

## **GBBM Monthly Newsletter (January 2024)**

"But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." Matthew 5:44

Dear Brethren in Christ, greetings from India!

Every year, including 2024, seems to have challenges and highlights as you will read about in this month's newsletter. Thankfully as God's children, we know that because of what Christ has done for us, we can always find peace and joy in Him.

Persecution of church members in 2024 has been very rough due to those who oppose Christianity in India. A GBBM house church run by Church Planting Pastor (CPP) Joel Naik had to close recently because of threats and safety concerns.

Where one door is closed, God often opens another one. We praise God for the Naik's home that is being used for Sunday worship services and monthly CPP training. During the CPP meeting the pastors fellowship, praise God, pray for each other and receive additional training.

We praise God for the ministry results in the month of January 2024. The GBBM team shared the Gospel with 7,259 people, hosted 2,281 children in programs, rejoiced as 222 people accepted Jesus, and 24 people were baptized.

ABS celebrated the 75<sup>th</sup> Republic Day of India. Republic Day is a national holiday in India commemorating the adoption of the Constitution of India, and the country's transition to a republic. ABS students had a procession through the village and enjoyed speeches and a fun day. Work has started on the construction of the teachers' apartments located on the school grounds.

Please join us in prayer as the GBBMI team meets for strategy sessions to plan for the next ten years. We are so grateful for what God has done during the past 20 years for GBBMI and look forward to continuing to do the work He has for us.

Pastor K S Naik

# **Church Planter's Activity Update**

	Key Growth Areas - 2024	Jan.
01	Villages Served (Monthly)	363
02	New Villages Reached (Updated Quarterly)	-
03	People Hearing the Gospel (Total)	7,259
	a. People Hearing the Gospel (First Time)	4,658
	b. People Hearing the Gospel (2 or More Times)	2,601
	c. Number of Gospel Presentations	2,188
04	People Accepting Jesus Christ as Saviour	222
05	Active Bible Study Groups	32
06	Children Being Ministered To (Monthly)	2,281
07	House Churches	71
	a. House Churches (< 10 Baptized Believers)	10
	b. House Churches (> 10 Baptized Believers)	61
08	Believers Attending Worship (Weekly)	1,983
09	Offering Collection (in USD - Monthly)	\$529
10	Pastor Assistants/Leaders in Training	103
11	New House Churches (Updated Quarterly)	-
12	Baptisms	24



### **PRAISE GOD for:**

**Using Pushpa to start a New Church:** Pushpa, a 23-year-old young lady, lives in Polanayakanahalli. She contracted polio at the age of five, paralyzing both her hands and legs. Since then, she has been unable to move independently, relying on her devoted mother for everything.

GBBM CPP Ramana Naik met Pushpa three months ago during a visit to her village.



CPP Ramana shared the gospel with her family, which led them to accept Christ. As a gesture of compassion, GBBM also gave her a wheelchair. Pushpa has undergone a remarkable transformation, and now enjoys the freedom and mobility that allows her to move around independently. She eagerly attends church services with her father, Rathnam Chari, and mother, Shanthamma.

**Salvation of Jyothi after 12 Years**: GBBM CPP Linga Naik worked in the Devarakonda region about twelve years ago. Jyothi was in her early teenage years when she first heard the Gospel. Now she is married and lives in Hyderabad. As promised in Isaiah 55:11, "So shall My word be forth from My mouth; It shall not return to me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, And it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it." The Gospel Jyothi heard long ago yielded fruit in her heart as she recently accepted Jesus as her saviour and obeyed in water baptism. Her husband is not happy with her decision, please pray for him. GBBM strongly believes that every seed sown in the heart of an individual, especially young ones, will not go in vain.



#### **PRAY to GOD For:**

Pray for Dhanjya Naik: Bhattu Dhwali is a believer from Bhattu Thanda, her

husband's name is Dhanjya. Dhwali accepted Jesus Christ in 2007 and was baptized. She attended church regularly for three years until her husband no longer allowed her to attend. After CPP Joseph visited the family and prayed for them, he let her return to church. Dhanjya attended GBBM's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, January 2023, and his heart was softened after listening to the testimonies of believers. In October 2023, he was bitten, had an allergic reaction and was admitted to the hospital. Pastor Joseph visited and prayed for Dhanjya, and he was healed by the grace of God. After this incident, he stopped drinking alcohol and smoking and often attends church. Please pray that Dhanjya accepts Jesus Christ as his personal saviour and gets baptized.



## **ALETHEIA BANJARA SCHOOL UPDATE**

ABS Celebrated 75<sup>th</sup> Republic Day of India.





Teacher quarters construction is in progress. God willing, four new apartments will be ready by end of June 2024. ABS thanks all the churches, organizations and individuals who had contributed toward the ABS Teachers Quarters.



ABS staff and students are working hard to complete the year with superior results.

Donations can be made online at: https://gbbmi.com or sent via US mail to:

GBBMI PO Box 1854 Collierville, TN 38027