

August 2015

From the CEO's Desk: Praise and Fall Focus

A year ago, Dee and I had just slipped away for our time in the mountains, when we heard about what had happened in Mosul, Iraq; 35,000 exiled and all their property confiscated, thousands killed. We cut our vacation and in a few short days I was in Erbil, Northern Iraq, ministering alongside our Iraqi counterparts.

We have been working primarily with several churches, in Erbil and in Baghdad. They have been champions for Christ and your hearts and hands for helping many thousands of Christian and Muslim refugees fleeing the scourge of ISIS (*see page three*).

The GBC building project has been a significant focus of this past year. How thankful I am for the accomplishment you made happen with the school now on its own campus. God has been so gracious and you have been so faithful...I trust you have been following the progress each month in our newsletters and the website.



Dr. Cook at the Sea of Galilee

As we look at the completion of 2015, what do we want to accomplish? *How can we cast the net effectively to bring more people to a saving knowledge of Christ, baptized and discipled as His followers?* There are several ways:

GBC Campus - We continue to prepare the GBC campus as challenges are still needing to be answered. Rain has made the unfinished dining hall unusable for eating and classrooms. We need to build the walls to close this in (*see page two*). We also need to build the library and ship the library books over. We need more housing and classrooms. I am asking the Lord for \$100,000 to facilitate this next step for this Fall.

National Pastors' Conferences - We have conferences slated for India and Egypt this fall building into the lives of pastors and the Church (*see page four*).

Outreach to Iraqi refugees will continue as the Lord provides funds. I'm asking you to continue to assist as we engage in this incredible need and opportunity. More people in Iraq have trusted Jesus Christ than ever, and we are working alongside our Iraqi pastors and Church family as they give of their time and efforts to reach their people for Christ. I'm asking the Lord for another \$50,000 for these needs.

General Fund - As you know, it takes funding to keep the doors open and the lights on. I need 50 business owners to join our "Global Business Partners" to support Indigenous Ministries at \$100 per month. We have prepared this striking plaque for you in recognition of your monthly partnership and impact for Christ.



Staffing needs - The Lord has been expanding our ministry borders, and there is a need need for two people to come on staff with IM in Colorado Springs, willing to raise their support. Please pray for these needed additions as we have much to do in support of the ministry. This is extremely rewarding work. If you would like more information, please contact our office @ info@IndigenousMinistries.org.

Again, I'd like to express my deepest appreciation and heartfelt gratefulness first to the Lord, and then to you in partnering in this great endeavor to reach people through our national pastors and leaders for eternity. - Dr. John Cook, CEO

GBC New School Year Begins



GRACE BIBLE COLLEGE 2015-2016 FACULTY AND STUDENT BODY

Classes in India have been in session for a month, and I'm excited to share that we have 55 students enrolled this year at Grace Bible College.

I'm deeply touched as I read through the students' bios...young people intentionally seeking to enrich their future ministry by obtaining a solid Biblical education. We have young men and women enrolled from diverse backgrounds and experiences, but all come together with a common goal: to grow in Christ and prepare for a lifetime of reaching India with the Gospel.

At GBC, students choose from one year Certificate of Bible, Certificate of Theology, or a three year Bachelor of Theology degree. It is our privilege to engage in their training and enrichment. Some of the classes include: Systematic Theology, Old Testament Survey, New Testament Survey, Life of Christ, Christian Living, Hermeneutics, Greek, and English. With this solid Biblical education, students graduate with a firm foundation for their future.

With a record enrollment on the new two-acre campus, we have 20 students in need of sponsors (up from six needing sponsorships in June). Would you prayerfully consider joining with us in helping one of these students like freshman Rohan, (pictured top right), who wants to be an evangelist? Or Gita (middle right), who will use her Bible education to serve the Lord in the medical field, or Sharad (bottom right), who wants to be a pastor. What an opportunity!

There are two levels: \$100/month for full sponsorship or \$50/month for half sponsorship. Either amount is a great blessing. You can count on hearing from your sponsored student at least twice per year. Shoot me an email at srieger@IndigenousMinistries.org and I'll send you the profile of one of our students. You can use the form on page four, and it's also easy to engage through our website at www.IndigneousMinistries.org by clicking the "donate" button and selecting "Grace Bible College - Student Sponsorship" in the drop down menu.
- Sarah Rieger, Executive Assistant for Child and Student Sponsorships



Grace Bible College Property Update:

Students are enjoying living in the new shipping container dorms; every bunkbed is occupied and all systems are up and running. As with any new construction, there have been adjustments and discoveries. But the staff at GBC is doing a great job! Moving forward, the immediate need is for furnishings and completion of the dining hall walls. We need \$10,000 for these two areas.



GBC boys taking a break in the dining hall between classes

Would you pray with me for this amount to come soon? If you want to donate, you can use the form on page four or donate on our website. Thank you for continuing to stand with us in training these great young men and women with a great Biblical education for the future good of India. - Dr. John Cook, CEO

Iraq Refugee Update - Reaching out to Displaced Muslims

I'd like to share with you an email from one of our pastors in Iraq I received in early August. We have been helping them reach out to Shiia and Sunni Muslims who have been forced out of Ramadi and other areas by ISIS. In his own words, he thanks you too... - Dr. John Cook

*I wish to thank you for your attention about the ministry with **Refugees and Displaced Families** in Iraq, which our church serves with them. Last Friday we had an event for 250 kids from displaced families, who are from many different backgrounds, and listened to the message from the Bible. Then, they gave toys and a Bible for kids. Attached you'll find some photos. I wish to thank you for partnering with us to let Muslims kids listen about **Jesus and His Salvation**. I also want to share with you our visit to wounded soldiers who were stricken by IS in Ramadi and Tikrit. We visited 15 soldiers in the governmental hospital, prayed with them, gave to them a financial gift and a Bible. **This is the Love of Christ. They were very happy for this visit, and the hospital administration appreciated our visit to them. Hope to keep us in your prayers.***



Pictured below: L-R, Pastor ministering to wounded soldiers and their families, far right, the children listening to the Gospel, above right, food distributed to Muslim families.



Children's Home Repair Project Update:



Girls from the Children's Home outside the main building

India - The interior has been completely repaired and painted - which is great because the kids are back and settled into the dormitories. Thank you to our generous donors who gave donations of \$4649 to date for the repairs. Praise God for His blessing and provision!

What's left is the exterior painting of the main building and the dining hall which is used every day by the children and is also a classroom now for GBC. Please pray with us for the remaining \$5,351 needed to complete this project. If you would like to help us reach the finish line, you can use the form on the back page to include with your check. Or, go to www.IndigenousMinistries.org, click the donate button and select Children's Home Repairs in the dropdown menu. Thank you!

Israel Tour: Plan now for May 1-12, 2016

Now is the time to begin your preparations for our upcoming Israel Tour in 2016. I wanted to take a few pixels in this newsletter to say...psst, how about it? Email info@IndigenousMinistries.org, or call Penny at 719-302-3028. A \$300 deposit will save your seat!

Sign up for information about the Israel Tour on the homepage of our website, www.IndigenousMinistries.org. You will find a link to the itinerary on the homepage as well.



Imagine seeing these ancient, 2000+ years old olive trees in the Garden of Gethsemane pictured above...**yes**, historically we can show you that they were there the night Christ prayed! - Dee Cook



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Fall International Conferences

This Fall, Indigenous Ministries has opportunities for us all to engage in ministering to the persecuted church in Egypt and India, as we will be holding national Pastors' Conferences to minister to those on the front lines of church planting and caring for those in the Church.

Every pastor attending is in great need of this time of spiritual, physical and emotional refreshment. As a result of ministering to pastors in India recently, one village pastor disciplined 220 people in his village with our discipleship program! How exciting to be able to bless many this way!



Indian national pastors at IM's Pastors' Conference Fall 2014

How you and your church can engage:

- Pray earnestly for these conferences in October and November
- Sponsor pastors to attend at \$50 each
- Sponsor part of these conferences at \$1000 each (5 sponsors needed)
- Contact us if you are interested in traveling with Dr. Cook

Beautiful International Women's Ministry



One of our girls rescued from ISIS earlier this year. Please keep her in your special prayers.

John and I and our IM staff and Iraqi team are so very encouraged by the response from many of you, our partners, to rescue and help girls kidnapped by ISIS. We have helped 63 to date and I'm asking you to pray and give generously to help many more. We are asking the Lord for the ability to train these rescued girls with jobs.

Please go to www.BeautifulInternational.org for opportunities to travel with me ministering to women, updates on projects and local meetings. Ladies, it's our privilege to engage with the love of Christ with these women. The time is now! Bless you, Dee

Response Card

- ___ Yes, I'd like to give \$ ___ to the GBC Furnishings
- ___ I'd like to give \$ ___ to repair the Children's Home
- ___ I'd like to sponsor a student at GBC for \$100/month
- ___ I'd like to help sponsor a Pastors' Conference at \$ ___
- ___ I'd like to give \$ ___ to Beautiful Int'l Women's Ministry

Name _____

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