

July 7, 2005

Hi friends,

Thank you for praying for our trip. We have seen the Lord's grace in many ways! We are glad to be here in India all together. It feels pretty 'normal' to get back into our life here again. It takes adjusting in a lot of ways but even the boys soon remember how things work here and we jump right in.

I am always amazed every time though how long things take. Time is not money here! Time is for taking as long as you like, including taking time for tea! This is fine except for times when you are waiting (days) for the plumber to fix the pipes so you can have water again, or the electrician so we can have our electricity back on! :) It's always a lesson on patience and reminds me how grateful I am to even have water and electricity! :)

People have been coming to meet with John since we arrived in India. Somehow the word gets out that he is back and everywhere we go people come and find him. At our house people are always coming and going. He is busy and he enjoys it but it is his time with the Pastors that he most enjoys.

Yesterday we came back from Saluru where we spent a few days with the Pastors who work around the area in the tribal villages. Only about half could come because the bus service was having a strike and their villages are too far to be able to come any other way. They had a good Pastors Meeting with the Pastors who did come. John spent hours and hours talking with them about their work and what is going on with each of them. The first night is a time of fasting and prayer. The next day they have teaching and a special meal together and more sharing about what is going on in their work in the villages.

We also were able to see the children in the Children's Home and the other children in the neighborhood that come for school. The boys and I did a skit and told a story from the Bible. It was fun and we so enjoyed the children.

Next month's Pastors' Meeting they are having in just 3 weeks (7/28-29) so we can come again before we leave. Pastor Larry from our church in Hudson and two of his sons will be here with us for about a week and he will be teaching for the next meeting. We are all looking forward to that!

We have been to see the building project and it doesn't look much different than when John left in April, but some progress has been made in the paperwork, acquiring permission for electricity and other things like that. John has met with the builder several times and this next week some things should start happening again. It just takes him being here to keep the ball rolling! It is the first time I have been able to see the place and it is so obvious that it is the Lord's place for the SERVE Center. There are many villages around it that have never heard of Jesus before. There has been no one to tell them. Within all those villages there are around 100,000 people altogether! Now there will be someone to tell them! ☺

Please praise the Lord for:

*our safe travel, protection, good health (mostly, only a little rumbling tummies and a minor scrape when the scooter that Josh and David were on was tipped over by someone running into them at a stop light)

*running water and electricity most of the time! :)

- *cooler than normal temperatures for this time of year, yeah! (hanging around the mid 90's in the shade)
- *good visits with many friends, relatives, and others
- *good meetings with the Pastors

Please pray for:

- *continued safe travel, protection and good health
- *John's responsibilities in so many areas to help the ministries of SERVE India to be effective and fruitful
- *progress on the building project
- *progress on some financial paperwork that we need accomplished before John returns to the US in October
- *Pastor Larry's trip at the end of July (7/24-8/3), with his 2 high school sons, Josh and Nate

Thank you again so much for your prayer for us. We couldn't do it without you!
His peace and blessings, Love, The
Nanda's :)