



IREF's Evangelism Efforts Grow

Over the past several years, Emmanuel Rebba has taken on the special burden to reach out to the ones who have been called to ministry in India. IREF has reached over 15,000 pastors all over Andhra Pradesh from various denominations through one day seminars.

During the month of June, IREF hosted two pastors seminars in the towns of Vinukonda and Nandigama. Vinukonda is approximately 8 hours away from Repalle and is known for being a highly impoverished area. It is a place of consistent drought. The little water the people have access to is full of fluoride, disease-riddled and not drinkable. The most basic needs are hard to meet. The people of this town have a reputation for being rebellious, mostly toward against government, and even to God's Word. Nandigama is 2 hours away from Repalle and an area of heavy pollution due to nearby factories; with that also an area of extreme poverty and brokenness. The physical conditions are a representation of the spiritual climate.



Emmanuel Rebba spoke on the topic of "Spiritual Renewal" based on the book of Nehemiah. Spiritual renewal comes when God's people read His Word; reverently hear His Word taught and expound on it; and God's people must respond to His Word. The people responded in at least five ways: repentance, joy, good deeds, obedience, and worship.

The leader of the Vinukonda pastors association called the retreat a historical event as these local pastors have never gathered together for any event, in fact these pastors have spent most of their ministry careers in competition with each other and were a divided community. Pastors shared their sorrow and even their negligence in their calling to spread the Gospel.



After the retreat, many pastors testified to their spiritual famine and that this retreat renewed their call to witness and lead others to Jesus. Many expressed their desire to recommit their lives and work to God. And the necessity of the challenge as well from the teaching. They also voiced their concern to strengthen their communities. Thousands of pastors opened their hearts and let the Holy Spirit work as they repented and gave their lives back to God.

Bringing every pastor and denomination together under one church, one belief, one Christ and one cause – to reach the people of Andhra Pradesh with the message of God's love and mercy is a calling the IREF is seeing take root in an effort to spread the vision for collaborative ministry in India.

Please pray for IREF as we together help churches across denominational and regional lines unite in service and evangelism to carry the Gospel into their communities. Pray for the leadership of India's churches to be all God wants them to be in fulfilling His plan for the Church.

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7TH ANNUAL INDIA RURAL EVANGELICAL FELLOWSHIP

Register Today at irefusa.org

GOLF OUTING

SATURDAY 7.28.2018

BONNIE BROOK GOLF COURSE - WAUKEGAN, IL



Students are Back, Ready to Succeed in 2018

Students at IREF come from long distances and locally to attend IREF schools. This year many new students have made the decision to attend IREF schools due to the quality of education and the Christian principles that are integrated into everyday life at IREF. Students are given the option to stay on campus in an IREF dormitory or IREF provides a bus service to the local communities to reach children that may not have the resources to accommodate transportation to Repalle. So many new “day-scholar” students have registered this year, that IREF’s school bus is not able to keep up with village routes for pick up and drop off. **If you are interested in helping us raise funds for a new bus and driver, please contact us at info@irefusa.org.** God continues to bless the IREF schools and provide children who would not have an opportunity to be educated a great option for a better future. IREF gives priority to the poorest of students during enrollment time, which can be financially or family-need based. God continues to be gracious to these children and IREF will be obedient to follow His direction.



Emmanuel Rebba distributes books and supplies to all students on the first day.



Family members help carry students' belongings back to the dorms.



Friends catch up and reunite after being away from IREF for the summer.



Students line up for their first day of school.

“ ‘Who Do You Say I Am?’ Peter answered, ‘You are the Messiah.’ ”

Raimie Bateman from Teach the Story (teachthestory.org) traveled to IREF to teach from the book of Mark specially to IREF pastors, evangelists and Bible ladies from June 11th-15th. Raimie and his wife Stephanie have dedicated their lives to partnering with local organizations around the world to provide long-term Christian teaching to impoverished pastors in need of education. Their aim is to teach Biblical theology in a contextualized manner and serve where people lack the opportunity to hear the Gospel.



The theme for Raimie’s teaching was based on Mark 8:29. An average of 60 IREF pastors, evangelists and Bible ladies participated in the conference and described the course as eye-opening. They have read the book of Mark thousands of times but never taught the nuances of Mark’s writing. Not only was the teaching engaging, each day was full of laughter and fellowship studying God’s Word.



In the future, Raimie hopes is to bring other teachers to IREF to teach the Bible effectively. Raimie has been excited to conduct this pastors conference for a few years now and we are thankful that God opened the doors for it to take place.

Prayer & Praise

- Please be praying for the 7th annual golf outing. Pray that it will be a successful event and a day of great fellowship and celebrating all that God is doing.
- Pray for God’s provision and protection over IREF evangelists, Bible ladies and Pastors as the Hindu radicals are increasing persecution and moving closer to Repalle.
- Please pray for various teams traveling to IREF over the next several months to share the Gospel in India.
- Please pray for the strength and prosperity of our supporting churches, businesses and sponsors.
- As a new academic year kicks off, please pray for the IREF teachers and educational staff members. May the Lord bless each one of His servants to lead faithfully.

July 2018
continued...

India Rural
Evangelical
Fellowship

