

This month we celebrate Thanksgiving in the United States. As we thank God for our blessings, let us remember the dedicated Christian pastors, evangelists, missionaries, and lay people in other parts of the world who are shining God's light in the spiritual darkness. They do not enjoy the religious freedom and material bounty we have. HBC is privileged to come alongside some national pastors and bring you their stories. A contribution to HBC helps pastors like the two whose stories are told below.

Spreading God's Word in Madurai, India

The city of Madurai is known as Temple City because there is a Hindu temple on every street. More than 90 percent of its over 3 million people are Hindu. In September 2017, Pastor Anthony Swami, supported by HBC, started a church in his home. Five families gather each Sunday to worship. Every Saturday they hold a children's ministry and reach out to both parents and children.

One day Pastor Swami met with a man and his family who had questions about the Bible. He shared the gospel, and they all accepted Christ as their Savior. Pastor now holds a Sunday evening Bible study titled "Know your Bible" at their house.

Although there are many churches in Madurai, most do not proclaim God's truth. Pastor began a second Bible study near a bus stop, and people from other beliefs are attending and benefitting. Pastor Swami said, "My aim and prayer is to start many Bible study groups in various places and train others to conduct Bible studies."

Praises and Prayer Requests

We are thankful for God's provision. We received sufficient funds to purchase an automobile for Pastor Shibu to replace his damaged vehicle. Many churches and individuals have provided funds for the college students. This has covered 90 percent of their food, accommodations, and tuition costs. Many pastors and teachers spent their vacation teaching at the college. We appreciate their sacrifice.

Please pray for:

- Two tracts of land are under negotiation. Pray for God's wisdom and that we get a fair price.

Also pray for additional funds needed for the land purchase. We will know the final amount soon.

- A group from the US will travel to Trichy in December to host a soccer camp for middle and high school youth. Pray for opportunities to share the gospel.

Church Growth in Mysore, India

The ministry in Mysore, India is growing under the leadership of Pastor Lokesh and his wife. They have 24 regular attendees at Sunday services and more than 45 at special meetings. They hold two Bible studies each Friday with 15 to 25 attendees.



Pastor and Mrs. Lokesh (center) with church members

Twice weekly, Pastor and his wife visit church members to encourage them in their faith. Due to some persecution, they are no longer welcome to visit new families in the surrounding villages. Instead, church members invite their neighbors and friends to church.

This ministry is dependent on support from HBC. Pastor Lokesh said, "Kindly pray for us and our ministry in Mysore so God may fulfill our goals."