

A Testimony of Impact



Missionary Raja's House Ministry

GGMESSENGER

Gilgal Gospel Mission
Preaching Christ & Planting Churches since 1974

Cast your bread upon the waters, for you will find it after many days. He who observes the wind will not sow, and he who regards the clouds will not reap. Eccles 11:1

49 years ago GGM began casting the Bread of life on India's remote mission field, sowing into hard soil but trusting God's plan to prosper. Our perseverance to preach Christ continues despite the increasing 'winds and clouds' on this difficult field. The journey of the Erode District mission field is a testimony of our missionaries and donors perseverance.

22 years ago Missionary David Raj began serving GGM in **Krisnapayalam** in the Erode District. With no GGM presence, he and his wife, Serina, started the long journey to develop trust with people through house visits and offers of prayer. Oh so slowly and one by one, God called people to worship and GGM rented a small house roof-top terrace 1 1/2 years after arrival. Two decades later, 60-70 people gather each Lord's Day and Friday for fasting prayer. Missionary Raj visits church attendees monthly at their homes and visits community members weekly. Not unique to this area, the local government prohibits the registration of Christian churches, but Missionary David Raj is not deterred to share God's word. From the beginning, he expanded his mission field to evangelize people in towns within an hour's bike ride.



Krisnapayalam Worship Service

9 years ago God blessed his 13-year outreach to **Mulapalayam** and in 2014 GGM rented a 200 sq. ft store front in town and named it the Indian Missionary Church (IMC) Prayer House. Around 20 'secret' Christians attend service and 18 people have been baptized. The church continues to grow as one believer tells another!

1 years ago Missionary David Raj planted seeds in **Solar** village. Today 15-20 people gather to worship. It is difficult to spread the Gospel in these villages since the government doesn't permit to build churches. Yet, we are not deterred and in 2021 GGM built a Prayer House!

1 year ago the **Pallipayalam** Worship Center started and Missionary Raja was appointed though there was not a single Christian in the area. GGM rented a house for the missionary and under Missionary David Raj's guidance, they planted a church. Initially the government resisted to rent to us so no gospel work was done for 2 months. Slowly Missionary Raja began talking and praying with people, and gradually he was accepted. Today, about 17 people attend Sunday service so a 200 sq. ft. hall has been rented. Fields are ripe for harvest!

In the morning sow your seed, and in the evening do not withhold your hand; for you do not know which will prosper. Eccles. 11:4



Missionary Sathish - VBS Erode

In the Erode District of 2.25 million people, Missionaries David Raj and Raja started 5 church planting centers. Most often a plant starts with a children's ministry. In May, GGM continued its annual Vacation Bible School in each of our 33 centers. Over 1300 children participated in the curriculum prepared by missionary families and Children's Ministry Dept.

GGM's New Discipleship Training

Correspondent Course & Internships!

To prepare more missionaries outside of the traditional seminary structure, GGM started a 6-month certificate Discipleship Training course accredited through our seminary (ITS) in 2022. Conducted at the Solar Church with a faculty member and local missionary, David Raj, the twice weekly group of 10 study. Students also learn by experience as they serve with GGM Missionaries in the field. From the 1st class, 4 believers from the Solar Church graduated!

We hired a new missionary, Sadis Kumar, from Bangalore, who helped with his home church though he has a secular diploma. New to village ministry, he joined ITS's Discipleship Training. During his training, he's staying at the Solar Church parsonage and will work in the field with Missionary David Raj before being assigned a full time to a church planting center. This marks the 1st GGM missionary internship.



Missionary David Raja
Street Ministry

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Kim Barnabas joined ITS seminary on scholarship for a 3-year Bachelor of Theology degree. He intended to return to his father's ministry, but he fell in love with village ministry, so he decided to serve at GGM's Solar Church for 1 year.



GGM Churches baptized 50 believers in 2023. In June 16 people were baptized at GGM main campus and over 200 members from IMC churches participated in the Holy Communion Service.



GGM dedicated 8 missionaries, including 6 for North India (Odisha) & 2 for Tamil Nadu.



Missionary David Raja baptizing

As you do not know what is the way of the wind, or how the bones grow in the womb of her who is with child, do you do not know the works of God who makes everything. Eccles. 11:5

GGM Expands to North India!

In the morning sow your seed, and in the evening do not withhold your hand; for you do not know which will prosper, either this or that, or whether both alike will be good. Eccles. 11:6

When Anjan Kumar Khura graduated from ITS in 2002, Pastor Russelliah encouraged him to return home to Odisha, North India and plant a church. He tried but without funding it was a challenge. Seminary staff visited to consider a partnership, but nothing developed and the relationship ended until.....



Anjan contacted GGM in 2021 about receiving a candidate from his village. He spoke with Sunil and asked if GGM was ready to expand to North India, offering to lead the effort. Sunil took the 24-hour train ride with great interest and visited 3 villages over 3 days. Sunil returned home to share the opportunity, and everyone believed God was calling GGM to 'enlarge the territory', as Christobel knew God would do. We are excited to report that 6 villages, 10-20 miles apart, with no existing Christian witness were selected to expand GGM into North India and 6 local missionaries were hired. They visited GGM for 2 days of training and they have begun the tedious task of church planting through house visitations, personal evangelization, and Sunday worship under a tree or in their personal home.

Christian persecution is much more prevalent in North India and already local religious leaders in one village forbid worship in a home so they have moved outside the village under a tree. We have received testimonies that 2 people have believed on the Lord Jesus Christ and they are bringing other people to church.

Like any increase that God gives, we must walk in faith that He will provide the resources. The approximate monthly budget increase is \$500, with each missionary being paid less than \$100/month. Please pray that we can meet budget.

President's Message



"...But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed, and all the gentiles might hear it, so I was rescued from the lion's mouth." 2 Timothy 4:17

Greetings to you all in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Gilgal Gospel Mission firmly holds to the founding vision of Preaching Christ and Planting Churches in unreached parts of India. It can take a long time to see the results of our efforts, but God has proven faithful for 5 decades of ministry. We face religious discrimination, political red tape, and often lack space, infrastructure, or enough people to minister effectively. We encounter people who are fearful that they will lose recognition and privileges if they choose to become part of a Christian community. Through all of this, we continue to help those who are hurting, provide for the needy, and share the love of Christ to those who have never heard before that God became man, died for their sins, and rose from the grave to eternally save them.

This past year we added missionaries, provided more counseling services, started vocational training programs, provided resources for children to go to school, baptized more people, and witnessed rural villages transform and become hubs for the spread of the gospel message. We are spreading our wings to begin a new ministry branch in North India in the state of Odisha. As of 2023, we have 44 established congregations that meet weekly, 21 have built churches and 23 worship in rented houses, sheds, or rooms and 30 full-time missionaries are serving. Many missionaries serve more than one church or church planting center. The people in these ministry centers are blessed by ministries including women's fellowships, adult literacy initiative, gospel camps, personal evangelism, medical camps, outreach ministry, Sunday School, Vacation Bible School (VBS), ministry with the homeless, and online ministries. We thank God for enabling us to introduce and carry out a variety of mission activities each year. We are so thankful to all our friends and partners for your ongoing support. *Your prayers, encouragement, and support are what make all this possible.* Thank you for continuing to journey with GGM!

Grace and Peace
Rev. N. Sunil Singh, President



Ministries are Blessed with Expansion

Children's Home Kids are flourishing.

Over 100 children have called GGM home since 1992. Today, 17 children reside with us, having lost one or both parents or are at-risk. We share their struggles and joys like high school and college graduations and weddings.

Recently, Tulsi won 1st prize in Tiruvallur District's painting competition with a theme of "International Day Against Drug Abolition & Illicit Trafficking" and was awarded a certificate. Thank God for sponsors, who make this ministry possible.

Ministry with the Homeless

For 3 years, we have distributed 100 hot meals each month and now groceries every 2 months to people living in railway stations, bus stops, or under bridge shelters. Single moms, destitute seniors and physically challenged people receive support. We always talk and pray with those who are interested. The entire GGM family volunteers as time permits.

Vocational Training Ministry

Missionary David Raj's wife, Serisma continues vocational sewing training at Krishnapalayam and Solar Churches since 2021. Every 6 months, 3-4 new women learn tailoring and share personal and family needs. A few attend church, others are 'secret believers' because of family and community persecution, and others pray to Jesus but hold to other 'gods'.

Indian Theological Seminary (ITS) Admissions Exceed Expectations

This year, we admitted 32 new students from across India bringing total student body to 65! Two ITS alumni enrolled their children, GGM missionary children are students, and people in secular jobs are doing external courses (BCS, DCS).

Prayer Fellowship

There are 65 prayer fellowship groups meeting weekly or monthly. Through this fellowship, God has done miracles, healings and many have been delivered from clutches of the evil one. Prayer requests are shared through WhatsApp groups and in our monthly magazine. To receive prayer requests, use our 'contact us' website page.

Adult Literacy Ventures

Ms. Joyce Apollos, a missionary wife, started a 1-year twice weekly class at the Chengiagram Church with 40 learners from surrounding villages in attendance. Several testified that this program enabled them to get a better job! Plans are underway to start adult literacy centers at 5 more village churches.

St. Philips School Continues

Started nearly 50 years ago, the school continues by God's grace to offer reduced cost English medium education in the big city of Hyderabad. The school is a blessing to financially struggling parents. With a large number of admissions this year (20), we plan to expand the school building and appoint more teachers for the 40 students in attendance!

Children's Rally

An annual tradition since 1998, rallies gathered 500-1000 children from each village church to mission campus for fellowship, learning, and praising God. The pandemic required us to localize the event, so we created print and video materials for each church. Seminary students and Children's Ministry Staff traveled to each village with special skits and other Christ-centered activities. By God's grace, we have an even larger attendance with 1600+ kids participating in 2023!

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Facebook: [Gilgal Gospel Mission](#)

YouTube: [Gilgal-TV](#)

Email: ggmits@yahoo.co.in (India)
or ggmleslie@gmail.com (U.S.)

Instagram: [gilgalgospelmission](#)

Website: www.gilgalgospel.org

Phone: 044-2638-4823 India
724-689-9843 U.S.

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