

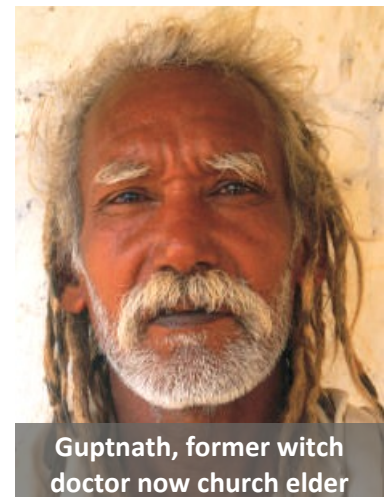
## From Graveyard to Vineyard



Baptism Service in Sasaram, Bhojpuri Region, Bihar

The gospel is bearing fruit in Bihar, North India and the numbers are staggering. Faith2Share member BORN (Bihar Outreach Network) reports that more than 30,000 people became disciples of Christ last year and 1,162 new villages were reached with the gospel.

The personal stories from BORN are no less remarkable. Guptnath had practised witchcraft for 34 years and had a lucrative business as a witch doctor. However, Guptnath's wife developed a heart problem and he was not able to heal her. Around that time, he met Pastor Surendar Choudhari, who shared the gospel with him and invited him to believe in Jesus Christ. After a church service, Guptnath requested prayer for his wife and the Lord wonderfully healed her. The couple confessed their sins and put their faith in Christ. Now a church elder, Guptnath has gone from village to village over the past year, telling his testimony of deliverance.



Guptnath, former witch doctor now church elder

**'Unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.'**  
John 12:24

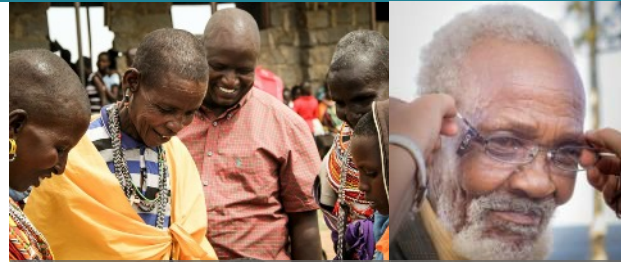
The growth in Bihar is even more extraordinary when viewed from a historical perspective. The state was previously known as the 'graveyard of missions' because of the lack of response to the gospel. In his book *From Graveyard to Vineyard*, S. Devasahayam Ponraj describes how a large number of missions laboured in Bihar from 1792 through to 1990. Over this period only small numbers of people became Christians in central and northern Bihar. 'Many missionaries got discouraged and left the field,' writes Ponraj, while many others, '... gave their life ... and became *the kernel of wheat*.' After India gained its independence, most of the foreign missionaries had to leave without a strong indigenous church leadership in place. Yet today many people are becoming disciples of Christ in Bihar. BORN reports that nearly 7,000 people placed their faith in Christ in January and February of this year.

## Whole-Life Discipleship in East Africa and the Horn of Africa

- *Magi decided to follow Christ and led others to faith in Him. Her home was burned down in reprisal but Lifeway Mission International has responded by helping build a new home for her and her family.*
- *Abigail Mwikali received a loan for a chicken business and was able to feed her family and repay the loan.*
- *In the Tana River area the women's empowerment group has started seven Discovery Bible Studies involving a number of women from a Muslim background.*
- *2,500 people were treated through medical missions last year.*

These are just four examples of the holistic mission of *Lifeway Mission International*, a Faith2Share member working in East Africa and the Horn of Africa. Celebrating 20 years of mission this year, Lifeway is committed to: disciple-making movements, serving persecuted Christians, leadership development and socio-economic projects. Lifeway's model is to train people who will train others. 'I must be a disciple-maker who makes other disciple-makers', said Nkunzimana Meshak, one of 3,439 leadership training participants.

The mission has recently launched an appeal for those facing the terrible food and water crisis in East Africa and we pray that God will provide what they need to respond.



Dr Aila Tasse, Founder, Lifeway

Medical Ministry



Medical Ministry

Women's Empowerment



Providing Clean Water

Drought & Food Crisis

## Anglicans get intentional about Discipleship



Archbishop Moon Hing

When the current Archbishop of South East Asia, Moon Hing Ng, left his parish some years ago to become a bishop he told his churches that they would not get a new vicar. He believed he had equipped his church members to take on the leadership of those churches themselves. Now Archbishop Moon Hing is leading an exciting movement within the Anglican Communion which is all about 'making disciples of Jesus who make disciples of Jesus' – the nine year **Season of Intentional Discipleship**.

Faith2Share International Director, Mark Oxbrow, is working closely with Archbishop Moon Hing and the international team of twelve who will coordinate this work and the Faith2Share commitment to whole-life discipleship is at the heart of what is happening. Two other members of this team are Bisoke Balikenga, a long-term partner of Faith2Share from DR Congo, and Bishop Nick Drayson of Northern Argentina who was introduced to our work on discipleship at the Faith2Share consultation in Santiago, Chile, last November.

In introducing the Season of Intentional Discipleship Archbishop Moon Hing reminds us that when Jesus said to his first followers, 'I will make you fishers of men' he was not giving them a command but making them a promise. Jesus promises to make every disciple (even Anglicans!) into a disciple-maker. Faith2Share is helping people grasp hold of that promise.

*'If intention can become reality for 85 million Anglicans their whole-life discipleship will transform our world.'*  
Mark Oxbrow

# Whole-life Discipleship in Sri Lanka



The Faith2Share network recognizes that Christ's call applies to every area of life. The *Depth Discipleship* programme is designed to help Christian leaders develop greater Christlikeness in their own lives as well as in those they lead. The programme includes a focus on the disciple-making process as well as obedience to Christ in the family, the workplace, the community, politics and with those of other faiths.

*'We don't just make converts and leave them but we should also ensure that they are disciples'*

*Depth Discipleship Participant, Ghana*

Following successful Depth Discipleship consultations in North India and Nepal, Faith2Share has been invited to bring the programme to Sri Lanka. After the end of the Sri Lankan civil war in 2009, the priority of Christian leaders was clearly on reconciliation. Local leaders now want to extend this focus to discipleship more widely. Faith2Share is planning a Depth Discipleship event from 7 to 10 July in collaboration with AIMS Sri Lanka. We are excited by this new opportunity!

*'... from now, I will focus on a few people and model them after the life of Christ to be able to transform others for greater impact.'*

*Depth Discipleship Participant, Nigeria*

## Could you invest in whole-life discipleship in Sri Lanka?

### Yes, I want to support the Discipleship Consultation in Sri Lanka!

- £10 could pay for a church leader's local transport costs
- £43 could cover a missionary's total conference costs for one day
- £133 could fund a conference trainer's air travel from India

*Any funds which cannot be spent for this purpose or any excess funds will be used to fund other Faith2Share consultations.*

Give securely online at <http://www.faith2share.net/donate>. Select **Sri Lanka appeal**.

Or complete the one-off gift or standing order form below and return it to us. Please Gift Aid if you can.

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Faith2Share can claim Gift Aid tax relief of 25p on every pound you give. I confirm I am a UK taxpayer and that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay the difference. If you pay Income Tax at a higher or additional rate and want to receive additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HMRC to adjust your tax code.

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**Return the form to Faith2Share, Watlington Road, Oxford OX4 6BZ**

Registered Charity No. 1132707

# Praise and Prayer Points

**Bihar, India (front page)**

**Praise God** for the amazing movement of the Holy Spirit.

**Pray** that the many who are coming to faith become whole-life disciples.

**Lifeway Mission (p.2)**

**Give thanks** for 20 years of compassionate ministry.

**Pray** for those facing a food and water crisis in East Africa.

**The Anglican Season of Discipleship (p.2)**

**Thank God** for this significant focus on discipleship.

**Pray** for impact beyond anything participants can ask or imagine.

**Depth Discipleship Sri Lanka (p.3)**

**Give praise** for the desire to deepen Christian discipleship.

**Pray** that God would provide funds and bring glory to His name.

**Partner with us in prayer!** If you don't already receive our prayer news emails, send your name, address and email to [prayer@faith2share.net](mailto:prayer@faith2share.net) and share in the vital ministry of prayer.

**Sharing our vision!** We'd love to speak at your church. Interested? Email [f2s@faith2share.net](mailto:f2s@faith2share.net)



***Pictures from Depth Discipleship Consultations in North India and Nepal***

## **Faith2Share Member Movements**

Anglican Frontier Missions, Anglican Inland Missionary Society (Sri Lanka), Anglican Relief & Development Fund (Australia), Antioch Mission, AsiaCMS, Asian Outreach Alliance, BORN, Church Army Africa, Church Mission Society, Church of Nigeria Missionary Society, CMS Africa, CMS Australia, CMS Ireland, Friends Missionary Prayer Band, Global Teams, IGOSA, Indian Evangelical Mission, Interserve India, Isa-e Church, iServe Africa, Lifeway Mission International, Mahabba Network International, Mahanaim Ministries, Mar Thoma Evangelistic Association, Mekane Yesus IMS (Ethiopia), Mission Together Africa, Mission Together Inc. (Canada), MSF International, NAMS, National Mission Commission of Nepal, New Life for India, New Zealand CMS, OMF International, PMI, SAMS Ireland, SAMS USA, SOMA UK, The Sheepfold Ministries, Torchbearers Mission