



What Happened When One Man from India Decided to Study and Obey God's Word

Dear Friends of CBSI:

Helping the poor or disabled is uncommon in India. Hinduism, India's predominate religion, teaches the concept of karma—that the way people act determines the good or bad that happens to them in this life or a future life. Helping people who are disadvantaged interferes with their karmic destiny.

So, when a young Indian man, David, started to live according to the truths he was learning in Community Bible Study, he stood out. He became a bright light in his culture.

Helping the Helpless

While studying the book of James, verse 1:27 made a deep impression: "Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world."

"That verse touched my heart," David said. "I started to help orphans and give food to beggars. Some of my friends were also inspired and joined me in contributing their offerings. I can't express the joy that comes from sharing with the helpless."

What God's Word accomplished in David's life was a whole new way of living. As he studied in his CBSI class, he chose to act on what he was learning.

Taking God at His Word

"I regularly read the Bible," David said, "but the Community Bible Study class made me talk about and think more about the Bible. After we finished the study of James, I came to class with a fever. I didn't actually believe in healing, but after class while our brothers were praying for me, I remembered James 5:15, 'the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick.' Then I believed, and immediately Jesus healed me!"



The number of destitute people in India is staggering. More than 300 million Indians earn 40 cents or less a day.

Walking the Talk

And that's not all. As David applies God's truth to his life, his friends are seeing the transformation. "One day while I was sharing about Jesus to my Hindu friend in his business shop, a drunkard came towards me,



Studying—and living—the book of James has brought David great joy.

fought with me, and grabbed my cell phone. I was angry with him, but immediately the word from James struck my mind: 'Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness' (1:2-3).

"Immediately I calmed down and left. I went home and prayed to the Lord.

"My friend watched what happened. Later he came to me and asked why I didn't fight with the man. I explained to him what the Bible teaches. From that time, his attitude was totally changed towards the gospel."

David is thrilled at God's work in his life. "Praise God for transforming me through His Word in CBSI!" he said, with joy.

Isaiah 55:11 says, "My word, which comes from my mouth, is like the rain and snow. It will not come back to me without results. It will accomplish whatever I want and achieve whatever I send it to do" (GWT).

Just One of Many Transformed Lives

David is just one of the thousands of people who are growing to be more like Jesus every day through CBSI's caring, in-depth Bible studies. God is actively transforming lives around the world, and we are grateful for our part in what He is doing.

Our leadership team in South Asia is responding to the high demand for new Bible studies by focusing on training national trainers. So far, 11 area shepherds have been trained to love and care for the CBSI class leaders in India. They encourage and equip adult and Children & Youth leaders to multiply the number of classes and impact more lives for Christ.

You have a part too. Thank you for your prayers and financial support for CBSI. We are truly grateful!

Would you pray about making a donation to support the work in South Asia and around the world?

With joy in Him,

Frank + Marian

Frank & Marian Vroegop
CBSI Director & Associate Director

