

STEP OUT IN FAITH - INDIA REPORT

STEVE & SONIA COLEMAN - ANDHRA PRADESH, INDIA NOVEMBER 2009

A turning point in our lives

We are a couple from Canterbury in Kent and first met Suzanne Pillans at a Holy Spirit teaching Day in the town of Sandwich in Kent at the beginning of October, when we immediately realized here was a woman of God, on fire for Jesus. After talking with Suzanne that weekend we were invited to join her team on their mission trip to India in November! We arrived in India on 1st November to a glorious welcome from Rev. Ganta, his family and his team of Pastors. Driving to his home about 2 hours away was the beginning of the culture shock –

The noise, car horns blaring, trucks, motor bikes, ox carts, bicycles, tuc tuc's, pedestrians, the dust, the heat and humidity. The towns are teeming with people. Women dressed in Saris, men with pieces of cloth wrapped around them. Cloths of every colour assault the mind and on every street corner statues to their demonic 'gods'.

From the beginning the Lord knit the six team members in unity of spirit and purpose for His work.

The crusade was exciting to say the least. We will never forget it. Thousands upon thousands of people sitting on the ground waving their arms in the air in praise to God, the singing, the sea of faces, the beautiful women, dressed like jewels in their sari's.

Suzanne stood to preach. Who has ever heard of anyone not preparing realms of notes for a mass crusade? Suzanne doesn't, she waits on the Lord, He tells her what to say and she says it! The effect is electric with thousands standing to receive Jesus as their Lord and Saviour. Suzanne invites them to receive healing by placing their own hands on their sickness – hands go up as blind eyes see, deaf ears hear, the lame walk – it's just as it was when Jesus walked this earth 2000 years ago.

The testimonies are awesome – people healed at a distance, leprous hands healed, children beginning to walk for the first time. At the end of the crusade the team joined in to pray for the sick and bless everyone who wanted prayer. We were swamped by people, almost crushed from the crowds, but what a mighty God we serve!

We had seven days of three crusades, church plantations, church openings, pastors' conference, baptisms, church and orphanage visiting. A full schedule with little time to eat, rest, wash and change before we were driven on to the next event. Sometimes home at midnight and up by six.

Especially moving was the church plantation at Lankalakoderu, we were given fresh coconuts to drink from and feted with garlands of Marigolds and Jasmine. The ground was hard and dry, a hole had been dug in one corner where the building was about to begin. A pile of bricks, one for each one of us, waiting to be placed as the foundation stones.

Deaf and Dumb boy healed

One church we visited on the last day was especially moving. The pastor had been stabbed repeatedly by the Hindu village leaders and left for dead but God healed him in three days and, when approached, the Hindu leaders challenged the pastor to show if God would heal a local deaf and dumb boy as well. God healed the boy in front of their eyes and the whole village of 2000 people turned to Christ. As we entered the gate to this small church the holy anointing of the presence of God was so strong on the place you could feel the weight of His love and peace – there could be no doubt or unbelief in your mind, truly God was in this place. Fifteen minutes were allocated but we stayed forty-five. People received the word given by Suzanne, received healing and the anointing. I will never forget it, it will stay with me forever.

Prayers answered

There is not enough room to tell you of the welcome, the people, the healings the teachings, their faith, their generosity and peace in believing, their gentleness and love, their poverty and squalor, the cockroaches, rats and open sewers, their courage and joy. Of secret police, of 84 baptisms in a muddy canal between rice fields and 200 Hindu priests and leaders converted because they had seen our God hold back cyclones during the Christian crusades and heal sick people to His glory!

If you are contributing to this ministry either by supporting the 'God's bicycle ministry' or in a general way, you are blessing not only the pastors but entire villages of people who have been bound in darkness through idol worship all their lives. Their faith when it finds its true home in the one true and living God has to be seen to be believed. They are fully convinced of the Good news of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. One pastor, with a single £50 bike can reach thousands of people – this is true evangelism. You can make a difference even if you can only give £1.60 for a bible in the local language!

Suzanne is truly a woman of great faith and strength – unstoppable, powerful with God and man.

Support her and you will be supporting a ministry as in the Acts of the Apostles. As it says in Matthew 11 v 5: "The blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear and the dead are raised up the poor have the good news preached to them for salvation, now and for eternity.

Praise God for Suzanne's ministry and all the people who support her. Glory to God in the highest and peace to his people on earth. Hallelujah.