



In the frequency of my international travels, I experience so many things that are so different to our day to day lives in the United States. So much of it is impossible to describe adequately with words. There are sights, smells, and events that just go beyond what we consider normal. Some are humorous to the point of laugh out loud funny, and the other spectrum of heart breaking in the face of broken humanity.

This week in Ohio we have temperatures that are very typical for India. These 90- and 100-degree days of high humidity are exactly what it feels like most of the time. The traffic, if observed from above, is like a swarm of ants that seemingly move in mass without incidence. Riding in a motor rickshaw, (the yellow and black three wheeled vehicles) you are inches from the wheels of buses, trucks, and motorcycles who zip by as they weave in between cars, stirring up the dust with a swirl of the smell of hot brakes and the street vendors food fragrances with a light whiff of sewage from the open drainage at the side of the road.

Thankfully the commute to class is very short so the journey is not unbearable. On longer travel my hosts have normal motor cars that are quite comfortable with air conditioning, however I quickly learned to not engage with the drive. It is better not to pay any attention to what is best described as a game of chicken - that is who will give up first no matter if you are going the same direction or oncoming traffic. There is an incessant sound of honking horns, I don't know if it is to warn others off or simply an aid to others regarding the proximity of your car to theirs.

The students I am teaching in Mumbai are mixed with some being resident students who are only attending classes and others who are coming after a full day of work. The students that I teach in Coimbatore are all residents with classes being held in the morning only. Other practicums are given to them for further training in the afternoon.

I always enjoy great fellowship with my Coimbatore hosts Manju and Joy Redefiner over one of favored Indian dishes the Veg Tali.

The mission however is not about the difference in environment or culture but the gospel that is relevant and powerful no matter where we go with it, the power of God unto salvation is being revealed.



***Together we are reaching the four corners of the earth with the light of the gospel!***

#### **PLEASE CONSIDER PARTNERSHIP WITH US IN THE POWER OF GOD'S PURPOSE!**

Over the past 35 years, Steve and Cindy Shoop have invested their lives in ministering the Gospel of Jesus as missionaries. Their passion for helping people has provided them with the opportunity to serve in a variety of ministry positions, as well as the privilege of living in three different countries in Africa. Today, Steve and Cindy reside in the state of Ohio after living 25 years in southern Africa. Steve continues to express his gift in ministry both in the United States and the nations of the world. Steve has a passion in developing leaders who are established in God's love, grace and peace that comes through the righteousness of faith. Gospel Training International's vision is found in their ministry slogan,



**"TRAINING FOR LIFE, TRAINING FOR MINISTRY".**

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