

My Dear Brethern,

Blessed New Year too you. May you continue to be a blessing to many in the coming year 2011 as well (Duet 11: 12).

Even as we have entered into another New Year (2011), I have realized that I have not even sent the 2010 yearend letter. The letter was all nicely drafted and only the pictures had to be inserted but because I was on the move constantly it was not completed. Though the Harvest office is having a vacation, I have been travelling. I do hope to send the 2010 year end letter as well as the 2010 ministry report some time before mid January.

December was a month of events - the school-cum-ministry Christmas celebration on the 22nd was a huge blessing. I could not believe my eyes when I saw the young school children, who have been with us for less than six months now, come up with such an outstanding performance on that day. Their song and dance performance was not only in keeping with the theme of the season but was also fantastic. They were thrilled with the gifts that were presented to them. Usha spent several days to buy gifts that would be useful and exciting to each of the 140 students at the school and 65 children at the cancer hospital. The joy on their faces is worth the effort and only Usha can do that.

Talking of cancer hospital - this year too we had the Christmas programme for them but we had to face a big number. Every year we had 25 to 30 children but this time it was much more. Still it was a blessed time and a source of encouragement and inspiration to the children and their parent. This year we had two more churches getting involved in ministering to the children. They performed a dance and song sequence for the children. SW Chandrashekar, a renowned speaker, shared the Christmas message. The event was covered by some of the local print media. Besides gifts the children were also given chocolate and delicious biryani.

On the 26th I travelled 300 kms to participate in the worship service at Besant Nagar and baptise 17 new believers and soon after to Esaram village to dedicate the new church building.

The Biggest joy for our family this year was to host two sisters - Geetha and Manga at our home during the Christmas holidays at our school. These children saw their father brutally kill their mother in front of them and then he being similarly killed. Our pastor Steven Raj of Komervally church identified these children and sent them to our school. Manga needed not only lots of love but medical attention which she was given in abundant measure both at the school and at our home. Both the children gave their heart to the Lord as they have been exposed to the Love of God expressed though the church and the school.

Our pastors' team utilized the Christmas season in innovative ways to reach out to their communities: They are numerous and I will not take time to share them here - they have taken steps to show their neighbours the joys of Christmas not just in word but also by deeds. They shared food and cared for the widows and few of the churches purchased clothing for those who did not have any in the community. One of the church pastors - Yohan - purchased kitchen utensils that we were falling short in the school kitchen. I was deeply touched by this gesture and shared this at our Christmas gathering on the 22nd.

The academic year at the school is progressing along expected lines. The Consul General of USA in Hyd, Katharine Dhanani, having heard about the school, has expressed her desire to see the school.

She is visiting the school on 2nd February. This is another surprise I have received during the season and am excited about the school.

The separate statehood issue has come back to a boiling point once again and the political situation is very fluid. We foresee eruption of civil disobedience and violence after 6th Jan. Anticipating this, the Govt has deployed more than 50 companies of Para military forces mostly in Telangana districts and in Hyd city. I request you to pray for this situation as it affects our ministry a big deal.

I do not want to waste any more time by waiting for the insertion of the photos into this note... I will send it right away. Thank you for the prayers and provision you have made for the ministry though 2010 and your continued support to us in the year ahead to achieve much more for the Kingdom of God in the Telangana region.

In His Glad Service,

Caleb