

# Pioneering

## A CITY CHURCH

Today, as I look back all I can say is He who called us is Faithful. He is Ebenezer – “Thus far the Lord has helped us” 1 Samuel 7:12. God brought alongside the right people at the right time to stand by us and be an encouragement. All we can say is “This is the Lord’s doing and it is marvelous in our eyes”.

The transition was difficult for us as we had come from a thriving, growing mega church to literally like a desert in North India. The spiritual atmosphere was that of a barren land. But in our hearts we knew God has called us to be transformers and through us God could transform Gurgaon.

by Pastor John Prakasam  
Senior Pastor - Gurgaon Church



“I have but one candle of life to burn and I would rather burn it out in a land filled with darkness than a land flooded with light”. -John Keith Falconer. These words inspired me and has been our driving force. I’ve heard Gurgaon and Delhi are some of the hardest places to plant a church and it has lived up to its reputations. Challenges and battles shook everything in our lives but we are still standing and advancing and marching on because of God’s grace.

Most Sundays it would have been amazing to have just ten people in church but we were not to be discouraged. Filled with determination I would prepare my sermon for them as though I were preaching to thousands. Over time God’s word and God’s presence began to draw people. My father would always say, ‘where the honey is, the bees will come’. It does not matter if you are in the desert land. If the presence of God is in your church and Jesus is lifted high, people will come. The 21st of August marked the third anniversary of the Gurgaon church, and we recorded the highest attendance ever with more than 150 people during our grand celebration.

People from all over the world have walked into our church which represents more than 10 different nations. During the celebration of our 2nd Church anniversary there was just one kid in our church but still we decided to start “Sunday School” for that one kid. God has rewarded our faithfulness and in just one year, our Sunday School now ministers to 15 kids. It’s the same with the choir and serving team that has grown substantially to 25! I feel overjoyed, seeing them serve every week, and it just makes me want to stand up and shout God’s goodness.





In our first year, at a time when we were renting everything from the microphone to the speaker, God challenged me to take an offering and sow into another North Indian church. Though we had so many needs of our own we decided to obey God's voice and took an offering and sowed into another Church. I believe its because of that seed, God has helped buy our own mixer, one of the best speakers, monitors mics and even a drumset. We are on the verge of buying a video projector.

One day as guests were coming home my wife informed me that the gas cylinder was empty, we did the only thing we knew. I laid my hands on the gas cylinder and prayed that it would not stop working. God heard our prayer and the cylinder lasted for more than ten days! Pioneering a church was hard on our finances not only for the church but also for

our family. Facing the next day was always a challenge to us but time and time again we saw the miraculous provisions of God.

I want to specially thank my parents Pastor David and Pastor Ketzia Prakasam the leaders of IPA and Bethel City Cathedral for standing with us and encouraging us in more ways than possible. We also want to thank our friends and family all over the world who have stood by our side and supported us with your love and prayers. Thank you we could not have done this without you.

*We are determined to see not just Gurgaon but the entire National Capital District and North India changed by the love of Jesus.*