



Patel News

Agra, India

Romans 10:15a – “And how shall they preach, except they be sent?”

November/December 2007

Praise Items

1. His unspeakable gift of salvation through Jesus Christ
2. New believers added to God's Kingdom
3. Faithfulness of God's people to support our various ministries
4. God's provision of a meeting place in Gurgaon

Special Prayer Requests

1. Christmas Day service/New Year's Day service
2. First services in Gurgaon
3. Our family
4. God would raise-up more workers for His vineyard
5. African students' ministry
6. New Hindi AWANA program starting in Jan. '08

Christmas greetings from Faith Church, Agra, India! We trust God blessed your Thanksgiving time with family and friends. Certainly, we all have so much to be thankful for! As we reflect back to Thanksgiving Day and look forward to the upcoming Christmas Holidays, a verse from the Scriptures calls out, *“Thanks be unto God for His unspeakable Gift”* (II Cor. 9:15). First of all, Becki and I thank the Lord for saving our souls from the curse of sin and extending to us the Gift of Eternal Life. We are thankful for our children, and we ask that you continue to pray for them – that the Lord will be their Guide for this next New Year. We thank God for the opportunity and privilege to serve Him here in India. We appreciate all of you, whom the Lord has brought into our lives to keep us encouraged and to challenge us to be faithful to His calling. Lastly, we are thankful for the many souls that have come to know Christ as their Savior over the past years here at Faith Church.

Our Revival services went well; it was a joy to see 5 precious souls baptized in obedience to the Scriptures and to see 7 others place their trust in Christ during this time. The services concluded on Sunday, which we set aside to commemorate our 7th anniversary in our new sanctuary. We have named our annual anniversary “Maranatha Sunday” to help keep us watchful for the imminent coming of our Lord. We have posted some pictures on the web page for your viewing. We have also included some photos of Bro. Greg and Sis. Eve as they boarded the Delhi-bound train heading back to Kenya, Africa.

We are prayerfully preparing for our Christmas Day Service. As we have mentioned before, Christmas Day is recognized as a national holiday here; therefore, most people have the day off. They will attend the Christmas Day service even if they cannot attend on Sundays. Please pray especially for those who have never heard a clear presentation of the Gospel -- that they may hear, understand, and accept the Truth this Christmas Season.

We want to give you a little update on the new work we are starting in Gurgaon, a city just outside of Delhi. We have rented 2 apartments adjacent to each other in the building we told you about. One side will be used for church services and Bible studies and the other side for residence. It is adequate for beginning this work, and we are so thankful for the way the Lord has provided and met our needs concerning this building and its location. We are presently doing some “fixing up” and getting it ready for our first service, which we hope to have just before Christmas. Please continue to pray that we would have the needed strength and wisdom to continue to assist the ongoing work in Agra, as well as getting this new ministry started. Another African student, Bro. Dickson, has gone back to Kenya for an extended stay due to visa regulations for foreign students. Dickson has also been called into the ministry, has been trained under our church leadership, and has been conducting the weekly African Students' Bible Study & Fellowship. His return home leaves us with a gap in this ministry which I will have to fill until he returns or God raises up someone to replace him.

As we close this newsletter, we also close another year – a calendar marked with memorable but past blessings. May we open a New Year with hearts purged from the world and its values, and “Looking unto Jesus, the Author and Finisher of our Faith.” May you have a Christ-centered Christmas and a fruitful New Year to the glory of our coming King! God bless!

Hemant and Becki

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