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Church of Christ India Fund
c/o Dave Nance
399 Terry Lane Rd.
Covington, TN 38019



India Evangelism
Newsletter

April, 2021

"...how you turned from
idols to serve the living
and true God."
(1 Thessalonians 1:9)



Church of Christ India Fund

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Covid Flare-Up

Here in the U. S. many of our states, but not all, are loosening their restrictions on assembly and travel because of President Trump's Covid vaccines and the easy availability of personal protective devices. Personally, I hope and expect that we will be returning to our normal church life in more and more places, although I understand the need for caution.

But in India the story isn't the same.

Of the 29 states in India, fully 15 of them have experienced a renewed surge in the numbers of people infected with the Covid. As a result, the ban on international travel for tourists has been extended.

(Most American missionaries to India, including Dale and me, travel on multi-year tourist visas).

However, oddly enough, our preachers have been able to travel much more effectively in their local areas in recent weeks. The uptick in Covid cases have been elsewhere. Accordingly, their evangelistic activities have increased, and our South India Bible College (SIBC) sessions have also increased.

South India Bible College

The monthly sessions of SIBC, which focus on continuing education for our preachers and church leaders, have increased both in number and in preacher attendance!

In contrast to international travel, travel within India has generally become more open as Covid has come under greater control. Of course, in those 15 states where Covid cases have increased, the travel restrictions have become even tighter. But by God's grace the areas where we operate our SIBC sessions have experienced neither a rise in Covid numbers, nor an increase in the restrictions on travel.

SIBC continuing education is so very important to our work in India!

Of course, we all understand the need for continuing education of our preachers and church leaders here in the U.S., and it's not less important for our workers in India. In fact, given the lack of serious Bible education generally available in India, it makes our SIBC work all the more important.

However, there's another aspect to SIBC that is every bit as important: fellowship with fellow laborers in the Kingdom!

Even the apostle Paul was grateful for the occasional fellowship that he had with Timothy, Titus, Epaphroditus and others. We all need encouragement. We all need advice. We all need to be able to actually visit in person with other workers in the Kingdom. And probably one of the worst aspects of this Covid situation is the enforced separation from physical fellowship with those of like precious faith.

So I'm excited to report that the locations, frequency and attendance of our SIBC classes are resuming, and are more well attended each month!

Please pray for the continued success of this crucial aspect of our work, and whatever support you can give us, we need, they need!

Update

My daughter and secretary, Rachel Dickey, has given birth to her 3rd child! His name is Hudson David Dickey, and they'll call him Hudson. He was 7 lbs., 11 oz., and 20 inches long.

Both Hudson and Rachel are doing very well, and we want to express our appreciation for all your interest, cards, emails and prayers on their behalf!

Within the next few weeks Rachel will be getting in touch with you about scheduling a visit for me to report on the work. Now that so many places are opening up for more normal activity, I look forward to seeing you face to face!

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