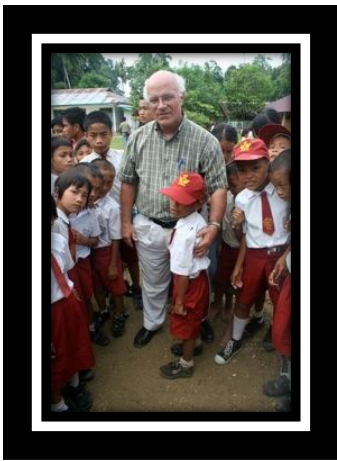


NIAS INDONESIA

REPORT

By Dennis Cady

September 2014



2014 Trip

Chuck Dennis and I returned from Nias July 16th. What a blessing to have lived long enough to see the fruits of 20 plus years of labor there. What has been accomplished is primarily because God has blessed what has been done but God works through people and so many who have supported the programs and a good number have physically gone to the island have played essential parts as have some fine Indonesian Christians who have been true co-workers.



Ocean Baptisms

During our time there, 19 were baptized into Christ in the Indian Ocean. The timing of these baptisms had nothing to do with our trip. As the work and workers mature, more and more things happen naturally as they

should. It is the dream of every missionary to work himself out of a job.....not so he can retire but so he is free to move on to another location. The work in Nias will need our financial help until Jesus comes back, but responsibilities are being more and more turned over to local brothers and sisters.



Village Church Leadership

The first church of Christ on Nias Island was established in 1974. When I got involved in 1994 there were 10 congregations. A new chapter started with the December 2004 tsunami and March 2005 8.7 earthquake. These created a period of great humanitarian need and spiritual receptivity. In 2005 there were 35 congregations. Today there are 86. Four new churches have been planted this year and there is hope 2 more will be in the near

future. Leadership of these churches is a challenge. Most recently they have been served by 8 circuit riding village preachers. We added a 9th during this trip.



Training Seminars

Training seminars are conducted periodically. The seminar that took place during this trip was attended by 29 men from 25 villages. Among them were 3 young men who had lived in our dormitories while going to high school and, have now ended their formal education. They are farmers but lead and serve the congregations where they live. Textual and topical lessons are taught as well as things like sermon preparation and song leading. This was the 29th such seminar. Things are deliberately basic and practical as many of these men have only completed elementary school. In some

cases they are the only ones in their congregation who are literate. They go home with a head full of knowledge, a heart renewed for service, and a bag of literature for further study. Colin McKee frequently comes from Alabama to participate as one of the teachers, as he did this time. We are very grateful.



Jochebed's Choice Children's Home

The 45 children who call Jochebed's Choice Children's Home their home continue to be blessed by sponsors which make their place possible. Dengue Fever is troubling Indonesia and other parts of Asia at this time and our kids have not escaped. At this writing several have been treated and two hospitalized. Two of "our kids" are now in high school. Next year 5 more will join them. Their bodies, minds, and souls are being fed. Twelve of the 19 baptized were from the children's home. The home was shaken a few months ago with the unexpected death of Bazarhudin Zalukhu, the on site director. Elison Zalukhu, previously a circuit riding preacher, has taken his place and things are going well again. It takes a special person to have the

right blend of firmness and gentleness in dealing with a family of 45 children, ages 4 to 16.



Vocational Courses

Motorcycle Repair

Benevolence is always needed in a developing country. We aren't big on hand outs. We are very big on helping people help themselves. Since my last trip a course in motorcycle repair has been added. The course is presently being offered for the 3rd time. Students are responsible for their own transportation and meals. We provide housing, free instruction, and send them home with a compressor, a tire repair tool and wrenches. We know of 4 of the previous 10 graduates who have started their own business.



Tailoring

The tailoring class continues to

be popular. Ten female students at a time receive training and, again, go home with things necessary to have a cottage industry. Some graduates now work in tailoring shops.

We offer computer classes as well, as a supplement to those presently in high school or college. They take the computer classes on the side.

Needs

Due to faithful regular supporters, an unsolicited gift from a friend of the work in Australia, partial college scholarships from friends in Singapore, and the securing of sponsors for all the children in the children's home and young people in the dormitories, present needs are minimal. The most pressing need is sponsorship for those in the motorcycle and tailoring courses. This includes the things we provide for them at the completion of the course. \$300 per student is needed. The students also have a daily Bible class and some obey the gospel during their time with us. If you can help us help others help themselves let us hear from you at the address below. Thank you so much for making what we do happen.

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