

The first leg of the first visit to India for 2024 began in Mumbai before traveling onward to Coimbatore to complete the second leg of my journey.

It is an unfortunate, but a little published fact is that Christians are being persecuted throughout India. There is a concerted effort by the current government to make the Hindu region the national religion. India is very diverse in culture, language and religion.

As a point of clarity, our faith in Jesus should actually stand apart from religion which is one of the reasons that Christianity has not had the impact that it should have. Religion is man's efforts to find acceptance, blessing, and forgiveness through what they do and or do not do. True Christianity is our receiving the finished work of Jesus that provides to us the gift of our righteousness independent of our efforts.

This in no way removes our personal responsibility to respond to what grace has provided and thereby to receive the empowerment of that grace to live our faith. One of the core subjects that I teach is "Righteousness" - this is essentially what is often referred to as the Pauline revelation. The epistles of Romans and Galatians are the most complete and thorough scriptural dissertations of this revelation. The foreshadowing of this work is found throughout the Old Testament. The light and clarity of its revelation is found in the New Testament. Paul was God's chosen vessel to provide to us the understanding of what we see Jesus fulfilling in His life and ministry as recorded in the four gospels.

Thank God for His tremendous gift of this righteousness that we now have to stand in the presence of God without a sense of guilt, shame or inferiority. It is as just as if we had never sinned. It is impossible to embrace this truth without knowing the fullness of the gospel. Our righteousness is revealed to us in the reality of Jesus' sinless life, the perfect sacrifice of receiving the punishment for the sin of the entire world, past, present, and future. When the demands of the justice of the Holy and Righteousness of a perfect God was satisfied, Jesus was raised from the dead for our justification.

When we put our faith in this and receive His lordship as His purchased possession, we experience what Jesus described as the "New Birth" or being born again. What an amazing grace we have received. I am honored to be called by God and partnered with people to teach this message around this world.

## 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.



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".

GOSPEL TRAINING INTERNATIONAL P.O. BOX 506, GREENVILLE, OHIO 45331