

PRAYER LETTER



Mountain Road From Kathmandu, Nepal



LRI TNT pastors in Hetauda, Nepal

“Jai Mashi!”

-Tim Wong

In October, I had the opportunity to join two regional directors of LRI (Leadership Resources International), Pastor Alan Ginn and Gilbert Zinke, along with Pastor Jerry Wong to participate in the TNT (Training Native Trainers) program in Nepal. Unsure of what to expect in a foreign land, I read up on the travel advisory and prayed for the best. What followed the 30 arduous hours of journey to get there was an eye opener! In the midst of great poverty, I witnessed the richness of Hope in the lives of those we met. We were greeted warmly and enthusiastically, “Jai Mashi!” which means, “Our Messiah is victorious!”

Nepal is located in Southern Asia between China and India. It is home to eight of the world’s highest peaks, including Mt. Everest and Kanchenjunga on the Great Himalaya Range. It has a population of approximately 30 million people, with an overwhelming majority that

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Dear Prayer Partners,

With the Thanksgiving holiday approaching, I find myself reflecting just how much thanksgivings are due to the Lord! I thank God for His Faithfulness as He opens door for ministry opportunity, for His Protection over my family while I was in Nepal, for His Glory proclaimed throughout the world... just to name a few.

I was greatly moved by my experience in Nepal, please read more about it in “Jai Mashi.” I am also greatly encouraged by our church family at Hope Bible Church, Visitacion Valley. Recently, the men, young and old, took great time and effort to prepare and serve their sisters in Christ at the “Ladies Appreciation Night.” And last week, a great number came out for an outreach event. It was a joy to see the youth bringing out their younger siblings to enjoy fun games of bowling and arcades. It’s wonderful to meet, potentially, the next youth group! Please pray that we may reach these young ones for Christ.



God continues to open doors for us to reach the Vis. Valley community. Someone contacted the leaders about a 7th grade student who was in need of a math tutor. Once the need was made known to the church family, three high school students gladly volunteered their service. It opened the door for this family to get to know our church and youth group. Please pray as this student receives homework assistance, she and her family may also come to know and accept our Savior as their own.

“Thank you!” for your faithful prayer and support.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Tim Wong

NEPAL CHURCH

The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.” Matthew 9:35-38

“Jai Mashi!” - Continued

follows Hinduism. When the 10-year civil war ended with the signing of a Peace Accord in 2006, the government permitted religious freedom. The persecution against Christians ceased yet difficulties remain in this mostly pagan nation. LRI estimated there are 3,000 churches nationwide. Unfortunately, the charismatic movement, which shares some common aspects of cultural beliefs and practices that are greatly attractive to the Nepalese young believers, is gaining a stronghold in their lives. Thus, LRI endeavors to train Nepalese pastors, many are young believers themselves, to be firmly grounded in God’s Word so they may shepherd their flock in the Truth and remain steadfast in their Faith. TNT is a 4-year program that meets twice a year to train a group of 15-20 “1st generation” pastors. Each one of them then gathers the next generation of pastors to train, and so on. Applying the principle of 2 Timothy 2:2, they are now reaching the 4th generation of pastors and their churches.

The training session I participated in was held in Hetauda, a town located in western Nepal, not too far from India. It was very hot and humid, but it didn’t deter the pastors’ zeal and desire to learn. Many of them traveled great distances by buses, motorcycles, or by foot through narrow, adverse, mountainous roads. I experienced it first hand during my 7-hour car ride from the Capital, Kathmandu, to Hetauda. A little mistake by the driver could easily plunge us over the cliff thousands of feet down. (My travel companion, Pastor Jerry, said it well-- “Just pray.”)

I was inspired and encouraged by these pastors’ passion and dedication, and I would like to tell you a little bit more about Pastor John Chhetri and Pastor Lazarus Thulung. They are instrumental in bringing these local pastors together, and also served as our translators during the training session and home visits. During our week together, they often journeyed that 7-hour trip between Kathmandu and Hetauda to attend to their other responsibilities. John was the dean at a Bible college in Kathmandu when he first met Pastor Alan. After John caught the vision of LRI, he left that post and teamed up with his seminary classmate, Lazarus, to organize the program in Nepal. Their work not only involves organizing the TNT programs, but also mentoring other pastors in the unreached rural parts of Nepal. John’s next goal is to pioneer a TNT program in

his home country, India, and to see a multiplying growth of churches.

Lazarus experienced God’s grace at a very early age – at his birth. His mother died of childbirth, and he was found breathless and left to die. The local witch doctor pronounced the baby and his mother cursed. But, by God’s providence, the baby revived and was named Lazarus. Growing up, Lazarus witnessed his father enduring great persecution for preaching the Gospel. He vividly remembered the police ransacking his home looking for Bibles and other Christian literatures, and imprisoned his father 24 times for owning and hiding such materials. Lazarus didn’t want to be a pastor for the persecution was too close to home. But, he finally obeyed God’s leading and dedicated his life to serve God’s people. Three weeks after our training, Lazarus wrote to me, “Our Church planting 4 month training will end this week. These 12 Church planters will return to their remote villages this next week and start New Churches where there are no Churches. Pray for their challenges. Four of them need to spend 4 days to reach their home (one day bus and three days walk).”

Isn’t it incredible to see how God’s kingdom is advancing in an adverse environment?! I’m humbled by my fellow church planters’ commitment and perseverance, and encouraged by God’s confirmation of CBM’s vital role to mentor pastors, support seminary training, and to continue our church planting endeavor here in California. May I also ask you to pray for church planters like John and Lazarus? Like my father did in early CBM’s church planting era, many Nepalese pastors shepherd multiple churches at once, with very little or no financial support. If God touches your heart to participate in the church planting effort in Nepal, please earmark your love offering “Nepal Project.” □

Jai Mashi!

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people. But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd. Then He said to His disciples, “The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.” Matthew 9:35-38