
Sunday, December 31, 2017
Did You Know?

About Pastor Biju Thomas & TIM Centre

In order to further our endeavors in Bihar, CoaH will be intentionally partnering with Pastor Biju Thomas who is the founder and president of TIM (Transformation India Movement). Our partnership with Pastor Biju started in 2010 at the Lausanne Conference which took place in Cape Town, South Africa. A short conversation that took place between Pastor Peter and Pastor Biju resulted in the sending of a short term mission team every year since 2013. This year (July, 2017) was very special because a number of elders and deacons went on a vision trip to Bihar -- and through it, the leadership decided that CoaH would be officially adopting the state of Bihar (read Dec. 10/17 *Did You Know* for more information on what it means to adopt a peoples group).

Pastor Biju Thomas grew up in the Christian state of Kerala, India. When he received a calling from God to minister to the people of Bihar in 2002, he moved with his family (Margaret, Christine, and Nathan) to Patna (the capital city of Bihar) and has since devoted his life there, which is how TIM ministry was birthed.

TIM holds this vision: *"We see a day when every person in every village in northern India hears and is transformed by the Gospel and feels compelled to share it with others. Our desire is to accomplish this by engaging in holistic community development."*

The root meaning of the word *holistic* is "whole," from the Greek *holos*. We, as Christians, recognize that the world is broken and incomplete – falling far short of the glory God intended at the creation. Through holistic ministry, TIM aims to respond to the world's brokenness by proclaiming and modeling the joy of a right relationship with God in Christ, and participating in the ongoing Kingdom work of personal and social restoration – as Christ is making us whole, God's Spirit works through us to bring wholeness to others.

This means that TIM will model God's concern for the total well-being of persons and communities. This means that TIM will live out an incarnational lifestyle of integrity, compassion, and invitation. This means that TIM will share the good news both for this life and for the life after death. Here is a summary of the ministries within which TIM is involved in Bihar:

- Church planting
- Pastor's training
- Literacy training
- The Ray of Hope Mercy Home (orphanage)
- Build wells to provide clean drinking water
- Sewing school for women
- Medical clinics

CoaH will be partnering with Pastor Biju and TIM to effectively bring the good news to the people of Bihar. Jesus said,

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age" (Matt. 28:18-20).

J. Hudson Taylor once said, **"The Great Commission is not an option to be considered; it is a command to be obeyed."** It's time to obey.

Pastor Woohyun Jung