**November 2021** 



## 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

**Clinicals play a big role** in the process of becoming a certified nurse. Our IREF students are required to spend a number of hours in local health facilities to meet this criteria. Some students shadow medical professionals while others are given the opportunity to personally care for patients (under a professionals watch).



Each day the IREF Nursing students don their pristine, clean, white nursing uniforms. They run a check-list of their needed materials such as stethoscope, mask, and other needed supplies; they gather for prayer; and they load the bus heading off to their respective medical facilities.

Even as COVID cases are low in number in the rural areas of Andhra Pradesh, we considered the safety of participating in clinical studies extremely crucial. Medical facilities have been vigilant in their decision to open their health centers as well. But with precaution, permission and discussion with these medical professionals, we were given the ok to observe for some days.

It is encouraging for us to know and to see these nursing students growing in their process of becoming Nurses through IREF's Nursing College. We appreciate all of the US and UK medical teams that have served IREF and have left a lasting impact on the IREF nursing students. The professionalism, care, concern, wisdom the medical teams give to each patient helps IREF Nursing Students to develop a wholistic approach to Nursing (something that is not common in India unfortunately) setting them a part as they enter the Nursing field.



Please pray for the health and safety of our students. We hope that the IREF Nursing students will learn the value of serving alongside medical professionals and that they will use these moments in their future professions as Nurses.

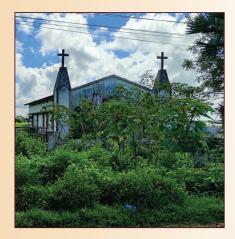
## **Rededicating a Village Church**

On Sunday, Oct 17th, the IREF community rededicated the Kollur Village Church. The work began before the first 2020 Covid-19 lockdown with the IREF staff cleaning the church grounds but because of the restrictions and curfews, the work was put on hold. But God had a different plan and made the timing to reopen this church according to His will.

Once restrictions were lifted, long hours were put into chopping down trees, cutting high grass (even with snakes on the compound), painting and cleaning. The original church was dedicated over 20 years ago. The evangelist who ministered in the Kollur village for many years passed away. With prayer and petition, God has provided the right shepherd to lead the congregation. The local pastors fellowship worked with the IREF staff and newly commissioned pastor to get the church ready for its rededication.

Our prayer for this local IREF church community comes from Ezekiel 37:3-5 "And he said to me, 'Son of man, can these bones live?' And I answered, 'O Lord GOD, you know.' Then he said to me, 'Prophesy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live.'"

Please pray with us that God would give life the dry bones of this church and breathe life into the local IREF church congregation. Thank you for your continued prayers and support for IREF's ongoing evangelical outreach in rural India.









November 2021 continued...

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## **IREF's Gift Catalog is LIVE!**

The 2021 IREF Gift Catalog is online! IREF's Gift Catalog gives you the power to decide how to bring hope, joy, and transformation to rural India through purchasing designated gifts such as bibles and school uniforms!

The projects and items listed provide tangible opportunities for you to make a difference. Please consider how you can support IREF through purchasing a gift from our catalog. Luke 6:38, "Give and it will be given to you. They will pour into your lap a good measure pressed down, shaken together, and running over. For by your standard of measure it will be measured to you in return."

Visit www.irefusa.org/gift or SCAN THE QR CODE to make a difference today!





**Testimonial Spotlight** My name is Jayamani. I have been a Bible Lady with IREF for over 25 years. I am from a village called Peddapalli. The Salvation Army was very active in my village so I grew up hearing the Gospel but only nominally followed Christianity. When I was 14 years old, my parents arranged my marriage to a man in our village. We lived in strife and turmoil for many years as he was a heavy alcoholic.

I was desperately seeking hope. In the early 1990s, a woman came to our village to visit her relatives and while she heard of my troubles, she asked me to visit Gospel

Fields with her to hear Prasada Rao Rebba preach the Living Word. I sought prayer by Prasada Rao and dedicated my life to Christ. The Holy Spirit bought true faith to me when I so desperately need it.

I only have a 6th grade education yet the Holy Spirit has been using me to share the Gospel in our village and bring light to the lost. I started ministry by praying with 7 Hindu people in a home, and our congregation has grown. A Hindu-convert woman offered a plot of land as her offering to build a church. We started building a

church, but unfortunately it was burned down by radical Hindus in our village who opposed us. We tried to build a church again, and have faced one obstacle after the other. But God has been faithful.

This was an extremely challenging year for me. My 41 year old daughter died of Covid in the first wave this past spring. She left behind two small children. My 37 year old son contracted the virus and died three days into having the virus. My husband was diagnosed with alzheimers a few years ago, and it has rapidly progressed inthe past year. I'm walking with the Lord each day and trusting that He will provide me with His strength each day to continue preaching the Gospel.

I will run the race...



Jayamani (center) with her husband and Dee Rebba (left) in front of her home.

## **Prayer & Praise**

- Pray for IREF staff and leaders as they conduct the new school year. Pray for protection and health, as well as wisdom as they navigate changing guidelines and work hard to instill all preventative measures.
  Please also pray for the gaps in teaching staff this year to be filled as soon as possible.
- Please continue to pray for IREF evangelists and Bible ladies as they minister in rural villages. Many have faced incredible losses in their families and congregations. Pray that God would provide comfort and shine His light in, with and through IREF's evangelists and Bible ladies who are diligently working to spread the Gospel.

