

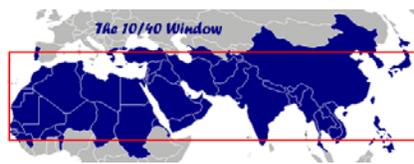
Sunday, December 10, 2017
Did You Know?

Bihar, India



By God's grace our church has been living out our vision statement to *lead peoples near and far to become devoted followers of Jesus Christ*. Our church plant in St. James Town is an example of the "near" part of our vision. Our commitments to KG, Cambodia and Mexico are examples of the "far" part our vision. We are happy to announce that the Session of the church has approved to adopt the state of Bihar, India as our next area of missions focus. Why did we do this and why is it important?

We did this to fulfill our God given mandate to make disciples of all nations (Matthew 28:19). When we look at the world in which we live, the major non-Christian religions are Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism and atheism (or secularism). The area of the world in which these major religions exist is called the 10/40 Window. This is a rectangular area, which spans west to east from Africa to Asia, and south to north from 10 degrees north latitude to 40 degrees north latitude. 5 billion people live in this window and 60% are considered unreached. To be unreached means that there are less than 2% evangelical Christians within the population.



Our church is doing missions in KG, a Muslim country, Cambodia which is Buddhist; India which is Hindu, and Canada which can be viewed as secular. With our new focus on Bihar, our church will be engaged in reaching all four of the major non-Christian religions.

The last time we adopted a people group was in 1997 with the KG. What does it mean to adopt? Adoption of peoples borrows the language from adopting children. A church like ours takes upon itself the commitment and responsibility to adopt an unreached group of peoples, like the ones in Bihar, until they become reached.

What does this adoption mean for us specifically?

1. We will conduct an adoption service on February 25, 2018.
2. We will teach about the state of Gospel work in Bihar.
3. We will continue sending short-term teams to Bihar.
4. We plan on sending a missionary family to Bihar in the not too distant future.
5. Bihar will become a more focused part of our church's prayers.
6. We plan to increase our financial commitments to missionary partners in Bihar.

As a member of City on a Hill, you can thank God for giving us this opportunity to serve Bihar. Begin to pray for the spread of the Gospel in Bihar. Commit to increase your financial giving for this new missions endeavor.

In the weeks to come, this column will get us up-to-speed on all things related to Bihar.

Soli Deo Gloria
Pastor Peter