

# TSUNAMI ORPHANS

see lives *transformed*



by JAMES S. EAGLES



ABOVE:  
Intercede's James Eagles (left) and Richard Krawczyk (right) visit tsunami orphans at the Sirkali Children's Home.



LEFT:  
A Tsunami orphan girl with a doll made by Intercede supporter Mrs. Wilma Saunders.

Founded by the pioneer missionary apostle, Dr. Job Gnanaprakasam (now almost 90 years old), **Tamil Christian Fellowship and Development** (based in Tamil Nadu state) is guided by a large team of dedicated missionaries who are taking the Gospel to almost every state in India and also in neighbouring Nepal.

The highlight for me was to visit the Sirkali Children's Home in Sirkali, a small fishing village on the southeast coast of India, where the great Asian tsunami struck on December 26, 2004--instantly killing tens of thousands of people.

I say "highlight" not because of the tragedy, but because of the many miracles that happened later, as millions of people around the globe responded to the crisis. In Canada our Intercede constituency also helped, in a two-year period, donating more than \$100,000 to the need—which was sent 100 percent in its entirety to Christian projects in India, Indonesia and Thailand. It was in India that \$50,000 of these tsunami funds were provided to build and support the orphan children of the Sirkali Children's Home. Twenty-eight children now are living full lives with Christian love, education and a place to call home. I had the immense honour of dedicating the building and the ministry to the Lord while I was there and the joy of seeing and meeting the children whose lives have been saved and transformed.

Earlier, we visited the large headquarters church in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu state. This is one of the larger churches in South India, with more than 2,000 members and a complex

capable of holding up to 3,000 people at one time. On the Sunday when we were there, we spoke at two Tamil-language services, one right after the other. There are also 10 services going on throughout each Sunday; some to Malayalam- (Kerala-)speaking groups and other services to Hindi- speaking, English-speaking congregants and still other special services for outreach groups and youth and children's classes.

Peter Prakasam, one of the founders' sons, and now one of the leaders of TCF, took us to visit the Bethel Leprosy Centre, the central churches in Coimbatore and Chennai, and their Bethel Bible College and Private Christian School and Children's Home.

Please pray for TCF's missionaries as they work among orphans and other physically and spiritually needy people in India.

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*For more information and quarterly Field Reports from this ministry, contact Intercede International mentioning this project code: 610TCF and the Orphanage code 610TCD.*

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