



News Letter

(May 2003)

Dear Pastors &
Co-laborers,

How great is the Mercy of God!

As the Bible describes it, "The sure mercies of David." It is interesting to note that the word 'mercy' in the Hebrew language not only is speaking of God's gracious kindness but also emphasizes God's 'loyalty' towards those that trust Him. Thus He abides faithful, even when we are unfaithful. I personally rejoice greatly in the merciful-loyalty of my precious Saviour Jesus Christ.

Calvary Baptist Bible College & Seminary. This year we did not have Graduation due to the reason that students had not completed their subjects satisfactorily. We may have a few Graduations in Nov. 2003 and then again in April 2004. But we did have a closing program in the 1st week of April 2003. We had 3 days of special meetings, which were searching and edifying for both students & staff. Many broke down in confession and worship.

Olivet-Grace Baptist Church. This church under the pastorate of Adrian & Emma Hendricks has been growing steadily. The church has a mixture of English, Tamil, Kannada & Malayalam speaking congregation. Here the service is interpreted from English to Tamil language. They are contemplating on buying their own property. Special Gospel meetings plus revival meetings were conducted from 17th - 19th of April 2003. There were many special songs, but you should have heard the little children's choir. They took the cake. I chose to speak on the 7 sayings of Christ from the Cross. It was well attended and about 25 - 30 people came forward for salvation & re-dedication of lives. This church held V.B.S. in 3 places in Bangalore. The details are included in this letter. They have a burden for the Out-reach work in Kurumberi and Jawadhi Mountains. The Youth have been visiting hospitals regularly.

Tirupattur Baptist Church. This church under the leadership of Charles & Abigail David is steadily progressing. The students of our Seminary as well as the students & staff of Grace Baptist School for Hearing and Hearing Impaired attend this church. They have taken initiative for the Out-reach work in Kurumberi (Foot-hills of Jawadhi Mountains) and Jawadhi Mountains. Once in a month they are

visiting 2 villages in Jawadhi Mountains namely Velasi and Malaithirupattur. The roads are gone from bad to worse. After every visit the vehicles have to be attended to with repair. The unused roads are over grown with bushes and they generously take away the paint from the vehicle. Of course, the alignment goes out completely plus the Tyres suffer agonizingly. I have also been taking trips to Jawadhi Mountains. Our 4-wheel drive Jeep does wonderfully on the mountains. We are truly thankful to you dear people for the contribution towards the purchase of our vehicle. Special Gospel meetings were held at Tirupattur Baptist Church from 5th to 7th of April 2003. Many were touched i.e., members, staff, and students. V.B.S results are given below in the letter.

White Field Baptist Church. This church under the leadership of Richard and Leah Jacob is holding on in this difficult place. The house they were living in was giving allergies constantly. Now the family has moved into a better house and the children are keeping better health. Richard's back and knees have been giving him much trouble due to a 'slip-disk'. He may have to go for surgery. Leah has been brushing up on her nursing career and updating it. On Easter Sunday I preached in this Church with some positive results. They need much prayer. They held V.B.S and the results are tabulated below in this letter.

Kurumberi Baptist Church. This is a growing church of poor and middle class people. Pastor Charles and myself are mainly laboring in this field. It is a joy to notice the way they listen to God's Word, especially their simple, sincere prayer and worship. This church is in Tamil language. We have a large number of youth and children. We have laid the foundation for a church building but do not have funds to raise up the building. The cost for materials is going up. About \$ 2500/- will suffice. The Tirupattur Baptist Church took the initiative to conduct V.B.S here and was also helped by the youths from Olivet-Grace Baptist Church. The details are given below in this letter. One lady (Mugamma) was baptized.

Special Meetings & V.B.S at Kaggadasapura. This was the place in Bangalore where we started the Calvary Baptist Bible College & Seminary plus the Grace Baptist School for Hearing and Hearing Impaired. In 1989 the College was started. The school began in the house of Leena & Francis Newton with just a few children. Now many of the children have finished their 10th std. Our students have been a great influence on their parents who are Hindus. This year we conducted special gospel meetings and V.B.S. Francis and Leena Newton along with Pastor Charles took the initiative. I spoke again from the 7 sayings of Christ from the cross for 3 nights and about 12 came forward for salvation. Now we are in a dilemma as to who will constantly minister to them. There is a prospect for a new church to come up there, but laborers are few. Please pray.

VBS RESULTS

Sl.No.	Church	Date	Place	Language	Attendance	Religion	Results
1	White Field Baptist Church	14th -18th Ap. 2003	Bangalore	Kannada English	40 20	Christians & Hindus	15 made decision for Christ.
2	Olivet-Grace Baptist Church	10th - 15th Ap. 2003	Bangalore (Rammurthi Nagar)	Kannada	26	Christians, Hindus & Muslims	10 made decision for Christ (Bible Club started)
		21st -25th Ap. 2003	Olivet-Grace Baptist Church	Tamil & English	60	Hindus & Christians	20 came forward. The youth memorised about 75 verses.
		28th Ap. - 2nd May-03	Nimhans Hospital Quarters	Kannada & English	36	Hindus & Christians	15 came forward. (Bible Club started)
3	Tirupattur Baptist Church	22nd -24th Apr-03	Bangalore Kaggadaspura (V.B.S. plus special meetings).	English & Kanada	46	Hindus & Christians	Our old students & parents were blessed. 11 received Christ.
		28th Ap. - 2nd May-03	Tirupattur (Morning) Kurumberi (Evening) TOTAL EFFECT	English & Tamil Tamil	90	Hindus & Christians	About 35 made decisions and many were blessed.
					140	Hindus & Christians (Adults & children)	Many made decisions for Christ & believers were strengthened.
					446		About 110 took decision plus 2 Bible Club started and many believers strengthened.

Grace Baptist School for the Hearing and Hearing Impaired: A total of 7 students graduated this year having finished their 10th std. i.e., 2 girls and 5 boys. We had one of our best graduation exercises along with songs and cultural program from staff and students. Our hearts were filled with praise and thanks. One of them testified. "Had it not been for this school I would not have had an education." Mr. & Mrs. Francis Newton keeps laboring ceaselessly for this school.

Youth & Family Camp: We were all excited about having Camp at our beloved Jawadhi Mountains. But at the last minute we had to change the place, as there was acute water shortage. So we chose to go to Elagiri Mountain (sister mountain to Jawadhi Mountain). To our amazement over 75 came for Camp including children, youth and families and older people. The first day was a disaster as one of the vehicles broke down and another got heated up with boiling radiator. Water in the tap was brown, dirty and less. We hired 6 persons to bring water from a distance. Most of the youth slept in Tents and gave the rooms to women and children. I spoke on subjects like "guilt," "Depression," "forgive-ness" and "Biblical communication and Biblical priorities and goals." For families we had lessons chosen from the book "Principles for effective parenting" by Jeff Hodgepeth. You should have heard the testimonies at the end of the camp. Some are quoted below.

Testimonies after the Camp: "The subject about 'guilt' and 'forgiveness' really touched me." – (Emimol) (lady). "I think God has sent me to this camp to learn about 'guilt' and 'forgiveness'." – (Tamar). "After hearing about 'guilt' and 'forgiveness' I confessed my sin to God and now I really feel peace in my heart." – (Karis). "I have been serving God for 20 yrs. But I haven't heard a subject called 'guilt' and 'forgiveness' it was really a blessing to me." – (A.A. Dass). "When I came to Camp I was an empty vessel, but while going back I am full with God's word." – (Stalin). "First when I came I felt like going back, but I mingled, played and attended your sessions and your youth classes. All these made me joyful." – (Juliet). "I enjoyed the group meetings and learned from proverbs chapter 6, 7 & 8." – (John). "In this camp I learned the habit of reading Bible regularly." – (Aaron). "I learned that 'guilt' is good as it brings me close to God and make me clean ... I can even forgive others and I will make an effort to forget." – (Ruth). "Now I am proud to say I am a believer in Christ... I want my family to get saved from the fires of hell." – (Anne). "When people hurt me instead of waiting for that person to forgive me, I should forgive them in my heart." – (Rosy). I could add more. All this is inspite of shortage of water and accommodation. How powerful is God's word and how loving is Jesus Christ.

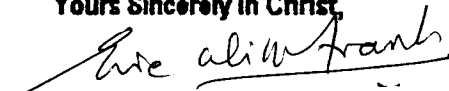
Personal Health and Family News: Many of you came forward in helping my wife Molly, for her medical needs. We are truly thankful. She is much better, though fever keeps coming occasionally. Molly is still under medication and will need to start Chelation next month. We are planning on a week of vacation with our children. The heat here is unbearable, water is less, but the work goes on. Do remember Lemuel our son, as he will be graduating from Tabernacle Baptist Bible College & Theological Seminary soon. Steven our last son has completed his pre-med. at Bob Jones. Now he needs to get admission to medical college and he needs support. Please pray.

Prayer Request

1. Kurumberi Church Building needs funds.
2. Monthly support needed to be increased. If you have not yet taken us on, please do so. Need more than \$ 1000/- increase.
3. Pray for Tamil speaking families to work in Jawadhi Mountains.
4. Mrs. Molly Franks' health.
5. A God sent revival in all our work.
6. Financial support for Stephen Franks at Bob Jones University.

We love the World Wide New Testament Baptist Family and are proud of our Mission Board and Missionaries for their faithfulness and love for the Lord and His people.

Yours Sincerely In Christ,


Rev. Dr. E.W. Franks.

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