

ANNUAL REPORT 2017

GOSPEL

Gujarat
Outreach
Support by
Planting churches
Economic change and
Literacy training



The Response we have observed:

The G.O.S.P.E.L. team praises God for responses to the preaching of the Word in 2017.

- 657 new believers received baptism as a sign of God's grace to them.
- All up, some 1250 individuals have made a credible profession of faith.
- 21 new worship groups were established and
- 50 prayer cells were started.
- we've offered many different teaching and discipleship programs in the villages.
- some 500 Bibles were distributed to new believers.
- Through funds from Compassionate Catalogue some 50 solar audio Bibles were distributed.

Recognizing the 500th anniversary of the Reformation

2017 marked the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation in Europe. In India, we give thanks to God for the light of the true Gospel which the Reformation brought. This light is for all the nations!

On November 7th (a week after Reformation Day) the G.O.S.P.E.L. team in India commemorated this important celebration in all the clusters with much joy. Special speakers were invited for the event from the Presbyterian Theological Seminary (PTS) in Dehradun. The event was followed by a community dinner.



TRAINING LEADERS

Not all the evangelists have an adequate grasp of the doctrines of Scripture. We are constantly aiming to have our preachers "... correctly handle the word of truth." 2 Tim.2:15.

1. PTS gives valuable training (in Hindi) for all the workers. Our pastors and evangelist work with us under Reformed banner of the G.O.S.P.E.L In May 2017, 2 batches of about 15 students each receive training at two locations in our mission field. We have arranged the training in a rural set up so that there will not be any distraction of town/city and in an atmosphere similar to their outreach villages and similar to the village where they live. We arranged the training in two locations to facilitate the workers to return on Friday after lunch to be with their family and attend to their congregation on Sunday and to return on Monday evening. The training will take place from Tuesday to Thursday with Friday being exam day. Notes have been prepared by PTS and supplied to the students. Books in Hindi were ordered and kept for reference to the students. Many are blessed, thanks to these trainings.
2. Seminars conducted by resource persons/officials from G.O.S.P.E.L./RTC in Australia are a real help to gain better understanding. On 11 & 12th October, 70 G.O.S.P.E.L workers participated in the seminar. Dr. Murray Capill, Principal, RTC, Australia and Rev. Bert Kuipers were the resource people. Dr. Capill Murray spoke about the message of the Gospel from the life of Abraham.
3. Soon we will appoint our own full-time trainer. Our Field Director, is on study leave for a two year M.Th. program in Missiology at a leading seminary in India. He has already completed one year and will join GOSPEL field as training Director to carry forward the training plans for our workers.
4. Eldership training needs to be given so that the churches can be self-governing according to the pattern in the Bible.



TEACHING CHILDREN



Vacation bible school (VBS) training was given in Mumbai for ten of our Evangelists. It was a new experience for those who attended and helped them to understand more about the strategic importance of ministry among children.

At the end of the year, VBS was conducted for more than 300 children. We believe they will mature in the knowledge of the Lord Jesus over time and carry forward the Gospel to their community with their own child like faith.

Sow the seed
when they are
young.

Persecution and Hardships on the field

While 657 believers did receive baptism during the year 2017, more than 250 believers who were ready to be baptized but could not be baptized due to the prevailing persecutions and due to the tense political situation.

The persecution level and hardship had worsened compared to last few years. Our workers/new believers have been threatened with abuse & physical violence. They are ostracized by their fellow villagers. Some have even been rejected and pushed out of the village. Please continue to uphold G.O.S.P.E.L. workers who are undergoing various type of persecution in the mission field.

My name is Humaji Gundhiya and I am a servant of the most high God. On 23rd December 2017 while I was at Junvaniya village for a prayer meeting around 25 peoples came and attacked us for sharing the gospel. They beat us mercilessly and dragged us to the police station.

They falsely accused us for conversion which is illegal by law in Madhya Pradesh state, where there is anti-conversion bill. The police then took our statement and told us what we are doing is illegal. But God gave us power to answer them boldly that we share the love

of God. I told them further that we believe in Jesus Christ and I pray to him, and that there's nothing wrong in practicing our faith. I shared with them our life testimonies and how God turned our lives from bad to good and how he gave us peace in our hearts .

The testimony of our lives convinced the police. I am very thankful to God for helping me in such a situation. Even my relatives and friends could not stop me from evangelizing. I continue to serve the Almighty God for the extension of His kingdom.



Deed projects:

Healing Hands. Caring Hearts

The Community Health Program (CHP) is carried out by World Transform (W.T) amongst the very villages where we are spreading the Gospel. Very beautifully Word and Deed come together.

While India can boast about the advanced medical facilities in the big cities, it is a sad reality that medical facilities are not available to the poor. The poor are very often on the marginalized fringes of community health. These people are socially, economically and educationally very backward and because of this they even ignore any symptoms of illness.

However, in 2017, the CHP team worked in the 34 villages and

continued to receive good response from all the 34 villages. This project has been a great blessing to thousands of beneficiaries in the target villages. Many have been healed and made well. The people now have knowledge of modern medicines and do not have to rely on superstitious means for their wellbeing. They come hoping to be treated by the hands of these Christian medical staff.

The CHP program is a channel to show God's love in our mission field. We thank W.T. for the kind support to carry out this needed medical program. We give glory to God who guides this team to share the gospel through the health program.

The need of tomorrow

• Audio visual

As many come to the Lord, showing the story of Jesus and bible stories through films is a wonderful medium for the gospel and for the growth of new believers, many of them cannot read Bible. There is an adequate need for more projectors on the field.



• Drilling more wells

More wells are needed in regions where there is little rain. It is always a joy to see the women of the villages draw water from a well a few metres away from their homes.



Thank you!

We are grateful to our lord who has counted us worthy in His eyes because of his Son Jesus Christ. We look to Him as we continue this journey in 2018. We also thank God for the many congregational and individual donors who contributed for Kingdom work in India.

We Praise God for the G.O.S.P.E.L. subcommittee. In God's strength, we will move forward to further the God given vision and mission to build his church. Thanks for your prayer and encouragement in establishing God's kingdom.

Will you join us in becoming a financial contributor and support G.O.S.P.E.L. ministries in India as you are able?

Funds are urgently needed.

May God continue to bless you! To God be all the Glory!

Newbegin Packianathan, Director
April, 2018



In God's strength we have begun another year. As we look to him, we give thanks for the many congregational and individual donors who have partnered with this work in God's Kingdom amongst Bhil tribals in India.

Will you support us in prayer?

If you would like commence or increase your financial support of G.O.S.P.E.L. please get in touch with us.

Please visit our website: www.gospel.net.au for more details.
Or Phone (03) 6327 3058 Mob. 0438 343101.

Full support for a missionary, including his training/supervision etc is about \$10 a day or \$3,600 per year.
Help to resource even more missionaries.

Financially – Donate: it costs about \$10 per day to fully support a missionary.

Account Name: Gospel
Bank: ANZ BSB: 017 042
Account No: 4822 18669
