CBM happenings

A division of
Educational Aid Services India.
West India Newsletter.
Jan - June 2022

after 2 years

Finally, after 2 years of frequent lockdowns and restrictions, the year 2022 will be remembered as the year we all went back to normalcy. We were very happy that restrictions on the children's movement was lifted and that meant we could go and conduct Camps and VBS. Oh the sight of excited children eager to learn, play and sing is priceless. We had fantastic time with children in the programs that we ran in April and May (more on that in the next page) and got an opportunity to pray with many children.

There were a few things which we noticed in children, and I believe we all must pray.

1) **DEVICE ADDICTION:** 2 years of online learning and owing their own mobile/tab our children have somehow got addicted to devices. In one camp we had to take their phones as it was big distraction.

2) **NO SHALOM AT HOME:** One of the common prayer requests we received in our camps from children was that there are constant fights happening at home. Quarrels between parents and siblings are frequent, making home a warzone.

3) **SAME SEX RELATIONSHIP:** Teenagers were open about same sex relationship and according to them it is alright.

4) **CLUELESS CHURCH:** Many Children and Teens who came to our camp had no Sunday School or Youth Club happening in their church. Their spiritual foundation was very shallow.

Jesus commands us to watch and pray. The issues our children and teens are facing can impact their faith. If we don't pray and allow it to grow, then we will lose our children. And it is not the will of the Father to see His children perishing.

Camps

April and May have been one of the most satisfying months in recent years. We were able to conduct 6 back-to-back camps and minister more than 800 children in these 6 weeks. 5 Camps were offline, and one camp was online.

The highlight was our EXCEL CHILDREN'S CAMP which saw 98 children from all over Mumbai come for 4 days and soak in the presence of God. For more than 80 children it was their first camp ever. The moments spent in the camp will be forever etched in their hearts and minds.

Here are a few **Testimonies** *from our camp.*

"The teachings were truly enlightening for our kids. Many of them told us that they had never heard of things like this and this camp we believe is the first step towards their walking in purity before a Holy God."

- **One Sunday School Co-Ordinator**

"I loved this camp, I made so many new friends. This was the best camp" - **Happy Camper**

"My daughter's faith has been strengthened in this camp. Earlier she was saying there is no God, and I don't believe in God. But after the camp she is reading Bible and she has decided to follow Jesus. She is excited for next year's camp" - **Relieved Mother.**

TRAINING

The first six months have given us the opportunity to conduct 3 training courses in Mumbai and Kolhapur. In this training we were able to train more than 100 children's ministry workers and Pastors. The Churches are seeing the need to train their Sunday school teachers because they feel that children are very important for the future of the church and if a solid foundation is not built in them, we will lose our children.

[Here are a few testimonies]

"This training opened my eyes on the fact that we are not doing much with children in our church" - **Pastor from Kolhapur**

"Sunday school for me was just action songs and Bible stories. In today's training I learnt the seriousness of Sunday School. It's not about entertainment"- **A Sunday school teacher**

"Worship with children is so important and we in Sunday school always ignored this important part of Christian life."

"We used to think that children are God's angels. But the word of God is very clear, they are sinners. And they need Jesus. This was a big revelation for me today. "

7 CITY TRAINING

Last year we shared with you the vision of 7 City Training. Under this vision we will be going to 7 different cities of India and conduct a 2-day training. Last year we conducted training in Ahmedabad, and it was very well received.

In August we will be travelling to Patna, Bihar to train the Sunday school teachers and ministry workers. Then later in the year we have an invitation to go Andhra Pradesh and North India.

We would like your help in fulfilling this vision. Cost per training is Rs.50000/-, which includes hiring venue, food, stationery, team travel, etc. We do charge participants a small fee but that only covers 20% of the entire cost. The seed you sow will bear fruit in its due time. Details are below.

PRAISE & PRAYER

1) We praise God that we were able to conduct Excel camp after 3 years and none of the children were sick in the camp.
2) We praise God for 35 volunteers who helped us conduct 6 camps.
3) We praise God that our online programs are very well received.
4) Pray for us as we go and conduct trainings in areas unknown to us.
5) In next 6 months we plan to release devotions and songs for children on our Youtube channel CHILDREN BIBLE RESOURCES. Pray that it will reach maximum children.

CBM happenings

CBM WEST INDIA

Rodney Devdas,
Plot no 178/D6, Sambhav Society. Gorai-2,
Borivali (West), Mumbai-400091.
Tel: 09320793779.
Email: easi.cbm.mumbai@gmail.com
Visit us at : **www.cbm.org.nz**

If you want to financially bless our ministry then you can give a cheque in favor of EDUCATIONAL AID SERVICES or you can make an online transfer. Here are the account details.

Educational Aid Services
Bank of Baroda, Mahavir Nagar Branch, Mumbai
A/c no: 34120100011955
IFSC CODE: BARB0MAHAVI
(5th character is numerical zero)

Designed by Gopinath Balnaker 9819257843