

## India Trip

“Absolutely the most **powerful** and yet **exhausting** trip I have ever taken.”

These were the words I used to try to explain my trip to India, when my wife picked me up at the airport.

**Powerful**, in that I saw God work in such amazing ways. Teaching every day for over 3 hours to 450 passionate disciple-makers... was an unprecedented opportunity. All of them were in their 20's, and each was a hand picked young leader who has at least 4 generation of disciples. Already I have received several e-mails from these students. The latest one was a young man named Jayrejeh, who has already taken his 25 disciples through the material... and he was writing to tell me that he found a couple of errors in our harmony verses in the back of the manual, as they were studying the manual in depth (something I have never noticed or seen happen here in America). These students were amazing in their passion to learn... sitting hours every day and always eager for more.

**Exhausting**, in that this was the most opposite culture I have ever experienced. Twelve hours ahead, I was training during the night time in Chicago. The food consisted of rice for breakfast, lunch and dinner. I trained in 90 degree heat (with at least that high of humidity) with no air conditioning, in a room packed with young students who couldn't get enough. Daily I received pages of questions from them (as you never publicly question a teacher in that culture), and I would give a major segment of time each day just answering questions.

As we traveled, you would see hundreds of stray cows, as they are sacred in the Hindu culture. Dogs were everywhere, and 1.1 billion people pack a land mass one quarter the United States. Most of these students were new believers from all across India, Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka. They worshipped with passion, and were so grateful to study how Jesus created a movement of multiplying disciples. They prayed at the end, that God would use them to change India, and I'm sure He will.

Exhausting, as I spent almost 30 hours getting there, 4 ½ days training, and then 30 hours getting back. My body still is confused as to why I'm not eating more rice at 3 a.m. ☺



## Vancouver Canada



This too was an awesome experience... training the Athletes in Action staff of Canada. Young athletes, all excited about studying how Jesus made disciples, they laughed and studied... with equal passion. I spent 4 days with them in the mountains of Vancouver Canada. They applied the training within the athletic world... and

plans are now being made for me to train all the rest of their staff this summer.



## Thailand



Every month I receive reports of training that is happening around the world through various ministries involved with Global Youth Initiative. Just a couple of weeks ago I received this picture taken in Thailand, where Don Roscoe and Andrew Tay, of Singapore were training pastors from Communist Laos. This training has opened doors for a network of 100 pastors representing 15-20,000 believers.

Our training involved teaching them the Life of Christ, and helping them understand how He created a movement of multiplying disciples. Ongoing work with these leaders continues to bear fruit.

## Israel in March

With over 250 registered from 53 countries, we are now within one month of this historic gathering. I'd ask you to especially pray for this gathering... as we will be raising the bar for Global Youth Work. Championing the 13-30 window (13-30 years of age) we will cast a vision for the potential of reaching this age group. With 13-20 years of age being the most strategic time to reach youth, and 20-30 being the most strategic age to train the next generation leaders... we are asking God to raise up 100 ministries globally by 2020. This ten year celebration of GYI, will provide a powerful platform for that beginning.

## Praise

God answered so many prayers on my trip to India... spiritual power, clarity of teaching in a new culture, passion and excitement for the values, health and safety in travel, protection for my family. On my return, our daughter's furnace broke down the day I arrived... but coming from the airport we stopped and were able to get it fixed before the cold weather set in. This was just one of the many ways we experienced God's provision. Thanks so much for praying! Again... words cannot adequately express how much I sensed the presence and power of the Lord because of so many of you praying for me... Thank-you!

## Prayer Requests

### Israel in March

- Visas for our African and Cuban friends. Many are facing difficulties.
- Hotel arrangements... we are facing many challenges with motels being filled.
- Message preparation... coordinating all of our speakers and teachers.
- Travel and tour arrangements... many details are still being resolved.
- Weather... that the Lord would provide excellent weather.
- Relationships... that the Lord would orchestrate many new long term friendships.

### Future opportunities

- God is opening some incredible opportunities to make our training available via the web. I will tell you more in the future... but please be in prayer as we are discussing details.
- Relaunching the Classic Sonlife training... in the next few months I will be telling you more about the relaunch of some new material here in North America. Please pray as these details are now being developed. Some exciting things are unfolding!

## On the lighter side

An elderly woman died last month. Having never married, she requested no male pallbearers. In her handwritten instructions for her memorial service, she wrote, "They wouldn't take me out while I was alive, I don't want them to take me out when I'm dead."

**A police recruit was asked during the exam, "What would you do if you had to arrest your own mother?" He answered, "Call for backup."**

Two boys were walking home from Sunday school after hearing a strong preaching on the devil. One said to the other, "What do you think about all this Satan stuff?"

The other boy replied, "Well, you know how Santa Claus turned out. It's probably just our Dad."

**A sweet grandmother telephoned St. Michael's Hospital. She timidly asked, Is it possible to speak to someone who can tell me how a patient is doing?" The operator said "I'll be glad to help, dear. What's the name and room number?" The grandmother in her weak tremulous voice said, "Norma Findlay, Room 302." The operator replied, "Let me place you on hold while I check with her nurse."**

**After a few minutes the operator returned to the phone, "Oh, good news. Her nurse has told me that Norma is doing very well. Her blood pressure is fine; her blood work just came back as normal and her physician, Dr.Cohen, has scheduled her to be discharged Tuesday."**

**The grandmother said, "Thank you. That's wonderful! I was so worried! God bless you for the good news."**

**The operator replied, "You're more than welcome. Is Norma your daughter?"**

**The grandmother said, "No, I'm Norma Findlay in 302. No one tells me anything!"**

A newly widowed man stood at the cemetery next to his wife's casket. When the graveside service had no more than terminated, there was a tremendous burst of thunder accompanied by a distant lightning bolt and more rumbling thunder.

The little old man looked at the pastor and calmly said, "Well, she's there."

A six-year-old goes to the hospital with his grandma to visit his grandpa. When they get to the hospital, he runs ahead of his grandma and bursts into his grandpa's room.

"Grandpa, Grandpa!" he says excitedly, "As soon as Grandma comes into the room, make a noise like a frog!"

"What?" said his grandpa.

"Make a noise like a frog because Grandma said that as soon as you croak, we're going to Disneyland!!!"

A man goes to the Chicago Bear ticket office and inquires about purchasing play-off tickets. The ticket teller replies that there weren't any tickets for sale because the Bears did not make it to the play-offs.

The following day the same man goes to the Chicago Bear ticket office and inquires about purchasing Bear play-off tickets. The ticket teller politely replies that there weren't any tickets for sale because the Bears did not make it to the play-offs.

This goes on for an entire week. The man goes to the Bear ticket office inquiring about play-off tickets and the teller says none are for sale because the Bears did not make it to the play-offs.

Another week of this goes by and the man still is asking the ticket teller about Bear play-off tickets. Finally the ticket teller in a loud voice says, "I'VE TOLD YOU FOR THE LAST 2 WEEKS THERE WERE NOT ANY TICKETS AVAILABLE BECAUSE THE BEARS DID NOT MAKE THE PLAY-OFFS."

The man replied, "I know. I drive all the way from Green Bay every day just to hear you say that!"



*Support for Dann and Char Spader or the ministries of Global Youth Initiative can be sent to:  
Global Youth Initiative c/o Josiah Venture, P.O. Box 4317, Wheaton Illinois 60189-4317*