



GBBM Monthly Newsletter (March 2023)

“But He answered and said to them, "My mother and My brothers are these who hear the word of God and do it.” *Luke 8:21*

Dear Brethren in Christ, Greetings from India!

I hope that our friends in the US are enjoying nice spring weather. In India, we have been experiencing heat waves in March and April with temperatures ranging from 110 -115 degrees. We are hoping for cooler weather and rain.

Christian opposition and persecution continue to increase across India. In the attached video link President Murmu discusses his concern over increased attacks on Christians. <https://youtu.be/h3haSEGypMY>

Many pastors, leaders, and female church members are being arrested in the central and northern states of India. Thankfully, no GBBM pastors or members have been arrested or beaten. Multiple GBBM church services have been cancelled due to threats and harassment.

While in this increasingly hostile situation, GBBM leaders and CPPs continue to follow and listen to our Good Shepard. We give God glory His faithfulness, during March: 6,116 people heard the Gospel, 2,135 children were ministered to in children programs, 230 people placed their faith in Jesus and 16 were baptized. We praise God for his miraculous works among the Banjara people.

In the 1st quarter (January – March): 38 new villages are reached, 18,335 people heard the Gospel, 877 placed their faith in Jesus, 92 people were baptized, and 2 new churches were planted. ABS is on summer vacation April 25 till June 11.

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 Activity Update

	Key Growth Areas - 2023	Jan.	Feb.	Mar	Total /Average
01	Villages Served (Monthly)	394	374	355	393
02	New Villages Reached (Updated Quarterly)	-	-	38	38
03	People Hearing the Gospel (Total Gospel Presentations)	5,660	6,559	6116	18,335
	a. People Hearing the Gospel (First Time)	3,305	3,621	3,471	10,397
	b. People Hearing the Gospel (2 or More Times)	2,355	2,938	2645	7,938
04	People Accepting Jesus Christ as Saviour	364	283	230	877
05	Active Bible Study Groups	128	118	92	92
06	Children Being Ministered To (Monthly)	4748	4397	2135	3760
07	House Churches	158	158	160	160
	a. House Churches (< 10 Baptized Believers)	94	94	96	96
	b. House Churches (> 10 Baptized Believers)	64	64	64	64
08	Believers Attending Worship (Weekly)	1966	1897	2,089	1984
09	Offering Collection (Indian Rupees - Monthly)	47,201	38,953	39533	1,25,687
10	Pastor Assistants/Leaders in Training	142	137	137	137
11	New House Churches (Updated Quarterly)	-	-	2	2
12	Baptisms	51	25	16	92



Palm Sunday, Good-Friday & Resurrection Sunday

GBBM takes every opportunity to proclaim the Gospel and to make the name of Jesus



known among the people we serve. On Palm Sunday, the GBBM CPPs led a procession in the villages so that people might ask about their activities. GBBM CPPs and members then share the story

of Jesus' triumphal entry into the city of Jerusalem as the promised Messiah. Passion Week Services (Mon.-Thur.), Good Friday Services & Resurrection Sunday Sunrise Services and regular Sunday worships were conducted in most of our churches.



GBBM's Praise & Prayer Request

Praise God for: His miraculous works in the lives of Thaavu and his family.

I am Thaavu Naik. My life was going normal when suddenly I started suffering from problems and couldn't define the reason. I would hear some bells



ringing in my ears nonstop. Evil spirits began to appear to me in the form of people and ask me to go with them, they provoked me to die by jumping in front of trucks or buses. I tried going to witchdoctors, shrines, offered animal sacrifices and spent a lot of money looking for a cure; but nothing gave me any relief. Sion Raju, who pastors a church in my village, told me about Jesus and invited me to accept Jesus so

that I could find His peace. Rather listening to him, I went to a different witchdoctor who had me sit in a cremation burial ground, he also had me sacrifice chickens and a pig and complete many other annoying things. After this experience, I felt even worse. Then I remembered Pastor Sion Raju's words. I shared my desire with my family to accept and trust in Jesus. That same evening Pastor Sion Raju came to my house, shared the Gospel, and prayed over me. For the 1st time in months, I slept peacefully and even the sound went away. Jesus has been so gracious to me. Now my wife, my two children and I know and love the Lord Jesus.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

PRAY for Home Churches in Karnataka State: In the State of Karnataka most non-Christian Banjara villagers are forbidden from attending worship services or prayer meetings in believers' homes. Non-Christians are told to visit any church building to worship your God. GBBM does not have dedicated church buildings in these villages. Pray that the Lord will intervene so that our church family can host non-believers and worship with them in the GBBM home churches.

Pray for the daughter of Gangadhar (CPP) and Preethi:

Gangadhar and Preethi were blessed with a second daughter. Preethi was carrying twins, but due to an infection and premature delivery one of the babies didn't survive. Their surviving baby is now in ICU, please pray for her full recovery and for Jesus to cover this family in His peace.



ALETHEIA BANJARA SCHOOL UPDATE

Aletheia Banjara School completed it's 14 academic year of education ministry in



2023. ABS celebrated Annual Day April 15th; students presented special performances for guest. A career guidance class was held for our ABS graduates.

ABS will reopen on 12th June 2023 for the new academic year 2023-24.

