



GBBM Monthly Newsletter (April 2022)

"if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

John 8:36

Dear brethren in Christ,

Time seems to be passing very fast this year. I can't believe it is already mid-April and we are in the midst of Holy Week. We recently celebrated Palm Sunday, and many GBBM churches were able to have a procession where members carried palm branches and spoke to non-believers about Jesus. We praise God that we were able to freely celebrate Him and share the Gospel in many villages during Palm Sunday.

This month's newsletter has some encouraging updates about God's work in India among the Banjara people. I hope you enjoy reading about the wonderful work of the Lord among the Banjara people. Sujatha, I and the entire GBBM team hope that each of you experience a wonderful time of peace, worship, praise and thanksgiving during Good Friday and Easter services. We are so blessed to be known and loved by God and so thankful that our God sent His Son as a sacrifice for all of us.

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



Pastor Naik and Sujatha

GBBM Church Planter Activity Update

During monthly church planter meetings, each pastor shares ministry activity information for the villages they serve. January - March totals are below.

Key Growth Areas - 2022	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Total
Villages served	274	274	304	304
New villages reached	-	-	30	30
People hearing the Gospel (Total Presentations)	4832	4327	4139	13,298
a. People hearing the Gospel for the first time	1767	2056	2377	6,200
b. People hearing the Gospel 2 or more times	3065	2271	1762	7,098
People accepting Jesus Christ as Saviour	134	104	115	353
Children attending ministry programs	1975	1453	1513	1647
House churches	121	121	132	132
a. House churches < 10 believers	68	68	79	79
b. House churches > 10 believers	53	53	53	53
Believers attending worship in a week	1886	1785	1326	1665
Offering collected (Indian Rupees)	22,377	22,580	22,584	67,541
Pastor assistants/future leaders	53	53	64	64
New house churches	-	-	11	11
Baptisms	12	15	12	39

New Church Plants and Baptisms

GBBM hopes to reach 100 new villages, plant 50 new churches and baptise many new believers in 2022. In the first quarter, God enabled us to visit 30 new villages, start 11 new churches, and witness 39 baptisms.



GBBM House Church



GBBM Baptism Service

Monthly Leader Meeting

During the March training meeting, we studied 49 commandments from the teachings of Jesus Christ. The study was a wonderful reminder of His love and concern for us. All GBBM leaders are excited to share the commandments with our church members.



Reading the Gospels in Chronological Order

The GBBM church family is engaged in reading the Gospels in 31 days. One goal was to encourage all literate believers to read the Word. To help cultivate this habit, Pastor Naik hosts a daily Zoom meeting and discusses the previous day's reading. 40-45 people join the early AM Zoom call and several hundred read the Word of God daily.



Good Friday & Resurrection Sunday Celebrations

In India people are very familiar with Christians celebrating Christmas. Shopping malls decorate and give discounts, and churches display banners and give to the needy. Most Indians are not aware of Easter because Good Friday and Easter are celebrated within the four walls of the churches. GBBM desires to celebrate Good Friday and Resurrection Sunday as grandly as we do Christmas. Believers are encouraged to invite non-believers to services, share a meal with them, and share the Good News of the Easter story. Our goal is to make Easter as well-known as Christmas among Banjara Villages.



A Past Sun Rise Service at Gurrapu Thanda

First Christian Wedding in K G Village

GBBM Church Planting Pastors (CPP) go to villages with no Christian church and zero to very few believers. First generation believers face rejection, and persecution from relatives, and most people in their village. Banjara people, by choice, live a very isolated lifestyle with very close family and community bonds. Some Banjara, understand the Gospel but do not accept it due to family pressures. They are like the seeds that fell in the thorny bushes (Parable of Sower). These issues make finding a Christian spouse for grown children a challenge.



Vaalu and Vijaya Bhukya are believers for almost 20 years. For 20 years their village has witnessed them being blessed by the Lord. Their daughter was recently married in a beautiful Christian wedding ceremony. The daily walk of Vaalu and Vijaya, the wedding and other acts are

consistently displayed as salt and light in the village. As a result, the villagers are changing their opinion about Christianity. We praise God.

God's Miraculous Protection of Bhagyamma

Bhagyamma's mother was demon possessed and suffered for over 10 years, she recently attended Church and the Lord healed her. Pastor Peter shared the Gospel and several Bible stories with her family. Bhagyamma believed in the Lord and began to read the Bible daily. Bhagyamma works in a factory and takes a bus to and from work.

A month ago, she was traveling home and reading the Bible. The bus was involved in an accident and rolled over a few times. The bus door opened, and as she was hurled from the bus, Bhagyamma shouted the name of the Lord Jesus. Bhagyamma received severe injuries; those who witnessed the accident were surprised she did not die. Many testified saying God saved her. She was admitted to the hospital for a few days, was discharged and returned home to continue her recovery.



Her faith has continued to grow as she continues the recovery process. We praise God for His miraculous protection of Bhagyamma and pray that He completely heals her.

Aletheia Banjara School Update

ABS teachers and students have enjoyed being back in school on campus after last year's COVID interruptions. ABS celebrated multiple events this academic year: Teacher's Day, Children's Day, Christmas, Republic Day, and Self-Governance Day were observed.

ABS is currently providing annual medical check-ups for all students. This is an important event, because for most it is the only doctor's visit during the year.

ABS will close April 24th for summer vacation and reopen June 12th.



Self-Governance Day



ABS Medical Camp

Prayer Requests

Pastor Raju Naik - GBBM church planter Raju Naik's father constantly tries to convert Raju back to the Hindu faith. Raju's father has asked the Village Committee to intervene and has prayed for Raju and his family to be destroyed. Raju is confident in the Lord's protection. Pray that Raju and his family are protected.

Narasimha - Narasimha Naik is a believer paralyzed for many years. He knows the Lord is capable of healing and asks us to join him in praying for a healing miracle.

Ashwini Reddy - This new believer in Christ is requesting prayers that her family will not stop her from being baptised soon.

Meghana's family - Meghana heard the Gospel through a friend (son of a GBBM church planter). Meghana embraced the Gospel; shared with her mother and siblings; all accepted the Lord. Meghana's father opposed their Christianity, but recently his heart softened. Meghana has asked for prayers for her father's salvation. Also pray the family stands firm in faith as village persecution increases.

We hope you enjoyed this newsletter. Thank you for your loving support.