

EMU⁺

INTERNATIONAL

Evangelical Mission to the Unreached

Evangelical Mission to Uruguay

PROCLAIMING THE TRIUMPHS OF THE GOSPEL

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*Ken & Joan Jensen
Assistant Director*

ALONG THE WAY . . .

As July 4th approaches, I would be remiss not to mention the amazing rulings from our **US Supreme Court** in June. First and foremost, I never thought *Roe v. Wade* would be overturned in my lifetime. But after the deaths of tens of millions of babies in the womb – and some out of the womb – this disastrous, unconditional, 49-year-old travesty is no more as a federal statute. Yes, the battle between the life and death of unborn babies has now moved to state legislatures, but at least pro-life states can legally restrict abortions without federal interference.

Also, we are (or should be) aware of the Progressive's agenda over the decades to restrict religious freedoms in our country. *The Carson v. Makin* and *Kennedy v. Bremerton School District* verdicts have blocked some of that leftist agenda. The *New York State Rifle & Pistol Association v. Bruen* ruling was a victory for historic Constitutional rights, too, though I realize this one is a little more controversial according to the polls I have seen. Thousands, and, if voters are included, millions of US citizens are responsible for these eventual rulings. But, again, I would be remiss in not pointing out that the three constitutionalist appointees to the Supreme Court by our 45th President was the clincher. Regardless of your views in any other area of his actions, as Christians, we should be forever grateful for a conservative president

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HOLDING THE ROPE FOR INDIA

by Jeff Davis, director of EMU International

For the past four weeks, I have had the distinct privilege of hosting EMU's Indian national servant of Christ, **Billy Judson**. He comes from a long line of national missionary servants. Billy is one of our newest workers, joining EMU in 2015. Prior to that, he received his theological training at Shepherds Seminary in Cary, North Carolina. He currently has only two supporting churches in the Raleigh, North Carolina area. He also has only a handful of monthly ministry partners. In evaluating his needs and considering his ministry possibilities, it seemed wise for him to come to the USA for a few weeks to share his strategic plan and hopefully raise some extra needed financial support.

Billy left Hyderabad, India, on Wednesday, May 25 at 4:35 a.m. to fly to Raleigh, North Carolina. His flights took him through Dubai and New York City. Twenty-nine hours later he arrived in Raleigh where I picked him up around 1:00 a.m. We made our way to the mission house where we stayed for the next twelve days. The next morning, we hit the ground running as we had our first meeting scheduled with a ministry friend at 9:00 a.m. This was only the first of a total of 54 meetings that we had over the next four weeks. We personally met 84 people, joining them for coffee, breakfast, lunch, or supper. We also spoke in churches seven different times. We were privileged to attend a preachers' conference with over two hundred registered participants, many of whom we connected with personally at our display table and at meals. Over the three-day conference, it was fun to hear people saying, "Hi Billy," as many of the

attendees came to know him and his story. Thanks to the gracious gift of a ministry friend, we were privileged to tour the Ark Encounter in Kentucky on our way to Indiana for a meeting.



Billy at the Ark Encounter in Kentucky

As you can imagine, planning a schedule like this was a logistical nightmare, but praise be to God, He allowed us to accomplish even more than we had hoped. It was a privilege for my wife Joanna and me to host Billy at our house for several days. We are also extremely grateful for the hospitality of the folks at Friendship Baptist Church in Raleigh, North Carolina, who made it possible for us to stay at their mission house. It is a three-bedroom ranch home located next to the church and strategically within an hour's drive of our meetings in the North Carolina area. We also are grateful to Grace Baptist Church in Anderson, Indiana, for letting us stay in one of their ministry apartments for our brief time in Indiana. In the four weeks that we were together, we only had to stay in two hotels, and God provided both of those rooms through the gifts of generous partners.



Billy & Jeff preaching at Friendship Baptist



Another huge blessing was the generous gift of pottery from Don Hudson in Sanford, North Carolina. Don is the

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Holding the Rope for India

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founder of D.K. Clay, one of the largest and most technologically advanced pottery studios in North Carolina. He has made pottery for 52 years. In honor of Billy and to help support his ministry, he created a line of Bible verse pottery. Billy did the graphic design of Bible verses for these dishes. In the description, Don states that they use a "rich, dark blood red as a liner glaze." The symbolism points toward "Christ in you, the hope of glory." (Colossians 1:27) Don supplied us with around thirty plates that we gave away as gifts. If you are in the Sanford, NC, area, be sure to visit D.K. Pottery.

It was after midnight on Saturday evening, May 28, when Billy and I put the finishing touches on his missionary presentation. The next morning, he stood in front of the first congregation of people that we would address. This was a group that knew very little about his ministry. I told him that I wanted the first word out of his mouth to be "India." He confidently approached the pulpit, paused, looked over the congregation, and said, "India, what comes to mind when you think of India?" After a moment to let them think, he asked, "Is it spicy food? What about telemarketers? Or the person managing the hotel or gas station?" We all have our stereotypical response when we think of India. The next question got everyone's attention. "Or do you think about the most unreached nation on earth?" Let that sink in for a moment. India is a country with a population of over 1.4 billion souls. Every single one of them will spend eternity somewhere, either heaven or hell. With over 2,000 unreached people groups, according to *Operation World*, India, by far, is the most unreached country in the world. One-third of the world's unreached people groups are from one country, India. Four hundred million people in India have never heard the name, Jesus. Constitutionally, there are 22 official languages in India, but there are over 1,600 other languages with no Scriptures.

Billy calls his ministry, "One Fair Chance." His burden is that every one of those 1.4 billion people in India will be given one fair chance to hear and respond to the gospel message. "God so loved the world, means God loves my country, India," Billy passionately declares. "I believe with all my heart that as an Indian, God has given me a unique privilege to reach my own country. American missionaries are not allowed in India. If India is going to be reached, it will be through nationals reaching their own people."

India is a Populous Country: The current population of India is over 1.4 billion people. Its population is equivalent to 17.7% of the total world population. Within the next few years, India will surpass China as the most populated country in the world.

India is a Religious Country: The Indian constitution recognizes religion as a fundamental right, meaning citizens are free to follow whichever faith they choose. But religious persecution still exists. One ministry leader who has traveled to India several times exclaimed to us, "As a Christian, you can die in India!"

India is a Very Religious Country: It is the birthplace of four of the world's major religions: Hinduism (the world's oldest religion not associated with the Bible), Buddhism, Jainism, and Sikhism.

- **Hinduism:** 79.8% of the country self-identifies as Hindu. The word, "Hindu," comes from the Persians who referred to the geographical location of the Indus as "Sindhu." The word simply referred to a region, not a religion. Later on, the Greeks would call the Sindhu River, the Indus River. Thus, the name, India came into existence. There is a mountain of information on Hinduism, but it is still difficult to define. It does not have a founder. It is not a creedal religion like Islam or Christianity. It simply evolved over a period of nearly 5,000 years. It is a conglomeration of all the cultural movements of India and all the religions. Some say that adherents to Hinduism worship as many as 330 million gods.
- **Islam:** With 15% of the Indian population practicing Islam, it is the second-largest religion in the country. That is a huge difference from Hinduism, but because India is so populous, it equates to around 172 million Muslims. Only Indonesia and Pakistan have more followers of Islam.
- **Christianity:** Approximately 2.3 percent of India's population is considered Christian. Understand, though, that number represents nominal Christians, Roman Catholics, etc. The history of Christianity in India is said to have originated from Thomas the Apostle around AD 52. Much of our modern missions movement's early focus was on the country of India, with famous missionaries like William Carey, Amy Carmichael, C.T. Studd, and John Hyde.

India is a Country in Desperate Need of the Bible: In his presentation, Billy spoke on *Hebrews 4:12*: "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

The context of this passage is a warning of the danger of unbelief. Unbelief was a big problem for the children of Israel in the

wilderness. Unbelief is a big problem in our society today. Unbelief is a huge problem in India. The Word of God is the antidote to unbelief. He talked about how the Bible is a living Book, a powerful Book, and a discerning Book. He told me that as he was traveling to the USA, the Lord kept putting this verse on his heart. "The desperate need of my country is for the Word of God, correctly taught, and correctly understood, so that it can be correctly applied." *"Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God."*

Billy stated that most of the Christian preachers in India do not truly preach the Bible. In his words, "They will take a text and put the icing on the cake and just skim through it. They don't say what the text says. They say what they want to say, or they say what they think the congregation wants to hear."

Because of all of this, Billy came to the States to share the tremendous opportunity that we have to partner with one who is making a difference. He told us how "God put on the heart of my father, Dr. G.



(l-r) Billy & his father G. Jayasekhar

Jayasekhar, a burden to equip nationals and to begin Good News Bible College and Seminaries. In 1999, we launched our main teaching site, with 60 students, in Secunderabad, on the outskirts of Hyderabad." Now, 23 years later, there are 57 teaching sites in nine states of India. Over 16,000 have been trained. Their program consists of a one-to-five-year plan. They meet six days per week, Monday-Saturday, for two hours every night, a total of 240 hours per year. They have 30 textbooks that they use. Each teaching site is financially self-sustained through a local church.

Their strategy also includes opportunities for connecting and interdependent networking with sister ministries. They have hosted the Good News 360 National Church Leaders Conference. In 2016, I was privileged to participate and speak to over 550 graduates in-person. Last year, due to COVID restrictions, they hosted a virtual conference with over 1,000 registered participants, with 9 speakers from the USA, including seminary professors, pastors, and missionaries.

It is their goal to make available quality
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Holding the Rope for India

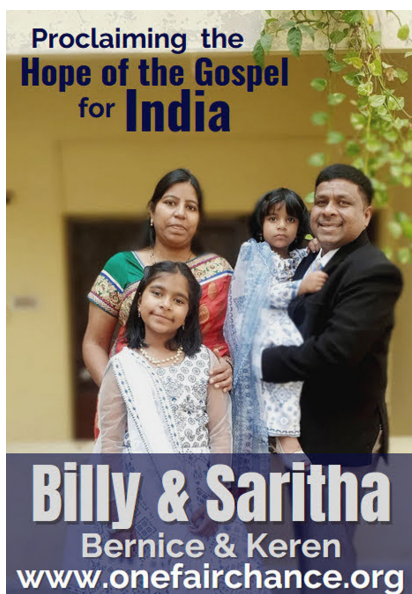
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Christian literature. They have diligently worked to translate materials from the USA. For a couple of years, they published a forty-page glossy magazine called “Wisdom for the Heart, India.” This served as an excellent resource for instruction to students who have very little in the way of Christian literature. It also was a great promotional tool to help promote the Bible schools. They had to cease publication due to the lack of funds. We are praying that God will provide the needed funds to reintroduce this magazine to India.

Billy said, “Our job is to bring the blessings of the Gospel to every family and community through Good News Bible College and Seminary. By bringing formal theological education to the local church, every member has access to quality training. Training the church to think theologically will empower and strengthen believers to stand amid the crashing wave of secularization. This is the only possible way India can be reached with the Gospel.”

An Invitation to Partnership

William Carey, known as “The Father of Modern Missions,” along with his pregnant wife and daughter, set sail in 1793 to Calcutta from London. He was the first



*Billy & Saritha with daughters
Bernice (l) & Keren (rt)*

missionary to India and served for forty-one years in India. He saw missions as a miner going into a deep mine — one which had never been explored, with no one to guide. He said to Andrew Fuller and John Ryland and his other pastor friends: “I will go down if you will hold the rope.” And John Ryland reports: “He took an oath from each of us, at the mouth of the pit, to this effect—that

‘while we lived, we should never let go of the rope.’” We are looking for churches and people who are willing to hold the rope for a national missionary who is giving his life to reach his own people. May the Holy Spirit light a fire in hearts to be burdened to give every person in India, One Fair Chance to respond to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

You Can Pray: (1) That national pastors will embrace the vision of preaching the Bible expositionally. (2) That people in the pews will support their pastors. (3) For God’s provision for financial needs to be met and to see the ministry grow.

(Note: We praise the Lord that Billy was able to take back to India a new MacBook Pro laptop and also a Zoom LiveTrak L-20 20-channel digital mixer. Both of these tools will greatly enhance the broadcasting and recording of their classes and ministry conferences.)

You Can Give: Please make checks payable to EMU International and include Judson family on the memo line. Mail checks to EMU International, 209 Roberts Rd., Taylors, SC 29687. You can also give online by visiting <https://emuinternational.org/give-now/billy/>. If you would like to discuss in more detail how you can partner with Billy’s ministry, I would be glad to talk with you. You may email me at jeff@emuinternational.org. †

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who actually kept his word in appointing Justices who would uphold our Constitution. Before you think that I am politicking here, please understand that the first three above issues are not political but moral.

In EMU news, it is a summer of travel for many of our missionary families. The **Tim Chapman family** flew to Antofagasta, Chile, in June to spend nine days with Tim’s parents, **Tom and Connie**. Besides catching up with family, Tim preached several times. We hope to have a report on that trip soon. Also, in July, Tim’s church in Lima, Perú, will be holding what they are calling a Theology Retreat. This will be several days of intense theological study at a facility that the church has used for youth camps in the Andean foothills. Then, early in August, the Chapmans’ oldest daughter **Lauren** will be returning to Greenville, SC, to begin her second year of college at Bob Jones University.

Three young ladies from our missionary families in Cambodia will be coming to Greenville with their mothers in late July to get settled into their new college life at BJU, classes beginning in mid-August. **Lydia Kane** will be flying here with their oldest daughter, **Mia**, with **Brian** remaining in Ban Lung with the rest of the kids. **Bonnie Ruth Farmer** will accompany her two oldest girls, **Abi** and **Isa**, here for the same purpose. But before coming to

South Carolina, **Bonnie Ruth**, **Abi**, **Isa**, and **Jeremy Farmer** are planning a short “senior trip” to England. Jeremy will then return to Stung Treng. **Brooke Illsley** will be keeping the other Farmer children in Cambodia until Jeremy’s return, when she will leave for a month in the States.



*(above) The Farmer clan in Stung Treng
Carol & Durwood seated*

(below) Isobel, Mia, & Abigail



On May 30, the Farmers received two visitors from the States — **Jeremy’s parents**. One of the major events they were able to be involved in was the **high school graduation** and celebration party for the two Farmer girls and **Mia Kane** held at the Farmers’ new house in Stung Treng. It was quite a production. Besides those mentioned above, **Josh and Amy Jensen’s family** also appear in the photos of the event. (FYI: **Abigail** and **Isobel**, though almost a year apart in age, began their schooling the same year, thus the double graduation.)

Not to be left out of this litany of MK college attendees, **Nate Crowley**, the youngest of **JD and Kim’s** kids, begins his senior year at BJU in August. He has generally spent his summers in Greenville working and living with his grandmother, although currently **JD and Kim** are Stateside until August 16, when they return to Cambodia. The second main reason for their current trip took place on June 20 with the birth of **Chas Richards**, son of **Zak and Jenna (Crowley) Richards**. It’s been good to see **JD and Kim** on occasion while they have been in the Greenville area.

Another of our MKs traveling this summer is **Micaiah Bixby** from France. He arrived in Wake Forest, NC, on June 30 to spend a few days with his grandmother on his mom’s side. After a week with his **Grandma Pahnke**, he comes to the Greenville, SC, area to spend time with his **Grandma Bixby** to work and visit family and friends here. He

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plans to return to northern France on August 24, where he will begin his second year of training at a local university.

The **Hancock family** will be coming Stateside on July 13 from Cambodia to begin a furlough that will last until probably the spring of 2023. Their inaugural time will be spent in Pennsylvania and Minnesota with Becky's family. While here, Matt and Becky will be having their sixth child. Pray especially for Becky as she is still fighting some physical difficulties that cause her to be very tired.

The **Espinel family** arrived in South Carolina on June 21 for a short furlough. By the time they landed at the North Myrtle Beach airport – the city where Kristine's parents live – three members of the family were sick. Never a good start to a trip! Four days later, they were well enough to drive to Greenville, SC, for a Sunday service at Cornerstone Baptist Church. The next day, they had lunch with Joan and me at our house, and we were able to do some catching up on family and ministry news over the afternoon. It was great to see them again. They will be returning to Uruguay in early December.

On June 30, **Ted Allston** flew out of Greenville for meetings in India. Accompanying Ted for the first time is **Jake Derksen**. In another newsletter I hope to present a longer introduction to Jake and the longish story of how he and Ted decided to work together doing the kind of work that Ted has been doing for many years now. The Derksen family is from Alberta, Canada, but they have been living in Greenville, SC, and have attended Hampton Park Baptist Church for several years. Joan and I have gotten to know the family pretty well and have been blessed by this family of eight. If this trip with Ted turns out well, the

Derksens are praying about making this their full-time ministry. However, because of several government issues in Canada, they will be under a Canadian based mission organization. At the end of July, only a few days after returning from India, the Derksens will drive to their hometown in Alberta to raise further mission support and endeavor to get the proper permissions to live in the States.

On July 24 there will be a commissioning service at the First Fundamental Baptist Church of Cancún for the **Daniel and Marisol Hernandez family** before they move to his hometown of Bochil, Chiapas, Mexico. **Pastor Drew Conley** from Hampton Park Baptist Church will be preaching at this meeting. Drew and his wife, **Mary Ellen**, will be in Cancún for about a week visiting with the Nuñezes. **Barb Corey**, a dear friend of Marco and Gwendolyn and EMU, will also be in Cancún for the commissioning, along with her sons. From the December 2021 EMU Newsletter, you may recall that land has already been purchased for the Hernandezes to build a house and place to begin a church. This will be a major change and undertaking for this little family of five. Pray for them concerning the many adjustments and decisions that lie before them.

The group of Baptist churches in Croatia that conduct the annual summer youth camp with the **Crnkovics** were able to find a new campground that can accommodate their large group of between 150-170 campers and staff. (Earlier in the year, they learned that the campground they normally use was closed for renovations.) This campground is on the shore of the largest lake – Lake Vrana – in Croatia and is located a short distance from the Adriatic Sea on the Dalmatian coast. This facility has all the amenities needed for their youth camp. Kornel will be one of the pastor/teachers, and Tanja will be in charge of food preparations. The theme for the July 22-30 camp is "New

Beginnings." Pray that this will truly be a time of spiritual renewal and, for some, a new beginning in Christ.



Men's winter retreat at Camp Bethel

The **winter men's retreat** was held at Camp Bethel in the countryside of Treinta y Tres in central-eastern Uruguay. The conference, from June 6-10, was taught by **Bill Hill** and **David Robinette** from the USA. It was a cold week at the generally unheated camp, but the teaching and fellowship were a blessing. David was scheduled to fly out of Montevideo on the last day of the retreat. He was taken to Montevideo to get a Covid test, a requirement for flying. The results were positive. **Pedro Donzé**, the Camp Emmanuel director and our office administrator in Uruguay, kept David and Bill at Camp Emmanuel to wait out their required sequester period. No one else tested positive. On the weekend before the retreat, Bill and David were able to preach at a combined mission-churches meeting at Calvary Temple of Montevideo, and then again at some MEU churches in the south. We certainly appreciate these two men's time and teaching in Uruguay, and appreciate our Uruguayans who ministered to the needs of these visitors.

Thanks to each of you who continue to bring the work of EMU before the Throne of Grace. We truly appreciate your prayer support and financial support when possible. †

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