

1 May 2018

“Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.” Luke 18:16

Intervention

Standing between the broken system that creates a cycle of poverty and hurting families.

India

Eight-year-old Ayan thrashed and yanked violently against the chains his mother restrained him with.

But it was futile. He couldn't free himself from the chains that kept him inside the run-down shed made of asbestos sheets where his family squatted among 50,000 others in Bangalore, India.

His dull, dark eyes may as well have shot darts at his mother's back. His mother, Bibijaan, deliberately kept her back toward Ayan as she readied herself to leave. She couldn't look at him. Seeing her son like this was too painful.

Tears of despair and desperation filled Bibijaan's eyes. She didn't know what else to do. She had nowhere else to turn.

During the hours she had thought Ayan was at school, instead, he found odd jobs and survived the day with the few coins he earned.

Ayan refused to return to his Islaamic school, where he had suffered repeated beatings. It had been the same at the government school he attended before the Islaamic school.

Ayan's behavior became increasingly violent and destructive. She didn't know what to do with him, so his mother had chained him inside their shack.

Bibijaan fought back the hot tears that lined her eyes and threatened to spew over as she ducked through the low doorway.

Outside on the narrow path lined with the makeshift sheds, shacks and lean-tos of her neighbors, Bibijaan squinted as her eyes adjusted to the intensity of the Bangalore sun.

She twisted and turned her way along the narrow paths and corridors through the informal settlement called “Little Pakistan” by many.

As she commuted to her employment as a domestic helper, she passed the iron gate in front of the building where she'd learned to sew.

Bibijaan dreamt of opening her own tailoring business to support her family. But that dream seemed long-gone, now.

For months she'd been saving to buy a sewing machine, but her meager income didn't even meet the needs of Ayan and his older sister. Her husband worked as a cook in a small, roadside hotel. But, like most of the men of Little Pakistan, he drank away most of his paychecks.

Then she remembered something. Taru, the woman who had taught her to sew, also had a small school. She'd seen the kids leaving on her way to her sewing lessons.

With a spring in her step, she headed over to the gate.

ITMI's **Taru and David Kumar** started **Deepam School** to help the children in the Muslim slum where

(continued on p.4)

Good & Pure Water

for War Victims in Ukraine

TDS:
Total
Dissolved
Solids

100 TDS
is the maximum
level of toxicity that
is safe for human
consumption.

"The moment of the first water toxicity check is hard to describe in words," ITMI's Adi Ban reflected.

His heart sank as he read results- 801 TDS. TDS stands for Total Dissolved Solids and is a measurement of all sorts of impurities in the water.

A reading over 100 is considered toxic.

This was the water that people of Toretsk, Ukraine were consuming.

Adi's team - two men from his Young Couples' Fellowship and four pastors from other parts of Ukraine - had the privilege of delivering and installing a water filtration system for the local church.

After the filter installation, the new water toxicity reading was 17 TDS!

They were SO GLAD and GRATEFUL!

Clean water isn't the only way Adi is bringing good news to the people of Toretsk.

At a church service later that day, he and his team shared from God's Word and shed light on family life.

Adi and his wife, Ema, have discipled young families in their city in Romania for over a decade. The pair have consulted on and co-authored books on the topics of Biblical marriages, families and parenting.

They lead two bi-weekly groups that explore God's plan for marriages, parenting and families. Together, Adi and Ema regularly educate and empower Romanian families with Biblical truth through conferences and counseling.

This expertise in Biblical family matters was put to good use during the Q & A session that followed the service.

Others in the community overheard the church was getting a filter that would yield "good and pure" water. They wanted to know if the church would share this treasure.

Through Adi's discipleship and ministry, this local church now has a wonderful opening to share clean, safe water with their community.

This is a beautiful opportunity to demonstrate and declare that there is someone who, just like

the filter, can remove the toxicity from our hearts and make them new again.

This is the ministry Adi has been faithfully building for years. He's been investing in young men around him, discipling and teaching them to share the love of Christ with those around them.



From the Director

Dear Team: How to Turn Burdens to Blessings

I had to stop short when I read it. “If God can turn night into day, He can turn your burden into a blessing.”

What a great way to view our challenges - through the lens of God’s greatness and sovereignty. The victim mentality so prevalent both around the world and at home is cut off at the knees.

What other “God statements” can you think of? How about, “If God can create a precious life in the womb, He can surely heal what ails me.”

“If God holds the hearts of the kings in His hands, He is surely able to change the heart of a loved one that is away from God’s best.”

We have been able to experience so many of these wonderful displays of God’s intervention through “If God, then...” experiences over the years. **Many of you have been a part of them.**

“If God can help [Piotr Zaremba](#) translate for almost 20 years to give Poland a Bible while being a full time pastor, He can help you and me be faithful in what we are called to do.”

“If God calls **Kent** and I to encourage and disciple in South Sudan, [He can keep us from being arrested](#) and interrogated.”

There are many more that we all have been a part of. In days to come, we will be called to trust God with our time, our energy and our resources so that God’s marvelous ways will be experienced by those that are still waiting for the “then” part of their struggles to be revealed.

Some of our ITMI team are among them. [Jahim Buli](#), our young South Sudanese partner and pastor, should be, as you read this, at **Kukuma Refugee Camp** in North Western Kenya providing leadership training for droves of South Sudanese displaced by tribal warfare. Kukuma is the same place Jahim escaped to as a “Lost Boy” and later found Jesus. To get there, Jahim must take a road where travelers were recently attacked and kidnapped.

David and Taru Raj Kumar just completed a Vacation Bible School with 200 children from the slum heard and learned truth, and observed adults that display God’s love. Unfortunately, David and Taru didn’t have the room in their facility to allow all the children hoping to be let in to experience Him.

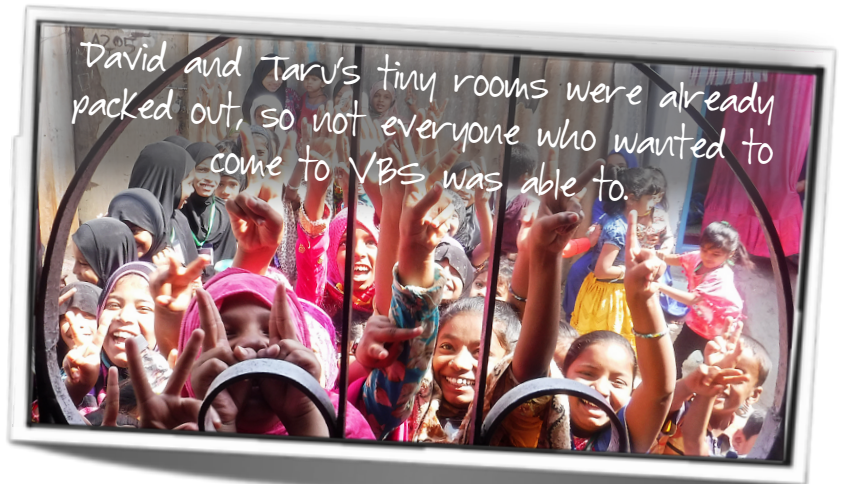
Our South Africa partner, [Charl van Wyk](#), needs our support as he waits for his burdens to turn to blessing. He didn’t ask me to share this, but I will ask that you all hold Charl and his family up in prayer as life in South Africa gets increasingly difficult due to corruption, poverty and lack of accountability. Allow me to reveal an excerpt from an email from Charl.

“The 5 times I had to go to the city office to register my motorcycle, the 6 times my car had to be returned to the agent for repairs, and the other car returned twice after a [poorly done] service, I have to stand hours at Home Affairs to collect passports because they can’t trust couriers to deliver; late delivery for bank cards and the months spent fighting with bank lawyers and the new internet fiber company ... And after all this I had to start laughing at your (inside humor from an American Director to cheer him up). With Roberta (his oldest daughter) at college and Jason at YWAM (his oldest son in the U.S. at missionary training school), my excess [repair costs] on the smashed car (Roberta was rear-ended by a Cape Town police car), and loads of medical bills, my finances haven’t looked so bad in a long time...”

Will you pray with us that all our partners will be encouraged and sustained during the times of challenges and struggles, so that they will be faithful until the end, when they clearly see burdens turned to blessings, and experience first-hand another “If God, then...” miracle.

Yes, life in the field, whether it be Poland, Romania, Africa or India, consists much more of “survival” and less of “ministry” than we would hope. Yet, God is able to turn that burden into a blessing when we rest in Him and obey His direction. The more I ponder these realities, the more that I realize: we all need to follow these directives so that we can see and experience His “If God, then...” moments. May we be faithful in what He has called us to do.

In His Service,



(continued from p.1)

they minister by preparing them for grade school. Deepam simply means “the lamp.”

Most of the other 31 children at Deepam school are between 3-5 years of age. The school meets in a small facility where Taru and David also teach women to sew for income and conduct most of their outreaches.

Many of the children in the slum were starting grade school never having held a pencil or seen a written letter, and struggled to keep up.

“In school they used to beat me so much, but I am happy here because you love us so much,” Ayan said to Taru, after a few weeks at Deepam.

Every day, Ayan readies himself and comes to school on his own. He even says he likes his homework, which he brings completed each day.

“I like to study...only in this school,” he says. He also enjoys the extra activities and Bible stories. Ayan is friendly and loves to play with the other children.

At first, Taru worried Ayan wouldn't go home when the school dismissed after lunch. But now, Ayan willingly goes home after school.

Ayan's parents are relieved and overjoyed as they continue to see positive changes in him.

David and Taru have made similar exceptions and taken older children who need behavioral corrections.

Last year, they helped another eight-year-old boy recover behaviorally. With their guidance, he is now doing well in his grade school.



Deepam really isn't set up for children six and older, but the Kumars would love to be able to expand their ministry to include grade school children.

“We wish we had a program for such children to grow in life,” David shares.

Their current facility is the physically limiting factor. It restricts the school to 35 children.

If letting children from Muslim families hear about the love Jesus has for them and be trained to follow Him is a passion you share with David and Taru, we'd love to put you in touch.

-Summer Kelley, Steve Evers

For Praise

1. Bread of Life - Poland - 2500 Lbs. of food delivered to needy families in Kalisz, Poland.
2. David and Taru Kumar - India - The recovery of 16 Deepam students from ingesting contaminated water in their slum.
3. Charl van Wyk - South Africa - New church planted among gangsters by converted former gangsters reaching many.
4. Leszek and Anna Wakula - Poland - Two opportunities to build relationships and help people at conferences in April.
5. Vicky Waraka - South Sudan - Construction is nearly complete on her home and property.

For Prayer

1. Jim LaRose - Poland - Wisdom for a Polish judge in deciding the location of a boy Jim mentors.
2. Bethesda Home - Romania - Rising expenses and closing supporter churches are creating the need for additional provision.
3. Bans - Romania - Many opportunities to meet with and encourage people while in the States this summer.
4. South Sudan - Jahim Buli - Safe return from refugee camp in Kenya via a dangerous road.
5. South Africa - Charl van Wyk - Increasing insecurity and challenges associated with living in South Africa.



itmi@intouchmission.org fb.com/intouchmission @intouchmission instagram.com/sre77733
PO Box 7575 - Tempe, AZ 85281 (480)-968-4100 (888)-918-4100 F(480)-968-5462

www.intouchmission.org

