

sit for an examination to ascertain if they are learning well. Those in the Channai area came to Otteri to write their exams, memory verses, question and answers in fourth Saturday on August 29th then again on September 26th. This is also done for the schools in southeast Pradesh Pradesh.

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PREACHER'S MEETING AT OTTERI:

The Evangelism Chennai Preachers Meeting was held on September 12, 2009 at Otteri church building. We 19 brothers (all gospel preachers) gathered together to discuss the future plans for the Lord's ministry in Chennai area. And we prayed for all the saints who are supporting the Lord's ministry in India and for the peace of the world."



This report gives you an insight into the work of the preaching brethren in Tamil Nadu's state capital. James refers to the 19 brothers who are conducting evening Bible schools in the city, its suburbs and out-lying villages. There are similar schools all around the state with a total of 164 students and teachers involved. Besides these we have six full time preacher training schools with 182 enrolled. Without you we cannot train these brothers please consider this work as we approach the New Year.

In Christian love

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WALDRON NEWSLETTER

**A YOUNG CATHOLIC WOMAN
IS BAPTIZED**

To understand the deep dedication to Christ by this young mother of two you must remember that when a woman marries in India she leaves her family and is joined to that of her husband. Her story is below, but before you hear it let me say, that as a supporter of this work, you may take personal joy in her conversion and that of others; which includes that of a denominational "pastor."

The apostle Paul wrote to Timothy, "*the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses the same commit to faithful men who shall be able to teach others also*" (2 Tim.2:2). He said also, to the church at Philippi, concerning their share in his work, it is "*not that I seek the gift, but I seek, the fruit that abounds to your account*" (Phil. 4:17). This last point is especially important in light of the fact that our Lord said, "*By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit, so you will be my disciples*" (John 15:8).

As you have heard me say, I began working in India in 1986, with the purpose of carrying out the great commission by a strong emphasis on obeying the command from Second Timothy two, that is, the training of native Christians to reach their own with the gospel.

In February of '86 while teaching in a Bible camp in the mountains of south India some brothers brought a local man to me saying, "brother we have taught this man and we want you to baptize him." This was the custom often used and at times candidates for baptism would be saved up until the foreign brother would arrive, but I said to them, "brothers you caught him, you string him," for I wanted them to do for themselves what they could do.

For generations the idea of a special person performing baptisms was fostered by Roman Catholics and the Church of England "padres" or bishops in places like India. Prospects for baptism, or "Christening" as they would deem it, would be saved up in the various townships or villages until the bishop could come to perform the rites. But it is urgent in any country that we as servants of Christ train brethren not to depend on "a big man" or some foreigner to do the baptizing. This is imperative for it is necessary for them to know in the church of Christ there is the priesthood of believers (1 Peter 2:5, 9). The work, as noted above, is training native brethren to reach their own, but the bottom line is planting strong local churches of Christ (See Rom. 16:16).

This following report tells of a number of conversions and one of them is the young woman referred to above. The writer is James Rajkumar, who was trained some years ago by brothers at the Bible Teachers' Training School at Kottur in Chennai the state capital of Tamil Nadu. He has worked with us for about eight years directing a school of preaching in the same city. Chennai has a population of about ten million. James now works as an evangelist with the nineteen night schools, which are being conducted in that city and the southeast corner of the nearby state of Andhra Pradesh.

He wrote: COMPOUND MEETINGS:

"August 2 was a joyful day for us. It was Sunday and my

family and I went to Otteri as usual to worship our God. I gave Lord's message in the worship service. After worship two persons showed their willingness to obey the gospel. A young woman named, Pramila (aged 25) from a Roman Catholic background had expressed a desire to be baptized, but this was opposed by her husband, father-in-law and the rest of the family. Yet she did not waver and put on her Lord in baptism on this day. Also that same morning another is a girl, Koma Lana Dhi, aged 18, who is doing her B. Sc degree in a local college was baptized. She is the sister of bro. A. Gopinath, my co-worker."

James' report continued: "After this Sunday morning program we went to another suburb of Chennai called Tambaram for a one-day gospel meeting with the Deva Nesan church. They had arranged this service to celebrate the first anniversary of the beginning of the church. They had asked me to give the Lord's message in the meeting. Many brothers came to attend the meeting from Kottur Lock Street Tamil congregation.

After the meeting one denominational pastor raised many questions from the Bible. Bros. Manuel, R. Perinbam and I taught him the word of God and God's plan. After the service at Deva Nesan Nagar we started our journey to another suburb in Chennai called Santhome. Bros. J. Ebenezer and his Son C. Anbu had invited us to participate in a compound meeting at that place. The denominational pastor came with us and in the van Bros. S. Manuel and R. Perinbam gave him explanations to overcome his doubts.

At Santome brother Ebenezer asked me to give Lord's message. At close of this meeting the pastor gave his willingness to obey the New Testament doctrine. From Santome at 10 PM we went back to the Otteri church baptistery where we baptized him about 11 p.m. the same night. Then I dropped all our brothers at nearby railway station and metropolitan bus terminals. With a great joy

we all went back to our home.

Otteri church had its own evening compound meeting on August 14, 2009. Bro. Jaya Prakash and I proclaimed God's word on various topics in the meeting. Nearly 80 persons participated the meeting. Otteri church arranged dinner for all the participants.

The next day being August 15 and our national independence day the Tambaram church had arranged a full day program. Bros. Manuel, K. Bruce, David Martin and I gave the Lord's message on various topics. I taught lesson on the topic of "women's responsibility in home and church." The Tambaram church arranged tea and lunch for all those attending.

Another church in the metro area at Rama Puram invited me to participate and preach the gospel on August 23 for a compound meeting in their building. Bro. A. Baskar is the local preacher. After the meeting three persons, a man named Dhinaganan and two ladies, Pona Mal and Geetha obeyed the gospel. All the audience came to see the baptizing.

BIBLE SCHOOL MONTHLY TEACHERS' MEETING:

Back on August 5th we held a meeting for the evening Bible School teachers and students. At that time Bro. Jim Waldron was able to be with us and there were 17 teachers present and he asked them to tell about the effectiveness or usefulness of the night schools in the various areas. They enthusiastically spoke of the value of having a preacher training program in their own area. In September meeting we, 19 preachers gathered on 5th of this month.

BIBLE SCHOOL MONTHLY EXAMINATION:

One time each month all students in the night school must