imb APRIL 2018



Praise God that the South Asian church is growing in their ownership of fulfilling the Great Commission! God is raising up laborers compelled by the Holy Spirit to go where Christ is not known, evangelize the lost, disciple new believers, and train up leaders that plant healthy churches. The vision is that there would be no place left across South Asia where the gospel has not taken root.

Local Ownership of the Missionary Task

The good news came to Lee* and Aditi's* northeast Indian state in 1872. The story of an American missionary couple coming to proclaim the gospel among tribes of head hunters is woven into the history of their people. As Lee and Aditi chose to follow Christ and walk in obedience to him, God has given them a part in a great number of people responding



to the gospel message, being discipled, and starting churches in northeast India. And now, God has called their family to serve as crosscultural missionaries thousands of miles away to the city of Mumbai.

Continuing with the life-on-life way of mentoring that God put on their hearts through 1 Thessalonians 2:8, Lee and Aditi have purposely rented an apartment with space for disciples to come and go.

"There's no magic formula to developing leaders," Lee says. "We just open our hearts and share our lives. People are impacted by that." Ask God to raise up more leaders like Lee and Aditi across South Asia who obey God and give of themselves to equip others.

"So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us" (1 Thess. 2:8 [ESV]).

SOUTH ASIA. Pray that God will continue to raise up laborers in Pakistan. Pray that God will strengthen his church in Pakistan and that they will proclaim the gospel to the lost around them.

2 ARABIAN PENINSULA. Pray for Paul* and Margaret,* professing atheists who have recently begun attending a local church. Pray that Christ will continue to open their eyes and hearts to the truth.

3 NORTH AFRICANS OF MADRID, SPAIN. Pray for Sarah,* who is waiting for her infant son to receive an organ transplant. Ask that her believing neighbors will be the friends and witnesses she needs.

4 SOUTH ASIA. Many Rohingya people have fled violence in Myanmar and are in refugee camps in Bangladesh. Pray that through gospel-focused relief work, many

will receive eternal hope through Jesus Christ.

5 AEGEAN TURKS OF TURKEY. Praise God that a believer who has not been attending meetings for the past three years has returned! Please pray that he will once again walk closely with the Lord.

6 HUNGARY. IMB personnel are pressing on through a heavy workload, but praise God for the continued responsiveness they are seeing to the gospel!

7 SOUTH ASIA. Fifty leaders in southern Bangladesh are being discipled on various topics. Pray that they will remain rooted in the Word and empowered by the Spirit as they engage their local communities.

8 EAST ASIA. Pray that believers will come to know and trust God better through his Word and resist the temptation to explain their suffering through their former belief systems.

PUKUOKA, JAPAN. Pray that God will call out local Christians in this city to reach out and evangelize in their spheres of influence.

10 SOUTH ASIA. Churches are planting churches in Mumbai, India. Thank God for fruitfulness in evangelism! Pray that they will be fervent in discipling new believers.

1 1 THAILAND. Cherry,* sister in Christ, has completed her fight with cancer and gone on to be with the Lord. Pray for Cherry's family. Ask the Lord to remind them of her words of faith.

12 SOUTH ASIA. A group of church planters are planting churches throughout the Indian state of Maharashtra. Praise God for godly leadership. Pray for healthy churches to be formed.

13 YEMEN. With 2,000+ cholera deaths and 17 million facing starvation, 20 million Yemenis are in need of urgent assistance. Pray for relief efforts to be successful in meeting needs.

14 SOUTH ASIA. Pray for believers in southern India who are being trained in evangelism. Pray for a great harvest, especially in the states of Andhra Pradesh and Telengana, where many unengaged and unreached people live.

15 DEAF PEOPLES. Pray for Barrett,* a well-connected "person of peace." Thank God for the doors he has helped open, and pray that God will open his heart, as well.

16 JEWS OF FRANCE. Pray for a women's Bible study that is continuing to meet while their leader is traveling. May they encounter God powerfully in his Word.

17 SOUTH ASIA. Pray for the Maldivian people to have an opportunity to hear the gospel, whether from Maldivians living outside the Maldives, Christian tourists, or some other means the Lord chooses.



18 LIMA, PERU. The number of Venezuelans who are fleeing to Peru is overwhelming. Please pray for the churches that are ministering to these new immigrants.

19 ARABIAN GULF SHIA. Losing a loved one is devastating for Muslims. Pray that during such times, God will open the door to ministering to those who have no hope.

20 SOUTH ASIA. Tony* and his family are South Asians who live in the United Kingdom (UK). He and a few other South Asian believers have decided to meet together monthly. Pray for them to grow in Christ as they study God's Word together.

21 CENTRAL ASIA. Praise God that after nearly two years of uncertainty, one family has obtained a visa to remain in their city! Ask God to provide more laborers to join them.

22 SOUTH ASIA. There is a group of twelve South Asian men in Canada who are being discipled. As they meet together, pray that God will reveal their callings and give them boldness in the face of persecution.

23 LAOS. Ask the Father for a season of growth and blessing for the work that he is doing in this city.



Ask him to remove opposition and to prepare the way for his church to grow.

24 AMERICAN PEOPLES. Pray for a Brazilian couple engaging a large Muslim people in Asia. Pray for their health as well as continued documentation clearance to stay in that country.

25 SOUTH ASIA. Bhutan, a Buddhist kingdom in the Himalayas, is difficult to access. Pray that believers will have opportunities to be disciple makers in Bhutan.

26 DEAF PEOPLES OF EAST ASIA.

Betty* has recently renewed

her interest in learning about Christ. Pray that she will continue to thirst for God's stories and become rooted in Christ.

27 SOUTH ASIA. Though 99% of the people of Bihar have yet to put their faith in Jesus Christ, engagement of its 100+ people groups is at an all-time high. Pray that local believers will proclaim the gospel boldly and that many will repent and believe.

28 CHINA. Please remember May,*who requested a Bible. Pray for her heart to be drawn to the Lord and for her eyes to be opened when she reads it.

29 ITALY. Many Italians are moving abroad in search of employment. Pray that they will meet believing Christians who will reach out to them in their new environment.

30 EAST ASIA. Please pray for the disabled young adults of this area. Ask the Lord to provide the resources needed for a center to minister to these physically disabled ones and their families.





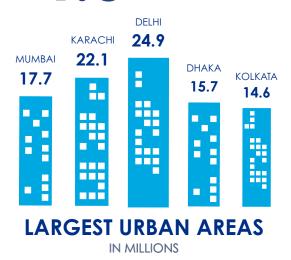
She Gets It

Four years ago, Sienna* was far from God and suffering in an abusive marriage. Her husband had tried to kill her and had left her for dead on the road. She was found by Southern Baptist volunteers serving in Nepal who brought her into their hostel and nursed her back to health, all the while telling her about the God who created her and loves her completely. Sienna responded to the gospel, repented of her sin, and made him Lord. She followed through with baptism in obedience to God's Word. Fear and despair were replaced with the joy and hope that she had found in Jesus.

Sienna proclaims the gospel as one snatched from the pit of despair and raised up to live victoriously through Christ. Her heart is so burdened for the lost that she travels long distances to remote villages to share with those who have never heard. She works with an urgency that is driven by her own brush with death. God has gifted her in evangelism, and He draws many to himself through her testimony to the power of God.



SOUTH ASIA BILLION PEOPLE



Learn more about IMB's work among South Asian peoples at IMB.org/South-Asia.

*Names changed

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