

Smith Family: Our Initial 5-year Ministry Plan

dated: **October 2014**

Vision: 300 new Christ-followers permanently rescued from the death-trap of Buddhism, working actively to reach their neighbors and other Buddhists for Christ

Goals:

- By 2019, identify and begin discipling six Buddhist families living in Northern India, as followers of Christ.
- By 2022, train these new believers to multiply themselves by planting 20 new indigenous house churches within three major unreached people groups.

Pre-Field

Prior to Our Current 5-Year Plan

- ✓ 1970s: Clearly discerned God's missionary call (John age 22, Beth age 8)
- ✓ 1970s: Began financially supporting two missionary families
- ✓ 1995: Attended "Perspectives on the World Christian Movement" and completed 9-month Bible survey course
- ✓ 1995-2003: Helped our church organize annual mission festivals
- ✓ 1995: First short-term mission to Haiti (Beth)
- ✓ 1996-2001: Five other short-term missions (Haiti, Russia, and 3 trips to India)

April 2012 to October 2014

🔑 **GOAL:** choose a sending agency and determine a general start-up plan for fulltime missions ministry

- ✓ APR 2012-NOV 2014: Explored four likely sending agencies; chose Converge Worldwide
- ✓ DEC 2013-MAR 2014: Supplied Converge with more than 4 dozen pages of missionary screening application materials
- ✓ MAR 2014: attended 3-day Converge "Missionary Assessment Center" (MAC) in Chicago IL; fully approved an official Converge Missionary Appointee
- ✓ SEP 2014: attended 3-day Converge "Missionary Deputation Partners (MPD "Focus") Orientation" in Orlando FL; began developing this Ministry Plan and other needed support-raising tools and training
- ✓ Successfully did this
- ✓ Successfully accomplished that
- ☐ Develop core weekly intercessory prayer team of 12 adults (6 couples from different Converge churches)
[note: just two more couples needed!!]
- ☐ Enroll in 3-credit graduate level missiology course

October 2014 to November 2015

🔑 **GOAL:** "work" our plan, enabling us to get to the mission field by December 2015

- ☐ Obtain monthly prayer commitments from at least 100 persons
[note: we have the first 35; just another 75 to go!!]

- ☐ Obtain monthly financial commitments for Converge's required 105% support level by October 15, 2015 (we need 90-100 financial supporting partners) **[note: we have the first 17; just another 80 or so to go!!]**
- ☐ JAN 2015-MAR 2015: Complete Converge's required Pre-Field Cross-Cultural Training (online; plus 8 days in Minneapolis MN) via ReachGlobal
- ☐ AUG 2015: Complete Converge's required Second Language Acquisition Training (11 days in Union Mills NC) via Center for Intercultural Training
- ✓ Meet in person with my Converge District Executive Minister (in Somewhere USA)
- ☐ APR 2015-JUN 2015: Planned MPD support-raising travel in Texas, Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, and Rhode Island
- ☐ Sell our large home and use equity to pay cash for a smaller home (to be used as rental property income when we're overseas; then as our home when back in the United States)
- ✓ Reduce our current family living expenses by 25% **[we actually accomplished this by late summer 2014!!]**
- ☐ Begin learning conversational Hindi & Tamil
- ☐ Something else
- ☐ And something-more else

On-Field

First Term: December 2015—December 2017

🔑 **GOAL:** *transition and acclimate our family to a new location, new home, new culture, new friends*

- ☐ 4-months intensive local language learning (Hindi)
- ☐ Spend time traveling throughout the cities and rural areas to learn first-hand about the people and culture, and to practice our Hindi
- ☐ Began identify families searching for something more than Buddhism is giving them; befriend these families
- ☐ Teach conversation French (Beth) and English (Beth & John) in local school settings as another avenue of meeting local people
- ☐ Re-connect with local ex-patriate and local Indian Christians we have already met on previous short-terms; determine ways to help their mission and evangelism efforts
- ☐ DEC 2017: Return to the United States December 2017 for 8-months of "home assignment," including preparation of a specific strategic ministry plan for Northern India for our second term (second term will run four full years)

Second Term: August 2018—July 2022

🔑 **GOAL:** *"work" our strategic ministry plan for Northern India, resulting in new followers of Christ who plant 20 new indigenous house churches*

(preparation of our specific strategic ministry plan for Northern India for this second term is scheduled to be developed with Converge leadership during our preceding "home assignment;" specific goals and objectives will be determined at that time)

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Financial Partnership Information:

On-line giving: <http://www.convergeworldwide.org/give/123456>

Giving by check: pay to: "Converge Worldwide" missionary account #123456
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