

Believer's Retreat Meetings and a New School Year



IREF held its annual Believer's Retreat June 22 through June 26. This retreat is held every year to encourage and cultivate the Word among those who became new believers during the January and February Youth Conference and Gospel Meetings. This is also a time used to recharge the IREF evangelists and Bible ladies. Due to the heat, the retreat was held in the Repalle Evangelical Church. The church was filled with new believers, many pastors brought their congregations to hear Emmanuel Rebba preach on Elijah, the Prophet of Fire.

The Believer's Retreat went great with only one minor glitch of losing power on Saturday. Despite the heat and lack of electricity for running fans, the church overflowed with believers who had gathered in the name of Jesus. The IREF staff was able to set up a mic using the mini-PA system taken to the baptisms. And they carried on. Pastors came from as far as the Orissa border, all the way to Repalle to hear the Gospel. They were sent back to their home towns/villages revived and strengthened in the Word.

Our IREF evangelists, Bible ladies, and staff prayed and fasted for the Believer's Retreat every week during the summer (March-May) leading up to the retreat. The Believer's Retreat was a small little seed that was sown over 20 years ago to bring all of the new believers back to IREF after the January Youth Conference & Gospel meetings and also to invite many people from the village meetings that our IREF pastors hold in their local areas - and it's amazing to see how God has continued to be faithful in bringing more and more people to Him.

The messages of "Elijah - The Prophet of Fire" spoken during the retreat, were recorded and started airing on TV in India. Hundreds of calls (of prayer requests and encouragement to the ministry) continue to flood



into IREF from people watching the IREF program on the "Subhavaartha" (Good News) channel. We praise God for this new medium of spreading the Gospel in India. IREF TV can be seen on Saturday evenings at 9:30 CST on <u>www.subhavaarthatv.com</u> or see the IREF website for a direct link.

Due to heat, the small children were only present at the retreat the first night. Wednesday evening, IREF held a prayer and dedication of the new school year. We have many new students this year, so please pray that they grow in Christ, learn of His love and great gift of Salvation. New students flocked at the entrance of IREF seeking admission. Those from the poorest, marginalized families as well as those from broken families are given top priority. The school children, once admitted will be under the total care of IREF. They stay in the IREF homes/orphanages and attend the school.

For \$34 a month, you can help provide shelter, health care, education, 3 meals a day, clothing and all hygienic necessities for a child. Please prayerfully consider supporting a classroom or providing a donation towards school supplies for these children.



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