

May 3, 2005

Dear friends,

We are so thankful for the busy lives we live because it means the Lord's work is being done! Thank you for your help in this work by all you give, encourage and pray for!

We are thankful that in the last few months the children in 2 churches here in Hudson have chosen to give their offerings to help the ministries of SERVE India. With their good little hearts to give what they had which inspires others, one church's Sunday School gave over \$1000 to help meet the needs of the children in India! In the other church it was the children in the AWANA program who wanted to save their offerings for the year to be able to build a village church building. They gave what they could, inspiring others with their little hearts to give, and then watched as God multiplied it with a family who matched their giving and the elders who decided to give the extra from the church. We were given enough to build, not only 1, but 3 village church buildings!!!! The Lord will use the small among us for a great amount of blessing! What wonderful lessons for all involved. The Lord is so good! Please praise the Lord with us for the children and their parents and for all the blessing that has come! J

Another way that many of you have helped is in giving towards tsunami relief. Here is the story of how it helped in amazing ways beyond just the physical help they needed in one of the fisherman communities we have been trying to reach. It really did show the community that our one true Creator God loves and cares for them.

The Tsunami that rolled through the Indian Ocean came ashore on the east cost of India and did considerable damage to the fishing villages along that coastline. In the churches we maintain in the state of Andhra Pradesh, there were no fatalities, but many of them lost everything. It left them with absolutely nothing to even eat with. They were left only the clothes on their backs.

There were some villages where our Pastors had been having an especially difficult time in sharing the Gospel. Pastor Samuel and Pastor Satyam had visited these villages earlier and wanted to reach out to the communities, but local village leaders who worship a goddess of the ocean forced them to leave. They did not want any more Christian influence in the area. Then the tsunami hit and wiped out the village. These same men wondered what they had done wrong. They said to their goddess, "We offered you all that your priests said we should and yet you take away even our fishing boats.

When we came to the village they were desperate for help. There was no help from anyone associated with their ocean goddess, no one from the Indian government, nothing from anywhere, only Christians. The local pastor had assessed the needs of the villages and there were a total of 430 households that needed help. We were able to purchase each household a new set of pots and pans to cook food, utensils to eat with, some blankets for their beds, rice to eat and a pair of clothing

The medical team was with us so we took the opportunity to help with medical needs as Pastor Satyam organized the distribution of the emergency items we had purchased. The local leaders, who had earlier run Pastor Satyam out of town for being a Christian, now demanded that we make an offering of coconuts to their goddess before we did anything. I shared with them we had come in the love of Christ and we could not be making offerings to another god. I told them our Creator God loved them and wanted to help them in their need. The village leaders tried again to convince us to make an offering but several other villagers told them to be silent. The ocean goddess they were promoting had done nothing to help any of them, so leave the Christians who are here to help alone.

At the end of the day, we had handed out hundreds of sets of items needed for each family. Hundreds had received medical attention and prayer as well. Most of the villagers welcomed our prayer for them and stood individually to be prayed for. Suddenly the leader of the village stood up and called for everyone's attention. He declared that because of the care and love of these Christians the village needed to know the Christian God more. He allotted a piece of land to be used for this Christian God's 'temple'. This would not have happened before the tsunami! God broke down the barrier by allowing us to offer these people help in their time of need. God had left this small field of harvest to us, and He blessed our time with the people there.

Before we left, Pastor Satyam was able to put up a temporary thatched church building in the village! It was a small church, but was full on the first Sunday service. The new church is in a village that once didn't want any more Christian presence! Thanks to those of you who partnered with the local Pastors to help the community, more have come to Christ as a result of your kindness and their presence.

Thank you for your sacrificial giving and the kindness it represents to the communities that we are reaching out to.

Please praise the Lord:

- *for the offerings given for the children and the church buildings in India
- *for the good the Lord brought out of the devastation of the tsunami in the fishing village
- *for the openness of the village people who were served by the medical camps
- *for the progress made on the building project and that it seems to be moving along well with a good contractor (the approval came for the electricity)

Please pray:

- *for continued effective outreach through the SERVE India Pastors and their churches
- *for the registration of new students for the school that we run for the children's home to go well and that we will be able to admit many children from the neighborhood who are from unchurched families
- * for the ongoing progress of the building project (safety and cooperation of the workers)
- *for the many preparations and provision for our family's trip to India this summer(it is coming so fast!)
- *for the plans and provision for those who are coming to visit SERVE India while we are there this summer

Thank you so much for your prayer! We are always so grateful for you and your part with us in the work the Lord is doing in India. Thank you! J

Peace and blessings,
Love, The Nanda's J

If you would like to make a tax-deductible contribution for the ministries of SERVE India (support for pastors, children, widows, projects, training center) make a note in the memo, write and send the check to:
SERVE India, 777 Carmichael Lane, Hudson, WI 54016

Our personal income (support for our family's living expenses) comes from your contributions to International Gospel Outreach (IGO):
Your gifts are tax-deductible if made payable to International Gospel Outreach only. Please use the response form or write "IM" (India Mission) on the check memo line. Do not put Nanda's name on the check.
Contributions are solicited with the understanding that IGO has complete discretion and control over the use of all donated funds.
IGO Address: P.O. Box 491173, Minneapolis MN 55449-1173 (Telephone: 763-757-3239)

Direct personal correspondence for the Nanda's to 617 Cherry Circle N, Hudson WI 54016
Telephone: 715-381-5671 E-mail: tjnanda@pressenter.com Web Site: www.igo-worldwide.org

Thank-you! J