



January/February 2013

Ministry Newsletter

GRACE BIBLE CHURCH – ARIFWALA

JESUS said, "Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and YOU WILL FIND REST FOR YOUR SOULS. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light." Mat 11:28-30

The New Year's message which I gave to our church family began with, 'I do not know how your last 52 weeks and 365 days of this year were. I



know that we have moments of spiritual triumphs in the Holy Spirit and moments of utter defeat when we forget to remain in HIM and try to do this life by ourselves. We have a choice to walk in darkness or light, live for God or for ourselves, submit to His plan

or our own plan, rest in the grace of God, choose blessing or cursing, man's ways or Christ's way of life. Even though we cannot undo our past decisions, we can move forward in God's provisions of grace which are available for daily life and take REST in His yoke.

‘The new challenge for the New Year is for us all to search in the Scriptures looking for every command given to mankind in order to identify what is good and evil and to sharpen our spiritual discernment so that we may know, understand, and execute His easy life.’

I further exhorted them saying that this year we must determine to listen to the one true God who gives life, to follow His path of rightness, to worship Him alone, to submit to His plan, to pray unceasingly, to love good and hate evil, to love one another, to surrender to His will and purpose on earth, to live righteously in an ungodly world, to teach by example how we are to love others and to preach in order to fulfill the great Commission in life. All this can be done by making the daily choice of giving the rightful place to Lord Jesus Christ as King in our life. ~ Pastor Faisal John

INCREDIBLE REASON TO REJOICE

So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; It will not return to Me empty, Without accomplishing what I desire, And without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it. Isaiah 55:11

We have the great privilege of serving 22 very zealous young men and teens gathering nightly for a walk through *The Basics Book and Foundation* studies. As Pastor Faisal is teaching from the first unit about, The Problem



– Sin; The Plan – Redemption; and The Provision – The Cross, many questions have been asked throughout our study time. God the Holy Spirit is always there to use the simple word of God to open anyone who is blinded and

separated in their minds to understand the gospel message.

One night Pastor Faisal was explaining the saying of “whoever is born once – will die twice and whoever is born twice – will die once.”

The next night, eleven men were saved after hearing the answer to a question from one young man. The question this young man had been contemplating from the night before the study class was, “What is the meaning of Born Once - Die twice?” So Pastor Faisal began, “Whoever is born once will die twice (“physical death” and the “second death” which is also called eternal separation). Whoever is born twice (“physical birth” and “spiritual birth by faith alone in Christ alone”) will die once (“physical death”) and he or she will never face eternal condemnation but will have eternal life. After this explanation, eleven young men believed in Jesus Christ as their personal Lord and Savior for eternal life. Now they know salvation is by faith alone in Christ alone, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. Eph. 2:8-9.



KNOWING MY REDEEMER LIVES



Village #49 elders asked Pastor Faisal to come and begin Sunday worship with a message and fellowship in their village where 10 homes gather every Sunday evening. I have been teaching from Galatians 5:16-26 about the 9 graces of the Fruit of the Spirit to (live) walk by the power of Holy Spirit and about the 15 deeds of the flesh. We handed out *The Basics* book to all those that are able to read Urdu. They are very thankful for the gift for them to use for growth and for the understanding of God words.

We are very grateful for your prayers and support allowing us to be here to sow the seed of God's grace. The Lord God is the one who causes the growth through His power; but each will receive his own reward according to his own labor.

MISSIONARY FALON FIETKAU “ROCKS” PAKISTAN

**“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ”
Ephesians 1:3**

Missionary Falon Fietkau, from Austin Bible Church USA, joins our team in the month of February and we visited many villages bringing the *Wordless Book* that paints a beautiful picture of the gospel of Christ. Falon is a representative of CEF ~ Child Evangelism Fellowship and she brought child evangelism to a new “upbeat” energy. On fire for the lost, she made sure that all the children understood the clear simple gospel message and some raised their hands to believe in Jesus and enter into new life as a child of God.

Here is Falon’s exhortation: *Brothers and sisters, what an enriching abundant life that luxuriously is ours by the constant washing and cleansing and abiding in*



the Beloved! How can't we taste and see that the Lord is good? How can't we smell and see the true beauty of God's grace and respond humbly to the High calling of preaching the "gospel to all creation" (Mk 16:15)? Such a small favor to ask when the greatest sacrifice in human history has been fulfilled by

the most warming, and charming, and loving Creator Savior. All glory and credit goes to Him for those He's been ushering into His kingdom, in the magnificent state of Pakistan. What a marvelous privilege My Lord has granted me to come

and experience a culture that speaks closely to My Lord's heart, and paints a better picture for me of how He must of lived while His short time on this earth.

"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!" (Rom 10:14b15). What a wonderful reminder of our great heavenly calling to proclaim and disciple all those God places in our path. Our life here, like our Lord's was, is short, so may we heavily engage our minds on the "upward call of Christ Jesus" (Phil 3:14), and utilize our time like our



Lord, and have the maximum impact that our heavenly Father has so precisely designed for us to fulfill "beforehand" (Eph 2:10). When you fall in love with such an amazing genius and work of art, and a passionate God who taught us the true meaning of love, a love that no human can fully grasp nor fill pages up in a book, unless one is intently follow closely behind the Maker Himself, and even then we still won't catch it all until that beautiful, breathe taking, sweep you off your feet of a moment when we are finally face to face with the One and Only, love of our life. The author and perfecter of love! How can't we be in the streets of Pakistan, or India, or America, or wherever, and proclaim to all the One who Is, and the One who is to come?

GRACE ACADEMY ENGLISH MEDIUM SCHOOL



< TEACHER SHERAZ TEACHING
3RD CLASS

TEACHER IRSHAD TEACHING >
CLASS 1ST AND 2ND



< TEACHER ANILA TEACHING
KINDERGARDEN

PASTOR FAISAL TEACHING
ENGLISH >



TEACHER ROBIQA AND TEACHER ASSISTANT AKSA HELPING NURSERY/PREP



TEACHER SAMEERA
TEACHING>

4TH CLASS



< PASTOR FAISAL TEACHING
11:30 AM BIBLE CLASS

GBCP CHURCH/SCHOOL PRAYER REQUESTS

Prayers Fulfilled

1. Carrie's ticket to Pakistan ~ \$1700
2. Building C final payment ~ \$2500

Thank you all for your faithful prayers

Current Prayers

1. Building C final payment ~ \$1000
2. Meetings/travel expense for missionaries ~ \$1700
3. New batteries for UPS system ~ \$180
4. Assistant grace Pastor
5. Construction needs for building "B & C" ~ unknown at this time, just please pray.
6. Transportation van
7. Worship sound system
8. Large generator ~ \$350

Your decisions to partner with us in thought (PRAYER), word (PRAISES), or deed (GIVING) are greatly appreciated!

You can either mail your gift to:

Grace Bible Church Pakistan



Attn: Mark Clark - Treasurer
1070 San Miguel Rd. #D19
Concord, CA 94518 USA

OR

Use PayPal on our website at:
www.gbcpakistan.org

Any questions or concerns regarding supporting this ministry monetarily, please email:
Carrie John gbcp.information@gmail.com

MORE PRAISES & PRAYER REQUESTS

Praises:

- For missionary Falon and Carrie's safe arrival to Pakistan.
- Construction on new school rooms can now resume, application against us has been lifted. Pray with us for His provisions.
- 22 young men gather nightly to study *The Basics* book in Urdu.
- We are grateful for the film projector that was a gift from a couple in the USA. We have been showing movies centered on Christ, and one about the life of Peter the Apostle and a few other Urdu Christian classics to the colony and our villages. This ministry opens up doors everywhere we go and many people have questions afterwards.



- To the Holy Spirit for making known to you each prayer request and for each and every person that responded to the faithful call through His body in the USA.

- Faithful missionaries serving these past months in PNG, India, Australia and now in Pakistan, including missionaries Joel, The Richies family, Falon, Gene & Nan.

Please pray for:

- Travel mercies for Ricky and Jesse as they prepare for their mission here in Pakistan - March.
- Our board as we continue to make decisions for 2013.
- The preparations and provisions for the missionaries joining us in 2013.
- Saeed Abedini, Iranian pastor in chains for Christ.
- Walls of protection around the workers and receivers.
- Fertile ground for seed planting in the hearts of men.
- His Spirit & His Word to be active despite us.
- Men who are hungry for the Word to become teachers/pastors.
- The Bible College preparations.
- The Orphanage preparations.
- Asia Bibi and family



A Little about Our City *Arifwala*

Geography

Arifwala (عارفوالہ) is a town and tehsil of Pakpattan District in the Punjab province of Pakistan. It is located at 30° 16' 60N 73° 4' 0E.[2] It lies about

210 km southwest of Lahore, 33 km to the west of the Sutlej river and 45 km south of Sahiwal. This area is called Neeli Bar also. It is situated between Sutlej and Bias. It is 421 feet above sea level and will go continue.

Language

Punjabi is the native spoken language but Urdu is also widely understood.

Demography

Most of the population is farmers. About 75% of the population lives in villages and only 25% live in the municipal urban area. Arifwala Tehsil covers an area of 295,146 acres (1180 km²) with a population of about 720,000. The urban area covers 457 acres (1.82 km²) and the agriculture area covers 1274 acres (3.18 km²) (This is only urban area). The city was first known as a village named as 61/E.B. With the passage of time it became a City due to the sound structural and educational changes in the village. It became a pivotal place among the villages and towns of nearby areas as the central place for trade and development.

Later, many political personalities appeared in the city. They played a vital role in the development of the city in all respects especially in education and provision of amenities to the people.

Arifwala was once known for its poultry and production of honeydew melons. Throughout Pakistan these honeydew melons used to be sold under the name of Arifwala.

Culture

The gorgeous small town has its very own culture as it is not only a land of farmers, but has also produced many artists, writers, and intellectuals. Arifwala, also known as "Arifwala Mandi"(market), received its name from a 100 year old tradition during the British reign. Cattle were traded all around Pakistan from this colorful Mandi and this tradition is ongoing, making it one of the biggest markets of Punjab, Pakistan. In the traditional

field setting of Arifwala, the love story of "Heer Ranjha" had a very interesting twist in Qabula, Arifwala. After the two lovers were parted in this town, Ranjha pronounced a curse that "may there always be fire burning here like there is in my heart" and this curse is believed to be true as told in stories. In order to promote the culture of this small town, its people have also earned a name for themselves in every walk of life. For example, Hamad Rana who played the role of "Sona" in Pakistan's best TV serial of 1980s, "Sona Chandi", was from Arifwala and Wajid Bukhari has also earned fame in Pakistan's TV industry.

Climate

The climate of the city is hot and dry. The summer season starts in April and continues till October. May, June, July and August are the hottest months. The mean maximum and minimum temperature of these months are about 45 and 32 degrees Celsius respectively.

Education

Education in this city is satisfactory. One of the biggest schools of Pakpattan district is Government MC High School Arifwala. Arifwala also has three boys' high schools, a big high school for girls and a boys' and girls' college.

Arifwala also holds one of the largest chains of private schools named The Educators School. There are also some other famous schools like Arifwala Public School, The Nation Development Secondary School, and now **Grace Academy English Medium School**. In the same way, there are also many private colleges in the city area. A beautiful Library with state of the art architecture named Allama Iqbal Public Library is serving to spread knowledge and information to the localities.