

April Live It-India



India is a diverse country with over a billion people. There are over three different ethnic groups, over five religions, and over 15 languages spoken. There are also diverse needs in ministry. Just in the state of Kerala opportunities such as medical missions, children's work, seminary teaching, work with women, prison ministries, prayer and financial needs are available. How can you help to minister to people in India?

Life of Israel-

Psalm 23 (New International Version)



1 The Lord is my shepherd. He gives me everything I need.

2 He lets me lie down in fields of green grass.

He leads me beside quiet waters.

3 He gives me new strength. He guides me in the right paths for the honor of his name.

4 Even though I walk through the darkest valley,

I will not be afraid. You are with me.

Your shepherd's rod and staff comfort me.

5 You prepare a feast for me right in front of my enemies.

You pour oil on my head. My cup runs over.

6 I am sure that your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life. And I will live in the house of the Lord forever.



Life of Christ-

Matthew 25:31-40 (New International Version)

31 "The Son of Man will come in all his glory. All the angels will come with him. Then he will sit on his throne in the glory of heaven. 32 All the nations will be gathered in front of him. He will separate the people into two groups. He will be like a shepherd who separates the sheep from the goats. 33 He will put the sheep to his right and the goats to his left.

34 "Then the King will speak to those on his right. He will say, 'My Father has blessed you. Come and take what is yours. It is the kingdom prepared for you since the world was created. 35 I was hungry. And you gave me something to eat. I was thirsty. And you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger. And you invited me in. 36 I needed clothes. And you gave them to me. I was sick. And you took care of me. I was in prison. And you came to visit me.'

37 "Then the people who have done what is right will answer him. 'Lord,' they will ask, 'when did we see you hungry and feed you? When did we see you thirsty and give you something to drink? 38 When did we see you as a stranger and invite you in? When did we see you needing clothes and give them to you? 39 When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'

40 "The King will reply, 'What I'm about to tell you is true. Anything you did for one of the least important of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'

Warm-Up Exercise-

1. True or False: Children in the Precious Children's Home are affected from their parent's incarceration or from the tsunami.
2. True or False: Seminary students come from all over India to complete undergraduate and graduate degrees at the India Baptist Theological Seminary.
3. Kerala, an Indian state, has a 100% literacy rate and also the lowest suicide rate in India.
4. Eighty percent of India is Christian.
5. Most marriages in India are arranged.

Culture Study-

One in five persons in the world is an Indian (not counting American Indians and inhabitants of West Indies and East Indies). India's teeming all time high 1.2 billion population, is the target for soul-winning as repeatedly asserted. No wonder, India Baptist Theological Seminary aims at training as many young men and women as possible, to become soul-winners.



United States is one-third of India in population and three times larger in territory. Therefore the ratio of the density of population is 9:1. Imagine that all the people in the United States are sent to one of its nine geographically equal parts to live on the resources of that area! How will that be? Mind you, that is the situation in India.

-Dr. Kunjumon Chacko, president of India Vision

Case Study-



Matthew 25 talks about providing physical needs to people and ministering to them where they are in their journey. Dr. Kunjumon Chacko is doing just that in India! He has provided housing for prisoners' children at the Precious Children's Home in Kerala. He has also provided housing for orphans affected from the tsunami. The

response is so great that they are planning for a new international children's village to open in February of 2008 so that all of the needs can be met.

The India Baptist Theological Seminary also provides education and training to dozens of students so that they can go reach all of India in sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ. Some students will return to their tribes to open schools to meet the educational and spiritual needs of children in their village. Others will work in churches to minister to their communities.



Theological Issue-

Whether India is managing or mismanaging under such a trying situation, is a matter of opinion. But for us the pertinent and persistent question mark that looms large over us, is whether or not the microscopic minority of Indian Christians can manage evangelization in India with the present output in terms of the number of evangelists presently groomed for the uphill task.

The answer is an emphatic "NO". Therein lies the urgency and emergency. When we lay brick, we are in the business of building an edifice. Here the brick is saved soul, through a student you may sponsor for seminary studies, and the edifice is the church in India.

Millions and millions of raw unchiselled living stones are waiting to be shaped to fittingly form part of the edifice, the church of India.

Will you lend a helping hand for the furtherance of the Gospel and the extension of His kingdom in this land of unlimited mission opportunities?

-Dr. Kunjumon Chacko

Involvement-



1. Plan a mission trip to India to work with the Precious Children's Home.
2. Give \$1 a day to support a child at the Precious Children's Home.
3. Give \$1000 a year to support a seminary student at the India Baptist Theological Seminary.
4. Send theological books to India Baptist Theological Seminary to help build the library.
5. Send cards to the seminary students, children, and leaders in India.

Commitment-

1. Pray for the ministries in India:
 - a. Precious Children's Home
 - b. India Baptist Theological Seminary
 - c. Prison Fellowship
2. Pray for the leaders working with each of the ministries.



Answers to Warm-Up Questions-

1. True
2. True-currently, students are from Bengal,
3. False-Kerala has a 100% literacy rate and the *highest* suicide rate in India.
4. False-2.3% of India is Christian. (Hindu 80.5%, Muslim 13.4%, Christian 2.3%, Sikh 1.9%, other 1.8%, unspecified 0.1% (2001 census))
5. True

For questions or more information, please contact WMUV.

