

"The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it."

- John 1:5

ITMI
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YOUR GIFTS SHINE JESUS' LIGHT INTO DARKNESS



ITMI's Taru Kumar helps a Deepam student's family whose shack is full of water and can't dry out.

INDIA

"After many days, we slept well," Sayida told ITMI's Taru Kumar, mustering a gentle half-smile.

A few days prior, Taru had noticed Sayida's son, Zain, was limping as he walked to school. Zain is one of the students at Taru's primary school, Deepam, which means "the lamp".

Deepam is located in Modi Road, a slum occupied by impoverished families in Bangalore, India. Ninety-five percent of the residents living in this slum are Muslim.

Taru was saddened to discover Zain was limping because he had a fungal infection between his toes. Taru learned that the cause was rainwater was seeping into his family's tin shack and never had a chance to dry out.

"India received so much rain this year, and that includes Bangalore. It was too much rain. Whenever there are heavy rains, the poor people dwelling in small huts suffer a lot because water oozes from beneath the ground and drips through broken asbestos sheets making life difficult," David explains.

When Taru learned this, she and one of the other Deepam teachers visited

Zain's family at their home.

Zain's family of 6 shelters in a very small shack, barely 10ft by 10ft. All of them were walking barefooted.

That same day, Taru returned with a rug from her own home and two new blankets for the family.

The next time Sayida saw Taru, she said after receiving the provision from Taru, she and her family slept in a way they had not been able to do in many days.

"August 15th is a very special day for every Indian," David writes, "Because of this day in 1947, we got our freedom from the British. This is our national festival and every Indian feels proud of our freedom. We seek to use every special day such as this as an opportunity to share the Gospel."

David and Taru celebrated with the Modi Road community. Some of the Deepam students came dressed as something they wanted to become in the future - policemen, doctors, or lawyers. Others dressed as Indian heroes such as Mahatma Gandhi.

After celebrating out in the community, Deepam students and their parents were invited into the school for a special program.

David spoke to the group, sharing,

"We all must be very happy and

(continued on p.2)



David and Taru lead a community Independence Day Celebration in Modi Road slum in Bangalore, India.



David Kumar with Deepam students.



Tightly packed shacks in the slum.



Deepam students are so happy they receive two meals every school day.



Deepam students enjoy the special celebration of India's freedom.

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proud as Indians that we are a free country, it is our privilege that we should rejoice and enjoy our freedom. But we are not fully free, we need to constantly fight against sin to which we are all slaves. This is a far more serious issue than all other things in our lives, because, sin has eternal consequences. Who can deliver us from this slavery? Only Jesus can do that.”

The program ended with food packets being distributed.

The costs of attending Deepam is rising. Deepam students receive two nutritious meals every school day. Other expenses for operating include the rent on their facility and staff salaries. For many whose families struggle to feed them, this might be the only times they eat.

It costs about \$222 USD to send a student to Deepam primary school for a year, but any amount helps David and Taru share Jesus with and minister to the families of Modi Road.

“Your faithful partnership not only encourages us and helps us to feed the hungry, it also helps us motivate parents to understand their kids better and discover hidden talents in them. Your partnership helps us to wipe the tears of many hurting women and creates opportunities to share the love of God, communicate the gospel of Christ, and pray for them.”

This ministry is so much more than education - it's relief, it's love, it's care. It's Jesus. It's the difference He can make in the harsh reality of life in an Indian slum. David and Taru keep shining His light brightly for all who will to see it.

-Summer Kelley, Steve Evers

"Our Lives are Like Darkness."

HOW YOUR GIFTS ARE REACHING THE HURTING IN PAKISTAN



"Jesus loves you," Abid tells every flood victim receiving food. "You need to know Him."

PAKISTAN

These flood victims have been overlooked or discriminated against by Muslim organizations giving aid, who required them to accept Islamic beliefs first. Abid shows them how Jesus loves them unconditionally by offering them kindness, aid and a relationship with Jesus - no strings attached.



When you've lost everything, a bag of food is precious. It means survival. It means someone cares about you. It means perhaps you can let yourself hope that Abid's claim that "Jesus loves you" could be true.



Abid prays for a young boy, Praam, who was burning up with a fever (they think dengue or malaria) after providing medicine his family could not.



Abid gathers all the families and tells them Jesus loves them, has provided for them, and they need to know Him.



There were many meaningful interactions during this outreach. Everyone Abid and his team spoke with was interested in hearing more about Jesus. One man confessed, “We have no light - our lives are like darkness. You are telling us the right path.” Abid connected with this man for follow up and also connected him with a local believer who has experience coming from the Hindu faith to Jesus.



Khaisn’s wife passed away, leaving him with four children. Then the flood destroyed everything and Khaisn was struggling to provide formula for the baby. With the gifts from ITMI supporters, Abid was able to provide formula for 2 weeks.



“There is one hope, it comes from Jesus.”



“Jesus loves you. You need to know Him.”

Chongwe Village Church has Funds for Doors, Floors and Walls

Thanks to the generosity of ITMI supporters, Ruben Mwale’s church has the funds to add doors, floors and plaster on interior walls of their meeting place! This small church of impoverished village believers has a meeting space that stands as a monument to what the Lord can do when His people trust in Him.

The existence of this structure is something only He could accomplish. These village believers could never accumulate the funds necessary on their own. It had to be the Lord’s doing.

The pastor of this village church, **Ruben Mwale**, felt convicted to lead his church to trust in Him to provide a real building as a meeting place. Ruben is a long-time friend of ITMI who is being discipled by ITMI partner, Johan Leach.



Ruben in his village of Chongwe, where most people’s homes can’t truly be considered “structures.”



God’s house stands out in Chongwe as a physical declaration that Jesus is a powerful provider, worthy of worship.

From the Director



DEAR TEAM: What a Five-Year-Old Taught Me About Showing Love and Gratitude

I am the grandfather that has to fight for his life three to four times a week. I have a five year old grandson named Wyatt. Wyatt loves to “wrestle” with his “Pops”. Which seems to break out often when we get together. He also loves it when I chase him in the house or in the yard, growling and grunting like a monster who is after this, tall for his age, but still small and active blond-headed, bright-eyed boy. He also loves to ask his best-friend-Nana (the name he so lovingly calls Darlene) with an extra portion of impish joy to play Legos, read a book or whatever other adventure the two of them get into with play-dough or colored slime.

Before our regular intense wrestling bouts commence, Wyatt in his trusting, simplistic mind thinks that Pops can do anything, including catching a full-speed leaping five-year-old no matter what position or condition Pops is in. Thankfully, Pops has not dropped this four-foot-tall hurtling mass of giggling, arm-swinging, knee-protecting, ball of energy...yet!

Wyatt loves his Pops, I know that - but he probably loves his Nana even more. She is with him far more than I am able due to ministry obligations. She fixes him special lunches, she sits and really talks with him on his level, she allows him to use his imagination when they play with Hot Wheels cars together. She really is amazing with him...and he loves her deeply for it. Wyatt is still a five-year-old. He mostly thinks and operates like a five-year-old. Sometimes it is about him and only him. Sometimes he is incredibly insightful and then other times he creates burst-out-laughing moments. I share all this with you, hopefully not to brag on my grandson, as I am sure that each of you have at least as many precious interactions and stories of your own grandchildren, but to tell you how God used him to remind me of HIS love for me and the sacrifice HE paid for me and you.

In Wyatt's and Pops' wrestling matches, Pops goal is to “get”, or tickle, Wyatt either on his belly, under his arms, or under his chin. I try to do this by blowing bubbles instead of tickling with my fingers. He has a love-hate relationship with this activity. He begs me to “wrestle” and then uses every muscle, bony knee, elbow, foot and finger to keep me from blowing on his bare skin, all the while grunting and giggling. Pops is getting more and more “beat-up” in this activity as Wyatt gets bigger and stronger. Wyatt loves to include Pops and Nana in all his adventures and activities. So the other day I figured that Wyatt and I should go and “get” Nana and blow air bubbles on her. Well, Nana is quite ticklish, and when I led the way to “get” her, she started to giggle and then laugh even louder before I could even tickle her. I totally believed that Wyatt would have been right there beside me messing with Nana. But I could not have been more wrong. While Nana was playing along and fighting me off, laughing and squealing, a small set of arms wrapped around me from behind and pulled for all his 45 pounds could pull. When his strength was not enough to “save” his Nana, he turned around and quietly laid on the floor, pulled his wrinkled t-shirt up exposing his whole belly and chest, and then spread his arms over his head, as if to say, “...here, tickle me, do whatever you want, but don't ‘get’ Nana!”

Wyatt's little mind was doing the only thing he knew to do to get Pops to not tickle-torture Nana. He was giving, sacrificing his all to “protect” and save Nana. Our Lord sacrificed His all, to help you and me and all mankind. He didn't think about His comfort, His reputation, His consequences, He just, at great cost, gave Himself so that we would not have to suffer our own earned consequences of eternal separation from God. Even a five-year-old who has experienced the love of a dedicated Nana, knows how to give of himself to show love and gratitude back to the people who love him so much.

ITMI wants to work with nationals that understand this demonstration of love for our Father and who sacrificially show their gratitude by being His hands and feet in their countries, no matter what the cost. You and I working together, empower and resource those faithful servants to demonstrate the wonderful love of Jesus and tell of His willingness to take the penalty of those who put their faith in Him. This Thanksgiving month, can you consider how you can say “Thank you Lord” by helping us spread God's love and truth further into these forgotten people groups and lost souls? Thank you for loving God and loving us. Know that we love you, too.

In His Service,

They call it love and encouragement.

We call it the General Fund.

Your year-end contribution to the ITMI General Fund enables our staff to provide the support our partners in the field rely on.



"Their visit was a great encouragement..."
David Kumar, India

Thank you for praying!

Thank you for your prayers for our Financial Officer, Mark Burritt, after he was hit by a vehicle while riding his bike early in July. Praise the Lord! Mark is back at work and other regular life activities and functions!



FOR PRAISE

1. USA - Mark Burritt - Continued healing and restoration of abilities.
2. South Africa - Smith - Growing number of women studying the Bible and earning income together weekly!
3. South Sudan - Lazarus - Sports-based outreach to gang members expanding to include girls' teams.
4. Pakistan - Abid - Many being introduced to Jesus and others wanting to know more about Him.
5. India - Kumars - Opportunities to declare the Good News among the marginalized and hurting.
6. Zambia - Ruben Mwale - Provision for the doors, floors and walls of his village church's meeting place.

FOR PRAYER

1. Pakistan - Abid - Comfort for those suffering and displaced from their homes by flood waters.
2. Ukraine - All - Continued opportunities to share Jesus with the hurting and displaced.
3. South Sudan - Lazarus - The provision of Bibles for people reached through Lazarus' ministry desiring to grow in their knowledge of the Lord and His Word.
4. All - That the Lord would provide for ITMI's needs and projects through faithful year-end giving of our supporters.



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