



Good Samaritan Ministry

**Influencing the tribal, poor and remote people of Eastern India,
with the love of God in a practical way.**

Praise Points

We wish to praise the Lord for all he is doing amongst GSM and those who we support. "I will give thanks to the Lord because of His righteousness" (Psalm 7:17).

Here are some key points to Praise God for:

- Construction work on building in the land will be completed soon.
- More pastors are being supported in 3 states now – Chhattisgarh, Odisha, and Andhra Pradesh.
- Our supported areas are remaining largely COVID free.
- Our ongoing regular sponsors who are so generous

Hostel Update

Due to COVID from 2020 we have had the hostels closed. We imagined it would be temporary initially, but have come to the decision that we will keep them closed indefinitely for now, as we are unsure of when restrictions will alter.

We thank you who have been continuously supporting the children in the hostels, and ask that if the Lord puts it in your heart that you continue to support the children through our other programs. We have a passion to see children influenced with the Love of God and for

their futures to be made brighter because of opportunities which would otherwise be missed due to circumstances.

Tuition Centres Update

Our tuition centres have been going well. As the focus is now on tuition centres to reach and support children, we are putting a lot of effort into these programs. We understand that the title "tuition centre", can be misunderstood so we have decided to rename the tuition centre program. This tuition centres will now be known as the **Bridge Builder Centres**.



Why is the name significant? There are many kinds of bridges, wooden, stone, steel, some big, some small, but their function is basically the same. They make it possible for someone to pass from A, on one side of the chasm, to B on the other side. Who needs a bridge? The lost and disconnected need a bridge. 2 Corinthians 4:3 "Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing". "Love one another as I have loved you" (John 15:12)

Our motivation is to recognize the need. "Where there is no vision, the people perish" (Proverbs 29:18). If the gospel is real then the gap is real, between darkness and light, and there is a great gap between fulfilling our God-given purpose as believers and just existing.

For us to have a ministry that reaches out, we must be willing to do the reaching – and if that means building a bridge between disconnected communities, then that is what we will do.

We want to incorporate more of what we do through these centres. Not only do we provide tuition for children, we provide a nourishing snack, and we provide support for families. The aim of the Bridge Builder Centres is to build a bridge for families to access better opportunities for their children and for themselves. As we expand this further, the Bridge Builder Centres will include Pastoral oversight, Widow Support, Sewing centres, Mother and baby groups, bible studies and adult education. As was the case already, we also provide emergency relief through these centres in the form of clothing, food and other relief on a needs basis.

Currently we are running four Bridge Builder Centres, reaching over 150 children, and over 300 families on a regular basis.

Bridge builder Centres:

- Gajakhapali village
- Kodagulami village
- Budaguda village
- Nirgundi village

Land update

Our construction is nearing completion on the land. The wall has been built around the perimeter of the land and a building nearing completion. The building is 2 story, ground floor accommodation, with the second story a hall which will be used as a church and bible

college training centre. There are a few final things which need completing before it is able to be used, but work continues to slowly go on, and we hope to open the bible college centre soon.



Bible College Training Centre

As the building nears completion we are seeking out local remote pastors with a passion to serve the Lord in their local areas. We want to provide training to further equip them to reach the lost. This Bible college training should commence in the second half of this year, and we are seeking sponsorship for these pastors. If you or your church would like to support these pastors attend the one year training please contact us and we can provide you with more information regarding this. The cost will be **\$100/month** for 12 months, and this will

make a life changing difference in the Pastor's life, their family's lives, and in the lives of the communities that these pastors will go into. Many of these communities remain unreached by the Gospel, leaving an incredible impact when they hear God's word.

Pastor Update

We are now supporting more pastors than ever across 3 states – Odisha, Chhattisgarh and Andhra Pradesh. This is a testament to God's faithfulness. Ashok has been able to engage in training and encouragement with these pastors and more twice a week through Zoom meetings online. This has been incredible moments of encouragement, prayer and teaching both for the pastors in India and us here as well.



These pastors have such a passion to share God's love to those around them, and a willingness to go and serve. They make themselves available on a Sunday in their church, and all through the week in their homes and visiting their believers. We have seen 10 new believers baptised earlier this year. Praise is to God.



Zoom Meetings

Because we are unable to physically visit our work in India at the moment, Ashok is conducting regular zoom encouragement meetings amongst our workers and pastors in India.

If you would like to join into our zoom meetings, please let us know and we will give you a link. Although it is often in another language, you will be truly blessed to see their passion and dedication. Some sessions we have singing, otherwise prayer and encouragement from various pastors/leaders. We are happy to have people involved. We will try to get some regular session times arranged and send out a link on social media or email, so that you can join in and be blessed, and bless others.



Widow updates

We continue to support a large number of widows, in many villages. We will now be incorporating this in our Bridge Builder

programs but the support will remain the same. In Eastern India where we work, women (especially older women and those in remote villages) are illiterate/uneducated. They rely heavily on the support of their husband. When their husbands die or abandon them, they are unable to care for themselves financially. The only work they are able to do is labour work on a daily basis, which is difficult, heavy and pays little. Our widow support enables women to have a bit of dignity, through monthly financial support, and connection to other programs where they are able to help out and become involved in – such as cooking for the children attending tuition. If you would like to support a widow on a regular basis, please let us know, you will make an incredible difference to their lives!



Other News

A group of 6 families in a tribal village in our district have been outcast by their Hindu village because they have become Christian. Authorities were involved to discuss amongst village leaders how to settle the dispute, but this resulted in authorities telling the Christians to return to Hinduism so that they can live peacefully with their village. The believers said no, and are now constructing temporary shelters on some land they own. Please pray

for the Lord's protection and provision for these families.



Please pray for one of our believers. A couple of months back, on her way home from church she had her bible taken by her husband and burnt. She has been attending church along with her daughter. Please pray for these strong believers who despite persecution continue to believe and attend church.

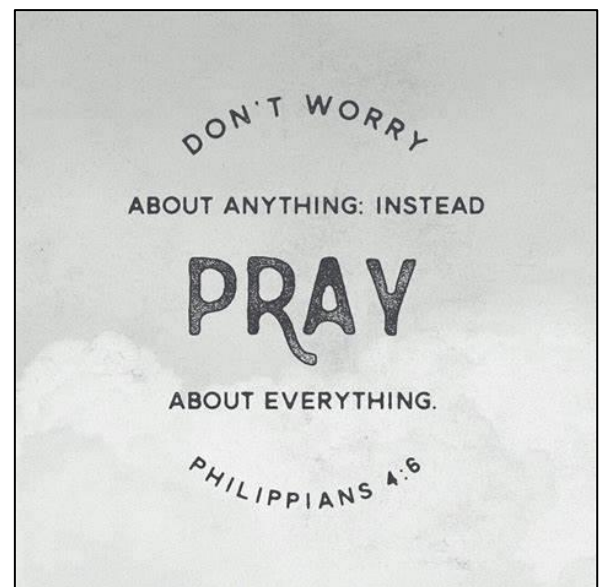


Prayer Points

Our work could not go on without the faithful and ongoing prayers of you, and those around you. We thank you for your prayerful support of the work we do. We have written down some specific needs, so that as you pray you will have some more specific things to pray for.

- Bridge Builder Centres to continue to grow and reach deep into village communities, and that we will be able to see differences amongst these communities.
- Land development and building completion to continue on track without any hindrances, so that we can reach deep into the community to make a lasting impact and show God's love.
- Bible College Training centre to receive sponsorship for 10 pastors to commence training so that the program can run well and be expanded each year, so that the East of India may be impacted incredibly with God's love.
- Families who have been outcast for their beliefs, for God's protection and provision as they stand up for their faith. That they may know God, feel his presence and be honoured for serving and following Him.
- Our pastor's safety, security and provision to passionately serve the Lord in their areas, and for their believers that they may know God more deeply. That these pastors will develop a deeper connection with the Lord and this will be evident through the impact in the community.

- The children in our Bridge builder centres to do well in their education and learn about God, so that they may be a blessing to their families and to the community around them.
- Widows reliant on our provision, for good health and sense of connection, that they may feel loved and supported, allowing them to love and support others in their communities.
- New Regular sponsors to allow us to increase the work we do in India through regular, ongoing financial support to reach these disadvantaged people groups with God's love.
- Zoom meetings to continue to be an encouragement to everyone involved and that we will see the Lord's blessings in their lives.
- That India gets on top of the COVID situation so that lives can return to normal, and schooling can resume, as many people have missed out on education and lost jobs during this time.



Ways to financially support our projects

Regular Sponsorship

Bridge Builder Centres

- **Child sponsorship** – Tuition program Sponsors a child to attend tuition in our Bridge Builder Centre. The child receives assistance with their schooling and homework, and a nourishing snack. **\$10/month**
- **Widow sponsorship** – gives financial relief to a widow or woman abandoned by her husband. This gives the woman dignity and some financial provision, relieving her of the shame associated with her position. Support is given to connect her with programs and other areas to get involved with, such as cooking meals for children in the tuition program. **\$20/month**
- **Pastor Sponsorship** – Sponsors a pastor to reach the community around them with God's love. The pastor runs regular church services and programs, open their home to believers, as well as visit their believers. Pastors know their people well, and often connect them to other support available through GSM. **\$50/month**

Other Projects

- **Bible College Training Centre** – sponsors a locally trained pastor to receiving some formal training to better equip them to reach their communities. This 12 month program aims to train and equip them to go back into their area and share God's love. These pastors may not have formal qualifications to begin with but their passion to serve the Lord selflessly is evident, and we want to recognise that by offering free of charge training to equip them. This will be a 12 month program costing **\$100/month**.

Other Relief:

Visit our website to give to specific projects all year round! Many of these are available as gift cards at Christmas time too, so you can give more meaningful gifts to those you love while blessing those who really need it!

\$6 - Sari

Gives a disadvantaged widow or woman a new sari

\$6 - Tree

Aiding re-forestation and improving environments in remote villages

\$10 - Blanket

Provides warmth for a family

\$10 - Tuition

Provides a month of tuition to a disadvantaged child

\$10 - Food Parcel

Provides a week worth of meals to a family

\$20 - Community Development

Aiding remote communities to better look after themselves

\$50 - Goat

Gives a rural family farming and breeding opportunities

\$50 - Land Development

Goes toward the development of GSM land and Community Hub

\$100 - Bible College

Supports a rural pastor to receive Bible College training

\$150 - Sewing Machine

Provides training and machine to a disadvantaged woman