

June 2022



India Rural Evangelical Fellowship

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Summer Gospel Meetings Last month, the village of Juvvalapalem gathered in the warmth of the night to listen to the Gospel. Villagers were eager to hear the preaching and teaching of God's Word. The congregation drew together for three powerful nights of gospel meetings. IREF pastors led the meetings in teaching and preaching and Josh Rebba was honored as he also shared God's Word.

IREF Pastor, Lawrence, was thankful to see Christians come together, "It is great to see the people come together to worship and hear God's Word. This was an impactful gathering. It is wonderful to see God's Word shared again through IREF in the village gospel outreaches."

What is remarkable about the Gospel outreach in this particular village is the fact that this church community is gathering for the first time since 2019! COVID prevented IREF churches from scheduling annual open-air Gospel outreaches. As a result, it has been nearly three years since this IREF village church held its yearly Gospel Meetings in front of the church.

The IREF village churches are the means by which the Gospel is spread in these areas surrounding IREF. It is encouraging to see the evangelistic work continue in rural India. We are encouraged to see IREF's church community gathering together again to worship and hear God's Word.

The IREF Summer Gospel Meetings were started to send God's message of hope to rural and poverty stricken areas of India. These meetings allow IREF evangelists and Bible ladies to focus on evangelism efforts in particular villages and support the IREF village churches.

Please be praying for the IREF evangelists and Bible ladies as they conduct these Gospel meetings in their villages over the next few months. Their roles are critical in encouraging new believers to grow in their faith.



Bingo Nights are Back! Come join us for a fun interactive night. IREF Bingo Night is an opportunity for you to connect with the IREF community and hear an update of what God is doing in India. Bingo cards are \$1 each. We will play 5-10 rounds of bingo. All the prizes are from India and the proceeds of bingo nights will go to purchase new backpacks for students!

Bingo nights will be in Michigan, Illinois, and Florida. Check below for your local location and date:

Michigan - Wednesday, July 20 from 6-8pm
Lighthouse Community Church
4321 Genessee Rd, Kalamazoo, MI

Florida - Friday, July 29 from 6-8pm
Black Rifle Coffee Shop
510 W John Sims Pkwy, Niceville FL

Illinois - Tuesday, July 26 from 7-9pm
Tala Coffee
428 Green Bay Rd. Highwood, IL

We hope to see you there!!





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India Rural
Evangelical
Fellowship

Vacation Bible School The week before the 1-10th class students went home for summer break, Natalie and Parvathi (Pastor Lawrence's wife) conducted a 3-day VBS program. It was a wonderful time of learning new songs, studying God's Word, making crafts together and playing games. Some of the nursing students also joined us and they were a huge blessing!

On the first day, the children studied 1 Corinthians 13 and learned all about what LOVE is! The second day, the program centered on the Beatitudes that Jesus taught in Matthew 5 and what it means for our lives today. On the third day, everyone learned the 7 "I Ams" of Jesus found in the book of John. The students marveled at the character of Christ.

It was a precious 3 days with the children! Natalie and Parvathi served VBS in order to fill each student with the love, joy and light of Jesus before they were sent home to their villages for their summer vacation!

Please pray for these little ones as they are away. We pray for their protection while they are at home and that they will safely return to IREF for the next school year!



IREF Students Begin Summer Holiday The IREF students are at the end of their school year before breaking for summer. Both the "day scholars" (students who travel back to their village every evening after classes and return in the mornings) and the "resident students" (students who live on the IREF campus), will be going home for summer break. Students that have lost their parents will stay with relatives or friends for the summer.

As the children were preparing to be picked up for the summer, storms ripped through the region under the influence of a severe cyclonic storm, Asani. While the dreary weather makes the journey home uncomfortable and messy, children are happy to be going home to be with their families for the summer!

At IREF, we are sad to see the children leave campus but our prayer for these students is two-fold. We pray that the students return safely to school next year and we pray that they would be witnesses of the gospel in their communities and villages.



Prayer & Praise

- Please continue praying for a movement that results in great unity among the global Christian community. Pray as IREF evangelists and Bible ladies concentrate their efforts on spreading the Good News in the new year.
- Please pray that believers in Repalle would have opportunities to show the light and hope of Christ to their neighbors.
- 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.
- Praise God for all the students who came forward and accepted Christ as their Savior throughout the school year. Please pray that the Holy Spirit will guide and protect each student each day.