

SEMI Ministry News – December 2009



Dear Prayer Partners,

Warm greetings from Trivandrum in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ who said “Do not be afraid”. It is our immense joy to share with you some of our sorrows and happiness from our day-to-day ministry. Praise the Lord for His blessings and presence that has given us strength, and to you all for your prayers and words of encouragement and support. We have had many challenges recently.

We have just returned from an AMEN Indian Partners get together in Goa. What a marvelous time we had of sharing, hearing, praying, and eating together in love and unity. We really thank from our heart each of the Amen trustees for their dedication towards Lord and mission. We were really encouraged and challenged by them to go ahead with this great news to the lost world even though it's not easy.

We would like to share some of our painful experience and God's glorious blessings...

A hand bomb attack at our Training centre:

Sharing the Gospel in our country is not easy and there is sometimes great resistance. During the first week of November had a united Christian convention. A preacher from Ghana came to preach to thousands of people who had gathered. Suddenly there was opposition and people wanted the guest to be arrested. They also threatened many pastors including myself.

But within that few hours God touched the lives of many many people bringing healing and release. Many became Christians. By this, many Pastors got threatened but we were not afraid because one who is with us much greater than them.



Next day at 8pm while I was gone to take a Bible meeting some people came and threw a hand bomb at our bedroom outside wall. Just before that Ponna and children had left that room. So praise the Lord, God saved them miraculously. I immediately came and informed police and called my church people to pray.

I did not personally point out who might have done this but within 24 hours the police have caught three criminals and put them in the prison. Prayer really works out.

Training centre:

Students have moved to ministry field for practical training. Some of the students out shared their experiences ...

Thopias Ningol says from Nagaland: *“Now I know how hard it is to bring one soul to Christ but I rejoice by seeing people coming to know Christ who died for their sin. In my last two months ministry 12 people have been saved and another 15 are preparing to make a decision. I will either hand over these new believers to a local Pastor or I will talk to SEMI leaders for further church planting here. Please pray for me.”*



Ragesh Gokul Reports..... *“I have seen people having a greater understanding of salvation and over people coming for counseling. I pray for them regularly and would like to see a church planted in this area”.*

Anil Joy from Maharashtra says....*“This is the first time I have come out of my home area to a different culture and met people who had never heard about Jesus. I am struggling to bring a person to Christ yet, because it is very strong Muslim area. I write to you with tears that I would like to see some one coming to Christ now. I have 7 good contacts and will keep trying, thanks for your prayer and support.”*

Friends, there are many stories like this from our students who are in the field trying their best with the help of Holy Spirit. We continually pray that many people will see the Light in Christ through the work of the students.

The Church is the back bone of all work for Christ: Now we really understand the roll of church in Christian ministry, praise the Lord the Holy Spirit keeps on adding believers to our church.

They are praying for our ministry, and even though they are poor they like to give for the Lord – this is very encouraging.



God’s marvelous healing:

One day a mother and her daughter came to SEMI for prayer - they are not from a Christian background. They told their sad stories of no peace at home. The mother’s husband is a drunkard beats his wife and children every day for the past 15 years. So they have at last decided to commit suicide – the mother with two daughters aged 17 and 18.

Ponna and I shared the gospel with them. One of the daughters had got a terrible swelling in her face, so we prayed for them and Praise the Lord it worked out. Before she reached at home she got complete healing. All three of them found faith in the Lord. We were able to visit their home and talk with the husband and are praying that he too will come to know God very soon.

Good Shepherd Children's in Orphanage:

By faith and many prayers so far we have been able to meet poor children in Orissa who had gone through a terrible persecution.

By faith we collected these children, put them in a house and provided food, education, bible class etc... 36 children are now being cared for in this home.

During the month of December there will be terrific cold. They need some warm clothing and Christmas food. Please pray that our Heavenly Father will provide their needs.



Business Enterprise:

The Computer studies for the poor students really help them in their studies. So far 40 students have shown the interest to receive a Bible and to know God, 11 have taken the decision.

Tailoring for women: 35 women are getting tailoring training as well as attending a Bible class Ponna is spending time with them sharing the Gospel - meanwhile a trained teacher is taking the class for them.



New Plans for 2010

During the last few days we have been spending time with God in fasting to know His will and plans for SEMI for New Year. We feel that the Spirit of God has clearly spoken to us about a few things and we would ask your prayers that we may hear His voice clearly and be bold enough to follow His leading. We feel that God wants us to:

- ✓ Expand the leadership of SEMI
- ✓ Introduce one year training programmes to train more workers
- ✓ Have more prayer meetings with local pastors and believers and mobilize other churches to pray for the world missions.
- ✓ Create a prayer cell in every Christian area to pray for India and world.
- ✓ Work with local pastors in going door to door to speak to people about the Gospel

Please pray that

1. We will see 1000 new souls added to the kingdom of God by 2010 through SEMI and our students.
2. Every Church, Sunday school, Bible study group, counseling centre, Orphanages, Computer centre etc... will to be blessed.
3. The God of Israel will provide some of the needs like a lap top, LCD projector, PA system, Generator, van, Bibles, and tracts
4. Our little children in the Good Shepherd Orphanage will enjoy this Christmas with warm cloth and some nice food.

Finally we as a SEMI family from the depth of our hearts thank you each one of our beloved supporters and prayer partners for your sacrificial gifts and love for the mission in India. What a mystery to know that even though many of us don't know each other, one day we will share our joy of harvest with thousands of saints in heaven.

From the Mission battle field

Erick, Ricky, Ponna and Roy Sebastian