



# LIGHT BEARER NEWS

HOPE FOR THE WORLD INDIA

Vol. 56, November 2008

Dear Friends,

Recently, as Leah, Forrest, and I returned from our trip, God gave me the peace to leave Riley behind in India to complete his mission with the missionaries in a few remote areas. I have to admit that this time was a little different from other times, as persecution in India is at an all time national high. We experienced first hand, God being our shield and defender. We were able to see with our own eyes the painful effects and devastation of Christian persecution. As each of us loved on John, Simon and his family, and the children, we praised God for their safety. We then listened to the emotional stories of losing friends and churches. We saw the tears as they shared about homes and possessions of Christians being burned and we actually saw remnants of these as we traveled through. God protected us and allowed us to go in and out of the Kandhamal district of Orissa to see and to comfort our loved ones there. It is hard to wrap your mind around such needless violence, but it is real. It happened to our Lord Jesus and to all of the disciples. God tells us in 2 Timothy 3:12, "In fact everyone who wants to live a Godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evil men and imposters will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived." Persecution will always be a great tester of the character of our faith. As Riley and I often agree, faith is sometimes just doing it afraid. May God continue to give all of us the courage to just do it for Jesus, no matter what the cost. Most of us know about ridicule and rejection because of Christ, but I know some true heroes in India that face death daily because of Him. I also know heroes here who continue to reach out and beyond to help them by prayer and financial support. Thank you for that and please know that you are making a difference. Thank you for standing with us.

May God Richly Bless You,  
Debbie Shelton

### **Praise Report - We Praise God for...**

- The couple in Hartwell, GA who gave \$3500 to complete the balance needed for the vehicle in Orissa.
- The birth of Evangeline Rachel Anthony, daughter of HFTW missionaries, Gabriel Anthony and his wife Florence in Tamil Nadu.
- The many who have helped to feed persecuted & displaced Christians in Orissa.

## **OPERATION CHRISTMAS HOPE**

It's that time again. Would you prayerfully consider providing a special Christmas for a child?

We're asking all sponsors and anyone else who would like to make a child's Christmas special by giving an additional \$25.00 for a child to have a gift and a special meal. Thank you for loving and blessing these precious children. On your check, please earmark as "Operation Christmas Hope" and send it in by December 10th.



**Christians refugees seek food & shelter at House of Hope Children's Home in Orissa after their homes were destroyed by Hindu militants.**



**This church in Orissa was destroyed by militants a few weeks ago. We had just worshipped & distributed Bibles there in February.**

### **Prayer Needs**

- For comfort & provision of the persecuted & displaced Christians in India
- For healing of our little Gertuide in Pappakudi who has been hospitalized with infectious T.B.
- For protection & good health for all HFTW missionaries, children, workers and families
- For Ellis, one of the directors of the children's home in Pappakudi, as she is to give birth to her 3rd child in November.
- More opportunities to share this ministry



*Please encourage your friends and family to visit our NEW website at:*  
[www.hftwindia.org](http://www.hftwindia.org)

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