

### **Multiplication Month - Week 3: GIVE**

Once again this week we are taking time to focus on God's call to multiply disciples through church planting.

Some of the things I hope have become clear to you during this Multiplication Month include:

- That we as Evangelical Friends believe God is calling us to make the multiplication of disciples and churches an absolute priority.
- That we believe prayer must be at the heart of any true multiplication movement.
- That we believe it takes all kinds of churches to reach all kinds of people.
- That we believe each of us is called to be involved in church planting in some way.

Not all of us will be church planters. Not all of us will serve on a church planting team. Not every church will plant a new congregation. But all of us can and should be involved in the multiplication of disciples and churches by praying, giving, sending, or going.

Our focus today is on the invitation to *give*.

One of the most basic ways we can demonstrate our commitment together to multiply disciples and churches is by giving financially to church planting projects. Our financial investments often serve as a kind of barometer for our hearts, indicating what we believe to be truly important.

This year, the EFC-ER Multiplication Team is inviting all our churches to give toward one specific new project in Cleveland, Ohio led by church planters, Arun and Shobha Massey, in partnership with Morning Star Friends Church.

As many of you know, Arun and Shobha have been EFC-ER missionaries in Karnataka, India for nearly thirty years. During that time, they have cared for hundreds of children through their Caring Hands ministry and planted seven Friends Churches. After decades of fruitful ministry in this difficult harvest field, the Masseys have sensed God's call to leave India and move to the U.S. to plant a new church for Asian-Indian families in the greater Cleveland, OH area.

Upon approval of his religious workers visa, Arun will join the staff of Morning Star Friends Church in Chardon, OH and begin gathering small house fellowships in various Cleveland neighborhoods, which will eventually form the nucleus of the new church. Asian-Indians are now the second largest immigrant group in the United States, with a growing concentration of families in Northern Ohio. We are trusting God that this new church will bring many of these men and women to Christ. And we all have the privilege of being a part of that harvest by giving to this exciting project!

Next week, we will take a special offering to be used for start-up costs for the Cleveland church plant. Please come prepared to give generously to what God is doing to call people to Jesus in Cleveland, Ohio and gather them into a new witnessing community. Let's take a few minutes to hear Arun and Shobha's story in this video.