

# INDONESIAN CHALLENGE

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## Reaching Indonesia for Jesus

“But let all those rejoice who put their trust in You; Let them ever shout for joy, because You defend them;  
Let those also who love Your name Be joyful in You.” Ps.5:11

### CIRACAS BIRTHDAY PARTY

Sunday, February 15th, we had the privilege and honor of being a part of the 11th birthday celebration of Ciracas Christian Church. The church began in a small house that Arlin rented for five years. It now has its own land and building which was packed Sunday. The children, youth group, men's fellowship and women's fellowship sang special numbers. Bob gave a short history of the church and preached on “Growing the Church in Jesus' Name.” At the close of the service a rice cone (a classic celebration meal) was brought to the front; everyone sang Happy Birthday in Indonesian.



Bob serving the rice to the elders

### REPORT FROM BANDA

I just talked with Martha in Aceh. They have opened a new Bible study on the army campus in Banda. They've met for two



Ciracas Christian Church, East Jakarta  
February 15th, 2009



Yellow Rice Cone

weeks now, thirty-four in attendance. The majority are registered with the government as Christian, but don't attend church. Most of them don't know the Bible. Samuel and Martha want to teach them until they really accept Jesus as their Savior and can reach out to the people in Aceh. Last month I listed five people to pray for: **Ibu Jubaidah** lost her husband in the Tsunami. She is Acehnese and a secret Christian. She studies her Bible at home and goes to some Christian gatherings with Martha and Samuel - birthday celebrations - the Christmas service 2 1/2 hours from her home. She still has three children to

care for at home and is afraid of losing her life if she publicly embraces Christianity. **Suzi** is her married daughter. **Pak Marbun**, from Sumatra, has a Bible study at his house. He's registered a Christian, but does not know the Lord. **Sylvia** is in college, studies with Samuel and Martha on Wednesdays. **Evana**, from a Buddhist family, is still in high school. Our evangelist's daughter leads a weekly youth group at school. Martha said they are not selling jamu (health drinks) at this time. Their regular Acehnese Muslim customers stopped buying from them when they learned they are Christians. Reaching the Acehnese for Christ in this province which is under Islamic law continues to be very difficult. Their goal is to win the Acehnese for Christ; please pray for open hearts seeking the truth.

### A STORY BY EVANGELIST BINTANG

Pak (Mr.) Joko is a sixty year old Javanese man. He works for TVRI (Television Republic Indonesia) television station. He has a wife and two children. For five months he has been so lame in one leg he couldn't move his foot at all. He went to many doctors, tried alternative medicine, spent lots of money, but nothing helped. His wife was a Catholic when she met him and was studying to become a Catholic nun. She left the convent, married Joko, and became a Muslim.

She had to convert to marry him. When her husband didn't get well, she asked for help from Pak Salmon. The Kedaun, Ciputat Church meets in Salmon's house. Several of us went to Pak Joko's house and prayed for him in the name of Jesus and Pak Salmon massaged his leg and foot. Pak Joko was astonished that these Christian neighbors cared about him and wanted to pray for him. A week later Ibu Joko went to Salmon's house with the good news that her husband could move his foot. For five months no one else could help him. We hope this will be a way to reach him for Jesus. The members of the Kedaun church ask for your prayers for complete healing for Pak Joko. Pray that both husband and wife will study God's word with them and believe in the Lord Jesus.

**IN THE NAME OF JESUS**  
**A series on working in the name of Christ**

Colossians 3:17 tells us "...whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the father through him." This short verse is a rich mine of theological perspectives, but today, rather than dig into this mine, I want to extrapolate from

the basic statement to show how this touches all our lives. God created us as natural men and women. He knows our physical urges, desires, and tendencies. We may then conclude that in every normal and natural activity we engage in, everything we might say or do can be done or said in a way that honors Him. All that we do and say can be done in His name. Yes, this puts restrictions on us because we are capable of sinful deeds and sinful words. But the lesson I want to draw from this is our standing in the Kingdom of God is not dependant on occupation or sacrifice, on education or experience, but rather upon how we perform as who we are, where we are, what we are. The betterment of mankind and the hope of heaven all grows as we do and speak in Jesus' name. The hope of Heaven is all in the finished work of Jesus on the cross. Getting the message out depends on millions of Christians from every walk, every land doing their all in word and deed in Jesus' name.

**PRAYER & PRAISE**

**Praise for:**

1. Continuing growth of Ciracas Christian Church.
2. The Kedaun Church is beginning to reach out to neighbors.

**Please pray for:**

1. Complete healing and salvation for Pak Joko.
2. Open hearts in Aceh
3. Replenishment of Evangelist' salary account - In June our evangelist salary fund runs dry. If we can possibly find the extra money to repay \$6,600 borrowed to refurbish the mission school-house - office - residence, we could cover this need for the whole year and reduce the mission general fund need too. Anything from prayer to awesome checks will be greatly appreciated and bless our national evangelists.
4. Pak Tarto— In December we met with his son, Supri, in Salatiga. Our son, Rob, did his internship while living at Pak Tarto's house. Pak Tarto has been preaching at four village churches, but now only preaches for one. His sight is very limited. What they thought would be healed by cataract surgery turned out to be Glaucoma and he now only has partial vision in one eye. His medicine costs about \$30 a month which is a real burden for Supri.

**REPORT ON GIVING**

- January - \$ 4,163.14
- February \$ 4,016.36
- Monthly Budget—\$4,548

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