



## GBBM Monthly Newsletter (Nov. & Dec. 2023)

**“Not that we are adequate in ourselves to consider anything as coming from ourselves, but our adequacy is from God...” 2 Corinthians 3:5**

Dear Brethren in Christ, greetings from India!

December was a very hard month for Sujatha and me as December 23rd was the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our three children’s home-going. I was unable to focus on some of my responsibilities including completion of this newsletter. Due to my delays, I am combining the November and December newsletters. Please accept my sincere apologies.

On the other hand, God has been faithful in blessing the efforts of the GBBM CPPs. We praise God for the wonderful opportunities as He allowed us to conduct Christmas Party Clubs and Special Christmas Celebrations in over 100 villages.

Thanks to all partnering churches, organizations, families, and individuals who contribute to this ministry through your prayers; visits to India to equip our men and women and through your financial support. We know that without your blessings, the GBBM team would have a much more difficult time sharing the Good News.

We praise the Lord for the November and December results. The GBBM team shared the Gospel with 19,611 people, hosted 1,822 children in programs, rejoiced as 490 people accepted Jesus, and 82 people were baptized.

While every year including 2023 is filled with challenges, it is so encouraging to look back and see the blessings the Lord our God has done through the simple Banjara men and women for His Glory. During 2023, the GBBM team shared the Gospel with 85,918 people, reached 125 new villages, rejoiced as 2,862 people accepted Jesus, and 303 people were baptized. We praise God for His mercy and blessings.

Thank you for joining hands with us as we share the Good News with the lost Banjara people in the remote villages of India.

Pastor K S Naik



# Church Planter's Activity Update

	<b>Key Growth Areas - 2023</b>	<b>Jan. - June</b>	<b>July - Sept.</b>	<b>Oct.</b>	<b>Nov.</b>	<b>Dec.</b>	<b>Total</b>
01	Villages Served (Monthly)	464	319	319	359	358	<b>364</b>
02	New Villages Reached (Updated Quarterly)	99	26	0	0	0	<b>125</b>
03	People Hearing the Gospel (Total)	<b>36,633</b>	<b>22,546</b>	<b>7,128</b>	<b>6669</b>	<b>12942</b>	<b>85,918</b>
	a. People Hearing the Gospel (First Time)	21,264	13,002	4,332	3838	8193	<b>50,629</b>
	b. People Hearing the Gospel (2 or More Times)	15,369	9,544	2,796	2831	4749	<b>35,289</b>
	c. Number of Gospel Presentations (Starting June)	1160	7,775	1,803	1990	1904	<b>14,632</b>
04	People Accepting Jesus Christ as Saviour	<b>1,463</b>	<b>683</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>2,862</b>
05	Active Bible Study Groups	75	37	37	38	41	<b>41</b>
06	Children Being Ministered To (Monthly)	3,776	3,186	1,661	1,716	1,822	<b>1,822</b>
07	House Churches	<b>162</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>72</b>
	a. House Churches (< 10 Baptized Believers)	97	11	11	11	11	<b>11</b>
	b. House Churches (> 10 Baptized Believers)	65	61	61	61	61	<b>61</b>
08	Believers Attending Worship (Weekly)	1,897	1,783	1,453	1,864	2,055	<b>1,810</b>
09	Offering Collection (Indian Rupees - Monthly)	\$3,193	\$2,297	\$735	\$ 608	\$1,380	<b>\$ 8,213</b>
10	Pastor Assistants/Leaders in Training	137	80	80	82	84	<b>84</b>
11	New House Churches (Updated Quarterly)	4	2	0	0	0	<b>6</b>
12	Baptisms	<b>139</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>303</b>

## **PRAISE GOD for:**

**Christmas Party Clubs:** Our team prayed and planned to conduct Christmas Party Clubs for children in Banjara villages. We are excited to share that the GBBM CPPs were able to proclaim the Good News of the birth of Jesus Christ to 4,665



children from 128 villages. Praise God as 262 children invited Jesus into their hearts. Over a hundred volunteers from local Banjara churches assisted with the events. Our team shared the Christmas Story using a picture-book prepared for this purpose by Child Evangelism Fellowship India. The children were taught songs and fed during the events.



**Christmas Celebrations:** Traditionally GBBM takes the advantage of the Christmas season and shares the Gospel with as many people as possible. This year due to increasing Christian opposition, we were very concerned about potential hostility. But to our surprise, the Lord allowed the GBBM



CPPs to celebrate His birth in 154 villages, more than ever before! 12,927 people attended the meetings and heard the gospel. 490 people accepted Christ and were saved. All Glory to our Saviour Jesus Christ for His mighty work.

## PRAY to GOD For:

**Pray for Gaddigudem Church:** CPP David Ravi Kumar ministers in 12 Banjara villages; four villages have worship centers. David's home of Gaddigudem Village has been blessed with a church for over 20 years. Lachubai is a strong believer and supporter in the ministry. Recently she started witnessing to Maangni who had no peace and was suffering from evil spirits. She attended church for a few weeks and then invited CPP David and other believers to her house for prayers. During the prayer meeting she decided to remove all the ornaments she was wearing as a symbol of her marriage to a local god rajanna. Her husband and relatives became angry with her decisions to attend church and remove the religious ornaments. Maangni was upset after the confrontation with her family and went to visit her parents. Shortly after this turmoil, Maangni's husband died of because of an electric shock. The villagers and relatives blamed his death as on



**Figure 1: Maangni on the right.**

Maangni for leaving her Hindu faith and attending church. Almost everyone in the village blames Lachubai and the church for sharing the Gospel with Maangni and trying to make her a Christian. Maangni has not returned to the village yet due to the tension in the village. Please pray that the Lord gives strength to Lachubai and all the believers to stand firm in their faith. Pray for the Lord's words to comfort Maangni and that He allows her to open her eyes, ears and heart and accept His grace, mercy, and salvation.

**Pray for Motlathanda Church:** Motlathanda is one of the four churches CPP David Ravi Kumar leads. Naresh is a G2 Leader and is highly active in the church. When Padma's daughter-in-law (Saritha) was hospitalized, she asked the church to pray for her recovery. After Naresh and church members prayed for her, Saritha felt better and was released from the hospital. Seeing the result of prayers Padma was more attracted to Jesus and started attending the church that meets at Naresh's home. Padma's son (Suman, the town president) did not like his mother's church attendance. Though he witnessed his wife's recovery, after prayers to Jesus, he feared the reaction of the



villagers and got terribly angry with his mother. Padma became distraught after her son's abuse and committed suicide. Town-president Suman blames Naresh (G2Leader) for the death of his mother Padma. Recently this church added five new believers. Please pray that the Lord provides grace and peace to Naresh, the new believers, and the church members as they navigate the tragic loss of Padma and the backlash. Pray that Suman and his wife Saritha come to know the Lord as they witnessed the healing power of Jesus.

Pastor David and his wife Sheila are genuinely concerned about the believers of both churches. Please pray for our brothers and sisters at these two churches.

## **ALETHEIA BANJARA SCHOOL UPDATE**



By God's Grace, Aletheia Banjara School is doing well. ABS celebrated Christmas grandly this year; more than two hundred parents and many graduates attended the celebrations. This is a favourite time of the ABS students because they get to perform Christmas dances. Each grade had students perform during the celebrations. A Christmas message was shared with the audience. All teachers and students received a Christmas gift.



Donations can be made online at: <https://www.gbbmi.org> or sent via US mail to:

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