

Global iNSIGHT



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Multiplying Disciple Makers

King Cobra to Prophet



Before he was born, Elijah's large family enjoyed prestige and wealth in the village. By outward Indian standards, things couldn't be better. Elijah's parents had twelve children and did not want anymore. Then his mother got pregnant again. The night before the scheduled abortion of Elijah, the thirteenth child, the mother

dreamed about a cobra. When she sought an interpretation of the dream, a soothsayer explained that the King Cobra god wished this child to live and bear his name. The baby was named Nagarajan, which means King Cobra in the Tamil language.

Elijah grew into his teen years. One day, two strangers came to the village to share about Christ. When Elijah asked them to come to his home and pray, they did without asking for any payment, which amazed Elijah. He became curious and wanted to learn more about the gospel. Although getting to the church required walking for miles and often led to beatings, Elijah continued to go. Eventually, his family threw him out because of his new faith. Despite hardship, Elijah did not give up. While in high school, he delivered newspapers to eight villages before school each morning to pay for tuition. After graduating in 2001, he attended Bible school through a work-study program. There, he heard about the prophet Elijah, whose name means "Jehovah is God!" He wanted a name that glorified Jehovah instead of a cobra king god. He decided to legally change his name from Nagarajan to Elijah. When his parents found out, they banned him from returning home.



Away from the family home, Elijah persevered. A major financial crisis left his family homeless. Elijah welcomed them in his home,

but didn't allow them to bring any idols. As they experienced the love of Christ, his mother, then a brother, and later the rest of the family became Christ followers.

Later, Elijah married Angeline and began pastoring people he had led to Christ. This testimony alone is amazing, but his conviction of the Great Commission urged him further. He began preaching in remote areas, discovering small, and weak congregations. Many church pastors he met were untrained and even illiterate. Elijah realized India's greatest crisis is not a lack of evangelism but a lack of discipleship! His desire to multiply disciple-makers aligned him with the passion of iTEE Global. Elijah first connected with iTEE Global in the Fall of 2017 during a Project Nehemiah Workshop in India. He now leads iTEE Global's ministry in India. iTEE Global courses help Elijah train Indian pastors, despite fierce persecution.

India is ranked 11th among nations with the worst persecution, yet Elijah believes the call to make disciples, even when dangerous and difficult, is worth it. After all, Jehovah is God!



A children's Program at Elijah's Church

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Eradicating Persecution within the church

In 2017, Pastor Elijah Francis attended an iTEE Global Project Nehemiah Workshop in India. After the workshop, he changed his whole approach to teaching his members. This shift tripled the size of the fellowship in a very short time. Before this time, he realized that the members of Grace Prayer Center who were former Hindus, faced two obstacles: 1) they were enslaved to caste thinking. In church and fellowship gathering, they only sat by caste; even in prayer cells meetings. And 2) they were not “making disciples” as Jesus had called them to do. Pastor Elijah prayed constantly for change in his congregation. As a former Hindu himself, he was taught that to touch or eat with someone from a lower caste would cause personal and family uncleanness and even a curse to them and the whole village. Lower caste people had false assumptions about the upper castes too. This is a situation that is ongoing in India to this day.

For Pastor Elijah, the solution was to apply a method he had learned in the iTEE Global Workshop, so he could help the members of his church. Galatians 3:28 says, “There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor



free, nor is there male and female, for you are one in Christ Jesus”. Following several meetings, the members of the church had to make a decision about how this verse would change anything in their lives and community. A great example in the Bible is about Peter’s hypocrisy in refusing to eat with Gentiles. They admitted that they interacted with their own caste, and that their behavior must change quickly. It was a real risk for them. But they decided to walk in the truth of freedom, fearing neither demons nor neighbors. They started inviting people of lower castes to the church and to their homes.

One group gathered forty outcast children who lived around the garbage dump and brought them to church to feed them. They enrolled some of them in a nearby school. The church grew to additional ministries and fellowships of various castes.



Staying Strong Under Persecution



Peaceful Protest of Christians in India

V.R. was brought up in a Hindu home in Tamilnadu. When she was in Grade 12, she started attending a Christian church with her neighbor when she became concerned about her exam results and future. With time she accepted Jesus as her Lord and personal Savior and felt the joy and happiness she could not obtain through her native gods. The Lord opened her spiritual eyes to the truth. She gave up idol worship of the Hindu gods, which brought challenges in her family. Her mother tried to force her to leave the God of the Christians, who are considered low-caste people and not worthy. When V.R. continued to attend the Christian church, her mother denied her food and beat her. Her brother tore her Bible and stamped his feet on it, and would torment her continually.

strengthened her, and she stood firmly on the glory of His name. During this time of suffering, V.R. began to take classes with iTEE University online. She began to have the answers to things she had not previously understood about the Bible. She was able to do study while attending University. The Lord continued to give V.R. favor, and she successfully graduated with a B.Sc., a B.Ed., and an M.Sc. Her mother began to believe that Jesus Christ was actually helping V.R. to excel in everything she was doing.



Her family arranged a marriage to a Hindu man, but V.R. insisted she would only marry a Christian man. She fasted and prayed for a month. Her pastor helped her marry a Christian man; it was a miracle. They are both focusing on God.

May the name of our Lord Jesus Christ be glorified through this testimony. Amen.

Iron Sharpening Iron, Working In Partnerships

It is a great blessing to work together in unity, with competent and willing vessels to share the vision of advancing the kingdom of God. Millions of pastors and church leaders need to be trained in their own languages.



iTEE Global works with other organizations because the global training crisis cannot be done alone. Jesus commanded His disciples to go and make disciples of all nations, and to teach them to observe all that He has commanded. Today, we are also mandated to do the same. We take action working with others to carry out that command. To meet specific partnership goals, iTEE Global engages partners in four different areas:

North American Churches

We work with North American churches that can prepare teams for short-term mission trips in parts of the world where the church has relationships. iTEE Global coordinates activities through the Short-Term Action Mission Project (STAMP) for the church to develop their own in-house training capabilities. Also, iTEE Global provides leadership of core teachers, access to the online platform, selected courses, and ongoing consultation.



An example of such partnership is with Community Fellowship, in West Chicago, IL. To read the story click [here](https://commfell.org/). Their website is <https://commfell.org/>

International Mission Agencies

iTEE Global assists approved mission agencies to develop or enhance their own in-house training system to train pastors, and church leaders in countries where they are located. Training is provided to key mission agency teachers; they are then responsible for training their missionaries or educators who in their turn will train field leaders. They will have access to the iTEE Global online teaching platform, selected courses, and ongoing consultation. An example is Global Children's Network (GNC) in Avinger, TX. Their website is <https://globalchildrensnetwork.org/>

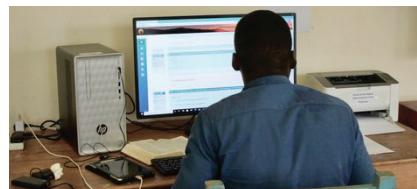
Educational Institutions

Many institutions have yet to develop their online educational systems. They have little experience using online platforms. iTEE Global assists and trains selected groups of teachers in such institutions. They learn how to train students online, and in various languages. iTEE Global already has a library of courses translated in several languages. When courses are not available in certain languages, iTEE Global sometimes is allowed to use the translated materials that these institutions may have developed.

This partnership provides the online platform for these institutions, and technical expertise to manage the platform. An example is Biblical Education by Extension World (BEE World) in Colorado Springs, CO. iTEE Global and BEE World are long-term ministry partners. Both agencies are highly dedicated to multiplying disciple makers among pastoral leaders globally. In this partnership, they share courses, expertise, and technological platforms. They are able to reduce costs, and speed up training delivery to the field. Since the partnership began in 2015, thousands of students in over 45 countries have been taught. Their website is <https://www.beeworld.org>

International Partners

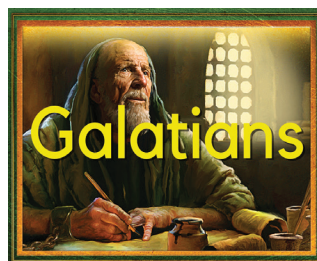
In this partnership, iTEE Global serves pastors and church leaders in foreign countries. We help train leaders who will teach other leaders under the administration and management of their own local organization. These are churches and ministry organizations that are legally registered and recognized in their home country. They use their own financial resources to carry out the work. iTEE Global works with them to train teachers, provide courses, a teaching platform and guidance through the whole process. One example is Willow Resource Foundation, in Masaka, Uganda since the fall of 2021. Willow Resource Foundation is using courses, technology, teacher training, and people resources. Their website is <https://www.willowresource.com/itee>



Heart Language

Loving God requires that we love the Church. If we love the Church as Jesus loved the Church, how can we not also love its shepherds, pastors who struggle because they have no access to biblical training? In many parts of the world, Bible training is available only in English and not in the native language of the pastor. Pastor Peter in Congo does not speak English. Then he met Pastor Paul, a bi-lingual pastor living about 10 miles, who started studying with iTEE Global in English. Pastor Paul cared for pastors in his area and developed a vision for training them. As a full time pastor, he is also a student, and spends many hours making notes from iTEE Global’s curriculum and putting them into the native language.

He then meets with a cohort of pastors on Saturdays and Sundays for two hours and teaches them. This is of great joy to the cohort. However, they only have handwritten notes to share with the next generation of students.



English Course



Swahili Kozi

Translations and materials must be made available online and in print. That is the core of our Fishes and Loaves Project. We want to make courses available in the heart languages of students of all generations.

Would you consider helping? To find out more, go to <https://iteeg.org/loavesandfishes.html> or scan QR code.



Prayer Points

Please join us in prayer:

- For successful partnerships with organizations and churches, locally and internationally.
- Pray that we can translate and produce three courses in 10 languages, i.e. French, Portuguese, Shan, and Uzbek. This goal requires expertise and funding.
- For guidance in additional locations for ministry, i.e. Asia, Eurasia, Africa, Central America, and South America.

iTEE Global Ministry Opportunities

Application Administrator

Provides administration, support and updates for iTEE Global tools and systems.

Course Publisher/Course Migrator

Works with existing course materials to prepare them for use in print and on the web.

Curriculum Director

Manages the selection and development of the ministry curriculum.

Contact: HRinfo@iteeg.org

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