

May 2016



Summer Vacation is Underway The 2015-16 academic year has come to a close and IREF students have started their summer holidays. Many students that IREF ministers to and educates come from very poor family backgrounds. IREF works with children who need a safe place and deserve a better life. Some children have been abandoned or sold into slavery or prostitution while others come from families that are unable to support more than one child. They are all welcome and safe at IREF.

Often times, when these children go home for summer holidays, desperate financial and home situations will lead to children having to work to help provide for their families. Please pray for our young students as they are often times faced with persecution and rejection by their family members for accepting Christ as their personal Savior. Please also pray that many will return to continue their education and growth in June.

At IREF, children are provided with a foundation of faith and education to last a lifetime. Child sponsorship funding allows children from the poorest families in Andhra Pradesh the opportunity for food, clothing, shelter and the power of Christian education - the building blocks of a good life.

IREF's goal is to change the cycle of poverty by empowering children with an education that allows them to get a good job and provide for not only themselves, but also their families. Sponsors help save a child from having to take on field work at a young age and continuing that hard labor through adulthood; save a young girl from being abandoned by their families in the event they cannot support her.; stop child prostitution in India which is often the result for young girls whose families have no means to support them. A Christian education through IREF is giving the gift of hope. If you are interested in learning more about how you can make a difference in the lives of the children IREF cares for, please contact sponsors@irefusa.org.



IREF students finish up their final exams for the school year and join their families for the summer break.



IREF students say goodbye as they go home for the summer. Please pray that the Light of Christ will go with them in the dark villages.



**India Rural
Evangelical
Fellowship**

PO Box 1332
Park Ridge, IL
60068-7332

IREF Info Line:
p 847.220.IREF (4733)
f 847.680.4270

Visit us on the web:
www.irefusa.org

Send us an email:
info@irefusa.org

SAVE THE DATE! 5TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

**SAT
AUG 20
2016**

**NEW LOCATION!
HIGHLAND PARK
COUNTRY CLUB
ILLINOIS**

Join us for a day of golf, silent auction, followed by dinner and an IREF ministry update. Foursomes and sponsorship opportunities are available!



May 2016
continued...

India Rural
Evangelical
Fellowship

“Grow in the Grace and Knowledge of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ...”

(2 Peter 3:18). Children's Bible Club, hosted by the India Gospel League, was held for three days at IREF before the children left for summer vacation. The kids were extremely excited to sing, dance and learn songs about Christ Jesus.

The first day, the kids memorized Bible verses along with praising Jesus through songs. Throughout the three day program, the IREF kids learned lessons on growing in Christ Jesus and what it means to be a spiritually strong child of God who seeks to obey and become more faithful each day. On the final day of the club, each child received a certificate of completion which they were proud to receive.

Please pray as the IREF children are back at their homes and villages for summer break. May the Lord protect each child and allow him/her to be a Light for Christ.



IREF children eagerly learn new songs during Children's Bible Club.



Conversation with IREF President, Emmanuel Rebba and US Board of Directors Member, Art Gay

The biggest challenge IREF is facing is the ongoing jealousy of the Hindu extremists who have been waiting for a long time to gain enough influence to destroy IREF and its ministry. Corruption plays a big part in this scheme of the evil one as this powerful group seeks money. They view IREF as a source of wealth for which they can defraud money for themselves...money that comes from contributions that have been given for the care of the needy. Issues that have been overcome, with God's help year after year, may cause them to have increasing confidence to create and execute new schemes. Please be aware that IREF is facing crisis today and now may be the most dangerous times we have ever faced. The current political and judicial governing bodies have caused great distress, fear and urgency for IREF leaders. Therefore we request that you pray and fast on behalf of IREF. God is with the ministry and IREF board members regard your intercession as key to the survival and ministry success. Sixty-five years of loving Repalle and fellowshiping with overseas brothers and sisters since 1984, is a great story of God's continual faithfulness. May His grace continue to abound to the thousands in Andhra Pradesh that need the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Prayer Requests and Praise

- IREF Evangelists and Bible ladies have completed the summer village Gospel Meetings. Praise God for the many people who attended these meetings over the past three months. Please pray for God's continual work in the lives of those who attended (and heard) the meetings in each village.
- Praise God for a successful academic year. We thank God for the teachers, professors, principals and administrative staff for their dedication and diligence in serving the Lord through IREF.
- Please pray for IREF leaders across the globe as they serve. May the Holy Spirit guide and protect.
- Please pray for IREF administrative and education staff members who are traveling from village to village, house to house; spreading information about IREF and its educational opportunities. Despite the increasingly hot days, the teachers of IREF are keeping a schedule each day to campaign. Please pray they are renewed and motivated each day.
- Please pray for the preparation and planning of the next academic year which begins June 1st. May new students and staff members be guided by the Holy Spirit to open their hearts to the Gospel and to serve Him faithfully.