



A Maximum-Security Church

Pastor Poela Bernard, a dedicated servant of the Great Commission, is witnessing the miraculous hand of God at work. Trained by Harvesters Ministries, Poela planted a church right where he was – within prison walls.

Poela works as a nurse within Kitalya Maximum Prison in Uganda, where the majority of inmates and officers are Muslims. Undeterred by the challenges of his surroundings he started a small fellowship gathering among his colleagues in his prison dormitory.

The small group attracted the attention of a senior Muslim officer who had observed positive changes in some of his staff. Upon noticing multiple pairs of shoes scattered outside Poela's door, the officer questioned him about the group.

In time, the gathering grew to 15 staff members, and Poela's lodgings became overcrowded. To his amazement, the Muslim officer called him back to announce that he had cleared space in the prison courtyard where they could build a church for his community.

The miraculous generosity continued as the army, who placed some of the officers to work at Kitalya Prison, donated cement and timber for the building project.

Officially opened in June 2023, the church can now host up to 50 people. By December that year, 33 officers and their spouses had put their faith in Jesus!

The Holy Spirit is working powerfully within the walls of this prison, and this is just the beginning. The congregants want to plant more churches in prisons throughout Uganda, taking the Gospel of hope to some of the most broken and desperate places. ✉

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Sacrificial Faith

Witnessing God's Work in India

Amidst the vibrant colours and beautiful landscapes of India lies a spiritual battleground where the Gospel meets opposition at every turn. Harvesters recently visited to train pastors, present our methodology, and celebrate the graduations of those who have completed their training. Ministering to people who have truly paid a price to follow Jesus left a deep impression on our hearts.

India's landscape is not only adorned with natural beauty but also marred by the presence of anti-conversion laws intended to regulate forced conversions. Sadly, these laws are often misused to harass and intimidate Christians, creating a challenging environment for evangelism and church planting.

Despite these obstacles, local believers remain faithful and bold in their proclamation of the Gospel. In India, the journey of faith is not one of convenience – they follow Jesus because He is worth everything they have.

Harvesters' pastor Rahul shared his initial feelings of "sadness and confusion" at the passing of these laws. However, the Lord provided support through Harvesters Ministries. "We praise God that He sent the right people and the right model [to show us] how to progress in our ministry," he testified.

As the Harvesters team ventured into rural Indian villages, we encountered not only the warmth of hospitality but also the weight of spiritual opposition. For instance, as

we began ministering in one small town, word must have spread of our presence. No sooner had we started the session than a loud worship celebration fired up next door at the Hindu temple.

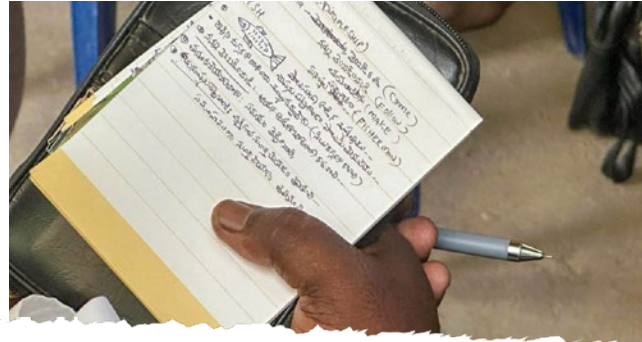
It became nearly impossible to continue due to the noise and so we reached out to Harvesters' network of prayer warriors. Within minutes, the noise abruptly stopped, like a power outage had descended on that one temple in the village.

Attempted distractions and intimidation tactics of the Enemy such as this were just a taste of what our brothers and sisters in India regularly face. However, amidst the chaos, we found the profound calming peace of the Lord. His presence enveloped us like a shield, grounding us in assurance.

It's easy to love India's vibrant culture and warm-hearted people. We were humbled as we ministered to our brothers and sisters who have truly counted the cost to follow Jesus. The radiance of the Lord captivated us as we worshipped with them.

Our mission is to see the lost come to know Jesus, and we cry out to the Lord for the Indian people. Harvesters is equipping local pastors with the tools to evangelise and plant churches in the unreached communities, villages, towns and cities of India.





“Harvesters’ church-planting method and model is really practical and achievable,” explains Pastor Rahul, who has just completed the programme. “With this concept, our ministry is moving ahead now. We praise God for that.”

Pastor Rahul is part of a network of 21 Hub Leaders who have just graduated. They have planted 83 churches in villages that had no Christian presence despite untold opposition.

Another pastor who has just commenced Harvesters’ training programme also inspired us with his passion for reaching the lost. Despite the risks, Pastor Amit boldly proclaimed the Gospel in remote settlements where animism and Hinduism held sway. After visiting a few times, Amit gained the trust of one village leader who asked him to pray for a demon-possessed lady.

For four months he prayed faithfully until God brought complete healing. Because of this miracle, many villagers accepted Christ, including the lady and her family. Pastor Amit planted a church among them and over 15 members are now meeting weekly. He requested that we join him in praying for the village leader to be saved. Amit’s commitment and sacrificial love for his neighbours exemplifies the true essence of what it means to follow Jesus.

As our journey neared its conclusion, we witnessed a poignant scene: local fishermen diligently mending their nets in the blistering heat of the Indian sun. It served as a powerful reminder of Jesus’ call to each of us, despite our simplicity and brokenness, to follow Him. All He requires from us is willingness – something we have seen in abundance from our Indian brothers and sisters.

Looking ahead, we are filled with excitement for what God is doing in India. Through your support, Harvesters is raising up leadership from all generations and launching two new church-planting movements, known as Streams, this year. Our focus remains on equipping pastors with the tools and strategies they need for effective evangelism, discipleship and church planting.

India is a land where faith is tested daily, and the call to follow Jesus comes with a price. As we continue to labour in the harvest fields, we do so with hope and expectancy, knowing that God is faithful to fulfil His promises and bring salvation to all who call upon His name.

Names changed for security reasons. 📄



Missional Maasai



In the depths of Kenya's rural expanse lies the Maasai tribe, renowned for their nomadic traditions and iconic red shukas, or blankets. Harvesters is equipping pastors from this community to share the Gospel, disciple believers and plant vibrant churches.



Pastor Andrew Ngongoni, who oversees church-planting efforts in this region, has already witnessed success in an unreached village. "I did some evangelism there, now we have about 30 people in the church where we had no church at all before," he rejoices. "I'm really seeing an impact."

Harvesters recently conducted discipleship training with over 25 enthusiastic church-planters, many of whom walked for hours to attend. "It's so wonderful to see the passion of the pastors," shares Pastor Dylan Agoye, Regional Director for Kenya. "Continue praying for this area. And continue partnering with us as we continue to spread the Word of God. May the Lord bless you." ✉

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