



The Unreached Bengalis

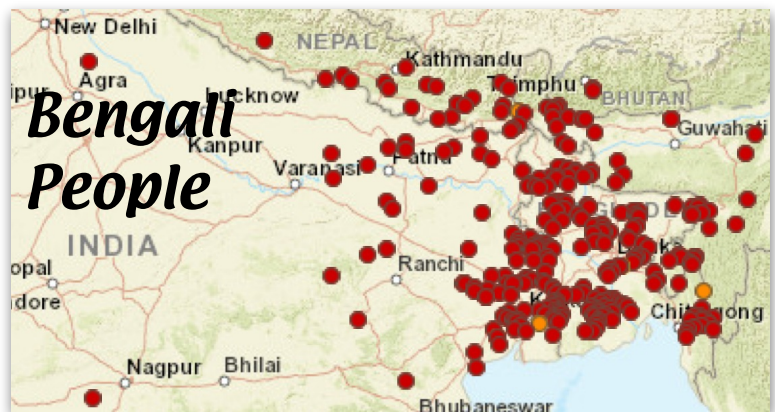
Pray BFF #330

Aug 7, 2019

Dear Prayer Partners,

In less than a month, I board a plane and begin the long journey to India. India hosted the very first BFF training sessions way back in 2004. It was very different back then. The Lord called me to “Give them what I have.”

Yes, I had been a missionary in Taiwan during the eighties and then pastored for ten years at a Chinese church in Pittsburgh, but flying halfway around the world to India to train pastors required much boldness. I still remember the battle, wondering what I was going to teach the church



planters and evangelists. Though having little sleep, the Lord began to bring about systemized training messages built on the Scriptures to help and encourage them.

Hardly any of them could understand English—I didn’t go to the big cities where English is more common, but ministered to those serving in the unharvested fields. Today, the Lord has given a treasure chest of Biblical and applicable series I can pull out of my pocket. They need to be translated, but they are relevant to their needs.

Even as I send this out, there is a team working on translating the series on the Holy Spirit. Having very few Christian resources in Bengali, these workers will treasure the handouts. So do pray. Many of you know I face all sorts of troubles

before, during, and even after I go on these trips. I fully understand Paul's ancient but very relevant prayer request.

“With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints” (Ephesians 6:18).

Pray for me and the whole ministry as we gear up for this STM project. The Bengali people remain one of the largest unreached people groups, 7th largest, with 352 million people. Note on the Joshua Project web page that many of the subcultures have %0.0 Christian believers. Most of the attendees are working on starting a new work where there is no Christian witness.

Some might ask, “What is your biggest challenge?” Right now, I am trying to get the budget reduced so that we can maximize the number of attendees. Currently, the budget is significantly higher than typical. We have about 20% of our budget in.

Praise

- The handouts (34 pages) are in the hands of the Bengali translators.
- The Swahili translation of Relational Discipleship has come in!
- The Chinese translation of Spiritual Unity has also arrived!
- Good productivity despite my eye problem.

Pray

- Final details for the India STM to work out.
- Seek the Lord for a great work among the Bengali people.
- Pray for J as he learns how to work among the Bengali people most effectively.
- Pray for the remaining 75% of the needed funds to come in.
- I'll be speaking at a joint Christian fellowship at the end of the month at Carnegie Mellon University.
- Healing for my eyes which are affected by allergies.



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