



## GBBM Monthly Newsletter (June 2022)

**"for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit."**

**Romans 14:17**

Dear Brethren in Christ,

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer vacation time. I understand from my conversations with friends in the US that it has been very hot in many parts of the country. If it makes you feel any better, during the month of May it was very hot in India. Most days the temperature was between 115- and 120-degrees Fahrenheit. As you might imagine, I am looking forward to my next trip to the US so I can enjoy some of the cool 90 – 100-degree temperature days you are experiencing. :)

But no matter what the weather is, we know that our God is good and that He is never changing and that He loves His children. During the past month God allowed the GBBM pastors to minister to over 3,500 people, provide Vacation Bible School for over 3,700 children and to baptize 27 people, and to celebrate with 104 individuals who have invited Jesus into their hearts. We praise God for the work He is doing among the Banjara people.

This month's newsletter contains an update from Bhagyamma as she recovers from being thrown from a bus during an accident and two stories of GBBM church members and their road to baptism. We hope you enjoy reading about the wonderful work of the Lord and join us in praising Him.

Thank you for joining hands with us as we share the good news with the lost Banjara people in the villages of India.

Yours in Him,

Pastor K S Naik

# Church Planters Activity Update

Key Growth Areas - 2022	May
Villages served	289
People hearing the Gospel(Total Presentations)	3,585
a. People hearing the Gospel for the first time	1,660
b. People hearing the Gospel 2 or more times	1,925
People accepting Jesus Christ as Saviour	104
Children attending VBS programs	3,761
Village/House Churches	132
a. House churches < 10 believers	79
b. House churches > 10 believers	53
Believers attending worship in a week	1,349
Offering collected (Indian Rupees)	21,121
Pastor assistants/future leaders	64
Baptisms	27

## Evangelism & Baptisms

### Jyothi's Bold Step in Faith

Jyothi and her husband Desya were married in 2009. The couple was unable to have children and Jyothi eventually turned to Christ in 2014 to help with the infertility issue. As her faith grew, she remained without children. Desya and Jyothi's in-laws always blamed her for not having children; Desya often threatened to get a divorce because of this issue. Jyothi didn't give up her faith in Jesus as strong opposition to her faith increased from the family.

GBBM Pastor Joseph and the church prayed regularly for Jyothi. God eventually



blessed the couple with a son. Their initial joy didn't last for long because the baby was diagnosed with a heart problem. Again, Desya and his family started blaming Jyothi for her faith in Jesus because this faith in a foreign god surely created the curse on the boy. The GBBM family prayed

for the baby. A miracle happened and the boy was cured without surgery. May all the glory be to the God Almighty. As these miracles occurred for his son, Desya still did not place his trust in Jesus instead he tried to stop Jyothi attending church. Jyothi arrived at a recent Sunday service and asked Pastor Joseph to baptise her immediately. She testified before the church that she needed to honour God by obeying Him with her baptism. Jyothi explained she had been waiting for her husband to accept Christ so they could be baptised together. Please pray for her safety and spiritual growth and that she can serve as salt and light among her family and in her village.

## Padma Glorifies God

Padma and her husband Raja Lingaiah are from a high-caste Hindu background. They were rich by local standards as they had 30 acres of land. Their 3 sons took their land and abandoned Padma and Raja. GBBM church member Satthi Bai, introduced Pastor Linga Naik to the couple during this stressful ordeal.



Pastor Linga shared the Gospel with them. He explained that all are born sinners and destined to eternal death and hell, and only by confessing one's sins and asking the Lord Jesus Christ for forgiveness and accepting Him as personal Saviour, can

anyone have everlasting life. They began to attend church regularly and were strengthened in their faith. As their faith grew so did threats from relatives. Despite the threats and at the risk of separation from all family Padma was recently baptized.

Padma and Raja Lingaiah are firm in their belief in Jesus and pray for their sons to accept Jesus and His saving grace.



**Bhagyamma Update:** Thank you for your prayers. God continues to watch over Bhagyamma and has healed her from her April bus accident. She is now able to walk and return to work. She is still experiencing some pain, but her recovery has been a miracle. Bhagyamma and her mother PRAISED GOD for His mercies and wanted to thank all who prayed for her.



## ALETHEIA BANJARA SCHOOL UPDATE

Summer vacation is over in India, schools reopened June 13<sup>th</sup>. Pictured below are the 13 ABS graduating students (sixth ABS graduating class).



### Summer Music Classes

Children from ABS and GBBM churches attended music classes for three weeks during the summer. We hope the students will become worship leaders in Banjara Churches.

