

## Missionary Profile - N EMIL JEBASINGH and ANANTHI JEBASINGH

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Dr. N. Emil Jebasingh, a gift to the Nation, whose thirst for perishing souls bombarded many young men to pour their lives for the sake of Gospel. His 45 years of ministry life was the golden period in the history of Indian missions. He was fondly called as ‘Annan’ by all. Among the servants of God he had a unique place in preaching the Word of God, in His prayer life and humbleness. His pen was mighty while his speech transformed many hearts to do soul winning. He penned 135 songs which gave new life to missions. His songs and messages are available at <http://m.emiljebasingh.com/>

He was born to Rev. Y.C. Navamani and Mrs. Grace Navamani on Jan 10, 1940. At the age of 17, He was lead to Jesus through Mr. P. Samuel and Mr. Jeevanantham. From the day he accepted Jesus Christ as his personal savior he obeyed the Last Commandment of Jesus Christ. He resigned the job as a professor in Pope’s College, Sawyerpuram and moved forward in the Lord’s work. He never turned back from then on.

On those days, he was actively involved in VBS (Vacation Bible School) ministries. His heart always pounded for the people who had not heard the Name of Jesus Christ even once. He was one of the founders of Friends Missionary Prayer Band (FMPB). He was also the Regional Director for South Asia of TransWorld Radio. He utilized Radio as a means to send the Gospel to many remote villages and many language groups of the Indian sub-continent. He founded the ‘BLESS India – Vision 2020’ in order to unite the entire missions in India.

He operated his ministry on the principle of Romans 15:20 “It has always been my ambition to preach the gospel where Christ was not known, so that I would not be building on someone else’s foundation.” He and his co-workers in Christ prayed and started ‘Vishwa Vani’ on May 1, 1980 in Rabbit Island of Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu, which

now has over 3000 full time workers across India. Mission fields were opened one after the other and the first generation believers flourished. In order to strengthen the first generation believers 'India Believers Fellowship' was started as a sister organization. The church bells chimed in many unreached villages through India Believers Fellowship.

Dr. Jebasingh was married to Dr. Ananthi, a college professor with a Doctorate in Linguistics. Moved by the needs of the poverty-stricken people of Tuticorin area and in order to uplift the social status of Indian people groups, both founded 'The Good Samaritans', 'Vishwasi Sangati', which transformed many needy families. Like all Indians, she saw poverty in the streets everyday of her life. One fateful day, God decided to use her to change hearts of children in a slum of 25,000 people across from her apartment. That day, a small boy knocked on her door to beg for food. In addition to feeding him, Dr. Ananthi felt called to teach and love him as well. A week later the boy returned with 25 children wanting to attend the "school." After teaching more than 100 children from her home, Dr. Ananthi received permission to establish a school within the "toilet complex" of the Alakananda slum in 1991. By 1998, she was teaching more than 600 children of all ages within the slum community with the help of 18 volunteer teachers. With a passion for these children, Dr. Ananthi manages a staff of over 150 in New Delhi, India, providing free education, nutrition, and medical care to more than 1,000 of India's impoverished children. The children and families of the communities call her "Mummy-ji" which in Hindi means "honored mother".

In 2000, Dr. Jebasingh was diagnosed with Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma. In the midst of his weakness he was strengthened in the Lord's Word and was actively involved in the ministry for 13 years. He referred to God's Word in whatever he did. His prayer life, active lifestyle, zeal for missions, love for brethren, kindness in helping others, loving every one equally without favoritism depicted the Savior of his heart – JESUS.

Please continue to uphold Mrs. Anandhi Jebasingh, 3 children and their families – Mrs. Dennisa Davidson, Mrs. Shalini Patras, Mr. Andrew Jebasingh, and all the ministries in prayer.

### **Missionary Profile - THEODORE WILLIAMS and ESTHER WILLIAMS**

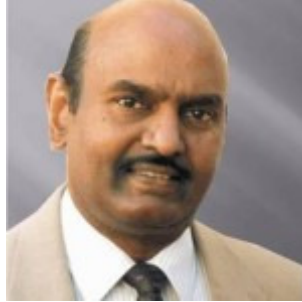
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## **Beginnings**

Theodore Williams was born on 24th February 1935 in the town of Nazareth in the Tutucorin district of Tamil Nadu. His grandfather was an Anglican Priest and his father was a school teacher. He was the eldest of four children and being born in a strict Christian family, he attended church services and Sunday school regularly and was made to memorize Bible verses.

He finished his SSLC honours at the age of 14 and since he was too young for college, he started learning type-writing, book-keeping and Hindi, all of which helped him in the later stages of his ministry. He then pursued college studies and had a deep affinity towards Dravidian politics and also wrote stories in a Tamil monthly magazine. Slowly disorderliness started creeping into his life but his craze over his political heroes started diminishing when he came to know more secrets about their personal lives..

It was about this time, in the year 1954 that he was enthralled with a fresh understanding of the holiness of God. The rearrangement of his priorities as a result of that special revelation led him to plunge himself in teaching Sunday school, open air preaching and many other activities. A deep desire to serve God took hold of him.

After completion of his studies he gained a clear understanding that God was calling him into ministry. Subsequently, he joined the first batch of students to learn Theology at SIBI, Bangarapet in 1955. His scholarly brilliance shone through in the Bible college. He learnt some life changing lessons sitting at the feet of Jesus. His faith became unshakeable as he experienced that the Lord who called him is faithful! His understanding of holiness was deeply affirmed in his life. He was also gripped with a Missionary zeal to reach the nation.

After studies, he joined SIBI as a teacher. He became an accomplished teacher as well as a versatile preacher. The whole SIBI community was challenged with his soul stirring messages on the need for the Saviour in this perishing World. Today a number of his students are making a mark for God in various corners of the globe as pioneer missionaries or mission leaders.

## **Missionary Statesman**

Rev. Theodore William's life work was to build up the people of God by imparting the Christian vision of the mission of God, inspiring those he touched through his uncompromising Biblical teaching and writing. As an effective evangelist he inculcated Kingdom values and principles in the lives of thousands as they came to know Jesus Christ and accepted the commission to make Him known to others. At the annual conference of the Evangelical Fellowship of India (EFI), he presented the challenges of India. He suggested that an Indigenous Mission be formed to confront these challenges. So at the age of 30, the commitment to seeing Indians mobilized for cross-cultural mission led him to found the Indian Evangelical Mission (IEM). Beginning with just one mission worker in 1965, the mission grew rapidly under his capable and dedicated leadership. As the first General Secretary and then later as a senior adviser, Dr. Williams saw the IEM grow into a major mission force within, and beyond India, by 2010 employing over 900 mission workers.

Alongside his work with IEM, Dr. Williams also played a pivotal role in the establishment of the Friends Missionary Prayer Band (FMPB), the India Missions Association (IMA) and Vacation Bible School (VBS). On a wider canvas, Dr. Williams also served as the President of World Evangelical Fellowship (WEF) for a number of years and through that body ensured that new missionary enterprises were established in a number of countries in all continents. In semi-retirement, Rev. Theodore Williams served as a pastor at Richmond Town Methodist Church, Bangalore continuing to preach and to mentor mission leaders.

## **Bible Expositor**

Rev. Theodore Williams was an excellent Bible expositor and preacher. His knowledge of the Word and his preaching skills were well known worldwide. He had an English Broadcast of back to the bible and "Satyavasanam" a Tamil programme through which he influenced many people to turn away from their lukewarm faith. He has further authored many books which were published and translated into many languages.

## **Theodore Williams the Man**

Rev. Theodore Williams was known for his compassion. Numerous people bear witness to his generosity as well. He was very concerned for the welfare of people. He was also a man of great faith. He looked to God in all circumstances to sustain him.

He married a Canadian missionary named Esther Faulkner in 1971 after knowing that she was the God destined woman for him and with whom his aspirations and visions matched. She was excellent in preparing Sunday school materials and with her husband prepared a 3 year VBS course curriculum. Mrs. Esther also had a passion for writing. One such book was 'Esther: A Shining Star', the story of a young girl who dies of leukemia.

Nevertheless, Theodore Williams had his times of weaknesses and failures. The moral lapse hurt his life and ministry to a great extent. In the midst of that, he repented and followed Christ, looking forward and not behind. His strength was in accepting his vulnerability. His focus on eternal things was undiminished till the end.

### **Farewell**

On the night of December 29<sup>th</sup>, 2009, Rev. Theodore Williams breathed his last, a few months after Esther, his wife, had passed away. His funeral on December 31<sup>st</sup> 2009 had many leaders and people from all walks of life bearing witness to the influence Dr. Williams had on their lives. Dr Williams was prepared for his end and knew “it is well with (his) soul.”