

INDIA

Dear praying friends and fellow laborers in Christ,

Sometimes it is hard to remember that we are trying to follow God's leading to a completely different country and culture while we are still in our own. It is very easy to get wrapped up in our own little world and forget about the souls around us. We strive to serve in our church as God gives opportunities such as leading a nursing home ministry and teaching Sunday school. Pastor graciously tries to give me a Wednesday night to preach at least once a month and this is enough to keep me busy. I am still working my "full-time" job (two, sixteen-hour days a week) and we are still working on establishing our house. Our plan to go to India this December for a few months has been interrupted by God. He decided to bless our family with another child due sometime in November. We are so excited to have another child, but it is also draining, especially to my wife, to have little ones climbing all over us. Please keep my wife and baby in your prayers so that God will allow a quick, safe, and relatively easy labor.

We have met with a few Godly men and their wives who are in ministry, to seek counsel from and garner ideas, encouragement, and advice for how to proceed. We are always striving not to get ahead of God; His plan and timing is always perfect. Hopefully in the next few months we will get some paperwork back so that we can get our passports. I am still hoping to take a trip to India this year, but am leaning on God to open those doors.

I understand that the standard operating procedure for "missionaries" these days are to surrender to a field, go to the prospected field on a survey trip, then come home and try to raise support for that perceived call. While there is nothing Biblically wrong – that I can find – with this procedure, I do not believe this is the direction God would have for us. I

believe that we can live meagerly in India (and still have plenty of money to minister to others) for around two thousand dollars a month. If God wants us to go to India, He will supply the way to get there. I am currently working on building our house on some land we have here in Oklahoma. I am hoping that by the time we are ready to go on extended evangelistic trips to India we will have at least one tiny house to turn into a short-term rental that will help produce a means of living abroad.

We realize that many missionaries are pulled to the cities and larger areas, but with both my and my wife's background in farming, as well as the alarmingly high suicide rate of farmers in India, we believe God may be leading us to the more rural areas. We are also hoping that God will open doors for us to live with people in rural India, helping them establish or reestablish a sustainable farm.

According to data journalist, Anna Fleck, "At least 112,000 people working in the agricultural sector have committed suicide in the past decade in India, according to data by the National Crime Record Bureau. In 2022 alone, the latest data available, 11,290 farmers and farm laborers were reported to have taken their own lives." These are all areas of prayer, and need God to open these doors, but I know he "is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think..." Ephesians 3:20

On a more positive note, we have been practicing and experimenting with Indian recipes and I am loving it! See the recipe for naan below and experience just a little bit of India with us! It is really very easy to make, and oh so good.

Yours in Christ,

S.T.

I Thessalonians 5:24

"Faithful is he..."

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INDIA IS A LARGE COUNTRY THAT HAS 28 OFFICIAL STATES AND 8 UNION TERRITORIES.

LADAKH

Ladakh is a Union Territory in North West India.

The official language of Ladakh is Ladakhi and its capital is its largest city, Leh.

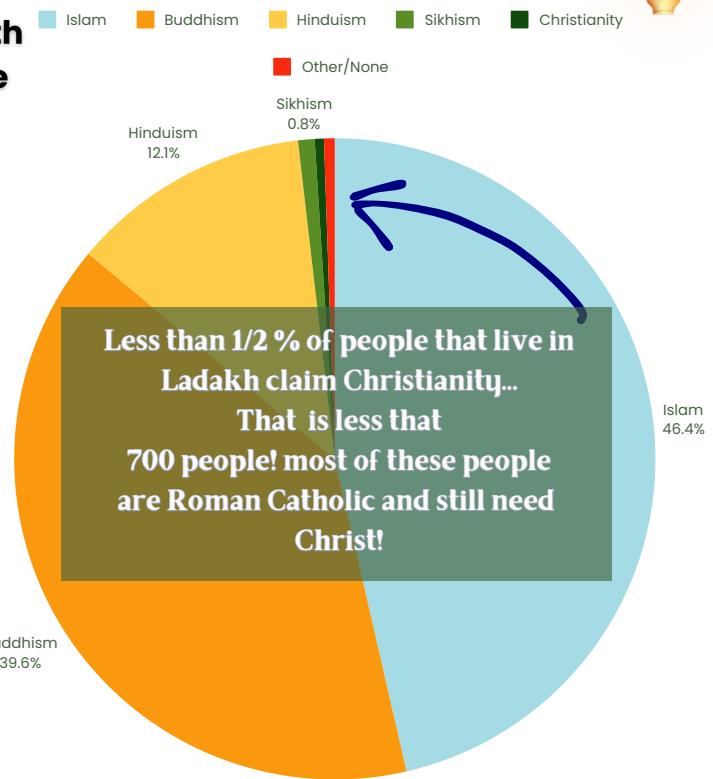
This Union Territory borders China, Pakistan, and Afghanistan... Because of that the population tend to be Muslim or Buddhists and ethnically they are mixed between traditional Indians, Chinese/Thai, and middle eastern.

The boarders of Ladakh are disputed between China and India and sometimes Pakistan. With this dispute comes a larger military presence.

Having only a population of around 133,500 people, Ladakh has about 1/5 the amount of people living in this mountainous territory than the people living in India's smallest state, Sikkim.

While we may not be able to directly minister to all of these places, we do hope to eventually equip others to with a desire to see India reached with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Pray That God will send someone to reach the people of Ladakh India.



Naan Bread

Naan is a staple in many parts of India and I found it fitting that this flat bread should be among the first of the recipes we share with you. It is not hard to make and it is a fantastic addition to any dish.

INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup warm water
- 2 tablespoons honey
- 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups all purpose flour
- 1 packet of yeast (about 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoons)
- 2 teaspoons fine sea salt
- $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon baking
- $\frac{1}{4}$ cup plain yogurt
- 1 large egg

Combine all ingredients into a sticky dough. Form into a large ball and set it in a bowl to rise for one hour or until doubled in size. After risen, cut dough into approximately 8 equal pieces or more for smaller naan. Roll each piece into a ball and set aside. Preheat a cast iron skillet to medium heat. Roll out each ball into oval shaped discs, the thinner the better. Dough should be stretchy. Cook naan in ungreased skillet for a few minutes on each side until fully cooked.

Optional: You can melt butter and garlic to brush over naan once it has cooked.

Let us know how you liked this! We want to hear from you!

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