

Grace Bible Church Pakistan Ministry July/August 2011 Newsletter

Grace Bible Church Arifwala

These two months have been filled with many activities and blessings from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. It is with a grateful and thankful heart that we share the following updates and goals with you all.

Independence Day Celebration, August 14th

On August 14th, Pakistan celebrated 64 years of independence from British rule. Although it was the first day of school, the day was spent in celebration. The children and families sang national songs, danced with the songs, sang Christian songs, and the church provided various desserts for them to enjoy.



Singing national independence song

The children also put on a play. The play was about a very poor family who received the grace blessing of having their children attend GBC Pakistan School. Over time the father converted and changed his ways, and the entire family was blessed.



Actors in the play

The children also put on comedy skits. The staff received very positive feedback from the parents and children.



Parents watching their children in comedy skit

Long-Term Mission Trip, Nov - April

We have a mission trip to Pakistan *tentatively* scheduled for November 2011. The goal is for Pastor Faisal to:

- To build up men, women, and children in Pakistan with face-to-face teaching making disciples and teaching men the basic foundational doctrines so they are equipped to go out to our villages and build up their community and plant more churches
- Visit and teach those in the current seven villages we now visit weekly
- Visit other villages, churches and ministry that have extended an invitation and wait for our acceptance
- Deliver Christmas boxes to the children at Christmas time for our 2nd annual Christmas Care Package
- Prepare the Basic Book for printing and ready for distribution
- Set up pastor conferences for Pastor Gene Cunningham to teach local pastors some time next year
- Teach on the doctrine and purpose of water baptism as a symbol of being identified in Jesus Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection and accepting discipleship

Carrie is hoping to travel with or meet up with Faisal at some point this time. She will be in charge of teaching English to the children, learning Urdu, and developing a plan to use the land which is across the street from the church.

The Lord's will, not our will be done.
Please pray for clarity, wisdom, and provisions.

Phil 4:6 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

Grace Bible Church School

First Day of Classes, August 15th



School days run from 7:45 am – 12:45 pm. This year we are starting the school day with Bible study followed by all the academic classes. We had 87 children in attendance the first day.



Pre-school with teacher



1st & 2nd grade with teach



3rd & 4th grade with teacher



We are grateful that most of the children were provided with all academic books for them to use during the school year. We still need help for others.

Col 3:17 What ever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.



Children leaving after their first day of school

Upcoming Party

At this time, as Pakistan is predominantly a Muslim country, the country is celebrating Ramadan. After the month of Ramadan (Festival of the Purification after completing the fasting month), they celebrate the Eid ul-Fitr for two days. The school is planning a party during this time to thank God for everything He has provided for them (the school, uniforms, books, etc.). There will be fun activities, games, singing of songs, etc., within the school boundaries, including serving the children vegetable and rice plates of food. Thank God we are able to do this little extra gift this month.

GBCP Church/School Needs & Fulfillments

| Current Needs Please keep these in prayer | Needs Fulfilled Give thanks to God for answered prayers |
|--|---|
| <p>\$ 300.00..... Carpet for church/school \$ 500.00..... Projector \$ 200.00..... Purchase of livestock for villagers \$ 5000.00..... Mission 2011/2012 approx. \$ 200.00..... Monthly sponsor for 3 teachers</p> | <p>* School uniforms * Cabinet</p> |

We were blessed with a donation of purchased uniforms for the boys and material for the uniforms for the girls. We provided the families with materials so they could sew the uniforms for their daughters. We and the parents are very thankful for these grace provisions.



Uniforms for the boys from the market



Material for uniforms for the girls



We were also blessed with a new cabinet to store the school supplies

Donations can be mailed to:

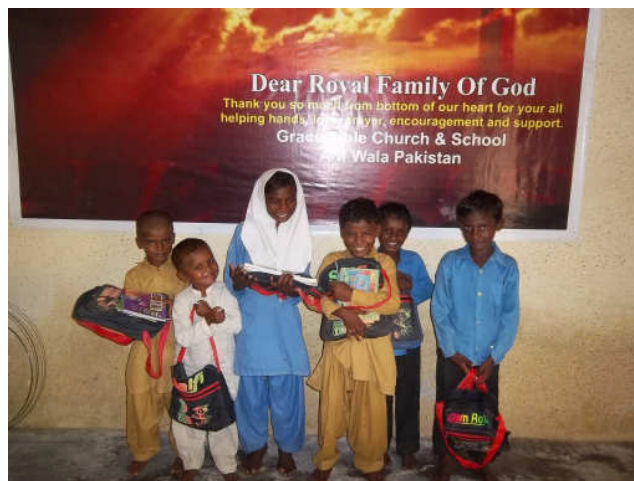
**Grace Bible Church Pakistan
13409 N. 54th Ave.
Glendale, AZ 85304**

Translated Material

- ◇ Chapter 4 of the book *Christian Warrior* written by Pastor Gene Cunningham has been translated into Urdu, proofread, and will be printed and mailed out in September. Please pray for our translator, Pervaz, as he is sick along with most of his family and other team members.
- ◇ God has also answered our prayers for someone to translate the book *Foundations*, distributed by Village Ministries International (VMI), into Farsi. The answer was 3 miles away in Glendale, Arizona. Pastor Faisal attended a Farsi Bible study meeting at a local Christian church, led by Pastor Bob. Faisal informed the group of the need, and now Pastor Bob's son, Isaiah, is speaking with Drue Freeman at VMI regarding fulfilling this request. Please continue to keep this project in prayer.

Reaching Out to the Villages

- ◇ Seven children attended our school from Village #23. The family has a rickshaw which they use as a business and to bring the children to school every day. These children would have no chance for an education if it were not for the grace of God and those who support this ministry.



- ◇ Our desire is to provide the family in Village #51 with a rickshaw as well so they too can use it as a family business and to bring their children to school every day. Please pray that God's will be done regarding this provision.
- ◇ We ask that you please keep the Pastor and leaders of Doctorwala Church in your prayers. The spiritual attacks against our leaders are many and varied. And Pakistan has many false teachers and false doctrines. We pray for the protection of our leaders and that they remain focused on learning, teaching, and living God's Word.
- ◇ We have started a new Bible study group in Village #45. A lady in Village #45 had been fighting a difficult battle of demon possession. Her family learned of our church meeting through a family member in Village #49. They brought this lady to the meeting, and Chris, Tahir and Rajesh prayed for her and she was saved. That night she was spiritually attacked by the demons and she ran away. Fortunately a family member was able to bring her back home, but she continues to battle these spiritual attacks. Village #45 has now requested weekly Bible study meetings. Please pray for the deliverance of this lady and for the new Bible study meetings.
- ◇ Asher is a gentleman who lives in a Village about 35 miles from our church. His desire is to stay with our team on Saturdays and Sundays in order to learn the Word of God and then teach to teach in his Village. We are waiting for God's will in this matter.

Ministry News from the USA

Ordination!

We are happy to announce that Pastor Faisal will be ordained on October 2, 2011 in the Glendale/Phoenix Arizona area! We extend an invitation to you all to attend. It is with much happiness and rejoicing that we plan for and look forward to this important event. Some hotels in the area include:

Thunderbird Executive Inn & Conference Center
15249 North 59th Avenue, Glendale, AZ
(602) 978-7987 · <http://www.thunderbirdexecutiveinn.com>

Quality Inn & Suites at Talavi
5511 West Bell Road, Glendale, AZ
(602) 896-8900 · <http://www.qualityinn.com/>

If you desire more details please be free to email
Karen Smith at secretary@gbcpakistan.org

Proverbs 3:6 In all your ways acknowledge Him,
and He will make your paths straight.

Introduction of Board Members

By God's grace and power, we will soon be applying for 501c3 tax-exempt, non-profit status. The staff is currently working on the required paperwork. Below are the Board Members for Grace Bible Church Pakistan. We asked them to please share what gifts they believe they will bring to the ministry and why they said "yes" to God for service.

Pastor Faisal John, Chairman – (see From the Heart of Pastor Faisal below)

Cullen Pendleton, Vice Chairman

Board Member Cullen N. Pendleton accepted Faisal John's invitation to serve because of his friendship with Faisal and his desire to help GBCP advance the gospel of Jesus Christ, in accordance with every Christian's duty to "go . . . and make disciples of all nations." Matt 28:19. Cullen believes he will bring the gifts of leadership and administration to the ministry.

Karen Smith, Secretary

The gifts that God has given me include organizational skills, secretarial skills, an ability to develop new positions, and a loving husband who has taught me how to use graphic programs, design newsletters, and who is an excellent editor. The reasons why I said yes to God for service in this ministry are because I viewed this request as a gift from God, God said yes to go forward and so I did, and GBCP is a ministry based on grace with the goal of making God's Word available to all who desire to hear and learn. It is a privilege and an honor to serve our Loving God and Father and the royal family in this capacity. Thank you so much for this fantastic opportunity! May I show myself to be an approved workman.

Ricky Greeve, Joint Secretary/Prayer Team

My name is Ricky Greeve Jr. My wife is Amalie, and I have two children, Christian and Charis. I am a General Contractor from Topeka, KS, but more importantly, a brother In Christ. I met Faisal and Carrie at a Bible conference in Tecumseh, KS, where we naturally began to spur each other on in our Christian walks. As Faisal told me of the excellencies of Christ in Pakistan, our Lord convicted me that I could be usable. When the opportunity to contribute to this ministry arose, by the grace of God, my answer was yes. I am not sure who has been blessed more since then! I have been able to take on the task of support and prayer, at this time. If God wishes to do more through me, pray that the answer will be yes again. My prayer is that we all grow in the knowledge and grace of Jesus Christ, and remember that our neighbor is not defined by a geographic location.

Carrie John, Information Secretary

Being married to the most wonderful man on earth, it did not take me long to become naturally and willingly involved with the affairs of Faisal John's genuine desire to preach the gospel in and out of season, teach the lost and feed the hungry, hungry not only for the word of God but if anyone has any need, we lay down our life to fulfill it with prayer and anything we have to give. Following his grace filled and prayerful lead, I will do what ever he asks for this ministry and the people serving in it. Above all I trust my Savior Jesus Christ and His precious Holy Spirit to guide me in all I do. I thank my real Father in heaven for this grace gift.

Mark Clark, Treasurer

I first began supporting GBCP a few years ago in setting up a website and helping with audio messages. With my finance background, it is now my pleasure to assist the ministry as Treasurer. The leaders and mission of GBCP are completely Grace-oriented and serve a nation of people who are desperately searching for truth against the religions and false teachings of the world, and that is why I am happy to be a small part of it.

GBC Pakistan Church and School Staff

We currently have three men in charge of the ministries in Pakistan along with 3 teachers, a watchman, and a custodian.



Saqina – Siana – Arshed – Tahir – Chris - Rajesh

Chris is the Treasurer of the church and school. He is responsible for the finances, prayer meetings, and the Village Outreach.

Tahir is responsible for teaching Sunday school of the church, school and for village outreach.

Rajesh helps with various duties at the school (i.e., shop for supplies), assists with the worship team, and is involved with the outreach ministries.

Nusrat is our lead teacher/principal with a Bachelors degree in Elementary Education. She is currently on maternity leave as she just had a baby girl the end of July.

Siama teaches our 3rd & 4th graders, **Arshed** is our 1st & 2nd grade teacher both with a BA in Elementary Education, and **Sheraz** prepares our little ones pre-K.

“**Deacon**” is our watchman, and **Saqina** is our custodian who helps keep the place tidy.

Other Activities This Summer

July Youth Camps – We are praising Jesus that there are numerous children all over the United States who have an opportunity to attend many Christian youth camps. Pastor Faisal and Carrie had the awesome invitation and privilege to serve, teach, and just be available for some of these kids at Arizona Youth Camp with Pastor Buck & Heather Hoskin, along with Central Arkansas Youth Camp with John & Lori Cunningham. Pastor Faisal also drove cross country with Heather, Joy, and 11 youths to Alabama for South East Youth Camp with Boyce and Donna Smith. Pastor Faisal, having English as a second language, fine tuned his abilities to teach the youth at the cross and flag pole ceremonies at all of these camps. Everyone was amazed at how clear the gospel and messages were and how he reached many of the youth through his words and actions. Some of these children made a decision to believe on the mighty name and work of

Jesus Christ as their Savior, while others were sure to enter the battlefield and proclaim a decision to live their life for Jesus Christ as His disciple. As a symbol of this decision they chose to be baptized. Here are the results at all three camps. Rejoice with us.

Only God's very own Holy Spirit is able to accomplish this:

- South East Youth Camp, 23 children were baptized.
- Arizona Youth Camp, 1 child was saved; 24 children were baptized (one being the child who was saved).
- Central Arkansas Youth Camp, 3 children were saved and 3 were baptized.

Tea Party Presentation – Pastor Faisal was given an opportunity to speak at a Tea Party meeting in Arkansas. He taught on Gal 5:1.

In August, Pastor Faisal & Carrie also visited Grace Fellowship Church of Amador County, California, and joined them for 2 days on the family camp up at Bear River Reservoir in California. Sunday morning, Faisal was able to join the worship team on the djembe (an African drum) and answer some questions about Grace Bible Church Pakistan ministry.

From the heart of Pastor Faisal John

From the moment I began to truly study the word of God as a youth at just 16 years old, I could never get enough understanding to satisfy my soul. I read through the Bible over and over asking God to give me wisdom and understanding. My hunger grew as each puzzle piece began to fit in the multi-colored tapestry of our Lord's life story. I began to notice that in each verse our Lord is represented and with zealousness I just had to share this with others in my colony.

Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit,

of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. JESUS IS THE WORD.

Lives were changed! My family began to truly trust and believe in my Jesus.

Prayers were answered! God the Father sent me my rib, Carrie.

My hearts' desires, which only God knew about, were made real and manifested before my eyes – to place my foot on American soil, the soil of freedom, and to worship and talk about my Savior with no limitations. I realized that our God recognizes no borders for those who trust in Him, and I trust Him.

I began to see all that is accessible to me for studying His word, the electric power is always available, and I can study all night and all day. What a blessing... then I had this great desire to share the Word of God with the youth and my family in Pakistan; I had to share what I was learning from all these great pastors, teachers, and evangelists that the Lord's Spirit had risen up. I was encouraged even further as men and women started to come to hear the grace teaching about our Lord's plan for their life. I began to teach Ephesians and am still teaching this great book in the Bible.

Then to our amazement, more lives were changed, and then a shelter was supplied for us to study under and to worship the King of kings.

Meanwhile, my wife Carrie, a good helper and prayer warrior, was praying for a Christian school to direct here in America, and sometime later, much to our surprise, the Lord God answered her prayer in Pakistan. We now have the awesome privilege to not only teach the Bible, but also teach academics to our colony children. Christian women with education for teaching now have a position (job) and a purpose and can help support their family in the Pakistani community. Children in our Christian colony and outer villages, who would not even learn to read, will now be able to read their Bible. The blessings are endless in the kingdom of God.

Thank you, Father, for the opportunity to be a vessel and thread in Your amazing tapestry. I honor You with my obedience to Your precious Holy Spirit. I am grateful for the examples in the Bible, of the men and women who obeyed You and developed a personal and intimate relationship with You in history; those that Your sovereign hand allowed, those accounts written down in the Bible, our handbook, timeless, the only truth. So with the utmost reverence for our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, our perfect and complete role model, I thank You for this opportunity to trust You in all my thoughts, words, and deeds. I will continue to lay down my life one day at a time to fulfill the Great Commission you have us here for, to bring the gospel to all nations, starting with Pakistan and the United States of America, and those I am blessed to witness to everywhere You send me.

1 Timothy 1:12 I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because He considered me faithful, putting me into service.

Pastor Faisal John

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