

# **FRANKS NEWS LETTER (INDIA)**

## Are we thankful to our Lord Jesus Christ?

*"For as much then as Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh, arm yourselves likewise with the same mind...beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trials which is to try you... therefore let them that suffer according to the will of God, commit the keeping of their souls to Him in well doing as unto a faithful creator."*

***1 Peter 4:1, 12, 19***

**We are thankful** even for disappointments in prayer. Suffering and pain are part and parcel of our lives, as we all know, especially when our prayers remain unanswered. Some of God's most precious purposes are accomplished in life through deep disappointments in prayer. Some of the closest moments of fellowship with Jesus occur in sorrowful denials in prayer. Some of the reasons for our sufferings are not revealed to us this side of heaven or ever, BUT WE STILL DO TRUST HIM and become intimately attached to Him and, in the process are transformed into HIS IMAGE. We keep loving Him ALL THE MORE.

**We are grateful** to our pastors and churches. Since our arrival in U.S.A on the 4th of May 2004, we have been on the road visiting churches. You, dear Pastors and friends have been very kind in sharing your pulpit with us. Your gifts have encouraged and helped us and we are thankful.

**We are thankful** for our trained men and women. You may have wondered as to how the work is continuing on in India in our absence. Well, over the years I have trained good men, especially my sons-in-law to take responsibilities. Two years ago I resigned from my duties as a pastor and gave way to these god-fearing men to take my place. They are doing an excellent work and whenever required seek my help and advice. This does not mean that I am exempted from teaching and preaching God's word. This I do continuously in our churches. I am waiting to get back to the Bible College and Seminary as there are subjects awaiting me to complete teaching. We are hoping to have a graduation in April 2005. I continue to be the President of Calvary Baptist Bible College and Seminary, training men and women.

**We are grateful** for Grace Baptist School for the Hearing and Hearing Impaired. This school is functioning very well under the leadership of Leena and Francis Newton. Their sacrificial service continues lovingly in the school.

**We are thankful** for Thirupattur Baptist Church, Pastor Charles Edwin and Abigail our daughter is doing an excellent job in pastoring their flock. Besides this Charles and Abigail also teach in the Bible College and school and in addition make frequent visits to the villages of Jawadhi Mountains.

**We are grateful** for the ministry in Jawadhi Hills. Concerning Jawadhi hills, we are presently concentrating on three villages namely, Malaitirupattur, Malaiyandipatti, and Valasai. The Kuremberri Baptist Church located at the foot of the Jawadhi Mountains is facing opposition from the Hindus around them as people are being influenced by the gospel. It is disturbing to the Hindus to see people coming to Christ without selfish reasons.

*We are thankful for Kuremberri Baptist Church. One of the members from Kuremberri Baptist Church specially needs your prayer. Her name is Shalini. She was baptized in 1990 and had been a faithful member ever since. She was also one of the faithful teachers in Grace Baptist School. This year she was forced by her parents to marry an unsaved Hindu man. Since her wedding she has not been allowed to come to church. She loves the Lord Jesus and is praying that her husband would receive Christ as his Savior and both of them be able to come and fellowship at our Church.*

**We are grateful** for Olivet Grace Baptist Church. Pastor Adrian and Emma Hendricks our daughter are doing well pastoring in Bangalore. Besides their church in Bangalore, they are also teaching in our seminary. They are much involved in working with the youth and encourage them to minister and visit at the local hospitals, a ministry that is much needed.

**We are grateful** for Whitefield Baptist Church. Richard and Leah our daughter are pastoring and are venturing out into the nearby villages trying to reach the Hindus and Muslims. Besides this, Richard teaches in our Seminary. Leah also works at one of the local hospitals as nurse to keep her license updated as a Registered Nurse and Mid-wife.

**We are grateful** for our missionaries. Jonah Sharma our dear student and missionary to Bhutan, a neighboring country of India, is under severe persecution because of his faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. While conducting a service in his Church, the Bhutanese Police arrested him and took him into custody. He wrote, requesting us neither to send money nor to communicate with him until he contacts us, since that would complicate matters further. It has been almost eight months since we have heard from him. Please pray for him. Please remember in prayer Hunga, our missionary to Burma. He is sent by the combined effort of our three churches in India.

**We are thankful** for our ministry in Bombay. We have extended our work into the city of Mumbai (Bombay) Chembur County. This was where we first started our ministry in 1960. The Chembur Biblical Baptist Church is under the excellent and experienced leadership Pastor John Isaac. Over the years this church and the pastor has undergone great trials and have stood faithful to biblical convictions. We have extended our help in all possible ways to strengthen this work. We have already had two evangelical campaigns working side by side with this church. Besides, three other local pastors in Mumbai have requested our guidance and help. God has moved us to help them. These pastors and their churches are very poor financially and need a lot of help to lift them up.

As we have not been able to visit all our supporting churches and give them an update of our ministry we are trying to extend our stay, Lord willing, till the end of November 2004.

**We are indeed thankful and grateful to our Lord.**

### **Praises and Urgent Prayer Requests**

#### **Praising God for answered prayers:**

1. My wife Molly's fever was finally diagnosed as a rare form of Migraine, by a doctor here in the US. Appropriate treatment has been prescribed and there has been noticeable improvement.
2. God has supplied \$5,000 for the Kuremberri Baptist Church building at the foot of the Jawadhi Mountains. When we return to India the building work will begin. We are very thankful.
3. About \$2,000 has come in for the copier machine that approximately costs \$3,500 in India that is needed for the school and college.

#### **Waiting on God for the following needs:**

1. We urgently require \$1,500 more for the copy machine.

2. For the purchase of Five acres of land in Thirupattur, needed for the Bible College and School requiring additional buildings and other facilities, we require \$80,000. This is needed for us to do as per the requirements of the State Educational Board in order to function as a recognized school. (We do not take funds from the Indian Government as we are a Christian organization and avoid unnecessary government interference.) For any further immediate information regarding this, please feel free to contact me on my cell phone (864) 423-1521. Five thousand (\$5,000) dollars have been promised for this project.
3. Pray for Humga our student and missionary to Burma. He graduated with his Master of Divinity from our seminary and is in the process of planting churches in Burma.
4. We would that, the churches we have visited here in the US, seriously consider taking us on for support. We are in much need of more support for our work. This is a humble request.
5. Kindly pray for my son, Dr. Lemuel Franks as he is going to Mumbai as a missionary in the month of October to plant independent, fundamental, Baptist Churches. He is under the board of Tabernacle Baptist Church, Virginia Beach, VA.
6. Please pray for my son, Stephen and his wife Geena as he plans to continue working towards getting his medical degree. He graduated in May 2004 with his bachelor of Pre-med from Bob Jones University. He is currently getting all the training he can get, working at St. Francis Hospital in Greenville, SC and will be going to the University of South Carolina in the Spring Semester to receive more training to help him work better while in Medical School. He has several hurdles to cross before this will all come together thus requiring further time to complete his training.

**We are very thankful** to the leaders of World Wide New Testament Baptist Missions (WWNTBM) as well as to the office staff at Kings Mountain, NC for their continued guidance. We would be helpless without them and are indebted for their spiritual leadership.

**Field Address:**

Rev. Dr. Eric W. Franks  
 No.4 Asriyar Nagar, Vaniyambadi Road  
 Vellore District  
 Tamil Nadu  
 India  
 Phone: 011-91-4179-222-988

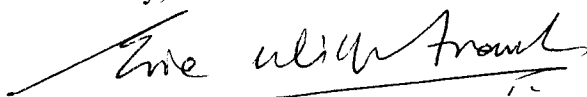
**Mission Address:**

WWNTB Missions  
 2069 County Line Road  
 Kings Mountain NC 28086  
 (704)-730-1440

PS: As a personal request to the churches that I have visited, I would be thankful for a copy of my messages or ministry, if you have recorded them while I was at your church. Please send it to my address in Greenville, SC.

C/O Stephen Franks  
 106 Hillandale Road  
 Greenville, SC 29609

Thankfully, Your Servants in Christ Jesus Our Lord,



Rev. Dr. Eric W. Franks