

A DEFINING MOMENT

Touching the Nations for Christ



Discipleship Training

India: World Impact Discipleship

*We all, with unveiled faces, are reflecting
the glory of the Lord and are being transformed into the same image
from glory to glory; this from the Lord who is the Spirit.*

2 Corinthians 3:18

NEED

With a population of 1,129,866,154 (2007), India has 16% of the world's population. By 2050, India is expected to be the most populated country in the world. However, according to Light of the World Ministry, there are 356 different evangelical denominations with 97,796 congregations with a membership of 16,261,192. Less than 29% of the population has accepted Jesus Christ as personal Savior.

SOLUTION

At its core, biblical discipleship leads us to invest ourselves in others, just like Jesus did with His disciples. LifeWay's desire is to see individuals and churches in India spiritually transformed to the extent that the entire culture is influenced and changed by people who reflect the characteristics of Jesus Christ—His disciples.

Although there is some opposition to the evangelical movement, India is considered to be the world's largest democracy. Currently there is freedom to work as God leads. In fact, in just five mission trips, LifeWay mission teams have seen 16,374 professions of faith and have planted many churches.

The purpose of this project is to facilitate a biblical process of making disciples that the evangelical churches in India can implement and sustain. Understanding the restrictions that exist, but knowing the enthusiasm for Christ when presented with the gospel, this project will provide a model for discipleship training that will transform the church in India.

GOALS

- Create a five-year strategic plan.
- Train 500 writers.
- Train 1,500 teachers (fundamentals of age group teaching).
- Train 12,000 teachers and leaders in Ongoing Open Bible Study.
- Train 4,000 pastors and leaders in Progressive Spiritual Transformational Discipleship.
- Train 12,000 church members in Progressive Spiritual Transformational Discipleship.
- Have strong churches in India that are reaching the lost, making a positive impact in Indian society, and are training others.
- Growing individuals toward a better understanding of Christ, their world, and the Lord's role in their life.
- Encourage healthy and biblically honored relationships.
- Increase the resources and capabilities of Christ-followers to be more effective "Kingdom-builders."

METHODOLOGY

Establish a biblical process of making disciples in India that is supported by the Baptist churches and the broader evangelical community. The process will require resources to be printed locally or regionally, so that the majority of the people in the churches can afford to purchase and use them.

This project consists of four parts

1. Strategic Planning

The project strategic planning team will be composed of those with expertise in strategic planning, finance, sales & marketing and representatives from LifeWay International. In conjunction with other partners, the team will establish a strategic plan and discipleship model which leads to a multiplying biblical discipleship process that is self-supporting and supplied by local printing.

2. Writer & Teacher training

LifeWay will annually send teams to conduct workshops in four strategic regions in India. The focus will be effective teaching for Preschool, Children, Youth and Adults. The training content will focus on learning processes for each age group, learning goals, age group teaching methods aimed at achieving the learning goals and India contextualization of the teaching methods. The anticipated numbers to be trained through the project is 500 writers and 1,500 teachers.

3. Ongoing Open Bible Study

Help provide low cost, systematic Bible study curriculum and training that provides sound biblical doctrine and supports on-going evangelism, assimilation and the discipleship process. LifeWay will send teams to provide workshops in eight select regions a year. Forty workshops will be conducted, reaching an estimated 12,000 people.

4. Biblical Discipleship Process

Provide training and resources that help leaders capture the heart commitment to an ongoing, biblical process of making disciples in their church. Teams will conduct clinics for pastors and leaders focusing on the biblical principles in each of the resources. The participants will be expected to evaluate their ministries in light of the biblical principles, then create and commit to a written plan based on the biblical principles. The anticipated number to be trained is 4,000.

EVALUATION

The integrity of the project will be based on the success of completing the strategic planning component. Throughout the five-year project, local leaders and LifeWay team members will review the four part process every six months to determine progress toward the initial numerical goals. As needed, adjustments to the goals will be made as local conditions warrant.

FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

Strategic Ministry Planning	\$140,000
Writer and Teacher Training	\$200,000
Ongoing Open Bible Study	\$412,785
Pastors & Leaders	\$114,320
Discipleship Process	\$703,080
Staff & Office Cost	\$350,000
Contingency (5%)	<u>\$ 78,250</u>
Five-Year Total	\$1,998,435