



MISSION: EXPLOSION INTERNATIONAL

In A Global Hunt for Lost Souls
Matthew 28:18-20

May 2008



Rusty Writes:

Dear Partners with MEI:

Greetings in Jesus' name! Our summer is off to a quick start. I am writing this newsletter from Mexico. We have visited two states: Jalisco and Nayarit. We are staying in a town called Nuevo Vallarta. We have visited many surrounding villages. This is my first mission trip into Mexico. The poverty and living conditions here remind us a lot of India. We have made a few contacts, and have found out most people are Roman Catholics; however, we have seen only a few of these churches. Please be praying for a door to be opened for a church to be planted somewhere in this area in the near future. More details in next issue.



India Preachers Still Need To Be Sponsored

Below please read this testimony from brother Enoch, a preacher with MEI. As of last month's newsletter, five more preachers have been sponsored. Thank you, thank you, to those of you who sponsored them. We still have about 10 more preachers to be adopted. Please pray and consider taking one of these men and their family into your family as you help them in spreading the Gospel and remaining "in a global hunt for lost souls." If you have sponsored a preacher, please send your \$200 in now. We will be sending you a profile and picture of your adopted preacher and family. We have just returned from Mexico, and the

preacher profiles will be top priority on next week's schedule.

Greetings in the sweet name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,

I thank God for the privilege to write my testimony. I was born in a Hindu family in a small town called Puthur in the State of Andhra Pradesh. After my formal education, I did my own business in tailoring. By this time I got married and had 3 Children. The tailoring job was getting me good money, and slowly I became an addict to drinking alcohol, playing cards in the club, adultery, lottery tickets etc. All this bad habits drained my finances and soon my business went down. There was no peace in the family. I suffered from ulcers and also I became a psychiatric patient. At this point of time I thought of either leaving Puthur, my birth place, or committing suicide. The devil constantly kept me in fear and depression. I lost my business, my integrity and everybody started hating me. Somehow on the 10th of Dec 1989, I got a chance to leave to Saudi Arabia for a tailoring job. The Manager of the Unit, an Arab Sheikh, gave me 10 days time to learn the Arabic language to stay and work in that Country. I begged for 3 month's time, but he refused. The days were running fast. I was

praying fervently to all the gods I knew. On the night of the 7th day, I said to myself, “If there is any real God it would help me.”

On the morning of the eighth day a stranger came to my shop. He spoke in Telugu (my mother tongue in India). I cried to him like a baby and explained my situation. He said there are a lot of Telugu speaking persons in one area, and he said he will take me there. The people from my state were so happy to see me. When they heard my story, they talked to me about the one true God; that is about Jesus Christ. Then I found out that many of them were Christians. They read the Bible to me, prayed for me and talked to me about the plan of salvation. On the 10th day the Arab Sheikh called me and asked me about learning the language. I was not able to answer, but my mouth was telling the name of Jesus Christ the living God, then suddenly the Sheikh said he was giving me 3 months time to learn the language. He also assured me of full salary during this period. The gods whom I had been worshipping for the last 33 years did not help me at all, but the Living God Jesus Christ saved me from the worst kind of situation in a foreign country. I accepted Christ as my Savior. The Christian brothers helped me to learn Arabic in 2 months. I was promoted as cutting master and was paid a good salary. I went to a secret worship service and worshipped the living God.

Thus, my life as a Christian believer began. According to the scripture 1st John 1: 8, 9, I cried for my sins to be washed and forgiven and God did that. For the first time in my life I enjoyed a true happiness in my life. Then the preacher of the church taught me about baptism according to Acts: 2:38. I had my baptism in the Arabic Sea and my name was changed to Enoch, as the Bible says in Acts 2:42. I submitted myself in a local church in Saudi Arabia.

In the year 1991 I came to India to see my family members. My old friends came to see me, but they saw a real change in my life. My family members were still Hindus. When I told them my testimony and asked them to accept Christ, they refused and asked me not to compel them. After my vacation I came back to Saudi Arabia. After 6 months my wife wrote to me that one of my brothers did some witchcraft or black magic and tried to disturb my family. In the night there would be some strange sound and everybody would be scared to death. Somehow a local preacher came and prayed and the Evil spirit left. So my wife wrote to me that she and my children had accepted Christ as their personal Savior. What a joy in my life.

Again in the year 1995 I planned to go to India for a 3 month vacation. Shortly before my departure I was hit by a car while I was cycling. By God’s pure grace I escaped with some scratches. As the days came for me to leave for Saudi Arabia, I decided not to leave and instead stay back in India and do the Lord’s ministry on a part-time basis. So I started a tailoring shop and stitched clothes from morning till evening. In the evenings I attended Gospel Meetings and give my testimony. God used me as a translator from Tamil to Telugu. As the days went by I realized that I should be in the full-time ministry. By God’s grace I am a preacher of a village church in Kasivmetta. My wife and children are blessed; my two sons and my son-in-law are in government jobs. God has blessed us abundantly with His peace and strength. I give all praise, honor and glory to my Master Jesus Christ. I thank Bro. William Rusty Swafford for his prayers and support.

Your brother,
Enoch

Mission: Explosion International 2007 Financial Report

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|---|---------------|
| Balance as of January 1, 2007 | \$ 21,912.44 |
| 2007 Deposits (designated and general) | 107,659.30 |
| 2007 Group Short-Term Mission Trip Deposits | 43,000.00 |
| Interest | <u>1.61</u> |
| Total Deposits | \$ 150,660.91 |

Expenses

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| Mission Trip Travel Expenses – as deposited above (airline tickets, fees, food, lodging and transportation expenses) | \$ 44,996.54 |
| Medical (Includes Staff and Benevolent Medical, Funeral Expenses and All Medically Related Help Given) | 16,733.55 |
| Bibles (Tamil and Telegu), Books, Tapes, Etc. | 111.98 |
| Business & Office Exp, Newsletters, Postage, Copies, Etc. | 5,573.51 |
| Repairs & Maintenance (Compound, Churches, Mission House, Etc.) | 3,856.00 |
| Christmas Project | 3,194.11 |
| Salaries | 73,638.35 |
| Bank and Wire Transfer Fees | 858.14 |
| Conventions, Camps | 255.00 |
| Legal Fees (CPA, Attorney Fees, Government Documents and Fees) | 1,974.00 |
| Ministries (TV, RACE, etc.) | 1030.00 |
| Utilities (phone, internet, electricity, etc.) | 2,434.80 |
| Vehicle Expenses, Maintenance and Repairs | 1,231.87 |
| Travel Expenses (hotel, food, gas, car rental) | <u>10,030.32</u> |
| Total Expenses | \$ 165,918.17 |
| Ending Balance December 31, 2007 | \$ 6,655.18 |
| (Ending balance money was designated funds.) | |

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