

Right Hand Ministries

“Then the King will say to those on His RIGHT HAND, ‘Come, you who are blessed of My Father... for I was hungry and you gave Me food, thirsty and you gave Me drink, a stranger and you took Me in, naked and you clothed Me, sick and you visited Me, in prison and you came to Me.’”

Matthew 25:34-36

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VARIOUS NEWS FROM INDIA

It's been such a blessing to be a part of what the Lord is doing at HOPE and in various other places over the last 7 weeks. February was particularly busy, especially when we had 6 visitors from Oklahoma here at HOPE at the same time. The children loved the extra attention and activities. It's been a little rough at HOPE for the last couple of weeks, as there has been many fevers and eye infections. We are thankful that most of that is over. The boys home is still suffering from the eye infections. **Please pray.**

Praise the Lord that our small tuition center in a jungle area of Orissa should be starting up around the first of April. Seems like such a small thing, but how precious it is that many children should soon be learning how to read and write in their own Kui language. We trust this will not only enhance their possibilities for the future, but will help them to better serve the Lord as they are able to read and share the Word of God. Amazing love He has for these remote tribals!

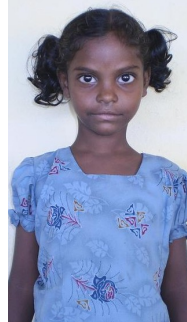
Ministry opportunities: Lin and Dan went to Coimbatore and got to share with many (story on p. 2). Since our last newsletter we've been able to take some HOPE children to minister at 2 more villages. **Pray** for us, as we have great expectations concerning the Lord raising up these HOPE



PROFILES OF THE HOPE NEST



Dinesh (6-25-97): Dinesh's father was an alcoholic & thief, as well as beating the mother and boys. To keep him from the abuse & bad influence, the mother brought Dinesh to HOPE in 2003. Always a good boy with a tender heart, Dinesh is a good leader for the boys.



Kumari (1-5-03): Kumari's father died when she was young (cause unknown). The mother had 3 children, then remarried. After having 2 more children, the 2nd husband wasn't willing to care for the first 3 children. Grandparents were too poor, so brought Kumari to HOPE.



children to be ministers of His truth & love wherever He would have them in this world. Because of school exams and harvest season, it may be mid-April or May before we can become more consistent with our weekly village outreach. We also have a burden to start having a monthly children's meeting at HOPE for the neighborhood children. There are so many children in this area that go to church or Sunday School, but much of the teaching will not lead them to a true commitment to follow Jesus. So our hope in the Lord is to help them (and non-church going children) understand more about Christ, and that true revival would take place!

HOPE's lost one of its helpers, so **please pray** that the Lord will give us someone who has a real diligence to help wherever they are needed. **Pray** also about joining hands with us in the Lord's endeavor to help more orphans & widows, heal the broken, and help the poor fulfill their callings.

LEFT: HOPE Family group photo, along with some helpers and AT, Russel & Steve from OKC.



CONSTRUCTION UPDATE: Most of the brick work has been done, the same crew currently plastering (as in photo). Often true in America also, the work is going pitifully slow, not getting serious about stepping up the pace until a month or 2 before the work is needing to be completed. **Please pray** for the Lord's favor so that everything pertaining to the HOPE School will be done by the 2nd week or so in June when the next school year begins. Brickwork, plastering, electrical, plumbing, flooring, painting, building a staircase, & entrance work all needs to be done.

COIMBATORE TRIP: Lin, Jennifer & myself (Dan) went to Chennai, Jennifer returning to the US, then Lin and I going further south to Coimbatore, where we've done some ministry and built many relationships over the last 18 years.

Murthy is a pastor whom we have been assisting in ministry for several years. Lin and I stayed in his home, spending the next 3 or 4 days visiting homes, speaking in some churches and having one pastors meeting. Murthy is well-respected by many of the pastors and believers in the area, and uses some of the funds we give to help other ministries as well. Coimbatore is not considered a hostile area for Christians, yet it certainly isn't a place where it's easy to spread the Gospel or do ministry. There are many churches and Christian organizations in the area, but this is also a place where Hinduism is very strong, as well as witchcraft.

There's well over a million people in the Coimbatore area, and thousands of believers. Please pray for them, as their state is holding elections over the next couple of months, with anti-Christian parties having a strong chance of taking control of the government. When they were in control several years ago, it brought many problems and persecution upon believers. **Read the article to the right** to learn about the photo below and our experience with children's homes.

Pray for these children, part of a children's home in Coimbatore that is lacking in its vision to care for them



WHAT ARE WE TRYING TO DO, AND WHY? Letting God Search Our Hearts

"...and the fire itself will test the quality of each man's work." 1 Corinthians 3:13. When Sister Lin and I went to Coimbatore in February we visited 2 different children's homes. The first home had about 150 children, as well as a small Bible School (students also staying on the compound). Honestly, how can we know very much from a 2 or 3 hour visit concerning the "quality" of this home? The Lord only can be the righteous Judge of that, but it was reasonably clean, spacious and well-staffed. All the children had bunk beds, nice mattresses on each bed, their own trunks for clothes and other possessions, a volleyball net outside. There were things that may need to be changed (He's always refining), but it was obvious that the people doing this ministry have some real concern for the children and Bible School students.

Two or 3 hours later we visited a second children's home. Both homes were a mix of mostly "hostel" children (where the children have family, but stay there for education), but also children that live there fulltime. In this home it had 59 children. The home is far too small for this number of children, mosquito-infested and way understaffed. Although it was a joy to be able to minister to these precious ones, it grieved us to see their condition. The people responsible for the home live 4 or 5 miles from the children, and there's only one woman really caring for these 59 children! There's also a cook and a few elderly people at the home.

They should have stopped taking in children long ago and concentrated on building up the staff, focusing on "quality" instead of quantity. Ministry "zeal" focuses more on size, numbers and money. A true shepherd's heart has love for each member being ministered to, so is not willing to sacrifice quality or the well-being of the children in order to impress others, feel good about oneself or raise funds. For those in ministry of any kind, let's ask the Lord to help us see the deeper motivations for all that we do. *"I have no one else of kindred spirit who will genuinely be concerned for your welfare, for they all seek after their own interests, not those of Christ Jesus." Philippians 2:20-21*



HOPE Birthdays in March & April

Moses— 1 on March 1	Ramya—13 on April 1
Mariamma—21 on March 12	Akil—13 on April 3
Ajay—13 on March 17	Aswini—16 on April 8
Smitha—March 30	Theja—14 on April 15
	Daddy—April 22

NEW ADDRESS & PHONE INFO:

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