



# ICGM MISSION UPDATE

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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.

It is good to reflect on the past month and share the wonderful things the Lord has done.

I was able to visit the mission fields in the Pollachi and Tirupur districts. My wife and I spent time with the missionary families, and we gained a deeper understanding of their joys and anxieties. During our visit, we prayed with five families. ICGM regularly conducts review meetings for the mission leaders. We are particularly thankful for the voluntary involvement of HR consultant, Mr. Wesly, whose commendable contributions are significantly improving the quality of our staff.

Rev. Immanuel Pandi shared the Word of God at the Periyakulam CSI Church during their fasting prayers on May 11th. I also had the opportunity to share the Word and speak about the ministry of ICGM. We are thankful to God for Rev. Easakku and Mr. Anbunathan, the Secretary of the church.

The field staff had a three-day retreat at the Marthoma Retreat Centre in Munnar from May 13th to 16th. It was a beautiful location with a pleasant climate and occasional drizzles. Dr. Richard Thinagaran and Dr. Johnson were the speakers for the retreat. I am pleased to share that both were my contemporaries at Union Biblical Seminary in Pune, Maharashtra.

We had a one-day prayer meeting with our Andhra missionaries on May 20th in Nellore, Andhra Pradesh. Praise God, the Perungamanallur parsonage is now complete. The construction of the Ayothi Patty church still needs to be started, and we are looking to the Lord for the provision of 15 lakhs to begin the work. I would appreciate your prayers for this.

Please pray for the India Missions Conference in Aizawl, Mizoram, in the second week of June. We also have a special meeting for the field leaders on June 20th and 21st. Finally, please remember the expenses for the missionary children's education funds and consider contributing to support this cause.

With love and prayers,

Your brother in the Lord,  
Rev. A. Leslie Nagarajan

Letter  
from the  
General Servant



Pictures

ICGM South India Pastors' Family Retreat at Munnar



Praying for the Pastors' kids



Children's Program



VBS in our new fields in Andhra Pradesh



## Message



In Genesis, the third chapter begins with Satan's temptation of Eve and Adam. Specifically, Satan's offer was to doubt God's Word and obey him instead, with the promise that they would be like gods, knowing good and evil, if only they disobeyed God. Essentially, it was a temptation to suspect God's Word and seek power to become like gods. "Climbing the ladder to become gods" is Satan's offer and strategy. It is a common temptation for people to doubt God's Word in their pursuit of becoming like gods. This temptation offers the enjoyment of the forbidden fruit (which is beautiful, tasty, and enlightening) and the promise of becoming powerful like gods, knowing good and evil, but it comes at the cost of suspecting God's Word and relying on the devil's suggestions and directions.

There are assured gifts of wealth and worldly pleasures that may be offered in return for disobedience to God, but they come along with strife, sex, restlessness and a peaceless life. "No God and no peace" becomes the reality of day-to-day life, where all the blessings of abundance are present without true joy.

In today's rat race of life, people strive to excel and surpass others in everything. Loving their targets or goals in life with all their heart, mind, soul and strength more than God has become the norm, often claiming God's promises (quoted out of context) for this ignoble endeavour of becoming like gods. There is an assured gift of death, separation from God, resulting in eternal death when in the company of the devil. *People are driven to excel, improve and become great with all their heart, soul, mind, and strength. However, Jesus says, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul*

*and with all your mind and with all your strength" (Mark 12:30).*

Satan tempted Jesus to prove Himself by doubting God's Word and performing the miracle of turning stones into bread while He was hungry after forty days of fasting. The devil's final offer was to give Jesus all the world if He would worship him. This offer was a shortcut to win back the world without going to the cross. Many succumb to

this temptation of following Jesus without the cross. However, "climbing the ladder to become gods" will never bring true joy and peace.

**Disobeying God in an attempt to elevate oneself to godlike status in life is a foolish path to take.**

Jesus said that anyone who wants to follow Him must deny themselves (their goals, desires and plans), take up their cross (God's plan and will) and follow Him (Mark 8:34). There is assured suffering (😞) and resurrection, along with the saints,

with eternal life. This is beyond human understanding. *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. (Galatians 5:22, 23).* God's offer is always unique. Singing in prison, rejoicing in suffering and contentment in hunger are God's ways for His children, with the assurance as promised in the scripture verse *"For the pagans (Godless - fools) run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. (Mathew 6:32, 33)"*.

*Disobeying God in an attempt to elevate oneself to godlike status in life is a foolish path to take. The path of the cross, however, is truly amazing, unique and the way of Jesus.*

## Testimony



Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ! My name is Stephen Selvakumar, and my wife's name is Caroline. We are blessed with two sons: Samuel Brinkle, who is currently in 6th grade, and Soulwin David, who is studying in 4th grade.

I have been married for 12 years. My mother was a believer who attended the CSI church, while my father was not a believer. At 14, I accepted Jesus as my personal Saviour in one of the youth meetings. On that day, I committed myself to doing God's ministry.

I began my journey in ministry by serving in children's, youth and volunteer ministries at my church. Through a relative named Isaac, I learned about the ICGM ministry, and I decided to join. For the past 17 years, I have been actively involved in this ministry. I ministered in Madurai and Kerala. Currently, my family and I are serving in ministry in Ambarampalayam village in Pollachi, Tamil Nadu.

We are doing six kinds of ministries: • Gospel Sharing • Women's Ministry • Discipleship training • Cottage Meeting • Children's Ministry • Sunday Service

Every Sunday, 30 believers gather for our church service. Through our ministry, we have witnessed 40 people accepting Jesus as their personal Saviour and being baptised.

For the past decade, I have been battling with ALS. (a nervous system disease that affects nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord.) My wife is the backbone of my ministry. Please pray continuously for our ministry, that the kingdom of God may be established rapidly through us. And please keep me and my family in your valuable prayers. Thank you!

## Praise & Prayer Points

### Praise Points

- ▶ Thank God for the good retreat we had for the Tamil Nadu field missionaries at Munnar from 13-16 May.
- ▶ Praise God for the GB meeting venue fixed in Chennai.
- ▶ Praise God for the review meetings being held regularly with the help of voluntary HR consultant Mr. Wesley.
- ▶ Praise God for the completion of the renovation of the parsonage at Perungamanallur last month.

### Prayer Points

- ▶ Pray for the construction of a village church at Ayothipatty village of Madurai District.
- ▶ Pray for the GB meetings to be held on the 17th and 18th of August in Chennai. Pray for the members' travel and the arrangements.
- ▶ Pray for more committed village missionaries to join ICGM.
- ▶ Pray for the GS' travel plans to Mizoram and Manipur in the second week of June.
- ▶ Pray for the preparation of General Body meetings, the audit to be completed and the reports of all the heads of departments are to be ready by next month. Pray for God's wisdom in all these, especially in the budget 2024-2025.

## 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**

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