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## **CRAZY FAVOR**

Our dear friend, Ashish, lives in an area of North India where Christians are highly persecuted. But in the middle of these difficult circumstances, God has given him crazy favor with the local government of that state. Recently, he was invited to the governor's birthday party. They all know he is a Christian leader but rather than shun or even attack him, he was invited as a VIP to be with the governor.



While the governor was preparing to cut the birthday cake, Ashish's 6-year-old daughter was in the crowd. Seeing her, the governor called her over to help cut the cake. She even fed a piece of the cake to the governor! Later, Ashish was invited to go to the governor's house for a personal meeting.

I know that may not sound like much for us, but for a Christian leader in North India it is unprecedented. It is just one sign of how God has raised this man up and given him governmental authority to advance His Kingdom in that region. Ashish boldly preaches Christ everywhere he goes and is fearless in his faith.

Ashish has been busy helping church leaders in several different states and establishing more ISOM training points. Right now, he has about 500 students enrolled in ISOM receiving training to be church planters. May God continue to bless this man and multiply the work of his hands all over North India!

## THERE ARE STILL NO CLOSED DOORS



It has always been in the DNA of 5 Rivers that there are no closed doors. Over and over again, it has been a signet of our ministry that God would take us into places that had been closed for generations.

Last June we were on our way to one of those closed regions when I had the accident and broke my leg. As the saying goes, delayed does not mean denied. I rejoice that Ashish was able to take a team and go into this region last month and do a prayer drive. He even stopped at the exact location of the accident to give praise to God that we lived and they were able to go into a new territory where the Gospel has never been preached.

It is a great joy to see people that I have mentored for years go where I was not able to. This is the fruit of all the years of going and praying. Thanks to your faithful prayers and giving that made it all possible, India is in good hands of those who have been trained to GO.

For more information visit <u>www.5riversinternational.org</u> or email <u>info@5riversinternational.org</u> Donations can be made online or sent to: 18204 N 6<sup>th</sup> Dr, Phoenix AZ 85023 (new 1/21)

## THE KINGDOM IS ADVANCING

"We are compelled to print thousands more copies of the ISOM training manuals in Hindi and Oria. The needs are increasing as many more are being enrolled. We are also purchasing 100 cell phones and many more memory cards for ISOM to continue to expand. We are purchasing 1,000 carpets (the Indians mostly sit on carpets for their teaching), 250 bicycles, 1,000 black boards and 10,000 Bibles. Please pray." This was the text I received from my friend, Josh, recently. I had to stop and just laugh at how huge the needs are. My spirit leaps for joy because this list of needs tells us how much the Kingdom of God is advancing in India.

WOW!!! This is crazy! In the midst of intense persecution (reports of beatings, villages being burned, and pastors imprisoned in the middle of the night continue to come in), the Gospel is being preached. People, entire families, are being saved. People are being healed and set free from demons. Thousands of leaders are being trained to be church planters and the Kingdom of God is being manifested in India.



Jesus said, "Upon this rock I will build my church and the gates of hell will not prevail against it." This is absolutely what is happening in India and we rejoice! We praise God for our ministry partners that have remained faithful, courageous, and are always advancing rather than drawing back.

They are mighty men and women of God, and it is our greatest honor to help serve them, supply them and encourage them to keep believing God for the impossible.

We continue to follow through with 3 major projects:

- 1. Helping Josh with his myriad of needs to continue training ISOM students and planting churches in 6 different states. \$5K of the \$20K commitment has been sent.
- 2. Helping Pastor Vijay purchase a much needed vehicle to do ministry throughout Punjab. \$10K of the \$15K commitment has been sent.
- Helping our friends in Kashmir build a guest house in our village where we have the sheep project. This will be used as a small business to provide some local jobs as well as a house of prayer for ministry teams who go visit. \$6K of the \$20K commitment has been sent.

## **PLEASE PRAY...**

- For Ashish and Kalpana to have wisdom and grace as they lead ISOM and establish new training points in North India and that they would continue to have crazy favor.
- For Josh and Dinu as they lead a house church network of more than 14,000 churches. That they will be strengthened physically and spiritually and have all they need to continue to grow, multiply and train leaders all over North India.
- That the three projects that we are supporting would be completed.
- For our "man of peace" and shepherds in Kashmir to know the love of God and become followers of Jesus Christ.