



Hope Ministries *Update*

Bringing the Hope of Jesus to India Since 1979

Jacob Beera, Founder & Director

P.O. Box 20456, Canton, OH 44701 (330) 454-1538

Aug. 2018

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



Dear Friends,

By the grace of God and your prayers, we had a fruitful trip to India. Jaya and I were encouraged to see the spirit of God move in a mighty way. Thank you so much for your prayers and continued financial support which are making an eternal difference in so many children and people of India.

We conducted VBS at Hope Church in Mori on June 8-11. A team of 12 from High Mill Church in Canton, Ohio, came with a great burden and enthusiasm to share the Good News of Jesus Christ to the Indian children. We weren't sure how many children would attend because schools were out of session and children would be busy visiting their families before the reopening of school on June 12th. However, we prayed and did what we could to advertise.

On the first day of VBS, the American team and all of our staff were ready and waiting for the children to come. It

seemed like the children were on "Indian time" and slowly, one-by-one, they started to come. We began the first session with a few children but ended up with more



Feeding people with leprosy

than 200. The next day more than 400 children attended. God used the American team in a wonderful way to minister to the children.

Every session started with singing and worship. Then the team shared Bible stories through mime and drama. There was a gap between the second and third day because of Sunday. So we were

Children at VBS class at Hope Church in Mori, India

concerned about how many children would return. But, to our surprise, there were more than 500 children who came back on Monday! Praise the Lord!!

The last day we gave certificates to all the children and adults who attended. The team brought beautiful pens that were donated by a generous friend and distributed them, along with chocolates bought from a local store.

We were concerned about the rain that was predicted because if it rained it would be muddy everywhere and very difficult to continue VBS. We all prayed. God held the rains until we finished VBS. Soon after we closed, it started raining. Praise the Lord! We were all blessed by the team and grateful for them for their burden to teach the Indian children about Jesus. The team fed breakfast and lunch to those that attended. Also they fed a special meal to more than 50 people who were afflicted with leprosy. God bless them!

PERSECUTION OF CHRISTIANS

While I was in India I saw a photo of an evangelist (not HMI) who was beheaded by anti-Christian groups. The head was thrown away from the body. This was in a jungle village where some of our own evangelists are also working.

Recently I heard that one of our HMI evangelists Jeremiah, who has been working with us for a long time in the jungles, was put on a hit list by the same anti-Christian groups. I heard that he was in hiding and moving from place to place at night. He has a family and also has a church.

A couple of years back, I was there at Jeremiah's church to dedicate a bore-well that we drilled. It is a very hostile area and I was warned not to go there. This was the area where a group of gunmen in camouflaged clothes stopped our vehicle.

Mission organizations are going through difficult times with the rules and regulations that are imposed by government agencies. There is a lot of extra paper work and expenses that are causing stress. Many organizations have already closed the doors because of too much pressure. Many Christians in India are going through persecution. In spite of difficult circumstances such as rough terrain and anti-Christian opposition, the evangelists who work with HMI are going strong to reach one person/one village at a time. Please remember us in your prayers.

GOSPEL MEETINGS

We held our annual crusade on April 24-27 at High Mill Campus in Sitarampuram, India instead of the traditional location at HMI headquarters in Mori. We decided to hold these meetings at night since it was so hot during the day. We conducted Inductive Bible Study classes for pastors/evangelists during the day. We had four glorious nights of praise and worship and evangelistic meetings. We preached the Gospel not only to those who attended, but also through the PA system to several thousand people who live in the surrounding villages. Many people stood up to give their lives to Jesus and we prayed for many who were sick.



INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDY CLASSES

Two pastors from the U.S. taught inductive Bible study classes to more than 200 pastors/evangelists. The classes



were conducted from 9 AM to 5 PM with a break for lunch at noon and a tea break at 3 PM. Classes included how to study the Word, how to interpret and how to apply the Word, and how to prepare sermons. The pastors/evangelists were very excited and grateful for the teachings that help them in their ministries in the remote villages. They also received a certificate of completion. We praise the Lord for our American pastors for blessing all of us with these much-needed teachings.

COLLEGE DORM BUILDING UPDATE

You may have read in our previous newsletters about the college dorm that we started two years ago to help educate refugee children. By the grace of God, we bought a small building closer to the college so the students can walk to classes. Since this building is small and crowded,



we needed to add another floor to the existing building. God answered our prayers and provided funds for this project. Now it is near completion with some work remaining on flooring and bathrooms.

Even though it was not completely finished before we returned to the U.S., we had an opening ceremony and dedicated the building so the students could use it as soon as it is completed. The students are very happy and can't wait to move into the new addition. We are thankful to the family that provided funds for this project. We know that God will bless them for their generous gift to help the less fortunate.

Our next step is to put a roof/ceiling

on the veranda so it can be used for church services and a place to teach women to sew as a means of providing for their families. We already have several sewing machines that were donated and a woman who will be paid to teach classes. Please pray that the Lord will provide the funds needed to put a roof on the veranda. If you would like to help financially, please let us know.

Since we started this college dorm, our staff has been reaching out to the people that live around them with the Gospel. Some of them are already starting to attend prayer meetings that are being held at the dorm.

*Defend the poor and fatherless: do justice to the afflicted and needy.
Deliver the poor and needy: rid them out of the hand of the wicked. Psalm 82: 3-4*

NEW BORE-WELLS DRILLED

We are excited that we were able to drill four new bore wells this year. We are grateful for the friends who contributed towards this cause. It is awesome to see that people in the remote jungle villages have clean water that they needed desperately. Water from bore wells not only improves health, but also opens people's hearts for living water.

It began raining while we were traveling to a remote village to dedicate a well. We had to drive through woods, water, and off-road. It was muddy and very slippery. We thought we wouldn't get to the well site, but God helped us.

There were no homes, only a church building and a pastor's house



at the well site. When I asked the pastor why he drilled here without a village, he said that there are many homes in the woods around us. The people are refugees who are living on federal land where they are not allowed to drill wells. They walk several miles to



streams and canals to get water. So we drilled this well on private land where the refugees can come and get water. They still have to walk quite a distance to come here, but it is much closer and much healthier compared to walking to the canals to get polluted water.

But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up. John 4:14

TESTIMONY OF A PASTOR AT BORE-WELL



New believer (left) Pastor and wife (right)

I asked the pastor of the church how he came to this remote area. He shared his story. "While I was evangelizing in a small town, God put a burden on my heart to preach the Gospel to the unreached people in the jungles. I felt strongly about this call and shared it with my wife. We both decided to go with our five year-old son to the jungles to preach. We started traveling, and in the evening we stayed at somebody's house. Not knowing

where to go, we stayed with that family for a few days. During our stay, we got to talk to them about Jesus. Miraculously, the head of the house (man on the left in the photo) accepted Jesus as his Lord and Savior.

After staying with them for one month I felt that God was saying to me to move on to the jungles to preach, so we left the house where we were staying and continued our journey through the jungles. When we came across some people in a small village, we felt led to stay and minister. People were receptive to the Gospel and began to come to know Jesus.

We were in need of a place to start a church. I shared this need with the man where we had first stayed. He

said he had some land he could donate. We built a church building and a small house for us to live in there. After I saw the desperate need of the refugees for clean water, I contacted HMI staff and shared the need for a bore well." By God's grace, Hope Ministries helped us to drill a much needed well. I am always available to those who come to the well to talk to them about Jesus. One by one they are attending church services. Please pray for their salvation.

Mark 16: 15-16 "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned."

PRAYER AND FINANCIAL NEEDS

Hope Ministries sponsors about 300 Indian pastors/evangelists who go out into the cities and jungles to bring the Good News to the people.

There is a need that has come to my attention if you would like to help.

The pastors ride bicycles when traveling from place to place to spread the Gospel. Some of their bicycles are getting old and falling apart and need to be replaced. It costs \$100 to provide a bicycle for a pastor.

Also, some of the pastors are in need of sponsors. You can sponsor an evangelist for \$30 a month. Please let us know if you would like to help with a bicycle or sponsorship. Thank You!



THE PASSING OF ONE OF HOPE MINISTRIES' EVANGELISTS

Last December, Dharshan Raju went to preach in a sister church in a jungle village. He preached in two churches that day. He stayed at a believer's house that night so he could attend a pastors' meeting the next morning. He got up, took a shower, and was getting dressed to leave. Then he felt some pain in his chest and told the family members about it. Before they could do anything, he collapsed and passed. He turned 50 years old a few days before he passed. We lost a

good man of God.

While in his early 20's God called Raju to preach to tribal people. God used him to touch many people and bring them to Christ in the remote jungle villages. He started several churches with new believers and was instrumental in drilling bore-wells in remote villages. Raju left behind his wife, two teenage daughters, and a son. Please pray for his family.

UPDATE ON JESSE & STACY BEERA



We got to spend some time with our children, Jesse and Stacy. By God's grace they are doing well and busy with their schooling. We want to let you know what is happening with them so you can be in prayer for God's plans for them.

Stacy is talking about helping people in India by becoming a doctor. She is one of 20 students who were selected

from her college to be coached to prepare for a national test to be held in January, 2019. Over a million students all over India will be taking the test, but only a small percentage will be chosen for a scholarship. If she passes the test with distinction she will have most of her medical school paid for. Please pray that God will open the door for her and help her get a qualifying score on the test in January if this is His will for her.

Jesse is still thinking about becoming an evangelist/pastor and working with the ministry. Since he commutes to college, he is able to be involved with

the day-to-day activities of the children's homes and Hope Ministry. He works with the sound system and plays drums at Hope Church and village Gospel meetings. During his last visit to the U.S. he received a financial gift to buy a nice drum set. He is very grateful to the family for their gift. Please pray for God's guidance for Jesse as he follows God's plan for his ministry.

Thank you for your prayers and continued support for the ministry. Together we are making a difference in so many lives in India. God Bless You!

Prayer and Support Opportunities

Bore-Wells	\$2000 each
College dorm (roof on the veranda)	\$3000
College Students Fund	\$ _____
Deaf and Mute Children Fund	\$ _____
Where Needed	\$ _____
Sponsor a Child	\$20 per month
Evangelist Bicycle / Lantern / Drum	\$100 / \$25 / \$25



Jacob & Jaya Beera

HMI

Prayer and Support Opportunities in this Newsletter

Summarized, here are some of the opportunities for you to partner with the ministry. The first section lists prayer and support opportunities that are mentioned in this newsletter. The second section lists ongoing opportunities including core monthly child and evangelist support. Any amount of support will help and be appreciated. Thank you for continuing to partner with Hope Ministries to reach the unreached and minister the love and compassion of Christ in India.

Hope Ministries Intl. P.O. Box 20456 Canton, OH 44701

Prayer and Support Opportunities in This Newsletter

Bore- Wells	[]	\$2000 each
College Students Fund	[]	\$ _____
Deaf and Mute Children Fund	[]	\$ _____
College dorm (roof on the veranda)	[]	\$ _____

Ongoing Prayer and Support Opportunities

Sponsor a Child	[]	\$20 per month
Sponsor an Evangelist	[]	\$30 per month
Evangelist Bicycle / Lantern / Drum	[]	\$100 / \$25 / \$25
Where needed	[]	\$ _____