

Grace Bible Church Pakistan Ministry September/October 2011 Newsletter

Grace Bible Church Arifwala

We give thanks to God for you and your precious prayers as you support this ministry in thought, word, or deed. Thank you for standing with our brothers and sisters in Pakistan who are encouraged through this ministry!



You have no idea of the kind of comfort you bring, as they realize they are not alone and that people all over the world are praying and supporting a ministry that brings them the Word of Life.

Our church family in Pakistan remains solid with 50-60 people gathering every Sunday at *Grace Bible Church Arifwala*, Pakistan, and 20-30 gathering every morning for the 20 minute devotion that Pastor Faisal begins the day with at 5:30 am.

They remain hungry for the Grace Gospel and the Lord has opened this door for them, by bringing me as a missionary to the US to study under amazing teachers of grace and then giving testimony of His love in the Scripture as it is revealed to me. I am excited to communicate what has been revealed to me through Scripture via the internet to the flock the Lord has gathered together in His name. We stand amazed at His continued Grace and provision.

Picnic

After the Independence Day Celebration, we arranged to have a picnic for the children and families who attend our school and church. Teachers



from the school, the church staff, several parents, and many children attended this event. The children played various games, sang songs, and recited Bible verses.

Then they all returned to the church and everyone was given vegetable rice to eat. It turned out to be a day filled with play, laughter, and relaxation.



We have posted more pictures for you to view on this website:

http://www.flickr.com/photos/gbc_pakistan/

Road Conditions

The road leading to the church and school and the sewer pipes under this road need to be fixed as soon as possible. As you can see from the pictures below, the road is pockmarked with potholes and filled with raw sewage waste. This presents an on-going and very dangerous situation for the families who walk their children to school, for the rickshaws that come daily in and out of the villages to bring the children to school, and it is a breeding ground for bacteria and the mosquitoes who carry deadly diseases (like the dengue virus).



The trenches need to be dug, about 200 feet of sewer pipe needs to be installed and connected with the main sewer line, and then the road needs to be surfaced and repaired (we are considering the options of laying gravel or bricks).

The estimated cost for all of the supplies and labor for the sewer lines will be close to \$300.00. Once the sewer pipes are in place we then can fix the road. Even in their poverty, the families living along this road are also participating monetarily with this need. Estimates for this road work will be in our next newsletter.

Mission Trip

The date for the Mission Trip to Pakistan is set for November 16, 2011, and ending late April 2012. Faisal will travel alone first, while Carrie along with other missionaries will meet up him in February.

2011/2012 mission vision:

- To build up men, women, and children in Pakistan with face-to-face teaching and preparing them for discipleship.
- To teach men the basic foundational doctrines so they are equipped to go out to our villages, build up their communities, and plant more churches.
- To visit and teach those in the current seven villages we now visit on a weekly basis.
- To visit other villages, churches, and ministries who have extended an invitation for us to come teach and they are currently waiting for our acceptance.
- To deliver Christmas Boxes to the children at Christmas time for our 2nd Annual Christmas Care Package.
- To prepare *The Basics* book for printing and then distribute the books once they are printed.
- To set up conferences for local pastors sometime next year to be taught by Pastor Gene Cunningham from *Basic Training Bible Ministries*.
- To teach on the doctrine and purpose of water baptism as a symbolic, public proclamation of being identified with Jesus Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection and accepting discipleship.

Romans 10:14 & 15

How then will they call on Him in whom they have not believed?

How will they believe in Him whom they have not heard?

And how will they hear without a preacher?

How will they preach unless they are sent?

Just as it is written,

**“HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THOSE
WHO BRING GOOD NEWS OF GOOD THINGS!”**

Grace Bible Church School

School continues on in full swing. The children are learning both the academic and the Bible study materials. The students recently took a Bible school examination, and 75% responded well to the test questions, indicating that the children understand the Biblical information that is being taught to them.



Our teachers face several challenges and we ask for you and your groups' continued daily prayers for them. About 50% of the students started this year behind in their academic standing. Several of these children had never attended a school before they came to

GBCP School, so naturally they will be behind.

The teachers are patiently working with these children to bring them up to grade level. They also face the challenge of teaching these children how to behave in a classroom setting. For many of the children, this is a new concept. For the first time they are learning social skills, like how to sit still, how to listen without interrupting, and various other forms of self-control which are needed in order to have an environment conducive to learning. So far only two fights have occurred during school play time, and the teachers are training the children how to resolve problems/conflicts by means other than by fighting. Although the challenges are many, God's mighty hand is at work, working through the teachers, staff, and the children. Our teachers love the children and the children love them.

New Children Enrolled

We have had a total of 24 new children enroll in school since our last newsletter in August. We had nine (9) children enroll from Village #23, seven (7) children from Village #51, five (5) children from a nearby graveyard colony, and three (3) Muslim children, with a new a total of 93 children attending our school on a regular basis.



Children from Village #23



Children from Village #51

Thanks to your generous prayers and donations, we were able to provide all the new students with uniforms and books.



New children being fitted in the market for uniforms



Donations can be mailed to:

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

GBCP Church/School Needs & Fulfillments

Current Needs Please keep these in prayer	Needs Fulfilled Give thanks to God for answered prayers
\$ 300.00..... Repair sewer line	* \$1600.00 towards mission trip
\$ 1500.00..... Christmas Care Packages	* Uniforms & books for our new students
\$ 3400.00..... Mission 2011/2012 approx.	* 5 Study Bibles to Evangelist Eric
\$ 200.00..... Monthly sponsor for 3 teachers	
\$ 300.00..... Carpet for church/school	
\$ 500.00..... Projector	
\$ 200.00..... Purchase of livestock for villagers	

2nd Annual Christmas Care Packages

As some of you may know, our ministry began Christmas Day of 2008 and each year GBC Pakistan prepares a small gift for their kids. Inspired by *Samaritan Purse* and discovering that they do not deliver in Pakistan, WE began our own Christmas Care Package in 2010 aimed specifically for the encouragement of the children in our various ministries.

The Christmas Box goal for this year can be reached with a gift of just \$10 per child in our school. We would like to provide them with:

- Sweater or jersey, hat, pair of shoes and socks for the cold winter months, which will be part of their uniform
- A Christmas story coloring book with crayons
- Food items – 2 fruits from the market & an American lollipop
- Toothbrush and toothpaste

We would also like to give the children we visit in the outlying villages and Christian colonies a Christmas Box also, but this will depend on your participation. Please pray and open your hands and hearts. In order to have the boxes completed by Christmas, we need the donations in by December 1, 2011.

Reaching Out to the Villages

Bibles to Evangelist Eric

Evangelist Scott Grande along with the men and women at *Christ Saves Ministries* continue to support the outreach materials to our brothers, sisters, evangelists, pastors and ministries in Pakistan. A recent gift from CSM enabled us to distribute five new Study Bibles to Evangelist Eric in Toba Tek Singh. Evangelist Eric plans to use these with his new Bible study group.



Other Villages

- ◇ Last month we shared that a new Bible Study group started in Village #45. We are happy to report that the group continues to meet on a regular basis. The group has many children attending, along with several families. They are currently using the children material to teach all the members of the group.

Proverb 25:25
***Like cold water to a weary soul,
So is good news from a distant land.***

- ◇ Our leadership team recently visited *GBC Doctorwala Church* to see how their Children's Ministry is doing and to provide encouragement.



Translated Material

Chapter 4 of the book *Christian Warrior* by Pastor Gene Cunningham was posted to our website in September. We were not able to print and mail the material as Pervez and the translation teams were ill with the dengue virus. Thank you for your prayers for the team and their family. Pervez and the translation team members are better and on the road to recovery; however, their family members are still very ill. Please keep them in your prayers.



In October we printed and mailed out the book *Sins Cannot Take You to Hell*. This was mailed out to 33 ministries in Pakistan.

Ministry News from the USA

Ordination!

"Those who honor Me I will honor,
and those who despise Me shall be lightly esteemed." (1 Sam 2:30b)



WE ARE immeasurably grateful for your prayers, gifts, and support before and during the Ordination. The messages from all speakers were heartening, challenging, impactful and straight from the spirit of our Lord, emphasizing the great responsibility that a Pastor-Teacher has and the

importance of being able to stand firm in the midst of trials and tribulations. We here at GBCP want to again thank all those who helped to make this event so special, with special thanks to our home church *Crossword Christian Fellowship* and Pastor Buck Hoskins, also Pastor Gene Cunningham and Evangelist Scott Grande.



Ken Jacobs, Ben Wick, Pastor Buck Hoskin, Pastor Faisal John,
Evangelist Scott Grande, Pastor Gene Cunningham, & Dan Delker

The ordination service was live streamed & can be viewed on UStream at:

<http://www.ustream.tv/recorded/17653935>

Prayer Requests

- ◇ The flood waters have dried up in Pakistan; however, many people still continue to be infected with the dengue virus which is spread by mosquitoes. The affected people struggle to make it through each day. Please keep the victims of this epidemic in your prayers. Arifwala citizens are so grateful that the government sent a spray team, at no charge, to the colony to fumigate and spray the entire Christian colony, paying close attention especially to the school buildings, where the Aedes mosquitoes may breed and infect people. They also sprayed the old Christian colony.

Here is a link for more information about this outbreak:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2011_dengue_outbreak_in_Pakistan

- ◇ Pray for Asia Bibi in Pakistan and Pastor Youcef in Iran who are in chains for Christ. You can read more about their situation on the Voice of the Martyrs website at: <http://www.persecution.com/>
- ◇ Pray for Pastor Gene and Nancy Cunningham, for their continued health and fitness, and for their upcoming conferences. Also, rejoice in the Lord's accomplished work in Africa. You can read more about their ministry at: <http://www.basictraining.org/>
- ◇ Pray for Pastor Faisal as he attempts to complete the proof reading of *The Basics* book before he leaves for Pakistan in just a few short weeks.
- ◇ Pray for monthly sponsors to support the GBCP teachers & staff.
- ◇ Pray our Father takes into consideration a much needed monthly stipend for Pastor Faisal as he steps onto the battle field and temporarily leaves behind his US commitments, responsibilities, and wife Carrie with limited resources.

From the Heart of Pastor Faisal

Dear fellow believers, prayer warriors, and supporters in the Lord Jesus Christ,

To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in United States of America, including the believers worldwide: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always offering prayer with joy in my every prayer for you all, in view of your participation in the gospel from the first day until now. Phil 1:2-5

Thank you so much for everything you do for us and carrying on *Grace Bible Church Pakistan* ministry here and overseas. Because of the marvelous love of God, we stand amazed by what we do and why we do it, because the love of Christ controls us.

These past two months have been an unexpected blessing.

In August, I left for Kansas to work so that Carrie and I could apply for a place to live. We had been living with Pastor Buck and Heather Hoskin since we arrived in Arizona on June 1st and are grateful and humbled before our sovereign God for their hospitality and love.

Leaving for Kansas opened the door for another marvelous opportunity given to me by the Lord to rub shoulders among zealous pastors, leaders, teachers, evangelists, and beautiful women who have a servant's heart to glorify only our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. It was a beautiful time where I was surrounded by a great cloud of ambassadors and witnesses of Jesus Christ.

It is so true to know that the sovereign God does not need our capability only our availability.

I was working in Kansas for six weeks under wonderful believers, Ricky and Amalie Greeve in their business *Greeve Construction Company*. I appreciate their love and this opportunity to learn many new skills. Along

with Ricky I worked with Jesse Miller, and with a U.S. marine, Travis. Every day I was given divine opportunities to talk with people at the local stores, food places, and cafés about the gift of God, His Son Jesus Christ. I also had the opportunity to talk with a fellow worker, Hammy, who is from Mexico. We talked about the power of hell and I shared with him the story about the homeless man I witnessed to this past summer who accepted the free gift and was saved by believing in Christ. I explained to him that hell is a real place and people will end up there by their own choice, by saying “No” to the gospel of Jesus Christ. Praise God, Hammy received Christ! We provided him with his very own English and Spanish Bible and Pastor Gene Cunningham’s book *The Basics* in Spanish to study. My prayer for Hammy is for him to mature in the love and knowledge of Christ. He is in a good place, being surrounded by a cloud of great witnesses.

**“Always preach the gospel, and when necessary, use words.”
- St. Francis.**

For if I preach the gospel, I have nothing to boast of, for I am under compulsion; for woe is me if I do not preach the gospel. 1 Cor 9:16

God provided the opportunity for me to live for six weeks with Terry Robinson and his wife Christy. They are wonderful believers who do not conceal their faith or keep it covered, but instead they make their faith visible and are a living testimony of God’s grace. By Terry saying “Yes” (being available to the Lord), the Lord Jesus Christ is working through them to impact the lives of his workers, his friends, his own family, and many more are coming to know the Lord Jesus Christ.

“It is no use walking anywhere to preach unless our walking is our preaching.”

For our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. You also became imitators of us and of the Lord, having received the word in much tribulation with the joy of the Holy Spirit, 1 Thes 1:5-6.

Every believer is to use life, with all its ups and downs, to be a living witness to Jesus Christ. Our witness begins, not with our lips, but rather with our lives! (1 Pet 3:15) ~ quote from Pastor Gene Cunningham

Terry Robinson had a blessed time teaching our Pakistan church through Skype on three Wednesday's while I was living with him. He taught about the intent, purpose, and plan of God for His children (Rom 8:28-30). Through Terry Robinson and Ricky Greeve, and by the grace of God, many other churches opened their doors for me to speak about the Excellency of God and what the Lord is doing in our Pakistan ministry despite our human frailty and failures.

Freedom is the best gift God has ever given to mankind. I am very thankful to our God for the enormous amount of freedom we still have in the U.S.A., and I understand very well the significance of freedom and liberty of speech.

I received a great invitation by Mike Siebert from *Youth for Christ International* located at the capital building of Topeka, Kansas, to talk about the Privilege of the believer; the Responsibility of the believer; and the Accountability of the believer at the throne of the Lord Jesus Christ.

I had another opportunity to speak at *Grace Bible Church* in Topeka, Kansas, along with Pastor Bruce Eberline. I taught on the spiritual conflict of the believer, about how the spiritual battle never begins in the battlefield but it begins in the mind and soul of mankind. Pastor Bruce is a wonderful believer, leader, husband, father, and servant of the Lord Jesus Christ. He is a 1974 graduate of Dallas Theological Seminary, and his church family loves the Lord very much.

I received another gracious invitation from *Heritage Christian School* in Topeka, Kansas. The School Principal, Mrs. Lischke, and the school staff allowed me to speak with the youth in their school; they gave me 30 minutes to talk about our Pakistan ministry and the challenges the believers face over there. I spoke to the youth about how blessed and rich they are by God to live in the USA with the gift of freedom. And I

challenged them to use their freedom for good, not for evil. A hero is someone who understands the responsibility that comes with his freedom.

Alan Keyes says, "Freedom is first of all a responsibility before the God from whom we come."

1 Pet 2:16 Act as free men, and do not use your freedom as a covering for evil, but use it as bond slaves of God.

Praise the Lord, we then received an invitation from Jesse Miller's church, *Holton First Baptist Church*, with Pastor Tim O'Byrne and Pastor Rhett Totten. They are faithful believers and love the Word of God. They are mission minded and have a wonderful congregation learning and being the light of the world.

I spoke there about my life and how I identify with the man in the video entitled "A Man Fell in a Hole" (which can be seen here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WXX4tbWSEe4>) and what my Redeemer Jesus Christ has done for me. I talked about how in Jesus Christ we are rich and privileged with heavenly blessings. And I spoke on how our purpose and responsibility on earth is to provide hope for the hopeless, to use the freedom of speech to share the message of reconciliation to a lost and dying world, and to be accountable with all of our rights, blessings, and privileges. The Lord will come back with His reward and then each one of us will give an account of himself to God, and He will give rewards to everyone according to his works.

Rom 12:1 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.

Also it was very wonderful to spend time with Pastor Bob Norris and the church family at *Eagle Point Grace Bible Church* in Tecumseh, Kansas. I am very thankful for Pastor Bob's wife, Ann, who provided me with several copies of *The Basics* book in both English and Spanish and gospel coins to use as tools to talk about the Lord Jesus. I am thankful to

God the Holy Spirit for making a way for me to share my testimony, and to talk about my country, and the treatment of the Christians there.

Finally, at *Quincy House*, Minister Timothy Sander's homeless ministry, I spoke to those believers about how God has a purpose for their life. I spoke with them about *The Basics* book and left several copies along with Bibles. I encouraged them to study these, to grow spiritually, and to develop an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ. This is a summary of my six weeks of blessed time in Kansas. I know I have a very big family, upright friends and prayer warriors there who pray for us and for our mission in Pakistan.

Who is a missionary? What is a missionary?

Some say, "Only the sinner has a right to preach."

Our mission ground may be diverse, our language may be only one or multilingual, but our mission remains the same. Are you on a mission for Jesus in your country, community, neighborhood, workplace, schools, or office?

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Mat 28: 19-20

Grateful beyond words,
Pastor Faisal John