

As we near the end of 2020, we asked two of the pastors we support for an update on how God has been working in their ministries during the COVID crisis. India was in full lockdown for several months this year. While some restrictions have been lifted, travel between states is still prohibited. In spite of these challenges, Pastor Shibu wrote, "I understand our God is great, and He does everything according to His will. Our God has never been in lockdown! He works when there is no way in front of us!" Amen! You can read the reports from the two pastors below.

Pastor John Shibu's Report from Thurayur

I count it my great privilege to write about how God helped us through the lockdown. The Lord has been so gracious and has provided all of our needs through Heritage Baptist ministries.

Every month I got money to buy rice and vegetables for the children's home and my household. We never missed a meal. Some of the villagers were suffering to buy vegetables, and I was able to buy this and also hand sanitizer for them. My wife made masks for the hospital staff, students, believers, and villagers. I was also able to help one of my believers pay funeral expenses when her husband died.

We had a great challenge during the lockdown because my wife was pregnant and the baby was due August 9th. Due to COVID restrictions, we were unable to travel to my parent's hometown for their assistance. I prayed for a normal delivery and my co-workers also prayed. We live in a village where many unbelievers live. If it was not a normal delivery, the unbelievers would have asked many questions: "Where is your God?" "Why can't he help you?" God heard our prayers, and on August 6th at 3:30 am, God gave us a baby boy, and it was a normal delivery! I praise God for that. He never lets us be put to shame. Altogether this lockdown time was a great blessing in my life. Glory to God.

Pastor Antony Samy's Report from Madurai

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. During the COVID lockdown, we could not approach people in person, so I taught some online nouthetic counseling classes for pastors and other believers.

I counseled a Pastor and his wife on how to handle fearful situations, because his wife is fearful of many

things. A believer who is interested in the ministry attended the counseling classes. His daughter went through depression, and I counseled him on how to help her. A Christian couple had a dispute due to a tough financial crisis they faced with their business. We, as a family, prayed for them, and gave them counseling. By the grace of God, they are now all right.

Food Distribution by Local Churches

HBC donors have assisted local churches in purchasing food for their communities during the COVID crisis.



If you would like to help buy groceries for some of the poor families, please send your donation to HBC and designate it for food distribution.

Praises and Prayer Requests

We are thankful all of our pastors, staff, and students are well.

Please pray for their continued safety and protection. Also pray that travel restrictions will lift so we can reopen the college. Classes are still held via Zoom.