



God is opening new doors throughout the region in countries like Japan, Thailand, Nepal and Indonesia.

Even leaders in Nepal—still reeling from the recent earthquakes—asked Devendra not to cancel the planned May 2015 CBSI training. They are excited to bring CBSI to their areas and churches, despite current events.

Pray with us as you read below of the great works God is doing.

New Horizons for CBSI in Japan

Devendra Rai, Regional Director for East Asia-Pacific, and his wife, Koko, were in Japan much of April to help expand the CBSI ministry within Japan.

In Japan, they met Dr. Ariga, 82, who began his spiritual journey at the age of 12, when his best friend died. That death caused Ariga to wonder about life after death. A Shinto priest told young Ariga, a staunch believer in his own religion, that he could know where he was going only after he died. So, late one night, Ariga attempted suicide, eager to find out where he'd go. By the grace of God, he was unsuccessful. One New Year's Eve, he found the answers he was seeking in Jesus Christ. Now, Dr. Ariga is the president of *All Japan Revival Mission*. After learning of the CBSI ministry opportunity within Japan, Dr. Ariga was excited and spoke very highly of CBSI to those in his ministry. They are reviewing CBSI Japanese material for use.



Devendra, right, stands with Dr. Ariga, left.

God blessed Devendra and Koko's time in Japan with divine appointments with people like Dr. Ariga and other influential Christian leaders. A Japanese professor has volunteered to help with translations. Many people are interested in starting CBSI studies; in fact, several *If You Will Pray* groups have already started since the Rai's trip. Please pray with us that the initial CBSI groups will grow and flourish into full CBSI classes.

Devendra and Koko also connected with Atouii, a distant relative of Koko who is married to a Japanese pastor in Tokyo; the church is a part of the largest denomination in Japan. Atouii will travel to Bangkok for Children & Youth (C&Y) training. Japan is spiritually stagnant, so our focus is to reach the younger generations with God's Word. We are currently translating the C&Y study of Luke into Japanese. 🐟



Top: Koko makes friends with a young Japanese girl—part of the future generation. Bottom: The leadership team from the Tokyo CBSI class, which has met faithfully for several years.

CBSI Nepal Asks for Training Despite Earthquake

By now, you've heard of the massive, devastating earthquake that struck Nepal in April—and the major aftershock that followed in May. Thousands of Nepalese were killed and many more displaced from their homes. Rebuilding efforts are underway.

Despite these events, Nepal CBSI leaders requested that the planned CBSI training in mid-May continue as planned. Many in east Nepal are interested in starting CBSI classes, and many leaders attended the training. One young man who attended training, Bimal, runs a school in Charikot, Nepal. The school currently has CBSI studies for youth, with plans to start CBSI for teachers as well.



A CBSI leader photographed the destruction in his town.

Dipen, a CBSI leader, planned to come despite being injured in the earthquake, but the second earthquake prevented Bimal and his team from traveling to the training. Dipen was able to reach Devendra on that last day he was in Kathmandu and had a quick refresher training.

The training went well despite the uneasiness created by the daily aftershock tremors that plague Kathmandu. Please pray that the leaders who attended the training will continue to be uplifted and encouraged—especially in light of recent events—and that they will be able to start CBSI where they live so that more Nepalese can grow closer to God as they study His Word. Please continue to pray for the many affected by the recent natural disaster. 🐟



Dipen, top, and Bimal, bottom



Top: Twenty-two believers were excited to be baptized. Bottom: Dr. Narong baptized the former monk.

Answered Prayers and Growth in Thailand

For years, the English-speaking CBSI class in Chiang Mai, Thailand, prayed for the ministry to expand to reach Thai nationals. They even contributed more than 13,000 Thai Bahts to CBSI Thailand to help with translations, presentations and training. Now, by the grace of God, CBSI has several Thai-speaking CBSI classes in Thailand and a Thai National Director, Dr. Narong. This past Easter, Dr. Narong had the privilege of baptizing 22 Thais from the Hang Dong CBSI class that is a part of a church that Dr. Narong ministers in. Eight of the 22 baptized were new followers of Christ.

One of the eight new believers baptized had been a Buddhist monk for many years. His wife attended the CBSI class. After seeing the positive changes in his wife, the monk visited the class. He accepted Jesus as his Savior and now regularly attends the CBSI class. Praise the Lord.

Since Thailand is the home base for Regional Director Devendra Rai and his wife, Koko, they are able to help in training more leaders, as well as host leaders from other countries for training. In May, Karen and Russ, who attend a CBS class in the United States, came to Thailand to help Devendra and Koko train new Children & Youth leaders from the Philippines and Indonesia.

God has placed Devendra and Koko in a perfect place for their ministry. 🌐

Cantonese in Hong Kong

In March, Devendra trained CBSI leaders to lead Cantonese-speaking classes. The new—and first for CBSI Hong Kong—Cantonese CBSI class has started. Praise the Lord with us! The class is pictured below. 🌐



Great Training in Indonesia

Devendra and his team trained several leaders in Indonesia from March 9-15. In total, 128 leaders came to be trained to lead CBSI adult classes. Koko trained 10 leaders for CBSI Children & Youth classes. Below are several of the trainees at the Jakarta training. There was a lot of excitement and interest—a general's wife even came to be trained.

Pray that the trained leaders retain everything from training and lead their classes well. 🌐



Special Project

We need high-quality translations for CBSI Bible studies in Thailand, Indonesia, Nepal, Cambodia and Myanmar. If you feel led to financially support these translation projects—and other needs of the East Asia-Pacific Region—you may donate online at www.communitybiblestudy.org.

Please Join Us in Prayer for:

- Fiji training from August 24-28 with Dr. Kenneth Greenlee from *Teach Us To Pray International*. \$2,000 is needed for this training.
- Safety and good connections for Devendra and Koko while they are in the United States from June 4 to July 14. If you would like to connect with Devendra and Koko while they are in the U.S., please email dryrai@aol.com to learn their travel schedule.
- The wonderful work done by Calebs in Taiwan, Korea and the Philippines.
- More Calebs to volunteer in the region—especially in Indonesia and Cambodia.
- A good motorbike for the hill region of east Nepal. A motorbike typically costs \$3,500.
- A laptop for Thailand and two cameras for Nepal.