



Shepherding the NATIONS

Resourcing Native Leaders to Shepherd Their Nations

PASSIONATELY LIVING FOR THE GOSPEL

By Paul S. Brown

"But I do not consider my life of any account as dear to myself, so that I may finish my course and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify solemnly of the gospel of the grace of God." (Acts 20:24)



The Apostle Paul devoted his life to testifying solemnly of the gospel of the grace of God and ultimately died because of this. He knew that his world was filled with people on the broad path heading to destruction and that most of those people were religious (Mt. 7:13-23). Paul was so grateful for God's grace in his life that he was willing to pay any price to get the message out to more people (Rom. 1:14-16; 1 Cor. 9:16).

There are modern day pastors and evangelists all over the world with the same passion as the Apostle Paul. The Holy Spirit has given them a passion to preach the gospel to people who have never heard (Rom. 15:20-21). They daily put their lives on the line and pay a price so others can hear and respond to the message of eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. Some pay the ultimate price and give their lives for the Gospel.

It has been our privilege through STN to work with men such as this! Men who came out of false religions are motivated by God's grace and are zealous for the gospel (Titus 2:11-14). Men who don't know what may happen to them in a given day but do know they must be obedient to the command to make disciples of all the nations. Men who may have little training and little money, but have a huge heart for the lost. What a privilege to provide in-depth training, support them financially, and pray for their families and ministries!

Thank you for your support of these men! Please pray for them daily as they go into unreached areas with the Gospel. Pray for wisdom, boldness, good health, and fruitfulness. Pray for their training as we send a team to India twice each year to equip these men to be more effective in their ministries. The next training conferences will be from May 21st through June 1st. David Nelson and Ryder Kumar will be teaching part two of the study on Doctrines.

Pray also that more sponsors will join our team and help us train and send more zealous men out into the harvest. Please tell your family, friends, and churches about STN and this vital ministry in India and Nepal. Send them to our website where they can learn more about the ministry and how they can be involved.

Until the whole world hears! 

TRANSPORTATION STRIKE – NO PROBLEM FOR OUR GOD!

By Shanthi Rathan

There has been an ongoing situation in the Southern region of India. It has to do with a conflict regarding a territory called Telangana and the possibility of it becoming a separate state. This conflict definitely posed a threat to the ability of many of our pastors to reach the STN conference in the fall of 2011. Normal life came to a halt with no hope of respite. The civic offices went on strike which, in part, included no garbage pickup. The stench was horrific. At this point, we hadn't a clue as to when and how the conference would take place - 80% of our pastors had to come from other parts of the state.

Meanwhile, the power situation was grim as employees of Singareni Collieries, one of the major power projects in the state, were participating in the strike. This resulted in unscheduled power cuts and a cut in the water supply. In addition, the strike seriously affected the region's public transportation and this lasted for 4 months.

As the dates of the seminar were approaching, we kept on praying for a miracle to happen. This prayer need was shared with STN and we were assured of their prayers as well. It was at this juncture that the Lord intervened – just a couple of days before the conference was to commence, the agitators took a break after repeated pleas from the government. All of our pastors arrived in Hyderabad safely and on time to attend the fall conference where David Nelson and Ryder Kumar taught Bible Doctrine Survey, Part 1. The participants were eager learners and were equipped to go back to their respective places to teach the new insights they had gained. We all gave praise to God for His faithfulness in answering the prayers of His people. 🌐

BTCP MILESTONE FOR STN INTERNATIONAL

By Ryder Kumar, Int. Director



Jacob and Cynthia Reddy

Shepherding the Nations International and Crossing Cultures International have had a vision for some time to train and equip the Indian nationals to teach the BTCP courses. The first ever "Teacher Training Workshop" took place January 31 - February 2, 2012 and resulted in great joy, accomplishment, and a fruitful mission for trainers and participants alike. David Nelson appointed Jacob Reddy to coordinate this workshop and all the arrangements were very well organized.

Twenty-six men from the North (M.P. Uthanchal, Delhi, Gurugaon, U.P. Jharkhand), Central (Pune, Nagpur), and South (Hyderabad, its outskirts, Bangalore) of India participated in wonderful, rigorous and interactive training

on how to teach the BTCP courses. David Nelson of CCI and I taught the men – grouping them according to their regions. These men were selected based on their prior theological knowledge and training.

Please pray for these men who were trained and went back to their areas of ministry with great enthusiasm - that they will find His strength and help to be faithful as they impact churches and organizations with this wealth of biblical knowl-



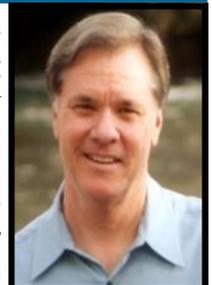
edge. In addition, please pray for the salvation of two nuns at the Jeevan Jyothi Center where the workshop took place. They were very impressed with the excellence with which it was conducted. 🌐

GROWING OUR MINISTRY THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

By Mike Vos



Our email promotion started February 1st and will end March 15th. We have deployed 20,000 emails to potential donors in the Southern California area asking them to be part of our ministry. We will be emailing the same potential donors every two weeks for a total of four times. Hopefully everyone had a chance to see the sample promotional email sent to all our donors. As we continue to be faithful to God's ministry, we need your prayers for God's blessing to bring new donors to STN. These are difficult times for many ministries. Yet, with God all things are possible. Thank you for your continued support. God is being glorified through our ministry and you are making a difference in the lives of many. 🌐



2011 STN CONFERENCE – LUCKNOW

By Suresh Mathews, STN India

We praise God for the two conferences that were held in Lucknow during 2011- one was in March and the other in October. Ryder Kumar, Rev. Kishore Mathews (from Lalitpur Bible Seminary), and I took part in the teaching. The March conference hosted 39 pastors and the October conference hosted 41.

We have been delighted to see that the pastors are developing a greater understanding of the biblical doctrines taught. This is exciting as we watch them study with great interest and ask many more questions.

The response from all of the pastors has been that the courses are a great blessing to them and they say that they are using what they've learned in their respective ministries.

Please pray for all of the pastors and their families as they serve and teach their people in remote villages - most of the time their lives are in danger. But God in His grace sustains them and gives them courage and boldness to face all kinds of hostile people and challenging situations. 



David Nelson and Pastor Ryder Kumar with participants from the BTCP Teacher Training Workshop—January 2012.

WORLD'S FOR SALE!— MAY 19TH 2012

By Susan Leinen



We are planning our third annual STN Yard Sale Fundraiser. Each year our sale has gotten bigger, brought in more funds and more folks have been involved. And this year will be bigger and better than ever. Here's how you can be involved:

- ◆ Start cleaning out your closets now and **bring your gently used clothes, household items, and small furniture to TBBF** on the first Sunday of each month. Collections are accepted at the trailer in the Amigo building parking lot on the corner of Amigo & Gault between 9:45 and 10:15 a.m.
- ◆ **Spread the word to your friends, co-workers and neighbors.** Consider loading up your car for your neighborhood or workplace and bringing a carload of treasures for our sale.
- ◆ **Mark your calendar for May 18th & 19th.** We'd love to have you come and help set up before the sale or work the day of the sale.
- ◆ Contact us to sign up:
Susan Leinen (818-346-2612 Susan@SusanLeinen.com) or
Karla Forbes (818-704-7255 amishmomx4@yahoo.com). 





Our Mission is:
"To glorify God by developing a global partnership which trains and supports indigenous pastors, who will be involved in planting healthy churches that know Jesus Christ and make Him known."

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SHEPHERDING THE NATIONS NEWS ...

- ◆ You may have recently received **email updates** from Shepherding the Nations! We anticipate sending these on a regular basis to let you know what's happening in India and Nepal through the ministry of STN.
- ◆ You can also become a fan of STN on **Facebook** to see updates and prayer requests.

FINANCIAL GIFTS ...

If you would like to increase your regular monthly offering or give a gift over and above your monthly amount for conference expenses, please contact Tammy Werth in the Financial Office at The Bridge Bible Fellowship, 818.776.1500, x. 34.

Note: For the safety of our brothers and sisters in Christ who are serving the Lord around the world, no part of this newsletter may be reproduced without permission.



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