

# CBSI Children & Youth



COMMUNITY  
BIBLE STUDY  
INTERNATIONAL MINISTRY

In the midst of this busy season, we pause to reflect on the miracle laid in a manger—*Immanuel*, meaning “God with us.” Through CBSI Children & Youth Bible studies, kids around the world are learning that Immanuel is their “Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace” (Isaiah 9:6). Please enjoy these stories of the transforming power of God’s Word as it reaches the hearts of young disciples and seekers and their teachers.



*Chu Chu holds her C&Y India lesson.*



## Cuban Youth Choose Bible Study!

In an island nation only recently opened to Western trade, tourism, and other modern influences, children and youth suddenly face a world of new opportunities—and temptations. **Praise God that many Cuban youth are choosing to follow the Lord through studying His Word.** And for many of those young Christ followers, the new CBSI Global materials are key elements in their studies and applications.

One interdenominational youth ministry there had established a solid presence, providing camps, fun youth programs, relationship building, and other activities. But the ministry leaders recognized that a key element was missing: they needed a clear, systematic, life-changing Bible-study course. In autumn of 2014, more than 2,000 students from several churches began studying CBSI’s *Genesis* course.

Printing and distributing 2,000 booklets with CBSI lessons was a big challenge, but it was managed after months of planning. Throughout the year, leaders had to find and set aside enough paper, which sometimes is in short supply. The class year ended this past summer with fun camps where the young people were able to prayerfully put into practice much of what they’d learned throughout

*See page 4, Cuba* →



*Above: Cuban Children in Their C&Y Classes*



*Jimmy*

## “Lord, If I Die Today, I Want to Be with You”

*by: Hadassah, C&Y Supervisor, India*

Jimmy was a 15-year-old boy. He was born into a Christian family. His father is a driver and mother is a housewife. He has

one elder sister. Both of them are students of our Kundrathur CBSI Teen Bible study.

Before attending the Bible study, he had a bad attitude, and he wasn’t serious about his spiritual life. After

going to CBSI Bible study, he started to mingle with everyone and show interest in church activities. He asked questions during the CBSI class and always showed a commitment to prayer. He was interested in helping others.

Slowly we saw the changes in his life. We heard good testimonies from his parents. He completed the CBSI course. During the teaching about the resurrection of the dead from the book of Mark, he was the first one who prayed during commitment time:

**“Lord, if I die today, I want to be with you.”**

The next week on June 2, while going to school by bus, he had an accident. Jimmy died at the scene.

Jimmy’s family and friends have suffered a huge loss. The church feels that they lost a future leader. CBSI friends feel the shock and loss of Jimmy’s presence with them.

Please thank the Lord for Jimmy’s faith in Jesus and pray with us for Jimmy’s family and friends. 🙏

# Kids' Zone



Philomena (standing)

## Rwanda

Philomena is preparing to join Community of Sisters in Kigeme, Rwanda. She goes to a C&Y class in her town.

She told us, "I was amazed by the joy that Paul had even though he

was in jail. Usually jail is not a good place to be happy with. This has been really a challenge to me. I have now decided to persevere to minister to my Lord whatever the situation can be.

"There are some encouraging verses in Philippians that are already stacked in my mind as I'm being prepared to become a sister. One is Philippians 1:6 that says, 'being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.' The other verse is Philippians 4:4 that says, 'Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!'" (NIV).

## Zambia

Teddy is a fifth grader in Zambia. He attends Hope Fellowship School for orphans and vulnerable children. He came to know and believe in Jesus through the Bible stories of the CBSI Children & Youth material. Growing in his relationship with Jesus, Teddy was concerned about his family, who did not go to church. His class leader, Judy, invited Teddy's family to the school so that she could share his heart for them. His family made a commitment to go to church together.

What a beautiful praise to see God moving in the hearts of the children and the ripple effect of families seeing Jesus in their children!



Teddy with His Class Leader

## India

Anjali, a 10<sup>th</sup>-grade C&Y student in Telangana, India, said, "We are doing Book of Mark. I was encouraged by the life of John the Baptist, the zeal he had proclaiming the Word of God to others. I started sharing the gospel to my friends in school. I want everybody to be in the kingdom of God."



Anjali

## Amazing Children & Youth Leaders

Hundreds of Children & Youth Leaders are scattered throughout the world—each one with a heart to reach the children in their communities, neighborhoods, and countries.

### South Korea

Caleb Janet Stout shares:

In South Korea, I have found the children to be completely adorable and so much fun, yet so overwhelmed by



Pastor Joseph, His Wife, Rebecca, and Their Daughter

school that they have little time to learn about what really matters: Jesus Christ. What can be done in a culture

that puts such a huge emphasis on academics and so little emphasis on growing in relationship with the eternal God?

Pastor Joseph and his wife, Rebecca, are asking this same question. They have big hearts for sharing Jesus with children, and so they are training and equipping CBS Korea C&Y leaders to stand up in a culture that runs counter to the truths of the gospel. They labor in the name of the Lord and do not give up, because they know that these young souls are precious in God's sight.

### Spain

Vida y Familia Church in Fuenlabrada, Spain, recently started a CBSI youth program. Pastors Juan and Patty Zúñiga are great advocates of biblical truth and are now using all available levels of CBSI

materials at their church.

Please pray for Patty as she begins a three-month treatment for a viral liver infection.

### Chile

After years of prayer and months of rescheduling, the Lord blessed the first C&Y training in Chile! The training exceeded expectations, and the 19 participants were blessed and inspired.

Praise the Lord for these amazing new C&Y leaders!



Juan and Patty



Newly Trained C&Y Leaders in Chile



Above and left, children in Burundi learn about God's love in their C&Y classes.

## All the Children Standing Outside, Come In!

The small beginnings of a pilot CBSI Children & Youth ministry at a church in Kiremba, Burundi, started in April 2015 with two classes of 28 children in each.

In six short months, by October 2015, the ministry expanded to three classes of more than 100 children registered, but twice as many children attend as they all bring their brothers and sisters.

Pastor Elie of the Kiremba Mission is so impressed with the CBSI Children & Youth ministry and the transformation that he and others are seeing in the lives of children, that they have determined to continue and expand the ministry within the Kiremba Mission. Another C&Y leader training is planned for March 2016 with the hope that the ministry will double in size. Pastor Elie says he would like to see "all the children who are standing outside come in." 

### C&Y in Burundi



Teachers show love and care to the children in their classes.

"I used to be quarrelsome, fighting other children. In CBSI C&Y I was changed by verse 1 John 4:10 where I realized the Love of God and that I choose to love God and show His love to others."



Dedicated C&Y teachers in Burundi teach young children the Bible lessons with great enthusiasm. Praise the Lord for these teachers!



## In the Midst of Drug Wars ...

Betsaida Church is in a dangerous and poor neighborhood on the outskirts of the city of Poza Rica, Veracruz, Mexico. This church is having a great impact in a community in the midst of drug wars.

Adults and children began studying Colossians in November. The four CBSI teachers pick up more than 20 children from their homes, feed them breakfast, share the Word of God with them through CBSI lessons, and then return the children to their homes.

C&Y Trainer Adriana Gómez observed, "I was surprised that the children's reading and writing skills are very good. They enjoyed sharing their answers, and the older children helped the younger ones studying right next to them. We ended with a mini-talk to challenge them and encourage them in their study of Colossians."

Please pray for these dedicated

teachers and the young people they are discipling through CBS Mexico. 



Poza Rica Class

## C&Y Growing In India

The first Children & Youth class in India started a few years ago in Nagaland. Nine children came in the beginning. They even earned their own money to give for the lessons and translation.

This little class is now 65 children strong and more vibrant than ever. The original 9 students have grown up, but some of them returned to help as volunteer leaders for the current Children & Youth class.

Praise the Lord for growing C&Y in India from a class of 9, to more than 2,000 nationwide. 



# A Look Around the World



## Australia

Australia's largest C&Y program has been in Warragul. This class includes children from several homeschooled families. The children have

grown in their knowledge of Scripture and greatly enjoy getting together and challenging their leaders with questions.

## Tanzania

The Mwanza Diocese started Tanzania's first C&Y church classes in November 2015! Please pray that the 160 children participating will know the love of God as they engage in His Word. Pray as leaders prepare for more classes to start.



## Sri Lanka

Trained as a C&Y leader in 2014, Bernard started a youth CBSI group in his fishing village of Mannar. After their first study of Ephesians, Bernard found that many of the youth were happy upon discovering the full armor of God to ward off attacks of the devil. The class is now studying Mark.

## Dominican Republic

CBS Dominican Republic now has classes for all ages at two churches. The ladies pictured are the first C&Y leaders trained. Children & Youth classes are now offered at Mundo de Fe Church and Iglesia de Cristo Misionero in Santo Domingo.



## Cuba, from Page 1

the study season. This year, the youth are studying the book of Luke in their CBSI classes.

One of the CBS Cuban national leaders said that with CBSI Bible studies, "teenagers have gone back to studying the Word. Many young people today are running toward technology and other developments that pull them away from the Word. But parents have told us that, for the first time, they see their teens choosing to study the Bible at home. **Teenagers say this is the first time they can understand Bible teaching.** The way the new Global lessons are focused captivates them and encourages them in the midst of a very difficult stage of life."

Because of the success of these youth clubs' Bible studies, there is now an incredible opportunity to reach adults as well as kids. Parents and pastors are asking if they also can have the CBSI Bible studies for other groups, for their churches, for all ages. Please pray for the ability to expand and meet the needs of the pastors in all the provinces that would like training, lessons, and follow-up. 🌐

## You Can Help!

Bringing biblical, systematic discipleship ministry to children is an urgent need today. If we don't disciple them, someone else will.

Would you pray about helping us lead children around the world to become disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ?

To make a tax-deductible gift online, please go to [www.communitybiblestudy.org](http://www.communitybiblestudy.org) and click "DONATE NOW," and designate International Children & Youth Ministry. Or you can mail your gift designated to CBSI International C&Y Ministry to Community Bible Study, 790 Stout Road, Colorado Springs, CO, 80921.

**Thank you for joining us in making an impact in the lives of so many children!**

## Pray with Us!

**The Americas:** The first C&Y trainings are scheduled for Nicaragua and El Salvador. Please pray for the planning and preparation for these trainings.

**Africa:** Please pray for God's provision as He continues to enlarge the C&Y ministry in Africa.

**Europe:** Simon and Ann presented CBSI in September at a conference for pastors working with Spanish-speakers throughout Europe. Please pray as they follow up with those who were interested in CBSI.

**South Asia:** Praise God for the process of translating C&Y material into the Manipuri and Gujarati languages.

**East Asia-Pacific:** Praise God for the first C&Y class in Indonesia. Pray that He will raise up more committed C&Y leaders in the world's most populated Muslim nation. 🌐



Children study the Bible in Rwanda.