

Visiting Ministries in India

December 2023

In November we continued our travels from Congo to visit Feed My People Ministries (FMP) in India. Global Outreach has been supporting FMP for almost 35 years, longer than any other ministry partner.



They gave us a heartwarming welcome!

It was a blessing to spend time with Mary Grace and Thomas Jr. who now leads the ministry since his father, Pastor Thomas, passed away in 2021. We began our trip

arriving in Chennai, then traveled by train to Andhra Pradesh where FMP main campus is located in Tenali. We were given a warm welcome by the children at the Tenali Children's Home, as well as the pastors and Bible Women who came for a conference. They had invited 100 of the pastors to attend. The conference started in the morning as we were on the train, and by the time we arrived in the evening, 235 ministry lead-



Bill preaches at the Pastors Conference

ers were in attendance. After greeting us and a short break, they resumed the training conference and Bill was invited to bring the message. He spoke of how God honored the faith of the widow through the prophet Elisha. The Bible Women in attendance are mainly widows who continue the ministry after their husbands pass away. The service continued until midnight, at which time the pastor's sleep in the church overnight and the Bible Women sleep upstairs in a room with the older girls.



FMP feeds all of these people, as well as provides the cost of transportation. Global Outreach has supported



India Visit cont'd

many of these ministers each month for thirty years. It was humbling to be with these precious servants of God who sacrifice greatly for the work of Christ. Many traveled great distances by uncomfortable transportation to be there, even standing overnight on a crowded train or bus without air conditioning. They had even taken up an offering from their meager resources to give to us. It was difficult for us to



Top: Blankets for the Bible Women and elderly widows.
Bottom: New bags for the pastors.

accept, but they gave out of love and told us Global Outreach gives to them every month and they wanted to give back. The pile of rupees from them amounted to \$12.00. They were thrilled with the book bags and blankets we gave each of them.

After the conference concluded the next day, with another session taught by Bill, it was time to visit the other 14 children's homes in various villages. They are several hours apart and in very rural areas



New backpacks for 285 children at 15 children's homes.

without paved roads or easy access. The first day we visited about half of them and made it to a hotel and dinner by 11:00 pm. The next day found us up at 5:00 am and we didn't reach our final stop until sometime after 2:00 am. Our bodies were worn, but every stop was a precious privilege to meet with the children, pastors, and often elderly church members who also live at the various homes. Most of these locations have a church, children's home, and some care for the elderly in one small building. All locations now have permanent, cement buildings provided mainly by Global Outreach through the years. We were delighted to give all of the 285 orphan children a new backpack for school.

In addition to continuing the monthly support of pastors and children's homes, there is an urgent need of \$1,000 for a washing machine and new cooking utensils for the main campus. We have more stories to share later, but please consider sponsoring a single mother to start a tailoring business at a cost of \$200. Every gift is put to good use!

Last month we shared an urgent prayer request from one of our ministry partners in Myanmar. Since then, the situation has worsened with direct attacks on both of the ministries supported by Global Outreach. We are not at liberty to share details but please join us in fervent prayer for their safety.

Merry Christmas and thank you for your generous and faithful support throughout 2023!

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