# Mission Outreach

Bringing the Gospel to Restricted Access Nations

# **MONTHLY REPORT**

nzmo.org

# **NOVEMBER 2023**

# A Legacy of Faith

'Oh God, if you do exist, show me the right way or I will kill myself.' This was the plea of Sadhu Sundar Singh during his journey to truth and salvation. The verse that he would eventually live by was Mark 8:35 "For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it."

Born in September 1889 into a wealthy Hindu family in India, Sunder Singh was immersed in the teaching and culture of Hinduism. His parents encouraged him to work hard and study the Hindu religion to become a Sadhu (holy man). So he applied himself conscientiously to study the Hindu writings. He also read the Muslim Koran and Bible at the Christian Missionary school his mother sent him to. This was all part of his journey to find peace.

Sadly, Sundar's mother died when he was only 14 years old, yet he continued to study. By the time he was nearly 16 years old, he had memorized the Hindu Bagawadgita, mastered the Hindu Veda, read the Koran and the entire Bible. Despite all this, he was never able to achieve the peace of mind he desperately desired.

Sometime after the tragic loss of his beloved mother, he was convinced that what Jesus had taught in the bible was wrong, so he tore his bible apart and burned it in front of his father. He then began persecuting pastors by throwing stones at them and encouraged others to do the same.

Several days after he burned his Bible, he woke up one morning at 3a.m. and cried out to God to show him He really existed. He was planning to throw himself in front of the 5a.m. train that morning that passed by their home. He repeated his prayer once again 'Oh God, if you do exist, show me the right way, or I will kill myself.'

All of a sudden, he saw a brilliant light. At first, he feared that the room was on fire. But nothing happened. He then realised that it might be an answer to his

prayer. While watching the light, he suddenly saw Jesus in the radiance and heard a voice in Hindi saying, "How much longer are you going to search for me? I have come to save you. You prayed for the right path - why haven't you followed it?"

Sundar had an epiphany – Jesus did not stay dead! He was risen and alive! He immediately fell on his knees and experienced an astonishing peacefulness he had never felt before but had sought most of his life. The vision disappeared, but the peace remained. He was a transformed young man and wanted to be baptized despite his family trying to stop him.

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# A Legacy of Faith...

On his 16<sup>th</sup> birthday in 1905 he was baptized in an English church in Simla at which time he decided to become a Sadhu Christian as he wanted to reach his people as they respected Sadhus or Holy men and would listen to them.

As a Sadhu, he was required to wear a yellow robe, live on the charity of others, abandon all possessions and maintain celibacy. He was convinced that to remain living as a Sadhu, was the best way to introduce the Gospel to his people as it was what the Hindus were accustomed to. From then on, he dedicated himself to the Lord and to prayer.

Immediately, he was renounced and ostracized from his family, who on various occasions tried to kill him. But God protected him and he had a peace that surpassed all understanding.



So on 16 October 1905, wearing his yellow robe, barefooted and without provisions or possessions, he began his nomadic life as a Christian, walking from village to village, sharing about Jesus. He spent many days alone in the forest,

among God's creation, praying, fasting and dwelling on the scriptures. God often spoke to him during those times.

Following advice from his friends, Sundar studied for two years at St John's Anglican College of Theology in Lahore. However, after becoming disillusioned with unbiblical demands on his dress code and learning intricacies of Anglicanism that he felt were irrelevant to the gospel, he left and resumed his travels.

Persecution continued in many ways during his journey. He was often ambushed, robbed, beaten, hungry and threatened with the sword. The Lord taught him to also live by *Matthew 5:39 "But I say to you, Do not resist the* one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also."

This often opened the door for Sadhu Singh to share about Jesus and lead lost souls to the Lord.

On one occasion, he was ambushed by four robbers in a jungle. When one of the thieves produced a sword, Sadhu Sundar bowed his head to receive it. This attitude took the attackers so much by surprise, that they just took his blanket and left. Then one came back curious, and Sadhu

Singh was able to share the Bible with him and the message of the gospel. The robber took Sundar into his home and repented.

Another story from an eyewitness records the following encounter: "I met Sadhu Sundar Singh as he was walking down a mountain trail to proclaim the Gospel to us. He then sat on top of a tree, wiped the sweat off his face and sang a hymn about the love of Jesus to us. The audience was not impressed by the song. One man came forward from the audience, pulled Sadhu Singh down from the tree and knocked him to the ground.

Silently, Sundar got to his feet and began praying for his persecutors. He then told us about the love of Jesus who had died to redeem all sinners. Because of that I repented and so did the attacker."

Due to his extensive travels by foot, this amazing man was commonly known as the 'Apostle of the bleeding feet' because he never wore shoes. Sadhu Sundar Singh disappeared in 1929 and was thought to have died while evangelizing Tibet. He became one of the most humble and effective ministers of the gospel the church in India ever knew. (See his story on Youtube: Journey to the Sky-Sadhu Sundar Singh)

Often during his journeys, others would join Sadhu Sundar Singh. One man who was already a believer, was the Great Grandfather of Tauranga's Life talk Radio Ministry director, Robinson Martin.

Samuel Shravan was also born in 1889 and became a railway driver but after becoming a Christian he changed his surname to Martin. When Sadhu Sundar Singh visited Samuel's hometown, he was greatly motivated, inspired and encouraged by this amazing traveling missionary and subsequently also left his home and job to travel and minister with Sadhu Sundar Singh.

Great Grandad Samuel Shravan wholeheartedly committed to the call of the Lord as an evangelist, to make disciples, to live by faith without income, possessions or home, and be totally dependent on God's provision.

Samuel Shravan testimony and heritage was passed onto his grandchildren, which left an indelible and undeniable Holy Spirit 'Legacy of Faith' on them, especially on Robinson.



(To be continued next month)

" I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow. ... For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building. By the grace God has given me, I laid a foundation as a wise builder, ... which is Jesus Christ." 1 Cor.3:6, 9-10a, 11b (NIV)



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# **PROJECTS IN FOCUS**

# PEARL 22

# **Turkish New Testaments - COMPLETED!**

We are amazed and so blessed that the Lord created an opportunity for us to help supply New Testaments to the hungry and needy people of Turkey and completed the first 10,000 in just one month and the second 10,000 in two months! Hallelujah! Thank you to our faithful and generous supporters. May you be doubly blessed. **Pearl 22 Project Goal: 20,000 Balance: 0** 

# **Burundi New Testaments**

Our brothers and sisters in Burundi live in poverty and are unable to buy their own bibles. This has lead to false teaching and beliefs. We believe the Lord has opened the door for us to provide New Testaments to them and invite you to join us. The cost per New Testament is \$4.30. It would be wonderful if we could complete this project by the end of 2023 and invite you to help us do that. **Pearl 22 Project Goal: 10,000 Balance: 9,070** 

# **Myanmar Bibles**

We have heard many are coming to Jesus in Myanmar and there is a great need for bibles to help grow the new believers. Price per bible is \$4.50, and our initial goal is for 40,000 bibles. Thank you to our supporters as we are over half way to completing this Pearl 22 project. **Pearl 22 Project Goal: 40,000 Balance: 22,300** 

## **Uganda Bibles**

The provision of Bibles in Uganda has created unity with the pastors and begun a revival in the areas where they have been given. What an honour to be able to meet this need. Price per bible is approximately \$15.00. **Pearl 22 Project Goal: 25,000 Balance: 20,978** 

# **Chinese Bibles**

Project Pearl in 1981 was significant for Eddie and the many others who helped with this epic delivery of Chinese bibles. Despite the Communist Party making it more and more difficult for believers to get a bible, we believe God will make a way where there is no way. Price per bible is \$4.50.

Pearl 22 Project Goal: 100,000 Balance: 84,239

# India Bibles: Telugu & Hindi

The church in this nation is growing rapidly, as fear and persecution have opened the door for the Lord's people to reach out and share the gospel of Jesus. The cost per bible is \$3.50.

Pearl 22 Project Goal: 50,000 Balance: 42,670

# **OTHER PROJECTS:**

## Emmanuel School Student Sponsorship, Nepal

Emmanuel School in Pokhara gives children from poor, lower caste families an opportunity to receive an education. We wish to thank our supporters who have responded to this need. However, we still have several students needing sponsorship. The cost to sponsor one student is \$60 per month. For more information email: wendy@nzmo.org



## Where Most Needed

When we receive undesignated funds, we allocate them to Where Most Needed and most of the time these funds go towards some of the Pearl 22 bible projects or other urgent needs.

# **RESPONSE COUPON**

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		India Bibles (INDPRL22)	\$
Name:		Pearl 22 Where Most Needed (PRL22WMN)	\$
Address:		Nepal Radio Programme (NEPRAD)	\$
Post Code:		<b>Nepal</b> CMTC Bible College (NPBC)	\$
Email:	Nepal Student Sponsorship (STUDSPON)	\$	
Phone or Mobile:	Tibetan Leaders Support (TIBLDRAH)	\$	
Pearl 22:		China Pastors (CHPSTR)	\$
Burundi New Testaments (BURPRL22)	\$	<b>'To Catch the Wind'</b> Book (EDBOOK)	\$
Myanmar Bibles (MYPRL22)	\$ <b>G</b> i	Gift for someone to Go (GIVE2GO)	\$
Chinese Bibles (CHPRL22) Uganda Bibles (UGPRL22)	\$ \$	Where Most Needed: (WMN)	\$

Payments can be made from our website at: nzmo.org or via online banking to our BNZ bank Account number: 02 0466 0034018 00. Please specify your preferred project or funds will be allocated to 'Where Most Needed'.



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# **PRAYER CALENDAR**

#### PERSECUTED CHURCH

1 Praise God for Bibles delivered to highly restricted countries. Pray that every copy would be received with gladness, bring life and transformation. Declare blessing over those who willingly put their lives on the line to deliver these bibles.

2 Pray for Christian workers to be invisible, without hindrance or blockages, and anointed to bring the gospel.

**3** Bind the antichrist spirit and pray for recognition of Jesus Christ as the Son of God.

4 Praise God for the fortitude and unwavering faith of Christians in places such as Iran. Pray God grant them more boldness and raise them up to be apostles that will stir hearts to repentance because of their testimony.

5 Today is International Day of Prayer for persecuted Christians. Join together to lift up our brothers and sisters in Christ for strength in their inner man to know the depth of God's love, to know His presence and provision for their every need. Pray for continued courage, boldness and grace to stand in faith.

6 Pray for safe refuge for women and children. Prophesy to this generation to be a people strong and anchored in spirit, not tossed by the winds of change, and have great influence for righteousness.

#### ISRAEL

7 Pray for the people of God to cry out to God in their distress and know their Redeemer. Bind the hands that do evil, and release divine protection over the innocent. Pray for the wisdom and strategy of heaven. Release unity over the nation of Israel, especially in their confession of Christ.

#### **MUSLIM WORLD**

8 As the Word of God infiltrates the Muslim world, rebuke all demonic influence that would hinder the receiving of the gospel. Pray that Islam be made powerless in the face of Truth, and it's people set free.

#### PAKISTAN

**9** Pray continued healing on those who lost their home and family in Punjab through persecution. Pray for comfort, peace, healing, and joy in Christ. Pray Christians in Punjab can rise above their circumstances, and know true victory in Christ.

**10** Pray that the perpetrators of violence and arson will come under deep conviction. Pray for their salvation and for those who they have harmed to be able to forgive them.

**11&12** Praise God for pledges of finances for more health clinics in 2024. Pray for God's choice of locations for the clinics, and that there would be favour with authorities and village chiefs.

### INDIA

13 Pray for those affected by flooding, especially Pastor E whose home has been flooded 3 times. Pray that she would be blessed with permanent flood-proof accommodation. Pray that she would continue in the ministry with divine wisdom and trust that the joy of the Lord will be her strength.

**14** Pray for salvation for the Prime Minister, and for a revelation of Jesus that he cannot deny. Pray the Prime Minister and key leaders come under the fear of the Lord regarding persecution against Christians.

CAMBODIA 15 Pray for Prison Fellowship ministry, that the lost staff and support since covid would be restored to an even greater measure. Pray that believers in local churches would be convicted and stirred to be involved. Ask for a strong support network of helpers and prayers.

16 Pray for the prisoners, for freedom of soul and spirit, wholeness, and hope in knowing they are known by Father God. Destroy the work of the devil and declare liberty. Pray for the children of parents in prison to be provided for and come to know Jesus too.

17 Pray for Sabun, director of PFC, for increased anointing, vision, and joy knowing the Lord Jesus carries the burden of this ministry. Pray for wisdom and strategies; declare success and open doors. Pray the Lord uplift Sabun and the team in His Presence.

18&19 Pray that as the work of PFC gathers momentum, the ripple effect of transformation would move from prisoners to families to communities. Pray for favour with prison leaders and government, so that PFC would have opportunity to minister in all 29 prisons of Cambodia (currently in 11).

20 Praise God for Pastor Samuel's recent visit to USA to meet with Warren and various contacts. Pray that the fire that ignited hearts would bear fruit in

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obedience. As God is faithful to His Word to perform it, pray that the Church would be found faithful to discern and do the work prepared for it to do, hear and obey His voice.

21 Pray for God's anointing on the 2024 BBC training for refugees in USA.

### **NEW ZEALAND**

22 Pray for Alison and Christine, missionaries who need to return home early by sea, due to Christine suffering a stroke while visiting contacts in Europe. Declare healing and restoration over Christine, and God's grace be with Alison as she helps her sister during the long journey home. Pray for divine opportunities to share Christ amongst all on board and that others will sense God's anointing on these two faithful women, and in turn receive a revelation of the Father's heart for them.

23 Praise God for more aerials being installed in Auckland area so LifeTalk Gospel Radio Ministry can broadcast further. Bless those who are accepting aerial installation. As the 'net' is cast further, pray for a larger catch, winning many souls for the Kingdom.

24 Pray that the Spirit of the Lord would be strong on our new government leaders to make righteous decisions.

<u>GLOBAL CHURCH</u> 25 Pray for families of those in ministry for the blood of Jesus to cover them from all sickness and evil. Pray that no weapon formed against God's servants would have any power over them, but rather they would prosper in every way.

#### PEARL 22

**26** Praise God for His faithfulness in multiplying resources for the release of Bibles across the earth. Celebrate His goodness and ask for more.

27 Pray that more and more would find the greatest Pearl - the Word of God the Bread of Heaven.

28 Pray for those who are yet to receive the Word that hearts will be prepared to receive the truth.

**29** As 'poor' nations are flooded with the Living Word of God, ask God to raise up 'Luthers' who dare to live by faith and believe in the God of miracles, the Heavenly Father who owns the cattle on a thousand hills.

30 Bless the MO Board as they seek wisdom and the leading of the Holy Spirit regarding projects to support and allocation of finances.



Weekly Prayer Meeting: Join us on Monday nights to pray for the nations at 'The Sanctuary' 159 Durham St, Tauranga at 7:30pm or via ZOOM. Email: <u>alan@nzmo.org</u> for an invite. Legacy Giving:

A bequest to Mission Outreach in your will is a way to leave a lasting impact of eternal value - contact <u>wendv@nzmo.org</u> for more information.