

Inheritors News Letter

Inheritors, 103 Vali Towers, Indora Chowk, Kamptee Road, Nagpur 440017, 30 Sept 2008

PEACE IN THE MIDST OF TERROR!

"Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled neither let them be afraid." (John 14:27).

Peace! That's such a need today. When Jesus talked of Peace, he meant it to be within us. In consequence, it has external repercussions too. Today the challenge before us are daily confrontation with life's difficulties and hurdles. It may seem that every step we take has some problem or the other. It is the character of this peace from Jesus that empowers us to hang in there because our God's promises are true and eternal. Situations that bring us our struggles—be it national, local or even personal—Peace that Jesus gives has the power to keep us sane and calm. Thank you Lord for this gift!

HARD QUESTIONS...Answer?

Pratham, Kajal, David, Vaibhavi are all 7 year olds. Surprisingly, though, they are

very aware of the floods in Bihar and Orissa. They also know that Christians are killed in Orissa, and Karnataka. They, however, were unable to get an answer to their 'why'? You see, the kids know that we at Emmanuel School are Christians and their experience of us is one of kind, helpful and caring people. We were taken aback by our children's ability to comprehend and ask hard questions.

HARD LIFE...For Pratham and others illness, hunger and hardship is a daily reality. Poor diet, no hygiene, mosquito bites and flies seem to be their lot. Our post monsoon check up revealed that all the nutrition we had provided was gone. Almost 95% are back in the list of malnourished. Added to this were a few with infectious diseases like scabies, typhoid and hepatitis. We recognize that we need to find a lasting solution to long summer break and monsoon.



THANK GOD FOR THE ROOF!

We feel proud of our new..



Table, Bench & Drawing Workbook



Hello! It's ME!!

Books, Uniforms & Amenities

- Your consistent and faithful giving has helped us provide Books and Notebooks and other stationary material to All the children at Emmanuel.
- This academic year we provided every child with an ID CARD.
- We also designed Drawing Note Books for all classes. Everyone put in a lot of effort but in the end we saved over 50% in terms of cost of buying one from the local market.
- For students of class 1 & 2 we have also provided a common table and bench to 'work' from.
- While Pre-Primary still uses the floor with mats as work space they see that going to higher class has its reward when they will sit on benches with tables.
- As for writing material, we continue to encourage Pre-Primary Classes to use Chalk & Slates.
- We were also able to provide Flexible Blackboard for the Teachers use.

'Emmanuel' growing with leaps and bounds...

Emmanuel School began its 4th year on 26 June 2008. We added Class 2 to the new academic session. Today the school has a total of 85 students with 5 Teachers. 5 hired classrooms in 2 houses are "tiny". Out of these 3 Rooms are without plaster, electricity, and proper windows to let in sufficient light and air. As for space for Teachers to

work and meet, we have now hired an office space for them. Although the Office is located about 3 kms away from the slum and needs transportation to ferry the staff, a proper work environment away from the trauma and emotional demands of slum environment became necessary. We are not surprised by the impact this has

had on the teachers. Since hiring the office space we have noticed that teachers feel more relaxed and their level of productive has risen. They are also more cheerful as they discuss and prepare their daily lessons. More over, our constant fear for the safety of school material is also elevated. We thank God for the School Office.

MATTERS FOR PRAYER

- Thank God for protection from purchasing fraudulent land....
- Continue to pray as we look for a suitable land within our means—a huge challenge in a growing and expanding city economy!
- Thank God for good health for Teachers but need prayer for the children
- Continue to Pray for monthly financial needs to be met.
- Praise the Lord for monthly provision that makes it possible for Inheritors to continue to impact the poor children and needy families.



Vicky
Our "senior" student!

More recently, Vicky, our "senior" student has become a matter of concern for us. On 15 August during the flag hoisting when everyone stood in line, Vicky suddenly sat-down to everyone's surprise. Normally a cheerful and chatty Vicky just could not speak when asked as to what was happening. He was gently carried into the classroom and after an hour of care he regained enough strength to verbalise his thoughts. He told us he had not

eaten food for 3 whole days! "There is no food at home!" We were all shocked. Our gentle prodding revealed that he was not alone in this. A drunkard father, and a weak and sickly mother can hardly guarantee a meal. It's over a month now that we have been feeding Vicky at school. Unfortunately, Vicky is not a lone case. We need wisdom and resources to effectively help such needy and desperate children. Emmanuel is God with us! (Look out for Vicky in the next issue!)

JARS OF CANA: We continue to work to empower the underprivileged women and girls. We have trained and empowered 8 women in artificial flower-making skills and embroidery. They have also received basic information on health and hygiene while living in the slum. We continue to emphasise the need for Women to receive basic literacy / education. It's a joy to see 3 women dare to come forward and ask help to complete their school education. We introduce these 3 Women to you..

1. **Rani:** She failed her 10 Class exam and was married off. Since then, though she wished, she has not been permitted by her husband to re-sit the exam. In fact, in his rage, he burnt her school certificates. We are now attempting to get duplicates of her certificates. Thanks to Open Schooling and University programme of the Govt, Rani would now be able to complete her Schooling and be able to get a formal training in primary school teaching course.
2. **Kalpana:** We have watched Kalpana work with chil-

dren and are impressed by her ability to manage them well. As with most of the women we encounter, she has a sad marriage. Her household depends on her to provide their daily bread because the husband just can not hold a job. We have employed her at Emmanuel school but if we are to retain her, Kalpana would need to complete her studies and get some training.

3. **Sneha:** Although Sneha is single she struggles with a demanding father who needs his daily dose of country liquor. We have encouraged her to complete her Schooling and would love to see her go for a Certificate Level Training Course.

If you would like to assist these women through a partnership with the project **Jars of Cana**, then please write and tell us of your interest.

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CAFÉ (Care in Action for Family Empowerment)

Family and Friends are always close to our hearts. When they hurt, we hurt with



Sharing special moments with
"Family Friends"

them. When they are successful and blessed we too celebrate their blessing. As the call to mentor couples and young people grows we are aware that there is

a huge pressure on them to compromise and to live "double life". That is, they are different people at work and at home.

Contentment is despised. Fear, shame, being considered unsuccessful, is generating fear of rejection. So, appearances and sham are the order of the day. Sadly many are living out this charade .

However, the goodnews, in the midst of all this tragedy, is that people are increasingly asking for help to confront their reality and to regain their freedom. We, as *Care-Givers*, are thrilled by the results. We have now launched "CAFÉ". It will embody a pro-active ministry providing active help to both the Families and the YOUTH.

CAFÉ will actively seek to train couples, build network with those who are capa-

ble of writing and producing material that is focussed on challenges faced by Couples and Youth and recruit volunteer couples, receive Secondment of people to help us build a Team of dedicated men and women who will conduct Seminars, Speak in Churches, and Speak at Family conferences addressing Relationship issues. We believe that sky is the limit to what **CAFÉ** is capable of achieving.

If your heart is excited by this and you would like to be a part of this (even if it is a part time involvement), then call us.

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Together with you,

Inheritors