

July 2020



IREF TOGETHER



India Rural Evangelical Fellowship

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Save the Date AUGUST 22, 2020 - 10am CST

Due to COVID-19, IREF has decided to cancel the Annual Golf Outing scheduled for August 22, 2020.

In light of this cancellation, we would like to announce IREF's first ever, Global Virtual Event called, "IREF Together".

Families and churches from the United States, United Kingdom, and India will come together online for this riveting global gathering. You will be inspired as you hear testimonies from the IREF Staff, as you interact with the students, and as you see the impact of IREF in Repalle.

We believe that together, we will make a multi-generational impact!

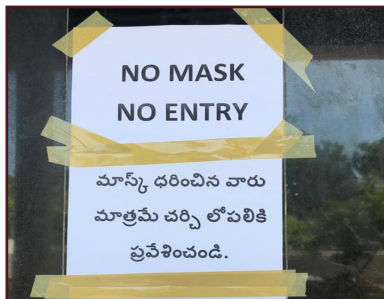
You will not want to miss this uplifting gathering.
Join us virtually on August 22 at 10AM CDT.
Stay tuned for more information in next's month's newsletter.



“Thankful to Worship Together Again”

After 12 weeks of closing the church, IREF (with permission and regulations) was able to open the church doors. Masks and sanitizer were placed just outside the church entrance for health and safety. Inside, IREF leaders took to making sure attendees stayed a regulated distance from each other – 2 individuals per bench. It was a small gathering of nearly 100 individuals. For some, this was the first time stepping out of their homes.

We praise God that IREF was allowed to open its church doors, that the Word of God could be preached and heard, and that the community of Believers could finally have the opportunity to gather openly as family again.



Signs in place outside of the IREF church before doors open.



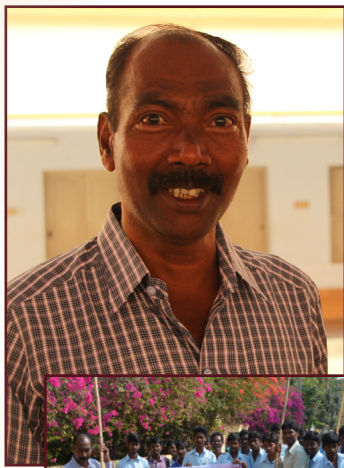
Testimonies of God's provision and faithfulness to His people were shared.



Many expressed their thankfulness and praise to God through their distanced giving.

Testimonial Spotlights

17 years ago, Mr. R. Koteswara Rao joined IREF's Repalle Christian College and quickly became the assistant principal. He has been a dedicated educator and advocate for his students, as well as the greater Repalle community. Koteswara Rao heads IREF's National Service Scheme (NSS) program. NSS was launched in Mahatma Gandhi's birth year 1969. The NSS has more than 3.5 million student volunteers nationwide spread over 300 Universities and 45 Senior Secondary Councils and Directorate of Vocational Education in India.



IREF students have taken their participation and role in the NSS as a means to not only serve the community but to also show the love of Christ to those in need. This team of nearly 200 students regularly distributes food and necessities to prisoners and those who are hospitalized; conducts relief efforts in towns effected by natural disasters; and works with municipalities to clean and sanitize local roads.



IREF's NSS team sweeps local streets in Rwpalle.

For the past 17 years, Koteswara Rao has regularly attended church despite being from a Hindu background. He recently came upon some health issues and suffered with an aneurism prior to the Covid-19 lockdowns. This past Sunday, he stood before the congregation giving all praise and glory to God for His complete healing. He thanked all those who prayed diligently for his health during such a trying time and attributed his complete healing to Jesus Christ. We praise God for Koteswara Rao's recovery and his faith!

July 2020
continued...

India Rural
Evangelical
Fellowship

Prayer & Praise

- Pray for a positive outcome for IREF's first virtual event on August 22nd.
- IREF Evangelists and Bible Ladies serve congregations in over 100 villages. Please pray as they work to encourage and also spread the Good News during such dark times.
- Covid-19 continues to spread in India. Limits on daily income have made for access to food, dire. Proper treatment of coronavirus will be hard to come by with access to healthcare being just as desparate. Please continue to pray as IREF moves to address urgent needs in surrounding villages.