



## INDIA REPORT

### Violence against Christians

Our ministry partners in India have recently sent pictures and video of the persecution that is happening in their districts. The video shows men destroying the church during a service and the believers continuing to worship inside as the church structure is being torn down.



The persecution of Christians in India is intensifying as Hindu extremists aim to cleanse the country of their presence and influence. **The acts of violence include arson of churches, conversion of Christians by force, physical violence, sexual assaults, murders, rapes, and the destruction of Christian schools, colleges and cemeteries.**

Anti-Christian violence in India is both religiously and politically motivated. It has increased dramatically since the Bharatiya Janata Party started its rule in March 1998. In the ensuing years, believers were denounced in anti-Christian propaganda and were targeted for violence by Hindu nationalist groups which wanted to prevent tribal voters and lower-caste voters from converting to Christianity.

Hundreds of incidents of violence against Christians are reported by various organizations every year. **In the first seven months of 2022, over 300 attacks were reported across the country.** India is now Tier-1 in minority persecution along with countries like China, North Korea, Pakistan and Saudi Arabia.

### Bringing the Gospel to the Villages



*Dozens more villages being evangelized.*



**Pastor Mannu Ram** has been part of the Holy Bride Fellowship in Northern India for the last 5 years. We ministered to him and a hundred other pastors on our mission last December.



Our brother is a bold gospel worker doing ministry among the unreached village districts in Lucknow, Unnao and Gazipur. **He has two Sunday fellowships and four house churches; having baptized 60 new converts.**

His motorcycle had gotten too old for his village ministry; but was able to sell it for parts. **Last month, Lifeline kept his work moving forward by providing a new one for him.**





*Distribution of New Testament and Audio Bibles*

## India 2023

Invitations to work in India have increased and are more than we can fill. We have plans to be in two locations in India next year.



We will be teaching bible students, hosting pastors and leaders conferences, doing local village evangelism, radio broadcasting and visiting the Shalom Children's home.

These Asia trips require much planning and are grueling at times, but always worth the effort. Returning to on-site training is significantly more effective than the Zoom sessions we conduct from our office. **There is nothing quite like being present, standing in the anointing of God before hungry students and workers with the opportunity to mark their lives.**



## December Mission

Due to a prolonged recovery of illness for Bill after the September trip, **we found it necessary to postpone the planned December trip to the Philippines.** Plans are now being made for Spring or early Summer.

## Big Family News



Dear Friends,

Next month, Susan will be away from home, helping our daughter in Tennessee who will deliver her second child; **our 4th grandchild!** Afterward, our son-in-law will be deployed overseas, so grandma will be in a support role through January.

Shortly after that mission, Susan will be deployed to Kansas City to help with (are you ready for this?) **our 5th grandchild!** The blessings just keep coming!

This season of grand parenting and caring for Susan's mother has become the perfect time for Susan to step down from her part time church staff position. She is preparing herself and materials to minister in the future in a newer format.

**Unfortunately, our other two grandchildren are living overseas.** We can only watch them grow and play by video call. Bill hopes to take a ministry trip next year that may include an extra stop for a personal grandpa visit.

**We must now warn you that exciting family updates are liable to show up at any time in our missionary news!** We are helpless to avoid it and we thank you in advance for bearing with us!



We hope your holidays will be a joyful time.

*Bill & Susan*