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## Becky's Update

2 messages

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**Becky** <himalyabecky@gmail.com>  
Reply-To: himalyabecky@gmail.com  
To: church@gansonstreet.org

Wed, Jan 3, 2024 at 12:44 AM

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Hoping you had a wonderful Christmas season.  
Wishing you a New Year full of God's Favor



A very unique American Thanksgiving meal with all the fixings. Many of which the 70+ guests had never experienced.



The Christmas program was packed. I'm sure there was well over 100 kids alone. And no, they didn't stay quiet and still for the 3 hours it went! But the time was also packed with the true message for the many who haven't heard before.

Yep, it has been the holiday season ++ here. We started with the local big holidays in October, managed to cook ourselves wild for American Thanksgiving in November, and then the always full Christmas season with the 'Family' the last weeks of December. Adding on a wedding, and a 'clean-up after' night, there were 5 local style feasts in one week during the latest holiday. They definitely know how to do it up big when it comes to food.

Unfortunately, I wasn't feeling well during that time, so I skipped out on most of the food gatherings. It doesn't help that they were eating around 9 at night, when the cold and tiredness gives me no appetite. I had a series of almost 3 weeks of not feeling well on and off. Thankfully this week things seem to have resolved, and I am feeling much more normal again.



As you can see above, the long awaited research survey trip did happen. I'll have to say it was three days that didn't go at all as expected. There were many different delays and glitches along the way. We had planned and hoped for help from the local Female Health Volunteers, but they were sadly not very

cooperative and actually kind of thwarted the purpose with some miscommunications.

I don't know if you can get the idea from the pictures above, but the village is spread over a very large area with difficult walking, so it just wasn't possible to go to every house even with our three member team. So partly we had people called to come see us (on the locals suggestion). Some did, but far from everyone, and many people were also not in their homes during visits. So, we had far less people checked than we had hoped. Difficult and non-private meeting situations also made it hard to really get clear answers or do the observations we would have liked. Overall quite a lot of chaos and trying to be flexible. It was interesting to observe how far behind the village is in many ways- including basic development, health, nutrition, and sanitation. It felt much more like the 'old' days then what is now seen in areas where I have visited recently.

I am thankful though that we had a decent place to spend the nights at the health post about 45 minutes drive from the village. And especially that no one got sick or hurt. Admittedly I was pretty exhausted after it all, and took the next couple days just to recoup. While not ideal results, I will go ahead and work on writing up the research based on what has happened.



An interesting sunrise in the 'town' where we went to have our meals at one of the 2 restaurants. With no electricity or hotels in the village, it wasn't possible to stay there.



I stayed in the room of a female health worker who was away at the time. The sad reality of the prominence of her 'worship corner' reminded of the prominence of those truly committed to their Hindu beliefs.

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**My mailing address is:**

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Thu, Jan 4, 2024 at 11:52 AM

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