

December 2007.

Dear Prayer Partner,

I greet you in the name of our soon coming Lord. While Christmas is a time of merry making and is celebrated with great joy all over the world, several Christians in parts of India went through great fear and persecution as the Hindus beat them up and burnt church buildings and Christian houses. This incident took place before Christmas and the newspaper reports that some Christians are still hiding in the jungles for the fear of their lives even a week after Christmas. Life for Christians and for the native missionaries is becoming difficult day by day in India as the opposition against the Christians is growing stronger. Please uphold the Indian believers in your daily prayers. In the midst of the prevailing situation we are thankful to the Lord for the accomplished ministry in our mission fields last month.



Christmas Programs: Every December we celebrate Christmas in our mission fields to share with the non Christians the true meaning of Christmas. Gospel meeting is organized to which many non Christians are invited. These celebrations are held every year in all our mission fields. On 10th of December we had these celebrations in Pavagada mission field. The meeting was arranged in a public place in the village. Apart from our seekers and believers, other non Christians were invited. I shared the Gospel message on the topic of “The Meaning of Christmas”. As a result, it was joy

to see 3 Hindus respond to the message expressing their desire to accept Jesus as their Savior. They will be nurtured by our missionary over the coming months.

After the message, the baptismal candidates shared their testimony. It was particularly challenging to hear the testimony of a young man who was a hard core criminal but came to know the Lord through which he found joy and peace in his life. We later travelled by ox cart to a field about a kilometer away for the baptism service. In the midst of joyful singing all of them were baptized in a small water tank. The owner of the field who graciously permitted us to have this baptism service on his property is a staunch Hindu and is showing some interest in the Gospel. Please pray for this person and also for those who have taken baptism that they would grow in their new faith.

We had similar program in Madhugiri mission field. One of the baptismal candidates -- an elderly lady shared her testimony and said “My son strongly objected to my decision to take baptism. But I don’t care how he would react when he comes to know I went against his wish. I am old and may die at any time. So I want Jesus in my life and want to see Him when I die. Please baptise me and I beg you not to reject my appeal.” It was a very difficult for our missionary to take a decision because it might lead to the issue of conversion and he could be imprisoned for this. So after much discussion we finally decided to baptise this dear lady who is very firm in her decision and conviction. Please pray for her and others who were baptized along with her. Please pray for our missionary that no charges would be levied against him because of the baptism of this lady.



Christmas Cheers: I want to thank each one of you for your sacrificial and generous contributions towards the Christmas gift to our missionaries. Though the Board of directors decided to give US\$100 towards each of the staff and the missionaries as cash gift for Christmas, but we did not receive the required amount. All designated gifts received towards this project were equally distributed among all the staff and the missionaries which is less than the allotted amount by the board. Though this was disappointing news, every staff and missionary expressed their gratitude to the Lord for whatever cash gift they received in their hands as Christmas gift. I want to take this opportunity to thank each one of you who showed your special concern towards the missionaries at the time of Christmas. I pray that more people would get involved in this project for the coming year.

Philippines Mission Trip: The local organizers finalized the dates for Philippines mission trip from February 24th to March 5th. I will teach in a conference on Mindanao Island where 200 pastors are expected to attend. Following this, I will have a church ministry to general public on Bohol Island. I also hope to have a ministry to the Indian community in Manila which is yet to be confirmed by the local organiser. The total budget for the Philippines mission trip is US\$2300. The Lord prompted few people to pledge a total of US\$800 towards this mission until now. I still trust the Lord for the remaining funds of US\$1500. Philippines a pre-dominantly Catholic nation is economically poor making it difficult for the local organizers to fund the expenses. So I make this special appeal to you to pray and consider supporting this important and profitable mission trip. If the Lord lays it upon your heart to have a financial share in this mission trip, please write to me and I will be happy to guide you how to transfer the funds for this mission trip.

Gratitude for 2007: As we stand at the threshold of the year 2008, looking back to the year 2007, the staff, missionaries and the board of directors of RLF has much to thank the Lord for His Blessings, Protection, Provision, Guidance and Help in our ministry during the year. We thank each one of you for your faithful and regular prayers for our ministry which enabled us to accomplish what we could during the year. We are especially thankful to those who sent the monthly donations. Some of you supported our projects during the year which made us a channel of blessings to thousands through literature, conferences, Prophecy meetings and native missionaries. Thank you for investing in Eternity through your prayer and financial support for our ministry. We may not know the results of our hard labour for the Lord during the year, but Eternity will reveal the blessings you brought to thousands of people through your partnership with us in our ministry. May the Lord richly bless you for what you have done for Him through our ministry. We continue to seek and value your partnership with us in the coming year and years to come. I close this letter wishing you and your family **A Prosperous Christ Centred New Year of 2008.**

Sincerely in Him,
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