



Disciple of Jesus: Philemon Chhetri



Philemon and Elishiba Chhetri and their two sons in Nepal.

On his most recent trip to Asia, David Robbins had the privilege of visiting one of the mission leaders who is closely associated with AIM. Philemon Chhetri and his wife Elishiba are the leaders of New Life Mission in Nepal.

Although born into the family of an Orthodox Hindu priest, Philemon has been a disciple of Jesus Christ since he was a young teenager.

“I was raised with strict Hindu teachings,” Philemon explains. “However, when I was 10, my uncle came home to our village professing Jesus as Lord. [I accepted Christ and then] was baptized at the age of 12. Immediately, my heart was burdened to share the Gospel and I started preaching to my friends and teachers.” Philemon’s life of discipleship and mission work had begun.

Broadcasting

Philemon has developed an effective radio and television ministry in the Nepali language. These programs are aired in most of the South Asian countries where Nepalese live. Just recently, on January 19, 2008, the first of five gospel messages was aired on Nepali national TV. Praise God

that He is using media such as TV and radio to communicate His Word!

Along with hosting these programs, New Life Mission has started the Joel Faith Bible School and sends out missionaries into Nepal and India. Drawing from Galatians 4:19, Philemon comments, “Unless Christ is formed in me, I cannot be his disciple.” Discipleship in Philemon’s life began with his uncle sharing God’s Word with him, and has continued on into the lives of the missionaries that he works alongside. And discipleship continues to spread as these missionaries faithfully carry the gospel to their own people.

New Church Building

Pastor Joseph is one such missionary. His congregation in Darjeeling is excited to have begun a church building project. Land has been purchased, an engineer has drawn up plans, and an estimate has been made. While there are not yet sufficient funds for the actual construction of the church, Philemon encourages Pastor Joseph to begin with what they have and to go on by faith. “We walk by faith, not by sight,” Chhetri says, “and the Lord will not put us to shame.”

“The indigenous church needs us to go and see them, to love them, to listen to them, to learn from them, and to encourage and teach them.”

-David Robbins

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Update on David Robbins' Trip to Central Asia

Feb 27, 2008: David Robbins phoned us at the AIM Mission Center earlier this morning. Having recuperated from a brief two-day flu bug, he is definitely feeling energetic once again and informs us that everything is going well. Tomorrow morning he and Monoj Mohanty, who was here in Canada last fall, are going on a five-day, 1,200 km trip from Delhi toward Nepal.

On this trip, David and Monoj will make arrangements for the October 2008 Leadership Training Seminars. David Robbins, Al Friesen, Travis Thiessen, and possibly others will

be teaching on family life and mission. Monoj is also taking David to see the two churches – both about half built – that have been recently funded by AIM supporters. (If you would like more information on this trip, please feel free to visit our website or contact us.)

The Tharu people, one of the main people groups that Monoj and David will be visiting, live mostly in Nepal (700,000) and in North India (300,000). Pray that the Holy Spirit will open the missionaries' eyes to see the vision that God has for the Tharu people. They are a marginal-

ized people group, and are encouraged when they find out that there are people in Canada who care about their livelihood, and who love them enough to visit and pray for them.

It is exciting to hear that several mission leaders are planning to visit us in Canada this year. Philemon and Elishiba Chhetri plan to be here for two weeks in June, and Santosh and Shimona Thomas plan on coming for two weeks in September/October. We look forward to having them here!

Prayer Focus: Nepal



(Source: <http://www.infoplease.com/atlas/country/nepal.html>)

Praise God that:

- 15 students were able to graduate from the Joel Faith Bible School.
- Philemon Chhetri had the opportunity to give five Bible messages on Nepal's national television (the first was aired on January 19, 2008).
- Things are going well for David Robbins as travels to Nepal and surrounding countries. It is not always an easy part of the world to travel in.

Please pray for:

- Peace in Nepal. There are a lot of problems in that country.
- The upcoming leadership conferences: April 20-22 and October 27-30, 2008.
- The ability to continue the Joel Faith Bible School this year.
- The radio and television ministry, that listeners will be ready to hear God's message and turn to the Lord.

AIM's Annual General Meeting

TIME: Saturday, March 29, 2008
9 am -12:30 pm

PLACE: AIM Mission Center, 235 Princess Street, Winnipeg, MB

AGENDA: A time of fellowship and prayer, an inspirational message, a report on David's recent trip to Central Asia, the year 2007 in review

Please join us for lunch following the meeting.

