



GBBM Monthly Newsletter (March 2024)

“You will call to me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find Me when you search for Me with all your heart. I will be found...”

Jeremiah 29: 12-14

Dear Brethren in Christ, greetings from India!

The people of India are currently experiencing two major events, scorching temperatures, and friction from government elections. All church members are actively praying that the current governing party will be voted out of office. GBBM believes that the Lord of lords and the King of kings is on His throne (Psalm 103:19) and it doesn't matter who sits in the seat of the Prime Minister of India because ultimately the Lord has sovereignty over all things and all people.

Each month, I try not to bring up the Christian persecution in India, but it is an ongoing reality. Pastors and evangelists are attacked, arrested, and often denied bail for months. The persecution has made ministering to children and sharing the Gospel in new villages very challenging for our leaders. The GBBM Church Planting Pastors (CPPs) are stopped, questioned, and often threatened in new unreached villages.

It is encouraging to see CPPs persistence and commitment as they serve the people in the villages where they minister. Seven new villages were visited this quarter.

We praise God for the March ministry results. The GBBM team shared the Gospel with 7,667 people, hosted 1,309 children in programs, rejoiced as 277 people accepted Jesus, and 22 people were baptized. We give God the glory for guiding the CPPs during the 1st quarter of 2024: 22,346 people heard the Gospel; 724 accepted Jesus as their saviour; 66 people were baptised, and three new churches were planted.

GBBM will host VBS events to reach children this summer. Please pray that the Lord protects our CPPs and volunteers and opens the ears, eyes, and hearts of the children to accept His Good News.

Aletheia Banjara School is closed for summer vacation till June 11th. We praise God for the two former teachers who are re-joining ABS in June 2024.

Thank you for your prayers and support.

Pastor K S Naik

Church Planter's Activity Update

	Key Growth Areas - 2024	Jan.	Feb.	March	Total
01	Villages Served (Monthly)	363	357	393	371
02	New Villages Reached (Updated Quarterly)	-	-	7	7
03	People Hearing the Gospel (Total)	7,259	7,420	7667	22,346
	a. People Hearing the Gospel (First Time)	4,658	4,600	4,869	14,127
	b. People Hearing the Gospel (2 or More Times)	2,601	2,820	2,798	8,219
	c. Number of Gospel Presentations	2,188	2,158	2,137	6,483
04	People Accepting Jesus Christ as Saviour	222	225	277	724
05	Active Bible Study Groups	32	37	49	40
06	Children Being Ministered To (Monthly)	2,281	1,244	1309	1,611
07	House Churches	71	74	74	74
	a. House Churches (< 10 Baptized Believers)	10	13	13	13
	b. House Churches (> 10 Baptized Believers)	61	61	61	61
08	Believers Attending Worship (Weekly)	1,983	2,072	1344	1,799
09	Offering Collection (in USD - Monthly)	\$529	\$723	\$935	\$2,187
10	Pastor Assistants/Leaders in Training	103	115	74	74
11	New House Churches (Updated Quarterly)	-	-	3	3
12	Baptisms	24	20	22	66

PRAISE GOD for:



Special Occasions like Palm Sunday, the Crucifixion, and Resurrection:

The Lord allowed the GBBM CPPs to encourage believers with the word and to witness to non-believers during Palm Sunday. On Palm Sunday, GBBM believers visited their local villages and towns singing songs about Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. This event gives non-Christians the opportunity to ask questions and hear about Jesus. Believers from all GBBM house churches and our CPPs gathered for Good Friday services and to meditate on the crucifixion and the last words spoken by

Jesus on the Cross. Believers gathered on a nearby hilly place before sunrise to worship the Son who rose from the dead. New believers get excited to take part in the services and GBBM CPPs put all their efforts to make these events memorable and spiritually enhancing. We thank God for the freedom He has us given to conduct



these meetings.

Softening Prashanth's Father: GBBM loves to see men, especially fathers, saved so they can lead their families in the path of the Lord. Due to hostility and cultural issues, Banjara men are typically more difficult to reach than younger people and women. The youth are often more open to listening to the Good News. During GBBM's history we have witnessed 100's of children between 10-15 years old come



to Christ and then lead their parents and family members to know the Lord. God

saving Prashanth's father Poonya Naik is one example. Prashanth came to Christ in 2013 as early teenager. His family opposed his Christianity and gave him hard time.



Prashanth started praying for the salvation of his family members. After several years of prayers, Prashanth's younger sister came to Christ. For many years Poonya Naik showed his bitterness toward Pastor Laxman and his children. Recently Poonya began to experience ongoing heart pain. He was aware that his two children and all the members of their church were praying for his wellbeing. Eventually he believed that God was allowing this pain so that he would believe in Him. Poonya started attending church regularly in February 2024. Please pray that soon he will accept Christ as his

personal saviour.

PRAY to GOD For:

Safety of Believers and Facility: In one of the GBBM ministry fields, the local congregation erected a place of worship. Unknown people dismantled the worship hall. Please pray for the safety of the people from multiple villages gather here to worship the Lord and for the Lord to soften the hearts of the people damaging the building.



Shiva and Hanumanthu: Shiva and Hanumanthu are siblings who lost their father about six years ago. Five years ago, GBBM started ministering in their village. Their mother was already a believer, but Divya (sister), Shiva and Hanumanthu all came to Christ through GBBM. Divya was growing in the word of God and helping the pastor as G2 leader. In 2021 she was killed in a vehicle accident; and sadly, a few months ago their



mother also passed away during a road accident; both are with the Lord. The two



teenage boys are now orphans.

The

boys have no assets nor any income source. Pray that the Lord may pour His Grace upon them and show His way to these young men. GBBM is doing its best to meet their immediate needs and provide them with spiritual nurturing. They want to go to college. Their story is very tragic, but they both know Jesus.

ALETHEIA BANJARA SCHOOL UPDATE

ABS was established in July 2009 with the support of GBBM, and a passionate desire to spread the Good News among the Banjara people, to bring them to the Lord and to help them grow in their faith. The past 15 years have been eventful, exhilarating and encouraging. With the relentless prayers of our well-wishers, our Lord's blessings have been with us, and we are growing from strength to strength in faith in our wonderful Lord with His constant guidance, protection, and wisdom. We praise the Lord for all the good works He is doing for us through GBBMI.

ABS Vision Statement: *To develop passionate leaders who are adequately equipped academically, socially, physically, and spiritually to influence the world for Christ.*

ABS Mission Statement: *Aletheia Banjara School offers Christ-centered education in a nurturing atmosphere which enables its students to develop their talents to their fullest potential for service in all areas of God's Kingdom. We know that every individual student is a unique image bearer of God, and we don't let any*

of them fall through the cracks. Our students thrive here both in classroom and many extracurricular activities.

10th Grade Graduates: Aletheia students always strive to perform their best. ABS lead the region with one hundred percent graduation rate. ABS recently celebrated its 8th graduating class with a farewell party for the students.



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

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

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