



# ICGM MISSION UPDATE

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## VISION & MISSION

### VISION

Every people group in all the states of our country has a witnessing church run by its own people.

### MISSION

We as disciples of Jesus Christ are committed to go to any unreached people group, wherever our Lord leads us to make indigenous churches.

### VALUES

Love of God, faithfulness to God and man, and concern for the lost souls are the core values of India Church Growth Mission.

After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. *Rev 7:9*

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings in the loving name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

January was a month filled with travel and ministry opportunities. We were blessed to speak at the CSI Church in Periyakulam, Tamil Nadu, where we also dedicated one of our missionaries to the Lord's service. One family graciously volunteered to support this couple. I thank God for Christopher annan and Pastor Rev. Eesak for making this possible. On January 5th, we conducted a field staff fasting prayer at the ICGM campus in Madurai.

On January 7th, Sheela and I spoke on Missions and the role of a missionary at the Missionary Training Camp held at the India Graduate School of Missiology in Tiruvallur. The following Sunday, I had the opportunity to share God's Word in the chapel at Umri Christian Hospital, Maharashtra. We also conducted a two-day Discipleship Training Program for Marathi missionaries in a village near Chandrapur. God richly blessed those two days. We thank God for our missionary Mr. Gyanesh and his wife, who lovingly hosted and cared for us during our stay. May God bless them abundantly.

We later travelled to Nagercoil to visit our missionaries working among migrant North Indian workers. Mr. Umendrakumar Masih and Mrs. Savitha Masih have been faithfully serving there for the past two years. God continues to bless their ministry despite opposition from enemies of the Gospel and indifference from some believers. We prayed with them and encouraged them. During this visit, we also met Mrs. Deepa Moses, who recently lost her son Stephen in an accident, and spent time praying with her family.

After that, we travelled to Tenkasi, where I shared God's Word in two churches during the morning services.

In earlier years, before 2000, ICGM built churches with very limited funds and over long periods of time. One such church was built in Kurunaikalpatti village in Tirupur district. After 25 years, the foundation has weakened and the walls have cracked, making the building unsafe for worship. We had to dismantle it. We are now prayerfully seeking donors to help rebuild the church. Currently, fifty families are worshipping in a shed outside the pastor's house. Kindly pray and contribute as the Lord leads you.

May the grace of our God be with you all!

In the disciple-making mission,

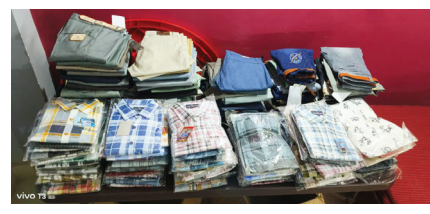
In His Mission,  
Rev. A. Leslie Nagarajan

Letter  
from the  
General Servant

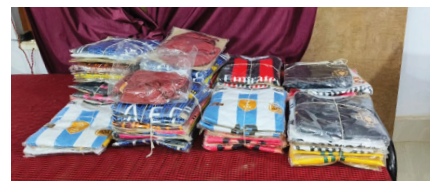


Events

CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR HOSTEL STUDENTS IN CHHATTISGARH



Girls in new clothes



With shoes



Boys with new shoes



In new clothes and shoes



DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING AT MAHARASTRA



A CHURCH IS NEEDED IN THE VILLAGE OF KURUNIKALPATTI, TIRUPUR DISTRICT, TN



Currently worshipping Outside the pastor's house



The place where church needs to be built

MINISTRY AMONG NORTH INDIA MIGRANTS AT KANYAKUMARI DISTRICT, TN



## Message

### Introduction

Suffering is one of the most difficult realities believers face. The Bible never denies suffering or treats it lightly. Instead, Scripture teaches that suffering exists under God's sovereign control, carries purpose, and has limits. Christians do not suffer because God is absent — often, we suffer because He is actively working in ways we cannot yet see.

### Suffering Is a Reality in a Fallen World

The Bible teaches that suffering entered the world through sin (Romans 5:12). Because humanity lives in a fallen creation, pain and brokenness affect every part of life. Bodies become sick, relationships break down, injustice exists, and even creation itself groans (Romans 8:22).

Not all suffering is a direct punishment for personal sin. Jesus made this clear in John 9:3 when He said a man's blindness was not caused by his or his parents' sin. Some suffering simply happens because we live in a world damaged by sin (Genesis 3; Romans 8:20–22).

The story of Job shows us that suffering is real and sometimes unexplained. Yet Job's suffering was not random — it occurred under God's sovereign knowledge and permission.

Suffering is real, but it is not meaningless or outside God's control.

### God Uses Suffering for His Purposes

The Bible reveals several reasons God allows suffering in the lives of believers.

First, suffering can come because of righteousness. Jesus said those who follow Him may face persecution (Matthew 5:10–12). Paul confirmed that everyone who desires to live a godly life will face opposition (2 Timothy 3:12). Sometimes suffering is simply the cost of following Christ (Mark 8:34).

Second, suffering can be God's loving discipline. Hebrews 12 teaches that God disciplines His children not to punish them but to train them. Like a loving father, God shapes our character through correction so we can share in His holiness.

Thirdly, suffering produces spiritual growth. Romans 5 and James 1 teach that suffering develops perseverance, character, hope, and maturity. When surrendered to God, no pain is wasted.

Fourthly, suffering can display God's glory. In John 9 and 2 Corinthians 12, we see that God often reveals His power through human weakness. Paul learned that God's grace is sufficient even when suffering remains.

Finally, suffering allows believers to share in Christ's life. Romans 8:17 reminds us that if we suffer with Christ, we will also be glorified with Him. Suffering deepens our fellowship with Jesus.

God does not waste suffering — He uses it to shape us, strengthen us, and reveal Himself for His eternal goal of making like the image of His son Jesus (Romans 8:29)

### Christian Response to Suffering:

Scripture teaches clear responses when suffering comes.

First of all, trust God's sovereignty. Job declared, "The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away" (Job 1:21). Faith believes God is still good even when life is hard.

Secondly, pray honestly. The Psalms show us we can cry out to God, express pain, and still hold onto faith.

Thirdly, endure with hope. Romans 8:18 reminds us that present suffering cannot compare to future glory.

Fourthly, support one another. Galatians 6:2 commands believers

to carry each other's burdens. Suffering was never meant to be faced alone. Our response to suffering can become a testimony of faith and hope.

### Conclusion

The Bible never promises a life without suffering. Instead, it promises God's presence in suffering, God's purpose through suffering, and God's final victory over suffering. The cross proves that God can bring the greatest good out of the deepest pain. Suffering is temporary, but glory is eternal.

Finally, let us be reminded of the verse from Mark 9:49: "Everyone will be purified by fire as a sacrifice is purified by salt" (Good News Translation). "Tested with fire" refers to the refining process of trials and discipline that believers experience, designed to remove impurities and strengthen their faith.



## Testimony



### *Testimony of Som Singh: A Journey of Transformation and Calling*

#### Background and Family Transformation

My name is Som Singh, from Chhattisgarh, India. I was raised in a family of six within a traditional background where we practiced idol worship and relied on sorcery during illness. Our home was marked by my father's alcohol addiction and domestic violence; we lived in constant fear and lacked peace.

In 2002, I became so critically ill that I remained unconscious for three days. While doctors and villagers lost hope for my survival, God intervened. Through the ministry of Rev. Leslie Nagarajan, I was hospitalized and miraculously healed. Witnessing this power, my parents accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior. Our lives changed instantly, but our faith was immediately tested. Due to severe persecution, we were beaten and driven out of our village in 2004. We settled in Narayanpur, trusting entirely in God's providence.

#### Salvation and Spiritual Growth

During my stay in the hostel run by ICGM from 2004 to 2011, I grew in my understanding of the Word. In 2012, I repented of my sins, accepted Christ personally, and took baptism. Academi-

cally, I pursued my interests and completed a Diploma in Mechanical Engineering in 2015.

#### The Call to Ministry

For the next decade, I tried to build a career in the secular world. I worked as a teacher, waiter, and electrician, and attempted various online businesses. However, every plan failed. My attempts to go abroad were blocked by the pandemic, and my business plans were halted by recurring illness.

I felt like Jonah, facing "storms" because I was resisting God's path (Jonah 2:7). From late 2023 to early 2025, I entered a season of intense prayer and fasting—including forty nights of seeking God. During this time, God healed me miraculously and confirmed His calling through His Word and my pastors. Passages like Matthew 6:33 and Luke 5:10 gave me a clear burden for youth ministry. I realized that my dissatisfaction with worldly success was a "godly dissatisfaction" intended to redirect me.

#### Conclusion

Obedying His call, I joined Bible College to study Pre-Theology. Just as my parents sacrificed everything to follow Christ, I have surrendered my own plans to serve Him. God has been faithful to provide for every need, and I am committed to reaching the youth with the same Gospel that transformed my family.

*All glory be to God.*

## Praise & Prayer

### Praise

- ▶ For the grace of God on the health of GS family in spite of busy schedule of travel last month both in North and South India.
- ▶ For the new openings we had in the past months two share the ministry of ICGM.
- ▶ Discipleship Training was conducted for missionaries in Maharashtra.

### Pray

- ▶ For the construction of the Kurunaikalpatti church where there are fifty families who need a church to worship.
- ▶ Travel mercies to the GS as he travels this month to North India with a team.
- ▶ The summer discipleship camps planned in North and South India.
- ▶ Pray for the planning and preparation of ministry budget for 2026-27.
- ▶ Summer preparations for the Children ministries in the ensuing months as we prepare to translate books into other languages.
- ▶ The Associate General Secretary who is to take over from April and also for the installation program planned on 28th of March.

## FOR DONORS

### Church Construction Fund

**Account Name** : India Church Growth Mission  
**Account Number** : 11194454531  
**Bank** : State Bank of India  
**Branch Name** : Vinayaganagar, Madurai.  
**IFSC Code** : SBIN0001479



**INDIA CHURCH GROWTH MISSION**

**Admin Office:** No 58/1, Muthalamman Koil Street, Selaiyur, East Tambaram, Chennai - 600 073

(Registered under Tamil Nadu Societies Registration Act No: 82/1979)

### General Fund

**Account Name** : India Church Growth Mission  
**Account Number** : 10143136773  
**Bank** : State Bank of India  
**Branch Name** : Selaiyur Branch, Chennai  
**IFSC Code** : SBIN0007948



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