

India Quarterly

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Digging
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For the 2017 Kukatpally Training Work students the annual studies could not have had a better ending. Literally. A Saturday Love Feast. Each year a favorite dish, chicken biryani, is

served to the delight of students and teachers alike. Biryani is said to be an Urdu word. Some believe this Urdu word came from another Indian language, Persian, for rice or possibly related to the concept of frying rice, curry and chicken in large cooking vessels. Typically, the rice and meat (see meat below) are cooked separately, then layered into one large cooking vessel allowing the flavors from all the spices, vegetables



and chicken or lamb to coalesce together forming a wonderful main-course dish.

One of the other last day delights for the students is having their instructors serve the Love Feast meal to them. Edward Rouse and Paul Prajeev were the 2017 instructors. Armed with large serving bowls of chicken biryani, curry sauces and curds these two men (and a few of their assis-

stants) exhibited the spirit of Christ as he picked up a basin of water and a towel to wash the feet of his own disciples. Before

Saturday's Love Feast the final Friday is reserved as a day for reviewing and testing. The students are given an exam covering the material they have been taught the two previous weeks. Then as part of the closing Saturday ceremonies the "class toppers" are honored. This year Chit-tibabu from Velivolu in Krishna District was the topper. K. Umamaheshwara Rao secured the second highest score and Edward and Sarada's son, David Rouse, was the third highest class topper.



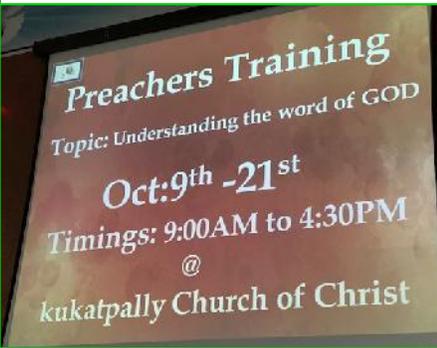
We have learned from our own past experiences at previous Kukatpally Training Works that Sister Sarada Rouse is the one who seems to keep everything organized and who makes sure there is plenty of food to satisfy the hungriest man in the crowd. Again this year Sister Rouse

and her group of church ladies prepared meals and tea times for the 65 students, plus the Christian Relief Fund Lampasas Cottage children in her own home. The task is always arduous in that these women provided three meals a day, plus a mid-morning tea and an afternoon snack and tea time. Napoleon is given credit for saying, "An army marches on its stomach." It would appear the same is true for a successful training work.

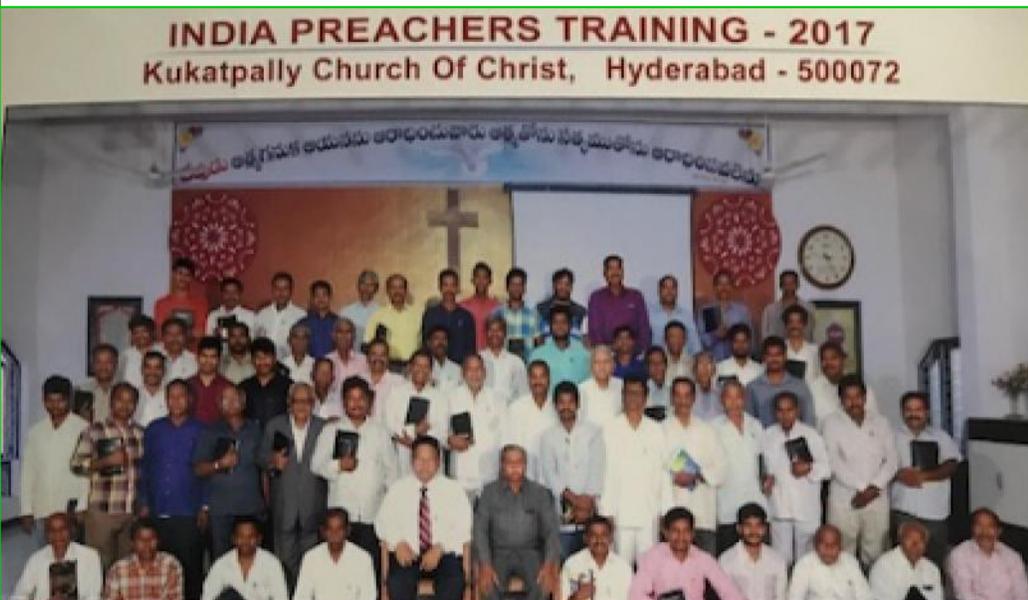
The 2017 Theme was *Understanding God's Word*. Brother Edward wrote saying



that many of the students had expressed their gratitude that this year's studies had deepened their understanding of the scriptures and had given them new study tools to know how to properly apply God's word. It is always encouraging to hear from the students at the end of these studies--that was especially true this year. It is gratifying to know this group of preachers returned home better prepared to help lead their home congregations to deeper, spiritual lives. Some of the individual topics for the two weeks included:



Understanding Symbolism in the Scriptures, Properly Applying Biblical Prophecies, How We Are Taught By Example, The Danger of Binding Opinions and The Value of Focusing on Christ.



(Left)
2017 Training Work
Group Picture

Visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yZ5onN0HNJ0> to see a video made at this year's training work.

Bryan Christmas
Larry Cash
Bill Adcox
Ray White
Robert Teague
David Kelley
Scott Gage
Dennis Gage

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