SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM

But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. ~Matthew 6:33

2)

Recent Events

5)

This past month has been incredibly busy for us, both in our office work and in our personal lives. The great news is

that we have pictures for many of the personal events! :) Here's just a sampling of what we've been doing outside of the office...













1) On the one-year anniversary of our first date, we celebrated by going back to the same location: the bluebonnet fields of Ennis, Texas. 2) For GFA's 4th annual Hog Slog, we dressed as national missionaries - Roberesh and Rebita. Some brown skin paint and black hair spray made a huge difference in our appearance! 3) It's common in Asia for multiple people to ride on the same bike, so that's how we chose to arrive at the registration table. 4) Racing toward the finish line after braving the infamous "mud pit". 5) We spent a weekend camping at the Wichita Wildlife Refuge in Oklahoma, and enjoyed scrambling around on some amazing rock formations. Here we are on a stone "bridge" 6) Rebecca's major accomplishment: scaling this huge boulder. 7) One hike we took led us to several "caves" formed by piles of rocks that have fallen off the mountainside.

The work in IT moves forward

We've crossed a few major hurdles in IT, but still have many projects in the queue for the next few months. Thank you for praying: the StudioEnterprise (SE) upgrade we did in April was the best we've ever had!

The first week of May a

portion of us in IT

DonorDirect conference.
DonorDirect is the
company that wrote and
supports the SE software.
The conference was very
useful and informative
on multiple levels. In the
training sessions we
learned more about how
to work with some of
SE's new functionality,

attended the annual

and outside of the sessions (during lunch and break times) we had the opportunity to talk with other ministries about how they are using SE.

Now we are looking ahead to what comes next. These projects are rather technical, but here are a few of them you can be praying for:

- •Moving our servers to the cloud
- •Migrating our New Zealand office's data from their current database to SE
- •Switching to a new version of CRM (built into SE, instead of having separate software)

BRIDGE OF HOPE

GFA's Bridge of Hope program, launched in 2004, enables thousands of under-privileged children in Asia to receive an education and escape the cycle of poverty that devastates so many families. More than that, these kids get to hear about Christ and experience His love for them.

We are privileged to support 4 of these precious children. For \$35 a month, we're able to provide school materials, a daily nutritious meal, and medical care to three little boys and one girl in South Asian countries. In this newsletter we wanted to highlight one of them - Piyush, from the state of Uttar Pradesh in India.

Uttar Pradesh (UP): a quick look



UTTAR PRADESH UP is the largest state in India, and if it were to be split off on its own it would be the 5th most populous country in the world. There are 203 million people who call UP home - which means there are about 2,140 people per square mile. To put that in perspective, think about this: UP has 3% of the land mass of the contiguous United States, but with almost 64% of the population! Hinduism is the main religion of UP, at 81%; it is less than 1%

Christian. Because it is home to the world-famous Taj Mahal, this area is a highly popular tourist destination. But over 33% of the people who live here are below the poverty line, and many face challenges from lack of infrastructure, limited health care facilities, and overcrowded cities. GFA ministers to these needy people in many ways, including helping children and families through Bridge of Hope.

> Part of the Bridge of Hope program includes corresponding with the child you are supporting by writing letters. Here is one that Piyush recently sent to us (his original spelling and punctuation maintained).



Piuush Born June 4, 2001

Dear Rob and Rebecca,

STREET, STREET

Greeting to you in the name of Jesus Christ. I am very fine with my fainly, I hope you also will be fine there. with your fainly. I come to B.O.H. project every day. I am doing well in my project center. I obey my teacher and parents also It is winter season is going on here. I like study English and math. I go to church every Sunday with my parents. I participeted in every B.O.H. programe please pray for my study and good future life. I will pray for you and your fainly by happy there.

Yours lovingly Piyush

Last year Piyush participated in the annual Colors of Hope drawing and painting competition. We didn't learn the results of who won, but we did receive Piyush's piece of original artwork! All the students who enter the competition get to choose from 7 themes for their artwork, and Piyush chose "My Bridge of Hope Center."

BRIDGE OF HOPA

There are over 75 thousand children currently enrolled in the Bridge of Hope program. Many of them still need sponsors - families and individuals who will support them, pray for them, and write to them. Will you be one of these sponsors? http://www.gfa.org/sponsorachild/

In Christ, Rob and Rebecca