



NEWS FROM THE FIELDS



A “Bumper Harvest”

By Paul Braun

Pastor Yeshwanth was one of our early partners in India. He would often report that they had seen a “bumper harvest” of new souls won to Christ and believers disciplined. He would roll the “rrrrs” in “bumperrrr harrrrvest,” giving the statement extra emphasis.

Similarly, I’m thrilled to report that Evangelism Resources this year has reaped a “bumper harvest!” By the end of September, we had already

trained more people in our various ministries than in any prior full year! Specifically, by September 30 we had sent funding to our overseas partners for:

- **1,200 students in Schools of Evangelism** - the nine-month training of evangelists, church planters and missionaries;
- **1,418 in Mobile Schools of Evangelism** - same as the SOEs, but decentralized for part-time, non-residential students;
- **19,108 youths in Great Commission Challenge Camps** - the three-day youth conferences that recruit volunteers to become effective witnesses and disciple-makers;
- **3,526 in Inductive Bible Studies** - teaching believers

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Training PBS Teachers: Part One

By Steve Liversedge

Portable Bible Schools (PBSes) began in December 1985. The concept had been on the drawing board since April 1984 when I had traveled up the Congo River and came back with stories of pastor-less churches. At that time Willys Braun became convinced of the need to train up lay-pastors for the 60,000 pastor-less villages throughout Zaire (now the Democratic Republic of Congo or DRC).

We started with no textbook, just a sheet of Scripture texts to guide the teachers. Then in 1991, during an extended stay in India, co-founder Thelma Braun composed a text entitled, “Called to Shepherd God’s People.” That book has been translated into over 50 languages and counting and has been used to train over 225,000 people to date.

While the core text remains the same, PBS teaching continues to improve. In recent years we have developed a PBS Teacher Training Manual and six-day seminar to teach the teachers. We have presented the Portable Bible School Teacher Training Seminar (PBSTTS) twice in India, four times in China, and once in the Philippines, Peru, Taiwan, the DRC, and Turkey. And in late October, the first ever all-African team of trainers led the seminar in Ethiopia.

As we put together this edition of *News From the Fields*, we thought that you, our supporters, might be interested to know how we teach a PBSTTS. Starting in this issue, we are going to describe the “model lesson” from each of the six units of the PBS. We’ll start with

“Books of the Bible.” You may wonder how we teach all the books of the Bible in just eight weeks! Right here we will show you.

Books of the Bible: PBS Model Lesson

For the 50-minute model lesson on Books of the Bible, we teach lesson four from the textbook, which covers three books: Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy. After opening prayer, someone reads the section aloud. Then, we walk the trainees through charts covering the main points. The charts organize the lesson and help students better understand and remember the content. Trainees are told that, back in their own PBSes, they should use teaching aids such as poster paper, blackboards, whiteboards, or even PowerPoints—whatever is appropriate in the local context.

1. The trainer explains key points. For Leviticus, students are asked to recite the five offerings and the eight feasts described therein. As a summary, the trainer says, “From Leviticus, we need to remember that for our spiritual training, we need to GET RIGHT



Trainees prepare a sample lesson at the PBS Teacher Training Seminar in Kinshasa, DRC this May.

1 LEVITICUS: RELIGIOUS TRAINING OF ISRAEL

God’s Picture Book & Book of Atonement → †

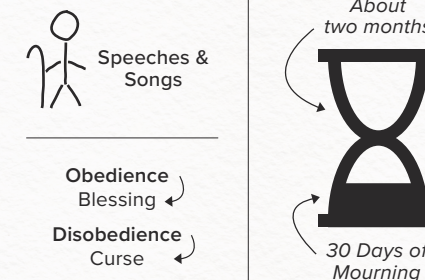
<p>“Get Right” <i>The Blood that Saved</i></p> <p>Five Offerings</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Burnt 2. Meal 3. Peace 4. Sin 5. Trespass 	<p>“Keep Right” <i>The Food that Sustains</i></p> <p>Eight Feasts</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sabbath 2. Passover 3. Pentecost 4. Trumpets 5. Atonement 6. Tabernacles 7. Sabbath Year 8. Jubilee
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2 NUMBERS: WILDERNESS WANDERINGS BOOK OF MURMURINGS

Chapters
1-16: Divine Legislations
17-30: Nation’s Failure
31-36: Return to Jehovah’s Favor and Final Victory



3 DEUTERONOMY: BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE A TASTE OF HEAVEN ON EARTH



4 REVIEW CHART

- In GENESIS, we see HUMANITY RUINED.
- In EXODUS, we see HUMANITY REDEEMED.
- In LEVITICUS, we see HUMANITY WORSHIPING.
- In NUMBERS, we see HUMANITY SERVING.
- In DEUTERONOMY, we see HUMANITY LEARNING TO OBEY.

with God. After that, we need to KEEP RIGHT with Him.”

2. Moving on to the book of Numbers, the trainer asks, “What is the key word for this book?” Trainees should discover that it is DISCIPLINE. They put together a one-sentence description for each of the characters displayed on the chart. A discussion of these characters follows: which character do they most admire most? Why?

3. Turning to Deuteronomy, the chart emphasizes the importance of REMEMBERING, and how OBEDIENCE BRINGS BLESSINGS while DISOBEDIENCE BRINGS CURSES. Key points can be discovered by asking questions from the text.

4. The conclusion of the lesson on the first five books of the Old Testament is a good time for review. A chart explains how in Genesis we see HUMANITY RUINED, in Exodus we see HUMANITY REDEEMED, in Leviticus we see HUMANITY WORSHIPING, in Numbers we see HUMANITY SERVING, and in Deuteronomy we see HUMANITY LEARNING TO OBEY.

As the trainer concludes each lesson, students

are assigned to prepare their own lessons in groups, based on other lessons in the textbook, complete with charts. This is the time we as trainers really enjoy, watching them make the content their own and presenting to the whole group with their own unique personalities and gifts.

Every lesson should end with an exhortation. Here is one for our lesson on “Books of the Bible”: “Today, the sacrifice of Jesus has helped us to GET RIGHT with God. After that, we need to KEEP RIGHT with Him. We need to be disciplined according to God’s Word. We need to be obedient.... How are you ‘keeping right’ with Him? As future trainers of the PBS curriculum, how are you ordering your lives in obedient discipline to the Word of God – the Bible?” This challenge should be sealed by a prayer of commitment where the students and teachers both are given the opportunity to say YES to God.

If the Holy Spirit has spoken to you today through this little window into the PBS curriculum, why don’t you say YES to Him, right now?



Giving Tuesday 2023

Christmas Celebrations With UPG Children

By Caleb Pfeifer

In November of last year, we launched our first ever Giving Tuesday project. In response, the ER family generously gave more than \$8,000, enabling our partners in India to purchase around 1,500 audio Bibles for unreached people group (UPG) believers! For our 2023 Giving Tuesday project, we have another unique opportunity to serve UPG communities—this time by showing the love of Jesus to children!

What is Giving Tuesday? It began in 2012 as a movement to encourage generosity and since then has become an annual event that takes place the Tuesday after Thanksgiving. For Christians, it can be an opportunity to refocus our hearts on thankfulness and generosity after the post-Thanksgiving shopping frenzy.

This Year's Project

Freedom Child Centers in Bihar, India are one of the ministries we help support outside of our discipleship training programs. More than 30 of these centers provide a fun, safe space for children in impoverished families to receive early education, learn basic

hygiene and life skills, and hear about Jesus.

To bless and encourage the children, parents, and teachers involved with this ministry, we are aiming to raise \$10,000 by Giving Tuesday, November 28 to sponsor special Christmas celebrations for 30 centers. Each child who attends one of the celebrations will receive gifts and age-appropriate Christian literature.

Why Christmas Celebrations for Children?

Most of the children who attend our partners' Freedom Centers belong to the Musahar and Chamar UPGs, two of the lowest esteemed and most disadvantaged groups in India. Many Musahar and

Chamar families suffer due to severe poverty and lack access to the education they need to escape it. Often this is the result of intentional oppression or neglect that stem from India's historical caste system.

By giving to sponsor Christmas celebrations, you will help our partners show these children in a special way that they are loved and valued by a God who came to save all peoples. And the joy they return home with might just open their parents' and siblings' hearts to the gospel.

NOTE: ER will send all funds designated for the 2023 Giving Tuesday project directly to our partners in India for holding Christmas celebrations. No portion of these gifts will be used for administrative purposes or other ministries. If you give to ER regularly, would you please consider continuing these gifts as you pray about also contributing to the Giving Tuesday project?

How Do I Give?

By Mail

Fill out the giving form at the bottom of the Giving Tuesday notification that came with this newsletter, being sure to write your gift's amount in the designated "Children's Christmas Celebrations" box. Detach the completed giving form from the rest of the page along the perforation and send it with your payment to the ER office. We've included a pre-addressed return envelope with this newsletter for your convenience. Please make checks payable to Evangelism Resources.

Online

1. Go to www.erinfo.org/donate, then scroll down to the blue "DONATE HERE" button and click on it. You'll be taken to our online giving portal on another website.
2. You should see three green buttons. Click the bottom one that says "KEY MINISTRIES."
3. Look for the textbox titled "4360 CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES" and type the amount you would like to give.

Note: Make sure that in the section titled "GIVE" at the bottom of the page you have "Now" selected.

4. If you've given to ER online in the past and made a donor account, select the green "CONTINUE WITH LOGIN" button. If you do not have an account and are not interested in making one, simply click "CONTINUE AS GUEST."
5. Type in your contact information. Please enter an email address you check regularly, as this is how you will receive confirmation of your donation. We will also mail a printed receipt to your address within one to two weeks.
6. Enter your payment information. You can pay via credit/debit card or ACH from your bank account.
7. If your billing information is different from the contact information you previously entered, click on the blue checkbox under "BILLING INFORMATION" and type in your billing information.
8. You have reached the last page! Review and confirm your personal information as well as your donation details.
9. **IMPORTANT:** Near the bottom of this page you'll find a textbox labeled "GIFT MEMO." In this textbox, type "Children's Christmas Celebrations." This will ensure your gift is designated to Christmas celebrations for UPG children.
10. Now, just click the green "SUBMIT GIFT" button. You've successfully contributed to our 2023 Giving Tuesday project! Thank you for partnering with us in this special opportunity to minister to children!





The Bible Women of Bihar

By Lisa Fowler

How is it that 27 “Bible Women” have shared the gospel with over 2,400 people living in areas that prior to their arrival had little to no access to the gospel? How is it that this is representative of just three months of their ministry endeavors?

Each of these 27 Bible women have their own stories to tell about how they came to follow Jesus, how He’s faithfully led them through difficult days and continues to lead them in life and ministry. Ms. Imlamenla Longkumar is one of our ministry leaders who works closely with many of these women. I interviewed Imlamenla in early October through email correspondence. We’d like to share with you, dear reader, some of their stories:

Lisa: How is Sunita Devi doing as she mourns the death of her father? What is her story on how she became involved with becoming a Bible woman?

Imlamenla: Yes, she is still grieving and recovering from losing her father. Thank you for asking. Sunita came from a Hindu family. Growing up she had many challenges in her health and evil spirits used to disturb her. She was weak and feeble. She wanted to be healed so she offered prayers to the deities, but it was of no help. Her sister-in-law...[brought her to] an open area where people were singing and worshipping. After the program, a pastor asked Sunita how she felt and if she believed in Christ as Healer. Sunita knew about God, but she didn’t know about

Christ. She found peace through Him and was baptized the next day. She wanted to be a gospel worker so received Bible training in the Patna School of Evangelism and has been working with us for the last nine years as a Bible woman.

Lisa: Do most of the women speak the same language to those whom they are ministering?

Imlamenla: Yes, and no. They speak the common bazaar (market) language, Korta, to communicate with one another.

Lisa: Are there any other Bible women who you’d like to highlight?

Imlamenla: Yes, Punam Devi from Chariyari is one of our Bible women who is laboring in three new villages: Purandarpur, Manara, and Shalimpur...She has been visiting these three villages for four months to build friendship and trust. She visits houses sharing about the love of God and prays for them. There are already about 15 families who have come to the Lord and have started house fellowships. She hopes that through her God will intervene in the lives of the Musahar and other UPGs in these villages.

“She has been visiting these three villages for four months to build friendship and trust. She visits houses sharing about the love of God and prays for them.”

More Stories on the Way!

Look for more testimonies from the Bible Women in upcoming issues of *New From the Fields*.



Memorial Gifts

Contributions were received in loving memory of:

Mrs. Linda DuPree of Southampton, NY from Mrs. Peggy Spong of Conway, SC;

Ms. Katherine Frazier of Boise, ID from David and Carrie Bills of Nampa, ID.



Expanding the Harvest

One of our partners who is seeing a “bumper harvest” is the director of our SOE in Madhupur, Jharkhand. During a daily Zoom prayer meeting in early October, we were blessed to have the opportunity to pray with him and a team of SOE graduates he was sending as missionaries to India’s hard-to-reach Sundarban Islands.

A “Bumper Harvest”

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to study the Word of God and to practically apply it in their lives;

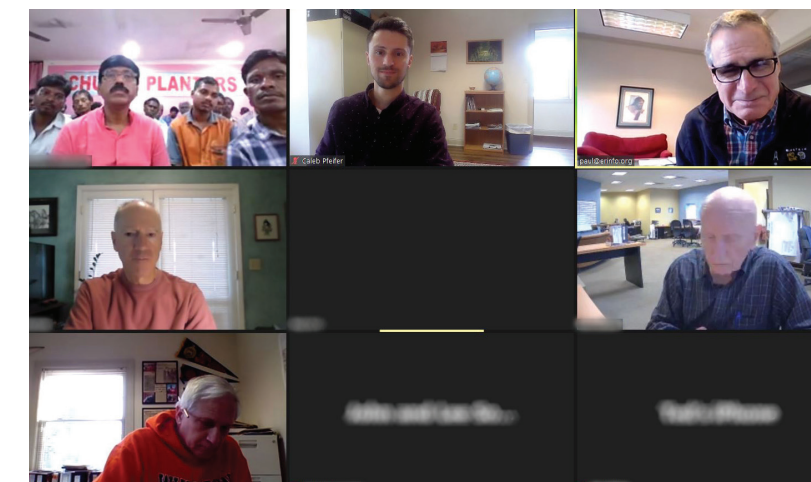
- **20,000 in Portable Bible Schools** - the eight-week course for training believers how to lead a house church or village congregation.

Together these ministries totaled over 40,000 trained in our various discipleship- and leadership-training ministries! Praise God!

Jesus told his disciples, “Pray ye the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send forth laborers into His harvest field” (Matthew 9:38). I know of no better way to send more laborers into the harvest fields than by raising up and training Christian leaders to make disciples who will make disciples, especially where the need for workers is the greatest.

The college I attended required daily chapel attendance, with special focus every Friday on missions. In one of these Friday services the speaker declared, “No one should hear about Jesus twice until everyone has heard at least once.” The Holy Spirit pricked my heart and I determined to commit the rest of my life to ensuring, as much as I could, that everyone would have a chance to hear about God’s wonderful gift of salvation at least once. I went to Africa in obedience to this call and was able to stay only a few years. But in only the first nine months of this year, I’ve been involved in the training of 40,000 others to go in my place—people who already speak the languages and know the cultures and can eat the food, and who are already there.

Praise God for this “bumper harvest” of new disciples trained to be Christ’s ambassadors in some of the most spiritually needy regions of the world! And please pray with us that God will continue to supply the funds so we can continue to maintain the current level of support for making disciples around the world. ■



Maximize Your Gifts: Minimize Processing Fees

By Caleb Pfeifer & Lisa Fowler

“The earth is the LORD’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.” - Psalm 24:1



If you have financially supported ER’s ministries or are considering giving for the first time, we are thankful to God for you! Your generosity reflects the generous heart of our Father and has eternal value.

There are several ways to give to ER both online and through mail. While giving online is secure, fast, and convenient, it does require paying fees to service providers who process digital transactions. Thankfully, there are two ways you can minimize the impact these fees have on your donations to ER.

1. When you give online, especially if you’re starting a recurring donation, we encourage you to consider paying with your bank account via ACH, rather than with a credit or debit card. Doing so avoids the higher percentage-based fees that come with card payments.

2. ER’s online giving platform allows donors to cover processing fees by adding to their total gift amount. (For example, if a \$50 gift has a \$0.50 processing fee, your final payment would be \$50.50.) If you are able, doing this ensures that 100 percent of your

initial gift goes toward our work. Please note that you will be able to preview the fee amount before submitting your donation.

Thank you for considering these options for maximizing the effectiveness of your financial contributions!

Have Questions?

Email us at office@erinfo.org or call us at (859) 858-0777 Monday through Friday 8:30 am to 5:00 pm Eastern Time.



Merry Christmas!

We pray that you have a wonderful holiday season! May we all draw near to God as we offer thanksgiving for His goodness and provision, celebrate the birth of His Son, and seek His will for the coming year.

- The ER Home Office Team
(Staff and Volunteers)