



Newsletter

JANUARY 2016

PTI strengthens the church in many of the poorest places in the world, by teaching pastors to expound the Bible more effectively. Our fundamental purpose is therefore to *Teach to Preach*.

WELCOME to the latest edition of **P** bi-monthly newsletter. This time we return to the vast Indian subcontinent, to the tiny Andaman Islands near Indonesia where there is a real openness to the Gospel. We also report on the latest conference in Ethiopia, where the church continues to grow even in Muslim-dominated areas.

- Existing countries
- Potential new countries
- Conflict is preventing training

Andaman and Nicobar Islands, India, October 2015



The Andaman Islands are far to the west of India, only 70 km from Indonesia. Although it is a tropical paradise, the islands were hit by the tsunami 10 years ago when over 15,000 died. We went there in October to help train Andaman Pastors.

Despite that there is a real openness to the gospel here. I went to the bazaar to photocopy some of my notes on 1 Timothy and was asked: "Have you any Bible notes on Revelation?" Not what I was expecting to hear! The young man who enquired was from a Hindu family and came to the Lord four years ago.

The conference attracted over 50 pastors and leaders, from a variety of Pentecostal, Methodist, Anglican and Baptist churches. The morning teaching concentrated on 1 Timothy, looking at the life and teaching of a pastor. The afternoon sessions consisted of preaching workshops. Delegates also shared their testimonies and details of their ministries.

One local pastor recently spent 40 days in jail for preaching to a remote tribe. He is presently on bail and, if found guilty, faces a four year sentence for preaching the Gospel. Please pray for wisdom and continued courage in the face of such obstacles.

At the end of the conference, many delegates said they now realised that their lives must match their words. They thanked us for hosting the conference and said that it had been a great help and encouragement. Almost all said the prosperity gospel was a big problem and that our teaching had helped them to preach the true Gospel of Christ.

One pastor had recently lost his teenage daughter and his wife is suffering from severe depression. He said that the conference had been a great encouragement and practical help to him. Please pray for this dear brother and his wife and remaining daughter.

■ by Merv N, PTI Trainer

For more information about us, our vision under God, and our plans to considerably expand the current work, please visit our website www.pastor-training.org  follow us on Facebook

If you would like to give to support us, either through prayer, financial giving or volunteering your time, please contact **Simon Percy** on 0208 504 0709.



Ethiopia, November 2015

From Addis Ababa we drove 400km north to Dessie, where we spoke to the Christian believers in Kemesi, a town 98% Muslim but where a group of about 50 believers, most under 30 years old, are in good heart.

We both ministered in the united church in Batie, to the north and also 98% Muslim. Its compound is being used by Christian charity Compassion, which works in several parts of Ethiopia, giving poorer children education, food, clothes and medicine. 214 Muslim boys and girls are enrolled in Batie and about 20 attended the morning worship. Let us pray for a spiritual breakthrough in both Batie and Kemesi.

40 men and one woman from ten different evangelical denominations attended the conference in Dessie. The students had travelled from all directions, some as far as 180 km. We were based for the first time on the Full Gospel Church campus, which provided better accommodation than we had previously. They gave us a warm reception and the teaching was received very well.

Back in Addis, about 35 church leaders from the city attended a one day conference where we gave three studies from the Gospel of Matthew. On Sunday we both preached at Akaki church in Addis, to about 400 worshippers.

The second conference took place at the Ethiopian Christian Brethren Church in Addis. 50 men from twelve different



evangelical denominations attended, one of whom had travelled 215 km to be there.

Although Ethiopia's urban society is becoming more secular, the Church continues to grow. The greatest needs are for discipleship and to train new leaders. Further conferences are proposed for Jima (350 km south west of Addis) and Bahir Dar (560km north west) and churches have a vision to train pastors and evangelists from all evangelical denominations. As usual, we feel privileged and humbled to play a small part in what God is doing in this country.

■ by James Sercombe and Ken McIntosh, PTI Trainers

Prayer points

Everything by prayer... with thanksgiving (Philippians 4:6)

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Thank God for:

- The love he has for the world which caused him to send his son
- The hundreds of pastors who received training and books during 2015
- The excellent conferences that took place in India, Ethiopia and the Andaman islands
- The new and the long-serving volunteers who work behind the scenes to enable this training to take place
- The many people who support this work prayerfully and financially

Please pray for:

- The conferences about to take place in India and South East Asia
- The new trainers who will be involved in this training; that all goes very well and smoothly for them and they return encouraged by being involved
- Very good relationships to be established between the trainers and the pastors
- The Lord to guide the Ministry Board as they prayerfully consider where additional training should be done in 2017
- Simon Percy as he visit India for the first time in January

Proposed conferences for 2016, God willing

January 11-15	Chiang Mai, Thailand	Simon Percy and Ian Rees
January 12-15	Mussoori, India	Merv N
January 18-22	Teemooley village, Western Thailand	Simon Percy and Ian Rees
January 18-22	Kyaingtong Shan state, Myanmar	Paul W and Ian C
January 25-29	Myitkyina Kachin state, Myanmar	Paul W and Ian C
February	Darjeeling and Siliguri, India	Merv N and John O

