

Baptisms in a Remote Village

Last week I had the wonderful opportunity to speak the gospel to a small group of mostly Hindu people seeking to know more about Jesus Christ. So I want to just share this with you briefly along with some photographs I took.



Worshippers in the New Congregation in Ghitkri

Less than a year ago a lady started a new church near the city of Sardhana, about 80 miles northeast of New Delhi. Of the over 500 pastors that Simon Hagg is connected with this is the only female pastor. She has done a tremendous job in shepherding this young church, which is actually in a village, Ghitkri, near Sardhana.

The pastor said that I was the first white person in the small village of Ghitkri as far as they can remember. I was told the same thing in the village in Haridwar, Bhardarpur, which we mentioned in a previous newsletter (12th edition).



Worshipper in the New Congregation in Ghitkri



The Bull and Cart That Carried Simon and Me to the Baptism

This was also true in the village of Shomai in Manipur, also mentioned in a previous newsletter (13th edition). The fact that l'm the first white person to be seen in these places mostly speaks to the fact that our attempt in Christ in You is to go to places where the gospel has not been proclaimed. And this often takes us to remote locations.



Worshipper in the New Congregation in Ghitkri



Worshipper in the New Congregation in Ghitkri

I spoke a simple message of the fact that we are all sinners and in need of redemption. After I presented the gospel of Jesus Christ, this was followed by our associate Simon Haqq praying individually for many people. It was a wonderful time which led to the baptism of seven people.



The Pastor's Husband Driving the Bull Cart

There was no other way to reach the site of the baptism, so Simon and I rode on a bull cart. You can see a brief video clip of this here.



Click on this photo for a brief video clip.

The seven who were baptized demonstrated a glow of joy and peace when they reemerged out of the water. You can see a video clip here of two of those who are baptized.

We are so thankful to God for His work of grace in bringing into His kingdom the seven new believers, as well as starting a very effective work in this village.



CLICK ON THIS PHOTO for a video clip of the village baptism.



My son Micah and his wife Jessamyn joined me. A church member is on the left.

From a Rickshaw Puller to a Pastor

Just a few hours ago I met this man, Ramu Lal, who used to be a rickshaw puller. He would ride a bicycle and taxi one or two people sitting behind him. This was hard labor which he continued until one day he received a gospel tract. In reading this message he received Christ as his Savior. Prior to his rebirth in Christ he was a Hindu.



Pastor Ramu Lal

With his new faith in Christ he decided he would take advantage of an offer to be a janitor in a Bible college. He had no education and could not read or write. While at the Bible college he expressed his desire to learn the Bible. The staff of the Bible college said that he cannot learn the Bible because he was uneducated.

He was grieved that he would be unable to learn the Bible at this Bible college. So he prayed and asked the Lord to help him read. He did learn to read, he left the Bible college, and he started out on his own. He just went house to house praying for people. Even Hindu people were glad for him to pray with them when they had real needs. Many of these people also received Christ. Over time he reached around seven or eight families who receive Christ as Savior. With these families he started the church. The Lord blessed the church and now he has between 75 and 80 families who attend his church.

This is an amazing example of the power of God's redemption: from a rickshaw puller to a pastor of a growing church!

Please pray for me and the ministry of Christ In You.

Paul Rains



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