

Word to World Ministries Word to World Schools



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Dear Friends,

On 25 February we completed our first three day Word to World Ministries' conference in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, India. 25 delegates from AP, 1 from Orissa, 1 from Karnataka and 3 from South Africa attended the conference. The conference took place in the YMCA building overlooking the Bay of Bengal.

The theme of the conference was "ADVANCE!! It was hard work from the beginning as the conference included a Kingdom Advance and Church Plant training program. This program is the result of lots of prayer, waiting on the Lord and making major strategic changes in our existing one year training syllabus for evangelists. Training will now only be over a period of three months instead of one year as we have done it before. The focus has advanced from training evangelists to church planting and is based on the Church Planting Movement model which works very effectively in North India and China. It was very difficult with the previous syllabus to keep the focus on the practical side of discipleship, it was a constant discipline for the schools to prevent becoming another Bible school.



We are thankful to the Lord and all those who were involved in the one year program. Over the three years a total of 828 students were trained and between 25-30 new churches were planted.

The material was also used in a wider way and we had several wonderful testimonies coming from areas where we have never worked before.

However, change was required and pruning needed.

As with all forms of change some delegates were very excited while others were very upset.

Part of our new strategy includes the following: To support and conduct church plant training seminars, gospel campaigns, translation and supply of training material, etc. All support to individual pastors and ministries in India has been stopped. Although they have been warned that this was coming some has ended their relationship with us. This resulted in quite a few changes in especially Johan Greeff and Jarrod Moore's itinerary as meetings and training sessions were unexpectedly cancelled. But to God be all the praise: What initially seemed to be a loss turned into gain as several new training centres were planted! Although this was a drastic move with a few sad results it is definitely a move forward toward achieving the vision God gave me some years ago.



10 new training centers were opened, two of the existing schools are changing their training program from the one year school syllabus to the new model while two will continue to follow the old program.

8 of the new centres are mainly from the East and West Godavari districts while 2 are from the Vizianagaram district.

Dharma Rao and myself travelled to Rajamundhry to assist with the launching of the 8 training centres in East and West Godavari

districts while Johan G and Jarrod visited the old schools in Visakhapatnam and assisted with the launching of the two new centres in Vizianagaram.

I want to extend a special word of appreciation to Johan Greeff, Dharma Rao and Jarrod Moore for their unselfish dedication to this work as well as their help at the conference. God bless you my brothers.

At the moment the following schools are running: Nepal; Delhi; Guntur; 2 in Vizianagaram; Bheemili; Balangir, Orissa; 8 in East and West Godavari. Most of the schools are in the Andhra Pradesh (AP) State. AP has 23 districts. (Total of 15.) Our aim is to reach every district in AP with at least one training centre within the next 5 years.

We are praying to spend longer periods (3-4 months at a time) in India to help with the facilitating of the schools. It will be more economical too as we can rent a small apartment and save a lot on traveling and accommodation costs.

On Sunday 7 March Dharma Rao and I traveled from Visakhapatnam to Solan City in Himachal Pradesh, North India to attend a hands-on church planting conference. This beautiful 'up and down' city with its very narrow and busy streets is situated in the foothills of the Himalaya Mountains. Travelling to the town is quite a nerve wrecking experience (especially to those who are not familiar with Indian driving) because of the narrow winding road through sky-high passes.

This conference was hosted by Terry and Kay Spinelli from East-West Ministries International. They have trained believers and applied the church planting strategy over the last two years. Over the period January to September 2009 they have seen 1027717 people exposed to the Gospel; 93540 new believers in Christ and 1726 new churches planted. This kind of growth is not unfamiliar with Church Plant Movements in especially China, North India and other parts of the world.

We were very blessed to learn from them at the conference that the Church Plant training program that we are doing is very similar to what they are doing. This was indeed the confirmation that I have prayed for.



In spite of me missing my dear Ina very much I had amazing wonderful experiences with the Lord. The vision that the Lord has given me has not changed, rather been re-confirmed. But the strategy changed drastically. I think I felt like Abraham when God said to him he must pack his stuff and go to an unknown land. Because of this I had many major questions and prayed for guidance. These questions were almost immediately answered in a supernatural way after I have prayed. More of the prophecies that He gave me during the months of February / March 1998 (some which I could not understand at the time) have now become clear.

Besides this direct guidance from the Lord I was again reminded by the Holy Spirit that Jesus Christ is the head of His church and that He will build His church and the gates of hell will not prevail against it.

I must admit that there was a time that I felt very lonely in what I was doing and simply did it because I was guided by the Lord to do so.

The building of His church is largely supernatural and we should not try to take control. Wherever human control is forced onto a church (body of believers) the end will be just another man-made institution. Where He leads His church the results are unpredictable, exciting, adventurous, miraculous and mind-boggling. Wherever the Gospel of our Lord spreads rapidly amongst a nation the following qualities are evident in the churches: extraordinary prayer; abundant evangelism; simplicity in worship, prayer and teaching; the authority of God's Word and the intentional planting of reproducing churches.

All of us at WtW ministries have been greatly challenged as we are entering new territory largely unknown to us. We continue by faith because of the promises given. Please pray with us as Paul prayed for the Ephesians' Church: *'that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to us the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of our understanding being enlightened; that we may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints...'*, Eph 1:17-18

Definition of insanity: when you keep on doing what you have been doing, while expecting different results

To all our dear friends, prayer partners and supporters, thank you once again for the large part you are playing in fulfilling the Great Commission of our Lord.

Love you Lots, ***Johan and Ina***

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