Our theme for this year is Giving Our Earthly Service, Glorifying Our Eternal Savior. Obviously, it is possible to perform earthly service that does not glorify God. Thus, it is important that we earnestly seek to glorify our Savior in heaven as we serve Him on earth. There are several truths that are essential if we are indeed going to glorify our eternal Savior through our earthly service.

First, there is a REQUIREMENT that must be met—we must freely give our entire selves to the Lord. Giving is the first word of our theme and it is prerequisite to the rest of the theme. Obviously, we cannot glorify God through our service if we never surrender ourselves to serve Him! We must be willing to freely give Him our lives as living sacrifices—something Paul considered to be reasonable service (Romans 12:1). The Lord said, “It is more blessed to give than to receive” (Acts 20:35). However, our human nature wants to convince us otherwise. The enemy tries to tell us that if we give up something, we will “miss out” or we will “come up short” in some way. However, the Bible clearly teaches that he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifull (2 Corinthians 9:6). Jesus said, “Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men
BAPTIST INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS, INC., was founded in 1960 as an independent Baptist faith mission. BIMI is a fundamental mission agency, true to the Word of God in doctrine and method. The purpose of BIMI is to assist fundamental Baptist churches in fulfilling our Lord's command to evangelize the world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Our objectives are to establish indigenous Baptist churches and train national pastors and leaders. There are over 800 missionaries with BIMI working in 100 fields of the world.

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give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again” (Luke 6:38). To be sure, there is no way to outgive our eternal Savior.

Second, having given ourselves to God, there must be a RECOGNITION of the role we are to fulfill. When Jesus came to earth, He made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant (Philippians 2:7). The Lord came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many (Matthew 20:28). The ultimate example of servanthood is found in the life, death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Sadly, many today do not know what it is to serve; rather, their lives are consumed with being served. A narcissistic person with an entitlement mindset will never be a servant. Our role is to follow the humble example of Jesus Christ. We are to be earthly servants of the eternal Savior proclaiming to every creature the Good News of His life, death, burial, and resurrection. In short, we are unprofitable servants and we are to do that which is our duty to do (Luke 17:10).

Additionally, it is important that there is a proper REALIZATION of the magnitude of the work that is being accomplished. We are engaged in temporal work but we must remember it has an eternal purpose. What we do for Christ will last forever. Unlike many who work their entire lives just to leave all their worldly goods to family members, we are laying up treasure in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal (Matthew 6:20). Our desire should be to bring forth fruit that will remain—not just for now but for eternity (John 15:16). As earthly servants our ultimate goal is to glorify our eternal Savior. The crowns we receive in heaven give us something to cast at the feet of Jesus. Throughout eternity we will praise Him for the work He did through us during the short time we spent on earth. This is a stunning reminder that as His servants, we only have one lifetime to fulfill His will on earth, as it is in heaven (Matthew 6:10). Without a doubt, when we give ourselves as servants to God, our service becomes eternally valuable.

As human beings, it is easy to focus on earthly things. Thus, we often serve with worldly goals or with temporal motives. As God’s servants, it is imperative that we serve with heaven in view. Our REASON for doing everything we do should always be the glory of God (1 Corinthians 10:31). I believe this truth takes on an even greater significance when we apply it to the Great Commission (cf., John 15:8). As we give our earthly service, we must do so heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; Knowing that of the Lord we shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for we serve the Lord Christ—our eternal Savior (Colossians 3:23–24).
“Where do I go? What do I do? How do I go about it?” These were questions that would enter the mind of a boy growing up in northern Florida. Training was a key element in preparing that boy for what God wished for him to do day after day, month upon month, for decades to come. His training came in the form of hard work on the farm, studies in theological seminary, an associate/youth pastorate, and time in the United States military.

On September 11, 1975, Don and Bridgitt Dryden stepped out by faith into the next phase of training. God had used parents, preachers, and positions to train them. Following a year of language school, they moved to Port-de-Paix, Haiti, the training ground for current and future ministries.

Don felt the Holy Spirit’s leading to use his training as a church planter in Port-de-Paix at Peniel Baptist Church, working alongside his co-pastor Emmanuel Charles. In 1977, Grace Baptist Bible Institute was established for the purpose of training men to serve in the Lord’s army. For five years it was located solely on the property of Peniel Baptist Church, but the need for training rural leaders became a spiritual burden to Don. With the assistance of another missionary taking over the leadership of the central location, Grace Baptist Bible Institute began an annex at Beauchamp that met one weekend each month. Although the teacher, Don, drove over an hour on his motorcycle to have classes Friday afternoons and Saturday mornings, some students walked for two hours each way to study God’s Word and receive training in order to lead others.

While training men who had a desire to serve as pastors and church planters, Don led by example. Peniel Baptist Church began a mission work three miles west of town. In 1985, Don turned over full leadership of Peniel Baptist Church to Pastor Emmanuel and grew the mission work, Maranatha Baptist Church. During the following decade, Don remained faithful to the task the Lord God had given him of training men, both younger and older, to be spiritual leaders. Even while he pastored Maranatha Baptist Church, he began a second annex of the Bible institute at Anse Rouge, a very rough three-hour motorcycle journey. This annex mirrored the previous in that most students would walk for a couple hours on Friday mornings to be taught all afternoon. After sleeping on the floor of the borrowed school classroom, the students would experience four hours of teaching, reviewing, and testing on Saturday mornings. Often Don would stay over, preaching Sunday in local churches. Periodically, a weeklong conference was scheduled in which he would preach and train church members.

As the decade of pastoring Maranatha Baptist Church came to a close, the Spirit led Don and Bridgitt (with two children in Bible college and two still at home) to establish
Desroulins Independent Baptist Church on the eastern outskirts of Port-de-Paix. Maranatha Baptist Church is now pastored by Dessentiel Nader. He and his wife were saved and grew up in the church. Until 2001, Don’s schedule allowed him to pastor as well as be gone two weekends each month in the training of men.

And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also (2 Timothy 2:2). A young preacher of the first century needed this admonition and so do young preachers in the twenty-first. Benji is the oldest of Don and Bridgitt’s children, and God called him, his wife Kerri, and their three children to join his parents in the ministry in Port-de-Paix, Haiti. Since the year 2000, an increase of local church plants and more accessible transportation have allowed Grace Baptist Bible Institute to recentralize on the property of Desroulins Independent Baptist Church. The original annexes of the institute have been relocated, and there is an annual enrollment of 130 men. Each week, the men come for two hours (after completing homework the previous week) for a total of five years. Over 300 men have exited through the graduation doors of Grace Baptist Bible Institute since 1977. There have always been national pastors and graduates teaching in the institute, but it has entered a transition phase to become completely national led.
Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also. Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ (2 Timothy 2:1–3).

Evangelism, personal witnessing to the lost soul, is a vital part in the life of every church, but it is especially important to the life of military churches since its members are on a rotating schedule. On average, military personnel transfer every two or three years. Obviously, this limits the amount of time a pastor has to teach them how to become good soldiers for the Lord.

Discipleship, the training of new Christians, is also a vital part of the mission ministry of a church. Through discipleship, we commit the truth of God to faithful men that they might be able to teach it to others. Through the years, the men serving as pastors of our BIMI military churches have done an excellent job in both the ministry of evangelism and discipleship. Thousands of service men and women have trusted Christ as their Savior and been born into the family of God! Hundreds have surrendered to the call of full-time service for Christ and are serving as pastors, missionaries, and teachers around the world!

Pastors of a military church are always in need of new Sunday school teachers, new deacons, and new song leaders. In general, they are always in need of new workers for every ministry of the church because those who have been working are being transferred to other duty stations. Much of the training that these men and women receive is personal teaching from their pastor as well as on the job training while serving in their local churches. This establishes a good foundation for further training that is necessary for those who desire to serve God in a full-time ministry.

One way they found to expedite the training of those desiring to serve God full-time after their military service is to train them while they are still serving in the military. We are able to do that by offering free Bible classes in the International Bible Institute. This institute has been established by Baptist International Missions, Inc., and is sponsored by the Freedom Baptist Bible Institute under the leadership of Dr. Jeff Amsbaugh.

This Bible institute offers 40 credit hours of Bible study. The education coordinator of military missions, Robert (Pete) Heath, sends the courses to each student by e-mail. This way the students have the lessons on their computers, tablets, or phones and can study any time or any place. After studying
the lessons, one can take tests and send them back to the institute for grading. Students successfully completing all the courses can receive a Graduate of Theology diploma.

The International Bible Institute is open not only to all active duty military personnel but also to those on inactive duty as well as to veterans.

Anyone who may be interested in enrolling should contact Robert (Pete) Heath by email at petejean64@att.net or by phone 423-322-2241.
Almost every missionary presentation would include some form of these three primary goals of a missionary—win souls, train leaders, and plant churches. Given that the history and current state of independent Baptist churches is different in every country of the world, the actual methods of accomplishing these goals will naturally look quite unique. Here in Thailand, where less than one percent of people know Christ, there is not a day that passes that I do not ask some form of this question: “How can we win more souls, train more leaders, and strengthen or plant more churches?” Early on, I began seeking answers from missionaries who have faithfully labored here before me. The commonly shared view has been that the greatest challenge is the development of strong leaders.

After spending our time in language school partnering with established ministries, the time came for our family to start a church. God led in that process in many ways, not the least of which was providing a national young man to begin with us as an intern. Just a couple of years out of high school, the young man had grown up in a great ministry where he was given a solid Biblical foundation and worldview. I witnessed the call of God on his life and found his partnership a great blessing.

Instantly, we became the perfect case study to depict the reality facing many churches on the mission field. We had a young man crucial to weekly ministry who needed theological training beyond what I could personally offer him. There was no centralized Bible college that fit the need of the moment. Even if there had been, our church would have greatly missed him if he moved away for college. Therefore, I began to look around for collaboration with other churches. A veteran missionary provided the avenue I was looking for. His church, less than an hour’s drive from ours, had an established Bible school. As a retired Air Force Master Sergeant with an earned theological doctorate and many years on the mission field, his leadership makes him uniquely capable. He graciously allowed our intern to join the courses he was offering and opened the door for me to teach as well. We were immediately blessed to step into a collaborative effort with this veteran missionary.

The goal of the Bible institute is to provide high quality theological training and make it available to members who remain faithful in their local churches. The courses must also fit the demanding work schedules common in Thailand. Providing a mixture of in-person and online learning makes the most sense, given the factors of schedule and distance, along with...
the challenges of COVID regulations. In order to better develop the institute’s goal of sound theological instruction, missionaries and national pastors were recruited to teach, each according to his expertise. With the addition of more national pastors and missionaries, a new clarity of vision has further developed the school’s potential. The school continues to develop an expanded array of courses for online and learning center instruction.

The effort has not been without obstacles. Having missionaries from different organizations as well as national pastors working together without some friction over preferential issues presents challenges. Students, however carefully vetted, sometimes make life choices that preclude them from continuing their studies. Teaching online comes with a massive learning curve, requiring development of tech skills and equipment. And for the missionary teachers, all that comes with the massive challenge of teaching fluidly with a lot of technical vocabulary and in our second language.

The trajectory of this collaboration is very encouraging. There is an understanding that in order to develop well-rounded and theologically mature leadership, missionaries and national pastors must work together. Despite the challenges, we are united with the goal of not only training future leaders but also sufficiently training them to be the future teachers and administrators of the Bible school as well. Strong churches require strong leaders with a strong foundation in theological and Biblical truth. I believe that for this part of the world in this moment, we have seen the start of something incredibly important to the furtherance of the Gospel in Thailand. We are finding ways to accomplish 2 Timothy 2:2 in a new generation. Through cooperation and innovative use of technology, the obstacles to strong leadership development are no longer insurmountable.
“Pastor Jaime,” as Jimmy Rose was affectionately known to our people, has been called by some the Apostle of Brazil. His love for Brazil and for Brazilians was impressed upon all who knew and worked with him. To the rest of us missionaries, he was a friend and mentor who served Christ faithfully 54 years in this vast country. The impact of his ministry continues to be felt, not only through the churches he planted but through the “Timothys” he mentored.

Arriving in 1961, one year after the founding of BIMI, Jimmy and Nancy felt led to start the first non-Catholic church in a city known for its replica of St Peter’s Basilica in Rome. Fresh out of language school they moved to this city steeped in idolatry. The fierce persecution leveled upon those who openly preached the Gospel there gave it notoriety as a missionary graveyard.

Upon arriving in the town, Jimmy would often preach open air meetings in the town square, backed up by Nancy on the accordion. Many times they faced death threats and had all sorts of debris hurled at them. These young missionaries would not be deterred even when another denominational missionary was found dead after he began to preach in the same town square. With full assurance of his calling, Brother Jimmy went to preach to the accused murderer in jail. It was by God’s grace that a solid independent Baptist church was soon established. That ministry went on to produce many pastors and missionaries now serving throughout Brazil.

By 1975 they had started four churches—all still thriving today. They changed strategy and felt led to establish a “Mother Church” with a Christian camp and a Bible college to train laborers. As souls were saved through the local church, young Christians would attend camps where they would be challenged through dynamic preaching to surrender to God’s will.
and then be trained through the Bible college. Through this method, many pastors and missionaries were sent to the harvest fields throughout Brazil and the world.

Jimmy introduced Faith Promise missions to dozens of churches that would go on to support national missionaries solely with the giving of national churches. In later years, he served as Brazil Director for BIMI, preaching conferences throughout Brazil and the United States.

His life truly was a testimony of God’s amazing grace. As a young man he was raised in Colorado where he was involved with gangs and other questionable activities. The marks of that life before conversion were carried with him into ministry, evident by the many tattoos on his body. As a teen destined to end up in jail, he was sent to live with relatives in Greenville, South Carolina. It was there that he met Nancy Owens, who was to become his wife. She invited him to Tabernacle Baptist Church where he met Christ and was changed forever. He never got over the joy of that meeting and enthusiastically proclaimed Christ throughout his life. As one of my heroes, it was a privilege for our family to work alongside Brother Jimmy in ministry and later as his Assistant Director. Today, our missionaries are reaping the blessings of the blood, sweat, and tears shed by pioneers like Jimmy Rose. He will be missed, but his influence will continue through the lives he influenced! Jesus said, *I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labour: other men laboured, and ye are entered into their labours* (John. 4:38).

Missionary Jimmy Rose (84) went Home to be with the Lord July 20, 2021. In 1961, Jimmy and Nancy Rose were the first BIMI missionaries to serve in the country of Brazil. The ministry of Brother Rose was one of church planting and evangelistic campaigns. He preached in every area of the country and hundreds of souls were saved in those campaigns. Jimmy Rose became the Brazil Director and then Brazil International Representative for BIMI.
Steven Maldoff, BIMI Southeast Asia Director, said, “Missions is not just preaching and evangelism and church planting. It also includes the establishment of seminaries, colleges, and institutes to help propel national believers into being better equipped and trained for God’s service.” This is so true and is a vital part of the work of missions around the world. In Asia there are several examples worth noting of training laborers by BIMI missionaries.

Because of our years in Japan, we are most familiar with the Kansai Independent Baptist Bible School (KIBBS) in Kobe, Japan. This ministry was started by Don Sisk, Ron White, and other missionaries who understood the need to train new believers. Now for 54 years, this ministry continues through dedicated local pastors and missionaries who devote their time to teach the next generation.

In the early days, some of the students were actually kicked out of their homes by their parents after placing their faith in Christ. KIBBS, as it is called in the English-speaking world, has produced over 200 of the most committed and finest missionaries, pastors, and ministry personnel in the world who are now proclaiming the Gospel of Christ throughout Japan and the world.

An example of this comes from the very first graduating class of KIBBS. Though this was many years ago, this ministry continues to be very fruitful. Back in the early 1970s, there were three men who graduated in the first graduating class. To date, after more than 54 years, these men are still pastoring the same churches and have been used of God to see scores of people come to Christ and many laborers trained and sent into the harvest. Men such as Pastor Ogawa, Pastor Omote, and Pastor Uehara are legendary and wonderful examples of Christ-like leadership. In addition, all of these men are blessed that their sons are trained and in place to continue their ministries in the future.

In the Philippines there has also been a great emphasis by BIMI missionaries to train laborers for the harvest. One of the most amazing ministries is that of Rick Martin. The ministry of Iloilo Baptist Church and their training of laborers for the harvest is a story that needs to be told.

Despite much effort in evangelism, Japan is a difficult field for seeing results by those in the West, but for those of us who labor (or labored) in Japan, every soul saved reminds us that there is great rejoicing in the presence of the angels when one comes to Christ. Japan remains the second largest unreached people group in the world and remains in great need of preachers and missionaries. We must remember that those who do come to Christ are often very dedicated and faithful servants of the Lord. It is worth everything that we can invest to see more laborers enter this needy harvest field. Japanese believers and those trained for ministry often give their entire lives to the proclamation of the Gospel in difficult and obscure places.
In a recent visit to a pastors’ conference, Brother Martin challenged men who had been trained in soul winning out of Iloilo Baptist College to continue to win people to Christ and to start Bible institutes and colleges in their own ministries. Many of their graduates start churches as well as Bible institutes and colleges to train others for the harvest. Because of Brother Martin’s great vision and his challenge to the pastors, there have already been over 2,000 churches started in the Philippines and missionaries sent around the world. I was amazed to hear Brother Martin challenge the pastors at that meeting that over the course of the next 10 years, their vision was to start 1,000 new churches.

The vision of seeing 1,000 new churches started is not just wishful thinking but a sustainable reality. Iloilo Baptist Church presents a guitar to all the men heading out to start a new church. It was explained to me that in order to remember who has received a guitar, a list of names is kept. Brother Martin has shared that list with me for several years containing an average of 25–50 names each quarter of the year—a minimum of 100 men going out to start new churches annually!

Iloilo Baptist Church works diligently to bring in young people who have dedicated their lives to Christ and trains them in soul winning and discipleship. Their students go soul winning almost every day and they are challenged to go out into the harvest and bring in those they win to Christ. In any given service, time is allotted to recognize visitors. Those who brought them stand and introduce them to the church. After the message those same workers who brought visitors are leading them to Christ. After four years of such training, many of these Bible college students graduate and go to start churches back home or wherever God may lead.

Other men such as Bruce Rice and Doug Sisson in Mindanao, the Denisis in Cebu, and others have trained scores of laborers through their Bible colleges and institutes. Mel Brown also made it a point to train his men in ministry in the areas of soul winning and discipleship. He went further to teach them that each one should establish a Bible institute in their ministry to train their people for the harvest. The five churches he started are now over 100 churches who continue to do the same. Is it any wonder that the Philippines has become a great missionary sending force around the world?

One other ministry deserving mention is a newer ministry in Mongolia. Jason Ritchie has been in Mongolia for a brief 10-year period, but they are actively involved in training their believers in a new Bible college that began a little over a year ago. Two other BIMI families, the Webers and the Kubiks, are aiding in this great work. Their goal is to train laborers to reach Mongolia for Christ.

Jesus said, *The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few* (Matthew 9:37). What a great blessing it is to see God blessing His work when His people are trained for the ministry! The work of missions is not complete until we train others and send them out into the harvest.
The Fiji Islands is a needy country spiritually! The islands were evangelized in the 1800s by European missionaries and lives were changed dramatically by the power of the Gospel. These pioneers, some of whom were martyred, laid the groundwork for missionary work today. During our 27 years in Fiji, our goals have been and continue to be church planting and discipling believers. While we cannot write of hundreds being saved, discipled, and trained for the ministry every year, the Lord IS doing a work in the hearts of islanders, calling out a people for His name one soul at a time.

Over the years, we taught in two Bible colleges in Fiji and, by the grace of God, challenged and touched the lives of many young Fijians. It is with joy that we report that some have continued to serve the Lord, either full-time or as faithful members of their local churches. We can honestly say, however, that of all the aspects of our ministry in Fiji, we have fought more spiritual battles on this front than on any other. Why? Because the training of these young people is key to evangelizing the lost and to the ongoing work of God on the 100 inhabited islands of Fiji.

In recent years, we have found that it is more beneficial to have evening Bible institute classes for our working adults than a daytime
Bible college for single adults. Since starting these classes five years ago, we have seen phenomenal growth in the lives of many as they study the Word of God consistently. Seven adults completed their studies in 2020 to receive diplomas and many more continue to study and learn. We are trusting Him to do a work in hearts that only He can do through the power of His Word.

Fiji experiences many tropical storms we call cyclones, several of which we have weathered in our time there. Spiritually speaking, we have weathered many storms in the lives of Fijians as we battle the forces of darkness that seek every day to keep these dear people from committing their lives fully to the Lord. Many things hinder them: the pursuit of money, old habits and baggage from their former lives, family, and cultural pressures. We continue to pray and ask God to move in the hearts of the islanders. Will you pray with us that the Lord will call out more Fijians to serve Him? The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest that he will send forth labourers into his harvest (Matthew 9:37–38).
After a major military operation, an after-action report shows successes and failures and shows where improvements are needed. If we consider the evangelization of India as a major operation, then we should be able to look back and see successes and failures and to see where improvements are needed. The concentration of this article is on India and an unnamed country but should have application across Southeast Asia (SEA).

There are many Bible institutes, colleges, and seminaries across India and the unnamed country. Many provide a free education with no cost to the students for tuition, books, food, and housing. Surely, this type of evangelization operation should show great success.

This is the big picture, the strategic picture, but we also need to look at the tactical situation as well. This is where the individual fights the battle.

**The Strategic Situation**  
* (A view of missions from an overall perspective)

The history of Christianity in India begins in 52 A.D. when the Apostle Thomas is believed to have arrived in the country. For the purpose of this article, we will start in 1881 and move forward.

The percentage of the population that was Christian in India in 1881 was 0.7 percent. The chart below shows the percentage of the Christian population in India up to 2021 and is based on each subsequent ten-year census.

Two and three-tenths percent of the current population of India equates to around 32 million Christians in India. As a comparison, in the United States around 45 percent of the population claims to be Christian (167 million). In contrast to the percentage of Christians, Hindus make up 80 percent of the population and Muslims make up 14 percent of the population.

These percentages tell part of the story but there are other factors that explain more about the static and declining numbers. Many Christians in India hold beliefs and engage in practices not traditionally linked with Christianity.

The Percentage of Christians in India who

1. believe in Karma (the belief in fate) is 54%;
2. believe in the Ganges River (its purifying power) is 32%;

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<th>Year</th>
<th>% of Christian Population in this Area</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1881</td>
<td>0.7</td>
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<td>1901</td>
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<td>1921</td>
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3. believe in Reincarnation (the rebirth of a soul) is 29 percent;
4. celebrate Holi (a Hindu festival for Krishna) is 25 percent; and
5. wear a Bindi (a decorative mark worn by Indian women) is 22 percent.

Indian churches most often identify with lower castes and poor people. Lower-caste Christians are more likely to believe in
1. Evil Spirits—51 percent,
2. Dark Magic, witchcraft—28 percent, and
3. Evil Eye—33 percent (a superstitious curse or legend, believed to be cast by a malevolent glare).

From a strategic view, things are not going well. It could be said that the state of Christianity all over the world is not going well. In a striking comparison, the percentage of Hindus in the country is dropping as well.

The Strategic Needs of India and the Unnamed Country

Most countries in SEA are filled with many forms of contrasts and contradictions. In the midst of all these contradictions, there are several strategic needs of the country.

1. One-third of the unreached people groups of the world are in India.
2. Many Indians will go their entire lives without hearing the truth of Christ.
3. One-half of the population never finish school.
4. One-fourth of the population cannot read or write.
5. India has 18 major languages and 1,600+ dialects (many without the preserved Word of God).
6. Christ is seen as a “foreigner’s” God.
7. There are few ministries for the disabled.
8. Certain areas have great persecution against Christians.
9. Christians are excluded from many of the social services available to Hindus.
10. Education is many times rote memorization rather than critical thinking.
11. There is much corruption and black money.
12. Women, not men, are the spiritual heads of the households.

How can we reach India and the unnamed country? Strategically—we cannot—only God
can do that. This leaves us with another option. We must reach the individuals of India tactically.

The Tactical Situation
(A view of missions from an individual perspective)

Reaching India tactically means reaching individuals one at a time. An effective missionary discipless the people he reaches, and part of that disciplesship is teaching these folks how to win souls. However, if I do not have a church for them to become a member of, my soul-winning efforts are somewhat shortsighted and incomplete. And how shall they preach, except they be sent? (That is, except they are divinely commissioned and sent forth by God) as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things (Romans 10:15)! Therefore, for a church to be started, and hopefully under the leadership of a national pastor, one must have preachers—not foreign preachers but native preachers.

A missionary can use Paul’s tried-and-true method as shown in 2 Timothy 2:2: And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also. If done well and done faithfully, one can reap great fruit. I have used and continue to use this method with great success.

There is another method being reported on by SEA missionaries in this series of BIMI World articles. That is the establishment of doctrinally sound Bible institutes, Bible colleges, and seminaries.

There are some issues in establishing Bible training institutions:
1. Obtaining permission to open a school
2. Getting qualified students—prospective students having other reasons for wanting to receive a Bible education than being called of God to be a preacher
3. Acquiring funding, initial and residual—schools unable to pay for themselves and tuition not covering the costs
4. Finding qualified teachers—a person who can teach in the heart language or has the ability to teach through an interpreter
5. Having access to training materials—culturally applicable and Biblically sound in their heart language
6. Having resources to sustain during lean years
7. Training the trainers’ schools (seminaries) needed
8. Teaching village preachers as well as city preachers
9. Recognizing that cults and other ministries may try to capitalize on your successes (usually better equipped and better funded)
10. Training wives for sustainable income producing jobs—key in helping a national pastor succeed

As you read through the other articles about various training efforts of nationals, please keep the strategic and the tactical information in your mind. There are great needs in all of SEA. Now is not the time to stop our efforts. Please continue to pray and support missionary efforts in SEA in training others as Paul did in 2 Timothy 2:2.
Memorial Gifts have been received in memory of

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