

Servant Leadership Ministries

Teaching Servant Leadership to Leaders around the world!
Spring/Easter 2012 A 501 (c)(3) non-profit corporation

Volume XVII

SLM Seminar in Siliguri, India

February 28–March 12, 2012

Dr. Frank Deena

SLM is going and sending workers to critical regions of the world to expand the Kingdom of God there because the time is short, and there is a window of opportunity. "We must work the works of Him who sent me, as long as it is day; night is coming, when no man can work" (John 9:4). India is the Gateway to Asia, but closing (several states passed

Asia: From India to Nepal, Tibet, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Burma, Cambodia, Thailand, Sri Lanka, China, & other nations in 10/40(70) Window



anti-conversion laws, India introduced new immigration laws, and there is an increase in persecution to Christians). SLM Asia has teamed up with Sonam's Apostolic Outreach Ministry to expand the Kingdom of God in this hostile and needy region (nations include: India, Nepal, Bhutan, Tibet, China, Cambodia, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Myanmar (Burma).

Report on the Spring 2012 SLM Seminar in Asia:

On this trip I assembled a strong team of six (3 from USA—Frank and Debbie Deena and Pastor Tad Thaddeus), and (3 from India—Pastors Vachan Bhandari, Vidush Bhandari, and Samuel Francis) to encourage, empower, strengthen, support, and further train and equip some 80 Key Pastors/Leaders for service in this critical region of the world (Eph. 4:11-12).



On Saturday, March 3, we had our **first women seminar** 35-45 women (some stranded in Nepal due to strike. Debbie was well received as she ministered, along with Bhanu), to the women on spiritual, physical, emotional, and social health. She also gave each family a skin care package and medications. At the same time, the first SLM Advisory Board Meeting took place. Present were Frank, Sonam, Tad, Vidush, Vachan, and Sam.



Top: Some Pastors at the SLM Seminar 2012—Last Day



Bottom: Pastors eating lunch at the SLM Seminar 2012



Our week of Seminar went very well. Our teaching sessions went all day and into the nights. About 80 Pastors from Several states in India, and from Nepal, and Bhutan were present. We also secured the purchase of an additional piece of prime land for the Training Center for Asia (like we did in Nigeria for West Africa).

In five years of working with the SLM group in this region, we now have **32 churches, 15 in India, 15 in Nepal, and 2 in Bhutan, schools, orphanages, and farm.**



Top Left: Pastors Vishnu, Sam, Frank, Ted, Yachan, and Sam. Bottom Left: Sonam about to baptize some Believers after the SLM Seminar 2012. Top Right: Dairy Farm. Bottom Right: Sonam looking at the construction of the school in Nepal

“The Story of Sonam” by Pastor Sam Francis (Bhopal, India)

Pastor Jigme Sonam Bhutia comes from a Buddhist family in Sikkim, India. His father was a monk and he was also being raised as a monk. He has one elder sister and four younger sisters. He worked in different places like Government printing press, Medicinal plant business etc. In doing Medicinal plant business, Bhanu’s (his wife) brother was his partner and so he met Bhanu. She was a worshipper of **Sai Baba**. His mother and father did not agree for the marriage, but they got married. Both of them

started to teach in a school run by a pastor of CNI church who was very close to the king of Sikkim, where they started to know about Christianity and Jesus Christ. (Below: Sonam & Bhanu Butia—Asia)



They were in the school and started doing the medicinal plant business, and in 1997 their first son was born.

One day a vision was shown to him in which Sonam saw a white light from the open sky and Jesus showed up with his love towards him. They went back to the school and gave their testimony to the pastor, so on 9th April the pastor led them to accept Jesus as their personal Savior.

In October 1997 they were filled with Holy Spirit. In 1999 when they were praying they were led to join the Bible College run by Rev. Skinner in Shillong. There was a school where Sonam’s wife Bhanu started to work so they were able to raise funds for their family.

Soman started a Hindi fellowship when he was doing his Bible course. Pastor Skinner started supporting him for the ministry. In 2003 Soman was ordained during these days Assam work also started. Bhutia people group was in his heart so he told Pastor Skinner about that burden. In 2005 he came to Siliguri and started to do ministry; his heart was to raise indigenous missionaries. Presently they have 15 churches in Nepal, 15 in India, and two in Bhutan, 32 churches all over.

In 2007 Servant Leadership Ministry (SLM) started to relate with Sonam’s “Apostolic Outreach Ministry.” Almost all the believers that are coming are converts. There were seven camps for the Nepalese refugees from Bhutan who were staying in Nepal. AOM started to do ministry amongst these refugees so many accepted Jesus as their Lord (over 1,000). Many of the Bhutanese Refugees were shifted

to US, UK, and other places in Europe, by United Nations. Many of these believers abroad have formed AOM churches globally.

It is Sonam's vision to bring believers (lay leaders) every 3-4 months, train them and send them back to start planting churches all over. Hundreds of churches will be planted in Bhutan, which is the darkest nation of the world regarding the light of the gospel. For this work a special curriculum has to be developed. End.

Dear Brothers,

Many thanks for the fellowship at Siliguri. I was richly blessed by your presence and fellowship. It was for the first time that I met Sonam and family I found them to be consistently pleasant, tackling all assignments with dedication and a smile. Besides being a joy to work with, Sonam is a take-charge person who is able to present creative ideas and communicate the benefits of the kingdom of our Father God. He has successfully developed several plans for the extension of His kingdom that have resulted in increased number of souls drawn. We will see an increase in the number of congregations. The training will help him and his men to develop to the level of making disciples of all nations. Sonam and Bhanu are also extraordinarily helpful in other areas of the ministry. In addition to coordinating a well organized SLM seminar for many pastors from different regions, Sonam assumed a leadership role in inspiring and motivating other fellow workers; he is a team player, and my heart goes out for these gifts that the Lord has kept inside him.

**Yours in His Vineyard,
Samuel B. Francis.**

Reflection on the SLM Seminar- 5th-9th March 2012

Dear Dr. Deena,

First of all I must say that it was a blessing for me to be a part of SLM training seminar in Siliguri from 5th to 9th of March, 2012. The leadership teachings given by you from the book of Nehemiah and pastor Tad's exposition of the "Kingdom Principles" from Matthew chapters 5, 6, & 7 were very well prepared and presented. They were simple, clear, and easy to follow and understand by anyone, including untrained pastors and lay leaders.

Pastor Sonam's hard work in planning, organizing, coordinating and directing the seminar is commendable. Under his able leadership the

meetings went on smoothly and all the arrangements were perfect. I believe that all the participants must have had a very comfortable stay in the retreat centre. . . . Thank you for allowing me to be a part of SLM training program.

**Yours in Him,
Rev. Vidush Bhandari**

A SPECIAL & UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO BE INVOLVED IN TAKING THE GOSPEL TO THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD!!! (SLM IN AFRICA)

We need your urgent prayer and financial support for the Seminar in Ghana this month and the one in Togo next month. We thought about cancelling these two seminars because SLM has very little money. But we could not because SLM Directors in Africa had already started advertisement and registration. Please pray and give so that we may

2012 Seminars

ASIA (India & Nepal):

✚ March 5-9 and October 8-12.

AFRICA (Ghana & Togo):

✚ Ghana: April 30-May 4 and fall.

✚ Togo: May 7-18 and fall.

USA (Bhutanese Refugees Diaspora):

✚ October.

(If anyone is interested in any of these trips, please call or email Frank Deena (252-258-4277)

deenas@ecu.edu **Household & Church Items, plus a Van are needed by our Bhutanese Brothers and Sisters in the USA to help them settle and advance God's Kingdom!!!**

cover our seminars in Ghana and Togo. **Jasper** has agreed to have one week this time (**April 30-May 4**). Ghana has about 30 to 40 ready for the seminar, and approximately 15 Pastors who have completed one plus years of the three year program (including **Theo from Togo** and **Mike in Ghana**), and they will have a **graduation** next year (2013), followed by a bigger graduation in 2014. Teachers will include **Andrew Husbands (USA)**, **Theo (Togo)**, and a **Pastor from Ghana**.

Special thanks to founder John McGeorge, SLM Board, & all the SLM Directors!!!



**Nigeria,
Ghana, &
Togo as bases
then Benin,
Liberia,
Burkina Faso
South Africa,
Sierra Leone,
Mali, Niger, &
Zambia.
10/40(70)
Window**

He ends the book with a one-year challenge:

1. **Pray for the entire world.** Get an aid such as *Operation World* and literally begin praying for everywhere around the world in this one year. You'll be amazed, he says, at the way prayer opens our hearts and minds. Jesus asked his disciples to pray not for the poor and the sick, but for the people who would go to them. He wants us to pray for people to go to the countries you will learn about. Great family project.
2. **Read through the entire Bible in one year.** "We have settled for far too long for "Bible lite," both as individual Christians and in the community of faith. We have adopted a Christianity consumed with little devotional thoughts from God for the day..." Imagine the power of praying around the world and reading the Word for an entire year! Do you think you would be transformed at the end of that year?
3. **Sacrifice your money for a specific purpose.** Pick a concrete project and devote every dollar you can to it for one year. Set a cap on your lifestyle for this one year and get involved with changing your world personally through your giving.
4. **Spend your time in another context.** This is the one we're all afraid of, isn't it. Go. We have to change our context and go. He suggests that if we could just give 2% of our time (roughly one week) to changing our context and bringing the Gospel to the world, it would revolutionize the other 98% of our time.
5. **Commit your life to multiplying community.** Find a place within your body of believers to make disciples and support each other. "If the radical, simple living we see Jesus talking about were more common in the church, it would be much easier for us to live simply as well...give liberally, go urgently and live dangerously together." By Marla.

Togo's dates are May 7-18, 2012. Togo will provide financial support for one week, and SLM for the other week. Teachers will include: Joseph (Burkina Faso), Jacques (Togo), Nissi (Nigeria), Jasper (Ghana), JC and Heidi (USA).



Book Review: *Radical* by David Platt by Marla on May 12, 2010

"There is a longing inside us—if we are honest—to discover that life is about more than it seems. I'm not willing to believe that life revolves around our next vacation, our next goal, the next

business meeting. Are you? If you are about ready to go on a quest for that deeper meaning, then pause long enough to read the new book *Radical*, by David Platt. But be forewarned: it will mess with your mind and maybe even your life.

David gives us glimpses into people whose hearts and lives are sold out in radical devotion to Christ. Sometimes those people do crazy, counter-cultural things like living **BELOW** their income so they can give away more for the causes in the kingdom that stir their hearts and minds. Sometimes they actually sell it all and move. Sometimes — more often — they reorient their lives so that their values and their energy and their time all work toward the kingdom, rather than creating conflicting values in our day to day life. But it takes courage to step out of the rat race and choose a new path."

Happy belated Easter!! May Christ enter the unreached peoples of the world through our prayer, giving, going, sacrifice, and effort!!

I have read this book, and it has really impacted my life as **URBANA** did to me in 1984 and 1987. On this trip to India, I donated several copies to some of the key Pastors like Sonam, Sam, Vidush, Vachan, and Roma. Thanks to Reimage Church for their generous donation. Recently, I have had the question whether I should give the money to the people in Asia, Africa, and South America, or whether I should continue to make the sacrifice to travel? **HE ANSWERED MY QUESTION ON PAGES 197-198. ENJOY AND SHARE!!**