



ACTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AMONG THE BANJARA



GBBM Monthly Newsletter (February 2023)

“For the LORD your God is the one who goes with you to fight for you against your enemies to give you victory.” Deuteronomy 20:4

Dear Brethren in Christ, Greetings from India!

The GBBM and ABS teams were very thankful as we celebrated Christmas and GBBM’s 20th anniversary over the last few months, but we were excited to return to our normal activities of ministering to our students, sharing the Gospel, discipleship and attending our normal worship services.

We continue to thank God for His faithfulness as He watches over the GBBM Church Planting Pastors (CPP), keeps them safe and blesses their efforts as they share the Gospel in an increasingly hostile environment. Physical destruction of churches, arrests of Christians (pastors, leaders, and members) and persecution are a regular occurrence in India. One GBBM church planter is being threatened continually, asked to stop conducting worship services and to abandon his ministry.

Sujatha and Srinivas Naik recently attended Global Assist’s Annual Summit of Ministry Partners. This event focused on ministry capacity building, and methods and strategies for church planting. We plan to share the church planting strategies with the CPPs for their use as new believers accept Christ and need a church home for worship.

February highlights: 6,559 people heard the Gospel, over 4,000 children were ministered to in Sunday school and other programs, 283 people placed their faith in Jesus and 25 people were baptized. We praise God for his miraculous works among the Banjara people.

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	February
01	Villages Served (Monthly)	379
02	New Villages Reached (Updated Quarterly)	-
03	People Hearing the Gospel (Total Gospel Presentations)	6,559
	a. People Hearing the Gospel (First Time)	3,621
	b. People Hearing the Gospel (2 or More Times)	2,938
04	People Accepting Jesus Christ as Saviour	283
05	Active Bible Study Groups	128
06	Children Being Ministered To (Monthly)	4397
07	House Churches	158
	a. House Churches (< 10 Baptized Believers)	94
	b. House Churches (> 10 Baptized Believers)	64
08	Believers Attending Worship (Weekly)	1897
09	Offering Collection (Indian Rupees - Monthly)	38,953
10	Pastor Assistants/Leaders in Training	137
11	New House Churches (Updated Quarterly)	-
12	Baptisms	25

GBBM's Praise & Prayer Request

Praise God for:

His healing power. Sunandamma is the only believer in her family. Her husband and other family members (very influential in their village) stopped her from attending church and church meetings. She suffered from stomach pain for six months before her husband took her to a hospital for tests. After testing they were informed that she had a tumour that required immediate surgery. They returned home without any treatment. Sunandamma updated her church family, and they began to pray for and encourage her. After a couple of weeks of corporate prayer to God, Sunandamma started feeling better. During a follow-up visit the doctor who examined her earlier verified that the tumour was gone, and he praised her God. After this, Sunandamma became bold to told her husband and family that she was go to church and praying to God no matter the cost.



Being the Light of the World: Sumithra and Gangaratna attended GBBM's 20th



Anniversary Celebrations after being invited by their neighbour, GBBM church member, Ms. Laxmi. Both women were not believers. After three days of celebrations and hearing the word of God, both felt it was very evident that they lived their lives in darkness. They are so grateful to God for opening their eyes and thanked Ms. Laxmi and the Pastor Solomon who brought them. Both ladies are getting ready to glorify God through baptism. Multiple attendees shared similar testimonies.

Letting them hear your word: Hanumantharaya and his wife are believers in

Christ. When his father died, he wanted a Christian funeral, but most relatives demanded a Hindu funeral. This debate went to village elders' court and the Christian family won the case! The pastor made funeral arrangements and believers from other villages attended the funeral service and sang Christian songs. Pastor Bheema



preached a gospel sermon. The service was also attended by many non-Christian villagers who appeared to enjoy the songs and the message. The following Sunday two new families attended church because of the funeral service and the preaching. They continue to attend and learn the word of God. Pray that these families commit their lives to and accept Christ as their personal saviour.

His saving Grace: Non-believer Pawani went to her mother's home to deliver her baby. GBBM Pastor David and his wife Sheela were visiting and took the opportunity to share the Gospel. Pawani accepted the Good News; we praise God for opening the spiritual eyes of Pawani and saving her. She is due to deliver a baby next month.



Healing broken hearts: Suresh and Kusuma are husband and wife; due to an argument Kusuma left her husband taking their son. As a result, Suresh (an engineer) became distraught, turned to alcohol, not going home, and other issues. One of our CPPs Venkataramana shared the Gospel with him. After hearing about the love of Jesus, Suresh was overcome with joy, he started weeping and decided that he needed to change his life and reconcile with his wife.



PRAYER REQUESTS:

Pray for Dewibai: She accepted Christ two years ago. Her husband is not a believer and often abuses alcohol. Her husband is very confrontational and recently began threatening to kill Dewibai if she attends church. Dewibai is seeking prayers for her safety and the safety of their three children. We pray that God provides protection and softens her husband's heart.



Pray for Pushpawathi: Both her legs and hands were disabled when she young, she is now 16. GBBM CPP Venkataramana has shared the Gospel her family. Pushpawathi and her parents have been eager to learn more about Jesus. She is asking if Jesus can heal her. We let her know that we could pray for her salvation and for her healing. Please join us in prayer for Pushpawathi and her family.



Pray for Supriya: Supriya knew the Gospel through their parents. After marriage, her husband wouldn't allow her to follow Jesus. After 7-8 years of marriage, they have not blessed with children. Supriya is requesting prayers for the courage to follow Jesus and for God to bless them with children. Please join us in praying for this family's salvation and for His peace and comfort for them.



ALETHEIA BANJARA SCHOOL UPDATE

Aletheia Banjara School is doing well. The teachers and students are busy with classes as the academic year ends in April. Students are preparing for final exams and teachers are working on Final Progress Reports. Effective March 15th, half day school started in the Telangana State, due to very high temperatures. School now begins at 7:45 am and ends at 12:30 pm.



Please send any questions or request to: gbbmi.abs@gmail.com

Please visit www.gbbmi.org to donate to the ministry and support the students.