



ICGM MISSION UPDATE

Vol 37 - March/April - 2024

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Servant

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VISION & MISSION

VISION

Every people group in all the states of our country has a witnessing church run by its own people.

MISSION

We as disciples of Jesus Christ are committed to go to any unreached people group, wherever our Lord leads us to make indigenous churches.

Values

Love God, faithfulness to God and man, and concern for the lost souls are the core values of India Church Growth Mission.

After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. *Rev 7:9*

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

We are delighted to have you read this newsletter.

Greetings in the loving name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I trust you all are doing fine. I am glad to report what the Lord has done in the past month.

I had the opportunity to share the Word of God at CSI Christ Church in Jayanagar, Bangalore. Later in the evening, we organized a sponsors' get-together for the donors from Bangalore at CSI Memorial Church. Mr. Paul Abraham, one of our general body members, provided Tamil translation while Mr. Desi Ram Wadde, our Gondi staff member, shared his testimony in Hindi. Additionally, you may recall that Mr. Desi's daughter, Mangal, has been assisting us with our Gondi Old Testament translation project after completing her M.Div.

Mr. Thambiraj, our internal auditor, and I were the speakers for the first gathering of our Northeast missionaries' retreat in Kolkata. Forty of them participated. Rev. Lamkheng, the current Missions Secretary of KBC Manipur, along with a few Kuki professors, led the morning devotions. It was encouraging to hear their testimonies and witness their commitment to serving the Lord, especially amidst the immense suffering faced by their own people in Manipur. Your prayers are greatly appreciated!

The Perungamanalur Church building in Tamil Nadu was rebuilt and extended on February 18th for the glory of God. Mrs. Jeyanthi Kingsly dedicated the church. She is the wife of the late Rev. Dr. Kingsly, who was a former member of our General Body before he passed away. His children are now supporters of our cause. Dr. Carunyal Samuel delivered the Word of God during the dedication, which was a blessed experience reminding us of the verse, 'the latter glory is more than the former glory!'

You are cordially invited to the dedication of our new church on March 21st in Uppiliyapuram, Perambalur district, Tamil Nadu.

With love and prayers,

Your brother in the Lord
Rev. A. Leslie Nagarajan

Letter
from the
General Servant



Pictures

Perungamanalur church in Madurai district is dedicated to the glory of God.



Mrs. Jeyanthi Kingsly dedicated the church

Bangalore sponsor's Get-together



Desi Ram Wadde Sharing his testimony

KUKI Missionaries retreat in kolkata



Message



St. Paul was once a persecutor of the first-century church. Despite his past as a blasphemer and a violent man, Paul was shown mercy because he acted in ignorance and unbelief. In 1 Timothy 1:14, he acknowledges, 'The grace of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.' Let us briefly examine Paul's journey through three small headings:

1. Who are you, Lord?

Paul's faith journey began with a miraculous encounter with God on the road to Damascus. When God spoke to Paul, his first question was, 'Who are you, Lord?' This can be considered the question of salvation. Many in the Christian world may profess faith but lack a personal understanding of who Jesus is. Just as the Samaritan woman, despite her knowledge of faith and tradition, found true satisfaction only through a personal encounter with Jesus, knowing Jesus personally is fundamental to the Christian faith.

2. What should I do?

Once we know Jesus, the next question is, 'What should I do?' Faith in Jesus without obedience to God's will is meaningless. Living solely for worldly pursuits without consideration for eternity is a pitiful existence (1 Corinthians 15:19). Jesus himself warned against being mere 'evil doers' by missing God's will (Matthew 7:21-23). Living according to God's will offers hope and joy for eternity.

3. Job description of Paul

God has a specific purpose for each of us. We cannot live solely according to our desires but must align ourselves with God's plan. Paul recognized this when he said he worked with his hands for his income (Acts 20:34). However, God's job description for Paul was clear: 'This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel' (Acts 9:15). This aligns with the command to 'make disciples of all nations.' The call to follow Jesus entails denying ourselves, taking up the cross (God's plan), and following Him. Will we choose to follow Jesus?"

Testimony



I am S. David Solomon, originally from Madurai, Tamil Nadu. In 2006, I married Selva Dani, and together we have two children, David Livingston and Beautlin Sweetie. My father, Samuel, was a Christian, but my mother, Panchavarnam, was not. However, after their marriage, my mother developed a strong interest in Jesus Christ. When I was just two years old and seriously ill, the doctors were unable to heal me. Desperate, my mother turned to prayer at the nearby Evangelical church. With tearful supplication, she pleaded for my healing, and miraculously, God answered her prayers. This early experience marked the beginning of God's calling on my life.

Growing up in Madurai, Tamil Nadu, a friend introduced me to the India Church Growth Mission, where I began attending services regularly. On October 10th, 1994, during a sermon by Pastor Dharmar on Matthew 4:17, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand," I was deeply convicted of my sins. Overwhelmed with remorse, I spent a sleepless night in repentance, eventually finding solace in accepting Jesus Christ as my personal Saviour. I realized the profound sacrifice Jesus made on the cross for my sins, and through confession and repentance, I experienced the cleansing of my sins.

Upon sharing my experience with my pastor, he explained that this was the born-again experience, referencing John 3:1-16. Filled with joy, I eagerly participated in church activities and received baptism on October 30th.

Following my completion of 12th grade, God called me to full-time ministry, affirming this through Exodus 33:17, "This very thing that you have spoken, I will do, for you have found favour in my sight, and I know you by name." Embracing this divine call, I embarked on a ministry journey, serving in village communities through the India Church Growth Mission.

Praise & Prayer Points

Praise Points

- ▶ Praise God that Trichy Uppiliyapuram Church was dedicated to the glory of God.
- ▶ Praise God that Madurai Perungamanalur Church was dedicated to the glory of God.
- ▶ Praise God for 11 Gondi students who received a C.Th. from JMBC College in Chennai.
- ▶ Praise God for Mr. Sukram Salam, who graduated with an M.Div. He is the 2nd M.Div. graduate in the Gondi Tribe.

Prayer Points

- ▶ For the reconstruction of the Ayothipatti church in Madurai.
- ▶ For the repair of the Odisha Programme Centre.
- ▶ For the 11 students who received a C.Th. and for them as they continue to pursue a B.Th.
- ▶ For the Gondi staff come elders retreat in Raipur from April 21 to 24, Pray for speakers, travel of participants, climate, political, and summer.
- ▶ For the Gondi New Testament audio and book dedication at Bhilai City C.S.I. Church, Chattisgarh, on April 21st.

FOR DONORS

Church Construction Fund

Account Name : India Church Growth Mission
Account Number : 11194454531
Bank : State Bank of India
Branch Name : Vinayaganagar, Madurai.
IFSC Code : SBIN0001479

General Fund

Account Name : India Church Growth Mission
Account Number : 10143136773
Bank : State Bank of India
Branch Name : Selaiyur Branch, Chennai
IFSC Code : SBIN0007948

INDIA CHURCH GROWTH MISSION

Admin Office: No 58/1, Muthalamman Koil Street, Selaiyur, East Tambaram, Chennai - 600 073
 (Registered under Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act No: 82/1979)





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Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

We are delighted to have you read this newsletter.

Greetings in the loving name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I am glad to update the mission activities of ICGM in the past month. I was invited to speak in the CSI church at Thammanayakan patty near Virudhunagar during the Lent days from March 1-3. This is a new opening for us to share ICGM with this congregation. CCM (Christian Comforting Ministries) is one of the organizations like MUT, which supports the missionaries at the time of calamity. I had the opportunity to share the Word in their monthly prayer meeting.

We have been praying for an opening to speak in the Madras Christian College Chapel for many months, and we praise God that God opened the door through Dr. Paul Wilson, the principal of MCC. I shared God's word and about ICGM in both English and Tamil services.

Kalpakkam CSI Church invites us once a year to share God's Word, and we get the opportunity to update the mission with the congregation too. Mr. M. Thongkhanlam Zou shared his testimony, and his wife, Lhingneichong, sang a Kuki song for the congregation. Many of them support ICGM regularly. Praise God.

We had special meetings for the field staff and also had three village meetings, and Dr. Simon Lee shared with us God's Word last month. He is a man of prayer, and he dedicated the Uppiliyapuram church on March 21st.

Mr. Sukhram Salam is one of our ICGM staff who came to know the Lord through our ministry, and he completed his Masters in Divinity and graduated on March 22, 2024. Eleven more students have completed the C.Th. level and look forward to going to the B.Th. level in the next academic year. We have a total of 26 students in the Jubilee Memorial Bible College at present. Please uphold them in your prayers.

Thank you for your regular prayer and financial support for ICGM.

With love and prayers,

Your brother in the Lord
Rev. A. Leslie Nagarajan

Letter
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Pictures

Uppiliyapuram church in Trichy district is dedicated to the glory of God.



Mr. Sukram Salam from Gondi Tribe Graduated in M.Div.

11 students from the Gondi tribe received their C.Th. from JMBC Bible College, Chennai.



The resource centre in Odisha should be repaired. Pray for this need.

