

Indonesian Challenge

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Reaching Indonesia for Jesus

“so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith....that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God” Ephesians 17, 19b

EVANGELISM IN SOLO, CENTRAL JAVA, INDONESIA

Linda's Mother, Ruth Endang, widow of Andreas Marwanto, continues ministering in Solo. Her son Berlian, wife Hesti and two children moved from Jakarta to live with her and to help in the ministry. Berlian has a bachelor's degree in English; he translated "Scheme of Redemption." He would like to get some Bible College training, but for now he studies on his own, and preaches on Sunday and helps with the two cell groups. Ibu Endang also counsels several families around Solo. These families appreciate her help, concern and prayers and usually give her some money to help her in her ministry.



EXCITING PLANS FOR 2011



Evangelists Biya, Baby Ozora and Bintang

There are three exciting new adventures ahead for Bintang and Biya this year.

1. Another baby boy will be born to their family about March 16th.
2. They are starting a small business as a bridge to evangelism and to help with monthly living expenses with the ultimate goal of standing alone financially within a three-year period.
3. Dynamic Church Planters International (DCPI) - Bintang

is studying the Indonesian copy of the training manual with the goal of teaching it to his own congregation and presenting and teaching the program to our Christian leaders in Central and East Java.

Bintang and Biya continue to work with the small church in Kedaun and are working to motivate the members to grow and start a new Bible study themselves.

They continue visiting, counseling and sharing the good news with their Muslim neighbors and acquaintances.

Families to pray for: Here are the stories of three families they are ministering to:

Pak Maskuri is a carpenter; he's not a highly educated man, but does well in his lumber business and carpentry. He has a wife, Sasmi, and four children. Ina, his 6 year old is kept in her room most of

the time; she doesn't speak, just makes noises. Bintang has told them they need to take her outside so they are beginning to do that. Maskuri is a village man and doesn't have his own bank account. When someone wants to transfer a payment to him, he uses Bintang's account. Bintang has gotten close to him through chess. They often play chess until late at night. Maskuri asks for advice for his family problems, and asks questions about religion. Bintang has been able to share with him many times about Jesus, but Maskuri does not want to make a commitment. Although he does not pray 5 times a day and only goes to the mosque during Ramadan, he's afraid of how he'll be treated by family and friends. He brushes it off by saying all religions are the same and

good, but it comes back to he was born a Muslim. Islam says when you are born into an Islamic family, you are Muslim and you may not change your religion!

Pak Khodir is a coordinator for a delivery service company. He is easy to talk with about Jesus because his wife is Catholic. He will attend special services at Christmas. During conversations about receiving Jesus, he will say, "ya, ya, benar" (yes, yes that's true), but says he can't be baptized because he doesn't want his relatives to become his enemies.

Another village man called **Bapaknya Panji** (the father of Panji) has enough money to live well. He has a son with epilepsy, named Panji. Panji went to school through the 4th grade, (he's 13 now) but because he had convulsions at school, the father took him out of school and says he is crazy. Bintang took the Mother and Father and Panji to a Christian School here that works with children at their grade level. When the family discovered the school is under a Christian foundation, they didn't let Panji go to school there. Bintang spends a lot of time counseling this family and sharing his testimony, and they let him pray for them, but are afraid to leave Islam.

As you can see from the above stories, it is not easy to get families to receive Jesus even if they begin to believe. Bintang and Biya visit and counsel with 37 such families.



AT IBU TRI'S HOUSE

On the fourth Tuesday of every month, the BSD Christian Church ladies walk from the church to Ibu Tri's house for a Bible study and lunch. Ibu Tri is a member of the church, but hasn't attended for three years since she was very ill from encephalitis. Although she's improved a lot, she herself says she is not thankful enough and often bitter and unhappy. Jan talked about the fullness of Christ in every Christian's heart from Ephesus 3:17-19. Several shared how Christ had spoken to them and led them to help another.

FINANCES

It's never fun to write about finances especially now when many of you may be having difficulties too. In the past our December income was sufficient to cover any monthly shortfalls during the next year. This year we do not have that option. We are operating on a very lean budget. Although two projects are funded we are running behind about \$500.00 a month. We have now received notice that a major supporting church who gives more than \$500.00 a month is experiencing financial difficulty. They are review-

ing their financial commitments to us on a quarterly basis. This means on April 1, they may be forced to reduce their support to us. We are excited about what the future holds for us, but we do need help to continue our work here. Please consider a gift to ICM, P.O. Box 457, Livermore, CA 94550. A copy of our budget can be sent to you at your request.

PRAYER & PRAISE

PRaise FOR:

1. Faithful Evangelists
2. A God of Love

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

1. Bintang and Biya's baby due March 16. The baby was in position and is now sideways; please pray for a normal delivery.
2. Bintang's new business
3. Salvation for the Maskuri family, Khodir family, and Panji's family.
4. ICM finances
5. Samuel, Martha, and Tabitha as they share God's love with their new neighbors. (see March newsletter for more details).
6. Completion of land title.

ATTENTION PLEASE. If any of you are receiving this by post, and have an e-mail address, please send it to us so we can send this newsletter by internet and save on postage - mackurus@yahoo.com



HAPPY CHILDREN IN BSD