

“If you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday.” -Isaiah 58:10

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Flooded, Forgotten...But Not Forsaken

PAKISTAN

The Day a Boy Asked, “Who is Jesus?” in a Land Where His Name is Rarely Spoken

In **August 2025**, we reported that Pakistan’s Swat Valley was swallowed by water. Monsoon rains and rare cloudbursts collided, pouring destruction down steep mountainsides. Poor, rural families—already living on the margins—lost what little they had. Homes dissolved into mud, bridges washed away, roads and any business were left in ruins.

Hunger and hopelessness quickly stalked the valley. In small mountain villages, both Christians and Muslims endured extended periods without sufficient meals. Mothers sat helpless, watching their children suffer from hunger, with no way to provide. Fathers stood idle, even frozen from overwhelming questions as previous work and wages had

been washed away.

The Swat Valley is not just broken by floods—it is bound by a deeper emptiness: spiritual oppression. For generations it has remained a region where Islam rules with a heavy hand, where women are veiled in silence, and where the name of Jesus is seldom heard. Immediately after this massive flood, ITMI’s team went into this valley of need to serve, offer hope, and proclaim God’s care.

In one intense and almost overwhelming 15-minute window, our team distributed 200 hot meals we procured, under the circumstances, at great difficulty and expense. Providing 200 hot meals may sound simple, but in Swat Valley after the flood, it was nothing short of miraculous.

The crowd of anxious people, of all ages and background, surged in mass. “As soon as the people saw the food, they ran toward our distribution vehicle,” one teammate recalled. “Many had several days without proper meals -it showed on their faces.”

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The boys listened quietly, one said: “I’ve never heard this before... I want to learn more about Him.”



The man paused, looked up, and with a radiant smile replied, “He is **very** good.”



“Who is Jesus? Why do you say He gave us this food?”

There was tension in the air—desperation that nearly tipped towards riot. Yet by God’s grace, our small team stayed calm, compassionate, safe, and effective. Servings of steaming food were passed quickly, hand to hand, heart to heart.

And then something unexpected happened.

A boy, maybe twelve years old, came up to our team after he had been given his food and asked, “Who is Jesus? Why do you say He gave us this food?”

We knelt down and explained: *Jesus is the Son of God. He loves you and sent this food to remind you that you are not forgotten.*”

Nearby, a group of teenagers sat quietly on the ground, dust on their clothes, exhaustion etched on their faces. As they ate, we shared with them: *“This food is a gift from God. It’s because of His love for you. Have you heard of Jesus?”* They shook their heads. One, about sixteen, whispered, *“I’ve never heard this before... I want to learn more about Him.”* In this culture, love is not something many have seen or experienced, at least when it was needed most.

Not all the encounters were with the young. An elderly man with a long white beard, weary but dignified, received his food. A team member smiled, “God is good.” The man stopped, looked up, and with a radiant smile replied, *“He is very good.”* In that moment, his joy shone like sunlight breaking through storm clouds.

Even the hidden women of the valley were touched. One little girl, clutching her package of food tightly, said, *“I will tell my mother that Jesus gave us food today.”* She took two meals—one for herself, and one for the woman waiting in the shadows at home.

What happened that day in Swat Valley was more than feeding the hungry. It was God’s provision, opening hearts and ears to the Good News.

Our team told many recipients, *“This food is from God, because He loves you. Jesus loves you.”* And in a place where His name has rarely been uttered, the words of Matthew 24:14 came alive:

“And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations....”

The benefit of this ministry is both



Hungry mob tries to get the warm food before it is gone.



He may not understand religion, but his mama understands someone caring for her and her children.



“And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony...”



“I will tell my mother that Jesus gave us food today.”

immediate and the possibility for - eternal. We are earning the right to speak truth in a place that doesn't like truth or hasn't heard much truth. Empty stomachs were filled, but so were empty hearts touched. God allowed us to speak of His Son in a valley that for centuries has heard only one story. For the first time, some villagers heard another—of a Savior who heals, who feeds, who loves, and who saves.

Next Steps

As I write, I want to pause and thank you. Because of your generosity, we have raised **\$13,437 toward our \$25,000 goal**. Those funds, Lord willing, will have been sent to our team in Pakistan by the time you read this. Time is running out for the needy of this area. We trust that God will allow us to assist and minister to even more souls. Pray that the funds we have will be multiplied like “fish and loaves.”

The Lord has opened doors for conversations about Jesus in one of Pakistan's most closed valleys. But the need remains immense. To fully provide for 31 Christian families and 20 Muslim families—giving them food, clothing, and cooking essentials for months to come—we still need your help. Our team has located and connected with two Christian pastors who faithfully serve in their respective home churches. We will work with and mentor these pastors so they can continue seeking “people of peace” in this area.

I believe with all my heart that disasters like this are not wasted. They are divine appointments. God breaks through hardened hearts when brokenness leaves people searching for hope. His light shines brightest in the darkness.

Friends, thank you for standing with us. Thank you for praying, giving, and going with us into the hard places. Together, we are not just feeding bodies—we are introducing souls to the ultimate Bread of Life.

- Steve Evers

SALT: Multiplying Life-Change in India

When ITMI partners David and Taru Raj Kumar first encountered the Seven Areas of Life Training (SALT), they didn't just add another tool to their ministry—they embraced it as a way of life. SALT has shaped them personally, and in turn, their teaching and discipleship are shaping the lives of many others across India.

Through the support of ITMI partners, including those who have prayed for and supported Steve Evers' trips abroad, SALT is now multiplying from one faithful couple into pastors, wives, mothers, and families—reaching even into Muslim communities.

Today, we want to share with you three places where SALT is bearing fruit through David and Taru's faithfulness.

1. Training Pastors Under Persecution in Odisha

The state of Odisha is known for its harsh hostility toward any faith other than Hinduism. For believers here, discipleship often happens quietly and at great personal risk. Yet into this environment, David and his team are bringing the life-giving truth of SALT.

Pastors and their wives have completed two extended conferences covering finances, social life, marriage, and parenting—all grounded in Scripture. Testimonies reveal how eye-opening and practical this teaching has been. David shared, “...many pastors and their wives during the Marriage SALT training were weeping and crying over the new understanding of their broken cultural marriage model of harshness and even abuse. They were led to confess to one another their marriage failures and commit to follow God's plan for marriage.

Pastor Santosh shared, “*I have 60 members in my church, and this teaching is very much needed for my congregation. No one teaches on marital life except on the wedding day, so this biblical teaching is essential.*”

Another pastor's wife, Kalpana, reflected, “*I learned that marriage is not only physical, but also psychological and spiritual intimacy. This should be taught all over Odisha.*”

What once was absent teaching in rural churches is now equipping pastors to disciple others in practical, biblical truth—creating ripple effects that may strengthen entire communities.

2. Transforming Taru's Own Life and Leadership

Though Taru has served in ministry for many decades, she testifies that SALT has been unlike anything else she has received. Raised an orphan, she learned to survive by outworking everyone around her. Even in ministry, this “survival mode” shaped how she lived and led.

Through SALT, Taru says God is reshaping her heart. “*I learned to be more humble and forgiving, and not judge others. James 4:12 and Ephesians 4:2 taught me, 'Be humble and gentle, be patient.' Please pray for me that I will grow in Christ-likeness.*”

As Taru grows, she is pouring that same transformation into others. Her openness about her own journey is strengthening her role as a discipler and mentor of women, both inside and outside the church.

3. SALT in the Muslim Slums of Bangalore

Each week, Taru and the Deepam School staff minister in the Muslim slum of Bangalore, often called “Little Pakistan.” Here, families live in tiny tin shacks below the poverty line. Mothers slave over incense sticks in dark, unhealthy rooms just to earn a meager wage. Homes are broken, and marriages are often abusive.

Yet into this darkness, the truth of God's Word through SALT is shining. Muslim,



Maglene - can smile now because of Jesus

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Hindu, and Christian women gather in one-room flats, led by the four Deepam School teachers, to hear and discuss what God created life to look like. Recently, three Muslim fathers even attended a SALT parenting class at Deepam School—something unheard of before.

One Deepam staff member, Vanitha, shared how teaching SALT to others has deepened her own walk with God. She also testified of Maglene, a young believer whose marriage collapsed within the first year due to her husband's lack of interest or responsibility. Despite this rejection and cultural shame, SALT gave Maglene hope and is anchoring her faith.

These testimonies reveal how SALT is not only reaching communities often closed to the gospel, but also discipling those who will disciple others.

Faithful Support, Growing Impact

SALT is now being adopted across India—from north to south, in many people groups, among pastors, rural churches, and slum communities. Each testimony flows from God's grace and the faithfulness of many—David and Taru, Steve, ITMI, and you, our partners.

Your prayers and support are not only helping translate and deliver SALT, but they are multiplying disciples who are carrying God's truth into the lives of the needy and broken.

Please continue to pray that more believers will accept the call to "make disciples" (Matthew 28:19), and that SALT will keep equipping ordinary people with biblical truth for everyday life.

-Steve Evers



Vanitha (center) teaching the local women how to deal with rejection and harsh judgment with biblical principals.

Below: Taru teaches Salt Parenting to Muslim mothers from the slum.



FOR PRAISE

1. India - David and Taru Raj Kumar - Much growth and freedom being realized from faithful discipleship training.
2. South Sudan - Vicky Waraka - Appointed national woman's ministry director over multiple Muslim countries.
3. Poland - Gorski - Lives being changed at the new Lake EPIC Conference and Retreat Center.
4. Pakistan - ITMI Team - Serving and planting seeds of truth in the lives of the rural flood victims.

FOR PRAYER

1. Pakistan - ITMI Team - Wisdom and God's favor as they meet physical and spiritual needs in Swat Valley.
2. Romania - Ban - Traveling mercies as Adi travels and ministers in Ukraine in October.
3. Zambia - Leach - Faithful, Biblically based leadership and church planting by the many new trained pastors.
4. USA - ITMI - Wisdom and direction as we seek to meet real and immediate needs around the world.



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