



In Service of the Most High

Ronnie, Haritha, Fiona & Eva Gootam

Second to Fourth Quarter 2023 Newsletter

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We are Truly Blessed Because of You

There are many verses in the Bible that mention the need to help each other. Subsequently throughout the Bible we read of instances where the servants of God were cared by those that labor in the secular field. Our family and I are deeply grateful to all our supporters that have been supporting us since we have enrolled in the MSOP in 2015.

Through your generous support we have been able to face many challenges in the Mission Field. There was a course in MSOP that discussed the phases of struggle a missionary faces in mission field. I admit that I was immune to them because I was moving back home. Oh how wrong we could have been. However, through your support and prayers we continue to strive for His glory.

Though this report is long due coming please be assured that we are toiling in His vineyard. We know no other skill to support our families and us other than preach the word in its entirety. Thank you so much for your faith in our labors and more importantly your love for the LORD and care for His servants.



Manipur Violence and Relief

Manipur is one of the Northeastern States of India. It is one of the high literacy states of the country. They are many Christians in that state. However earlier in the year 2022 they elected the Radical Hindu based party to power. They are now hunting, persecuting, killing Christians in that state. They have begun this pursuit to murder Christians in that state in the month of May 2023. Many women were paraded naked and gang-raped and killed for being Christians. Many churches were burnt. Many Christian homes were ransacked burned and destroyed.



A 21 year old Kuki youth was arrested for sharing a post against CM Biren Singh on social media. He was beaten to death on a street in Imphal when he was supposed to be in police custody. On 17 June, the Archbishop of Imphal stated that 249 churches have been burnt in Manipur.

 Wikipedia
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2023_Manipur_violence

[2023 Manipur violence - Wikipedia](#)

<https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/manipur-clashes-video-women-rape-murder-burn-village-meitei-kuki-ethnic-violence-2411229-2023-07-25>

indiatoday.in/india/story/manipur-clashes-video-women-rape-murder-burn-village-meitei-kuki-ethnic-violence-2411229-2023-07-25


Church of Christ Fund Raising BBC Churches entertainment Satyavani Archiving Sermon Preparatio... Siteseeing M

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News / India / Was asked if I wanted her dead or alive: Mother of Manipur rape-murder victim

Manipur violence: Was asked if I wanted her dead or alive, says mother of rape-murder victim

Two women working at an Imphal car wash facility were murdered after being allegedly gang-raped by a mob on May 5. The mother of one of the victims spoke to India Today about her ordeal and said the family had yet to receive her mortal remains.

My brother Ricky and a few local brethren from Kakinada did get to visit those effected Christians that are now living in refugee camps across the state of Manipur and give them relief items such as medicines, blankets, bibles, food, clothes (including under-wears) to them. They are not totally sufficient for them but a small help. These pictures that are in this report do not show the entire picture of the amount of labors that took place to care for the needy Christians in the persecuted land. **Please continue to pray for them. They are our brothers and sisters in faith.**





Gospel Meetings

There are a lot of Macedonian calls that are coming from the remote villages of our area. It has been a personal privilege for me to have visited a few villages and conducted gospel meetings. In order for the students and the teachers of School of Evangelism get some precious experience of visiting villages to preach the gospel, I have been encouraging a couple of them to join me in those evangelism efforts. Bro. Appa Rao and Bro. Satya Narayana has graciously answered the call and joined with me in various places to preach the gospel. Since the month of May as many as 20 village gospel meetings have been conducted by our team. As many as 10 people have obeyed the gospel in the places we get to visit and present the gospel to them.

These are the places we get to visit and preach the gospel.

1. Amalapuram, Konaseema District, Andhra Pradesh → 5 gospel meetings were conducted
2. Cumbum, Prakasham District, Andhra Pradesh.
3. Bestavaripeta, Prakasham District, Andhra Pradesh → 2 people were baptized.
4. Rettlapalem, Prakasham District, Andhra Pradesh
5. Kandulapuram, Prakasham District, Andhra Pradesh
6. Chintapalli, Visakhapatnam District, Andhra Pradesh.
7. Peddapuram (Leper Colony), Kakinada District, Andhra Pradesh.
8. Ramachandrapuram (Leper Colony), East Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh.
9. Peadana, Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh → 6 people were baptized.
10. Pratthipadu, Kakinada District, Andhra Pradesh → 1 person was baptized.
11. Vadaparru, Konaseema District, Andhra Pradesh
12. Vasamsetti Varipalem, Konaseema District, Andhra Pradesh
13. Uppalaguptam, Konaseema District, Andhra Pradesh
14. Kotha, Konaseema District, Andhra Pradesh
15. B.K. Palli, Visakhapatnam District Andhra Pradesh.
16. Narsingi, Hyderabad, Telanaga State.
17. Yaprul, Secunderabad, Telanaga State.
18. Samalakot, Kakinada District, Andhra Pradesh.
19. Rajahmundry, East Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh.
20. Bhilai, Madhya Pradesh.



Caring for the Widows

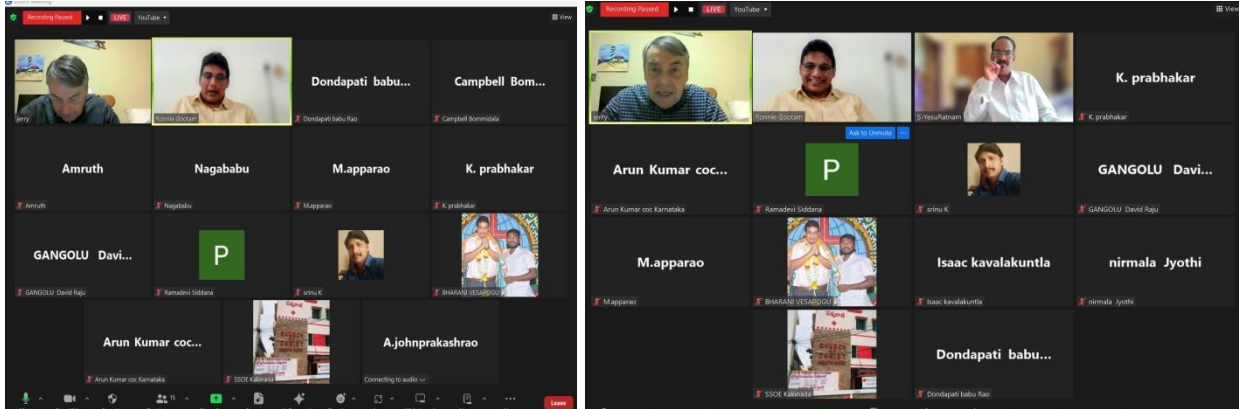
The ongoing widow care ministry has been going on well. Each month we are purchasing about 100 food packages and are distributed among poor widows of the congregation and the sister congregations in the villages. Subsequently, we also give Rs. 200 for each of the widows in the local congregation.



“Then said I, Here am I; send me” (Isa. 6:8).

Satyavani School of Evangelism

In the year 2023 we have completed the study of the New Testament in the Satyavani School of Evangelism. Classes were conducted online via Zoom and live streamed on YouTube. Many people watch the classes and send us their questions which we discuss in the live classes as well.



Honoring the graduates of the School

Currently we have the following courses in the School of Evangelism: (1) 6 Weeks Advanced Bible Course, (2) 1 Year Diploma of the Bible Studies, (3) 2 Year Bachelors of the Bible Studies.

Earlier in July, 2023 we organized a graduation ceremony for the graduates of the School of Evangelism



Basic Bible Course Ministry

The Basic Bible Course ministry continues to grow in numbers each passing month. This year alone we have purchased over 20,000 bibles in the calendar year and have given them away for free to those that have finished the course.



Leper Colony Welfare

Each month we have been giving food packages to the members of the Leper Colony Church of Christ in Peddapuram village, a small village outside Kakinada. Many thanks to the supporters at Abingdon Church of Christ, Abingdon VA who have helped us with the costs to build a community hall in the leper colony, the construction of which is now a work in progress. Lord Willing it will be finished soon.



Laboring with the Missionaries

A dear brother in Christ, brother David Uldrich who also serves as an elder at Camden Church of Christ, Camden TN visited us in the last week of September 2023. Together we labored in His vineyard. The following was our schedule.

“Then said I, Here am I; send me” (Isa. 6:8).

Date	Day	Place	Time	Activity
23-Sep-23	Saturday	Kakinada	1030AM	Arriving in GRT
24-Sep-23	Sunday	Kakinada	930AM - 1PM	Singing Class and Worship
		Kakinada	830AM-10AM	SSOE Class in Office
25-Sep-23	Monday	Kakinada	1030AM - 1PM	Peddapuram Leper Colony 1. Small gospel meeting. 2. Distribution of food packages 3. Foundation stone for community hall
		Kakinada	6PM - 7PM	Children Home Kids Class
26-Sep-23	Tuesday	Kakinada	830AM-10AM	SSOE Class in Office
26-Sep-23	Tuesday	RCPM	1030AM - 1PM	Leper Colony 1. Small gospel meeting. 2. Distribution of food packages
26-Sep-23	Tuesday	Kakinada	6PM - 7PM	Children Home Kids Class
			830AM-10AM	SSOE Class in Office
27-Sep-23	Wednesday	Kakinada	10AM - 4PM	Workshop
			6PM - 7PM	Children Home Kids Class
28-Sep-23	Thursday	Kakinada	830AM-10AM	SSOE Class in Office
28-Sep-23	Thursday	Eluru	1030AM - 8PM	Gospel Meeting
29-Sep-23	Friday	Kakinada	830AM-10AM	SSOE Class in Office
29-Sep-23	Friday	Chintapalli	1030AM - 4PM	Gospel Meeting
29-Sep-23	Friday	Kakinada	6PM - 7PM	Children Home Kids Class
30-Sep-23	Saturday	Kakinada	830AM-10AM	SSOE Class in Office
30-Sep-23	Saturday	Amalapuram	1030AM - 1030PM	Gospel Meeting
1-Oct-23	Sunday	Kakinada	930AM - 1PM	Singing Class and Worship
1-Oct-23	Sunday	Kakinada	3PM - 6PM	Children Home Kids To the Beech
2-Oct-23	Monday	Kakinada	All Day	Send off



Helping the Blind, the widows & the Lepers in Bangalathota Leprosy Colony



Visiting Villages and Preaching

“Then said I, Here am I; send me” (Isa. 6:8).

Printing of Tracts

We are happy to announce the printing of tracts that were originally written by Bro. Allen Webster in English. We do need many more of such tracts that shine the light on salvation and Christian living. Many thanks, to the Elders at Forest Hill Church of Christ in Memphis TN to have given us \$1,000 for these tracts to be printed. We printed about 1000 copies earlier in September, 2023.



Back to the Bible in Indian Languages

We are also happy to report that we have completed the translation and compiling of the Back to the Bible booklets in 6 of the Indian languages thus far. They are: 1) Telugu, 2) Kannada, 3) Oriya, 4) Hindi, 5) Punjabi, 6) Tamil (not done by our team). I am still trying to find able people to translate these gospel materials in other languages. The elders at McKenzie have generously donated to have these translated into 12 languages. Subsequently, we need training as to how to effectively use these tools to spread the gospel. We hope to get brethren from USA to come and train us sometime in 2024.

Village Church Building Opening

Many thanks to the brethren at Blue River Church of Christ in Lees Summit, MO for their partnership for many decades. They have once again generously donated to the cause of Christ in remote villages in India. Another new village church building has been opened and dedicated for His cause recently. My two brother Ricky and Robin visited them and opened the building to serve for His glory.



Telugu Radio in 2024

A few years ago my Dad’s radio programs were converted into .mp3 format and have been streaming on Truth.FM. We hit a dead end with the funding the program going into 2024. When I reached out to Hickory Grove Church of Christ in Almo, KY, the sweet brethren there immediately agreed to help us into the 2024. Truly a blessing to all the listeners of the messages.

Family News


Fiona is still struggling to adjust to the school here in India. The education system is lot different here in India than that in the USA. We are thankful for the Lord that she is a dedicated learner. Subsequently my second daughter Eva has been enrolled in the Play School here. She enjoys her school time over there.



Dad had a retina correction surgery on his right eye earlier in November 2023. Though the surgery went well his vision has not completely restored. We continue to seek your prayers for his restoration of his vision to serve Him for many more years. We celebrated his 80th Birthday on December 7, 2023 in the Church premises where over 300 people gathered from 5 different states in India and glorified His name.

"FOR HE WILL COMMAND HIS ANGELS CONCERNING YOU TO GUARD YOU IN ALL YOUR WAYS." (PSALMS 91:11)

Please Join us to Celebrate



Mr. Joshua Gootam's

80th
BIRTHDAY

We Humbly Invite you to Join us as we Celebrate a Milestone Birthday of our Dad

Venue : Satyavani Church of Christ, Ramarao Peta, Near GRT Hotel , and Town Railway station, December 7th, 2023. Time : 10 am
Lunch follows.



Please Consider our Monthly Needs into 2024

S. No.	Area of the Ministry	Monthly Needs	Comments
1	Ronnie Gootam family support	\$3,000	Current support is \$2500 a month. We are hoping to get \$500 a month increase
2	Widow welfare	\$1,000	Hoping to help a widow additionally. Her husband was a preacher. He and their only son passed away during Covid-19 pandemic
3	Children Home	\$5,000	We have about 30 orphans in the children home
4	TV Programs	\$4,800	We broadcast in 6 different channels for 18 half hour time slots all through the week
5	Leper Colony Welfare	\$3,000	Another leper colony brethren have requested for help with food and medicines.
6	Bibles	\$8,000	We require about 2,000 bibles each month and we only have support for 1,000 bibles
7	Preacher Support	\$2,500	We hope to help 10 preachers with a support of \$250 a month
8	School of Evangelism	\$2,000	We currently have \$1500 a month support for this effort. We hope to pay the teaching staff additional salary.
9	Printing of Tracts	\$1,000	We can print 10,000 tracts each month.
10	Gospel Meetings	\$2,000	We hope to have 4 or 5 village gospel meetings each month
11	Travel	\$1,000	Traveling to remote villages to preach the gospel.
12	Church building Constructions	\$7,500	We hope to build 12 buildings in a year. Each building costs \$7500.
Total		\$40,800	

What are our Current Needs?

I. Prayer

- A. Since prayer support is so important to the success of this mission, please pray for us fervently. We are constantly reminded as written by James, “*The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.*” (Jas. 5:16b).
- B. Please pray for our continuous smooth running of our ministry. The government of India is making laws to try to stop mission works in India run smoothly.
- C. Please pray for the well-being of the members of all the Gootam family.
- D. Please also pray for my wife’s parents. They are facing health issues at this time.

II. Bibles

- A. The Bible Society of India has not been printing any Bibles here since December 2022.
 - 1. There is a great demand for Bibles in the native tongues.
 - 2. One can only purchase Bibles only from the Bible Society of India and cannot print and purchase them anywhere else.
- B. The Bible Society of India is now getting the Bibles printed in China.
 - 1. The Bibles printed in India used to cost \$4.00 each.
 - 2. The Bibles from China are costing \$10.00 each.
- C. We need anywhere between 1,500 to 2,000 bibles each month.
 - 1. The average monthly support received for bibles is about \$5000.
 - 2. With the new cost for Bibles, we need another \$5,000 a month support for Bibles.

III. Telugu and Odiya Magazine.

- A. The monthly magazine “Satyawaaku” meaning “The Word of Truth” has been in circulation for 43 years.
 - 1. It is being mailed to 10,500 homes each month and another 1,500 copies are mailed or picked up in bundles by different congregations.
 - 2. This is the largest such publication in India.
 - 3. We never ceased to publish a single month in all these years
- B. The Odiya magazine “Satyabani” has been in circulation for 27 years.
 - 1. It is mailed to over 3,000 homes on bi-monthly basis.
 - 2. Like the Telugu magazine this is also never late or not published for any reason.
- C. Currently there is only \$300 a month support for this effort.
 - 1. Satyawakku costs \$ 900 per month including mailing charges.
 - 2. Satya Bani Oriya bimonthly costs \$ 400 per month including the costs for postage.
 - 3. We need \$1,000 a month support more for this effort.
- D. Please consider supporting this effort.

IV. Satyavani School of Evangelism.

- A. There is a much needed presence of school of preaching to produce quality preachers to preach His Word among Christian-haters Hindus and Muslims.
- B. We need \$1,000 month to run a school of preaching with a few more students.

V. Building of a new facility.

- A. A new highway of 200 KMs (about 90miles long) is being constructed that will go around Kakinada and connect Two Major Temple Towns for Hindu religion.
 - 1. There is not One Church Building along the highway.

2. We estimate the total cost to land purchase and construction could be anywhere between \$250,000 to \$400,000.
 3. This will be just outside Kakinada and about 10-15 minutes' drive from our home.
 4. We anticipate the land prices and interest rates may go down due to this pandemic.
- B. This is a good time to seek land for the church and construct a few facilities with children home, school of preaching as well as Church.
- C. Please consider this need and back us to strengthen His name around idol worshippers.

VI. Medical Missions – Free Physiotherapy Clinic

- A. Many poor people come to the clinic to get better.
1. People that come to the clinic are poor and they cannot go other places to afford their welfare.
 2. Many need daily care.
- B. We need \$500 a month to support the clinic.
1. This will help us with the clinic expenses.
 2. The doctor is coming up in age and needs a fulltime assistant to work with him.
 3. These funds will help us keep the free clinic going and help those that need the care for free.

VII. COVID-19 Relief Care Packages to Poor Preachers, Lepers, Widows, Orphans and Handicapped.

- A. Each care package costs us \$10-\$12.
- B. We have funds to cover for 200 packages each month in year 2021.
- C. We would like to give 300 packages each month in 2021.
- D. We need \$1,000 more a month to help more people in need.

VIII. Family medical bills.

- A. Please pray for my parent's eyes be healthy again.
- B. We need addition \$1,000 roughly each month for their eye treatments.

How can you help?

- I. If you know of any good congregations or faithful Christians that have a heart to give for His work please recommend our works to them.
- II. Plan a visit to Kakinada, India to do mission work with us.
- III. You can name us in your will.
- IV. You can also send your invaluable to India. Our address: Po Box 80, Kakinada, AP India – 533 001.
- V. You are welcome to send your regular contributions to our overseeing congregation and make a note saying, "India Mission Work – Ronnie Gootam."
- VI. Subsequently you are welcome to send contributions to these congregations that have oversight of our family and some portions of the ministry:

Personal Support		Ministry Support (Basic Bible Course)	
For Joshua & Kabita Gootam and their labors: Southwest Church of Christ 3031 SW 104th St, Oklahoma City, OK 73159	For Ricky Gootam & family and labors: Stillwater Church of Christ 821 N Duck St, Stillwater, OK 74075	Blue River Church of Christ 221 NE Woods Chapel Rd, Lee's Summit, MO 64064,	Independence Church of Christ 8543 Hwy. 305, Coldwater, MS 38618