



Beyond Tears WORLDWIDE

March, 2023

Quarterly Newsletter

015

WHAT ARE WE ABOUT?

Reflections by Jay

Lingshed Gumpa (Monastery) is in the village of Lingshed. This village has been inhabited for over a 1,000-year history. In a very real sense, one is going back in time. The monastery is at the center of what historically was a hunting town that exists today is one of several that have existed in the same area since the 15th century. It is a Tibetan Buddhist monastery. Since 1994, a center of religious worship called, "The Jangchub Tensung Dorje Center," leaders who are incarnations of previous leaders lead the next generation and teach the focus of their religious life and rituals.

These names and incarnations mean very little to people from the West. This area carries a long and important religious history. In August, 2022, Lingshed was finally provided electricity connecting it to the national grid. However, the Lingshed Monastery was electrified by an organization called the Global Himalayan Expedition in August, 2016, through an extensive setup of solar microgrids.



WELCOME PROJECT 2023 = LINGSHED

These people have a strong historical, genetic, regional religious and cultural connection. Only the Holy Spirit can change them.

Why is this background information necessary? We need to begin to pray earnestly for the project Beyond Tears Worldwide will be working on. These people have not heard of God's love for them in Jesus Christ. Their hearts tick according to a whole



different set of beats. We reach out to them in love and serve them as Jesus came to serve; sacrificially. As in all areas of spiritual life the battle is in the heavenlies. We struggle not against flesh and blood. We do not know what God has in store for the lives of these people. We go out in obedience as Jesus has commanded us to go...

What have we been commissioned to do? Here is the Great Commission as recorded in Mark 16:15-16 "He said to them, Go into all the world and preach the Gospel to all creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned." It is as simple as that. Who did Jesus give this commission to? Of course, Eleven of his Disciples.

WHY DO WE GO?

Jesus had appeared to them after His resurrection. Jesus was giving the commission to a small but powerful group of His closest most dedicated and most loyal followers, right?

Read Mark 16:14 "Later, as they were eating, Jesus appeared to the Eleven and rebuked them for unbelief and hardness of heart, because they did not believe those who had seen Him after He had risen." After seeing and hearing Jesus, they were changed in their hearts and minds. The transformation of those weak, unbelieving Eleven, was complete. They became men with a purpose of establishing a heavenly spiritual world. These Eleven men so changed by their experience of the resurrected Christ and the Gospel WENT OUT! They picked up the command. Go! A command form of a verb. Jesus said it is time for ACTION! They went out in power!

They also died terrible deaths as martyrs. Weak powerless people do not die martyrs. They run and hide and deny their faith.

They were not to be concerned about the outcome. Jesus did not say, go into all the world and many will accept me, and a great religious following will rise. No, they were required to be obedient not knowing what would happen, if anything!

WE STEP OUT IN OBEDIENCE! We don't know what will happen. It is not our responsibility to know, we are only told to fulfil the commission....to go. Will you go? Lou Felo, our founder, said service was at the heart of what we do.

He expressed it like this, “We go, we serve, and sometimes we get the chance to speak.” I cannot repeat his words enough times.

We don't speak their language. The students' study in English. Many of the teachers speak English. We use English/India curriculum to find a way to connect. Additionally, we sacrificially live before these people for a week or so and we trust the power of the Holy Spirit to prepare the hearts to receive. By the foolishness of preaching...By living out Christ's example as we go, we fulfill the commission of Jesus as His followers.

Wow! God calls us to work with Him! We are His hands and feet! He trusts us with His salvation message. Exciting! Amazing! Beautiful! So blessed!

REFLECTIONS by Dave

In 1951, a man and his wife embarked from the United States of America on an exciting yet challenging adventure, becoming missionaries to India. They traveled halfway around the world to help improve the living conditions for the people of India. As a civil sanitary engineer he was involved in many construction projects and promoting public health initiatives for clean water and sanitation. He also became a professor to medical students at the Ludhiana Medical Hospital. That person was my father.

I was born and raised in India. Life and the conditions of the Indian people were always in front of my brother, sister, and myself as we grew up there. Most of those people didn't have a lot of material, and education was minimal for them. For those in remote rural areas, life was a daily struggle.

After serving on the mission field for 16 years, my parents returned permanently to the US. Still my dad was involved in helping around the world.

Years later, the church I was attending started to support a radical missionary who would go into

areas of great need—places torn apart by war, others where humanitarian aid was badly needed, or natural disaster recovery was on-going. This individual was Lou Felo, one of the founders of Beyond Tears Worldwide. When I was asked to consider going on one of his short mission trips to India in the Ladakh area, I felt led to go. I was excited to return to an area that was northwest of the hill area school I attended as a kid. The idea of helping a school with some needs so that they could receive a better education in that remote mountainous area intrigued me.

In 2015 a small team traveled to the little village of Digger in the remote region of Ladakh. The goals were to put a roof on the small school's administration building and do some activities with the students there. This roof was construction of corrugated steel sheets that covered a hard dirt roof which would develop holes in it at times. The village community rallied to provide construction blocks and mortar, lift supplies onto the roof, help to cut lumber, and put the roof in place. We worked side by side with the villagers to build the framework for the roof and then nail the steel sheets in place. It was challenging to cut some of the wood which was done by hand saws or when power was available with a small circular saw. Although the students had some time off, some of the team had opportunities to interact with them. The students were curious as to what was being done in building the roof.

These remote areas are where Nomadic people live. Life is hard and the land very arid and harsh. Many are herders of sheep, goats, cows, yaks and donkeys. During the warmer months they move up into the higher elevations to feed their flocks often moving from one location to another after several weeks in an area. One way that the children

can improve their lives is by getting a good education and moving to a larger town or city.

It was rewarding to know improving the school's facilities will help educate those wonderful curious children. There is a brighter future for them.

PRAYER REQUESTS

1. For the volunteers on Project Welcome Lingshed 2023.
2. For the financial resources to pay for project materials.
3. For the K-12 school we will go to, the students, teachers and administration.
4. For the Ledakhi and Nepali guides who will lead us.
5. For some interested volunteers who are facing job loss.
6. For the churches that support BTW projects.
7. Pray and ask God to have His way in and through us.

GIVING TO THE WORK OF BTW

Checks may be send to:

Beyond Tears Worldwide
Bob Miles, Treasurer
32 Shute Farms Lane
Clarksboro, NJ 08020 USA

You can also give via Subsplash by going to our website and selecting “donate.” Follow the simple instructions; but if you need help, contact Bob Miles - rmiles559@comcast.net.

We are a registered 501(c)3 non-profit organization so your gifts are tax-deductible.

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WWW.BEYONDTEARSWORLDWIDE.COM