumar

Excerpt take from a longer article by Ryder Kumar. Please contact Ryder to read his complete article (ryderkumar@yahoo.com).

Even 10 days after my trip, my sleep was in disorderly shape. I woke up by 4 a.m., tossed for a bit, and eventually got up to have my quiet time. Right after that, I picked up the phone to speak to Jose (pron: Joce-long o), one of the participants in North India. I was so blessed by talking to him.

Jose is the Principal of a small school in a small village. He comes from down South with a vision to serve the Lord in the North. He has learned the language, culture, and habits of the people and launches into school projects in order to witness. The school is not only able to pay staff but also a missionary (Jose was his mentor).

The missionary work of North East India is in a famous place called Bodhgaya. This is the place Buddha had his so-called "enlightenment." People from all over the world flock to this place at a certain time of the year. The missionary I am talking about also has work in surrounding villages. There are 200 believers! God's chosen are everywhere!

Jose who is regularly attending all our STN seminars was able to teach course 1 to select participants from this church of 200 people. He is now into the Old Testament survey. Jose spends his own money to travel 11 hours by train once a month on a weekend. During this time his wife holds down the fort at the school.

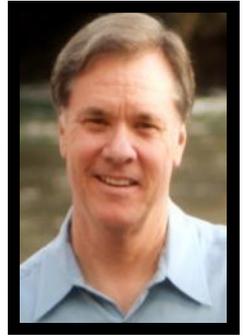
Jose has been pleading with me to come and minister with him there. I had to tell him that I am under the leadership of STN. I do not move on my own accord. Jose was pleased to hear this. By the way, at the time of my phone call, he was visiting people in a village and had to move away from them to talk in English - people around would be suspect of such a call. Please pray for Jose and his family. He sends his greetings to you.

Jet lag is a blessing as I get up early and talk to different ones in India.



GROWING OUR MINISTRY THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

By Mike Vos



We are in a spiritual battle and we must be faithful to share God's Good News of salvation and to make disciples in a lost and dying world. Time is running short and we need more helpers. To help us reach believers who are not aware of our ministry efforts and to call on them to join us, we are preparing a short video message about our ministry. This video will be added to our website and can be easily sent via email link to new potential supporters of the ministry. Just as we need to get the Good News message to the lost, we also need to reach more ministry supporters to join us and technology can be our friend in this effort. Please pray for wisdom as we prepare our video message and pray God will bring many new supporters of the STN ministry. 🌐

WORLD'S FOR SALE – MAY 15TH 2011

By Susan Leinen

Our second annual "World's For Sale" yard sale fundraiser is coming up soon and we are anticipating a great day of fun and "funds." Last year's sale raised over \$3000 for the ministry of Shepherding the Nations. Our storage trailer has been filling up over the year with donated goods that we will offer for sale. This sale has the potential of blessing so many – **blessing the donors** who are cleaning out their closets, **blessing the shoppers**



who are able to buy gently used clothing and household goods at bargain prices, **blessing those who are hungry** and receptive to hear the gospel message and enjoy free donuts and coffee as part of their shopping experience, and most of all – **blessing the pastors** in India and Nepal with continued Bible training, fellowship and partnership in ministry.

We are still looking for many helpers to make this year's fundraiser a success. We need the following volunteers: drivers and lifters who can help haul goods to the sale site the week prior to the sale (Friday, May 13th and possibly other days this week), sorters and pricers who can help us set up the sale on Friday, May 13th, sale workers to help on the day of the sale, May 14th from 6 AM – 3 PM (Spanish speakers especially needed), clean up crew to help pack up the remnants on May 14th from 3 – 5 PM, and those who are willing to give out the gospel and donuts to hungry shoppers on May 14th 7 – 3 pm (Spanish speakers especially needed).

We are also still receiving donations of gently used household items and clothing and small pieces of furniture in good condition. Please bring your donations to TBBF Amigo building parking lot on Sunday May 8th between 11:45 am and 12:15 pm. Or, if you are able, please hold onto your goods and bring them directly to the sale site during the week prior to the sale (May 7th through the 13th) Mike Amoroso's home - 8647 Encino Ave., Northridge, CA 91325. Phone (818) 885-0094.

We are also offering pick up service for those who do not have another way to bring their donated goods to the sale. Our college students are offering to do this for a donation towards their scholarship fund. To volunteer or for more information about the sale or pick up service, please email Susan Leinen (susanleinen@yahoo.com) or Karla Forbes (amishmomx4@yahoo.com). 🌐



Our Mission is:
“To glorify God by developing a global partnership which trains and supports indigenous pastors, who will be involved in planting healthy churches that know Jesus Christ and make Him known.”

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SHEPHERDING THE NATIONS NEWS ...

- ◆ You may have recently received **email updates** from Shepherding the Nations! We anticipate sending these on a regular basis to let you know what’s happening in India and Nepal through the ministry of STN.
- ◆ You can also become a fan of STN on **Facebook** to see updates and prayer requests.

FINANCIAL GIFTS ...

If you would like to increase your regular monthly offering or give a gift over and above your monthly amount for conference expenses, please contact Tammy Werth in the Financial Office at The Bridge Bible Fellowship, 818.776.1500, x. 34.

Note: For the safety of our brothers and sisters in Christ who are serving the Lord around the world, no part of this newsletter may be reproduced without permission.



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