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## Urgent

Let us continue to pray for the nations that are suffering due to corona virus, and may God send a genuine Christian revival to all the nations.

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### The India Mission for Evangelism

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# The India Mission

FOR  
E V A N G E L I S M



*Pastor/Professor Antony PC with his mother, niece, and nephew.*

## A Student Becomes a Professor

### Childhood

My name is Antony PC. I was born to Roman Catholic parents in a place called Edappally, Kerala. My family consisted of four members; father, mother, elder sister and myself. Since my childhood I was so interested in spirituality that I never wanted to miss religious observances. It was told to me that my childhood was full of suffering and struggles, even my mother wanted to abort me in vexation. Due to the lack of some proper medication it was informed of me by the doctor that I would be born handicapped. Nevertheless, by God's grace, I was born without any defect.

It is sad to say that I was born into an unpleasant situation where there was no peace between my mother and father. We had to move from one rented house to another over the years. Poverty stricken background set some things beyond the purview of my childhood. Therefore I decided to do any job after high school.

### Knowing the Lord Jesus

I had completed my studies and joined my uncle to learn videography and photography. During this time we have moved to a place called Koonammavu, Varapuzha. Inside the family tension kept on arising due to illness and the unemployment of my father.

One day I was suffering from a fever and I struggled to assist my uncle in his work which eventually led me to break ties with him. During the time I spent at home I started to think that there was no God. Once when I was sitting in a library one of my friends named Ninto had happened to see me and he made his way to me (we became friends a long time ago while I came to my relatives at Koonammavu to spend vacation). After a talk he took me to enjoy some games with him. In between my time with him he did not forget to share the Gospel with me but in an unusual way, i.e he tried to share the gospel through lines of a Malayalam Christian devotional song. Though he did not know how to share the gospel, he did it as best as he could.

Around the time we started to leave to our homes he asked me, "What is your plan for tomorrow?" "Nothing" I replied. Then he invited me to a prayer meeting. I could not resist because of his hospitable behavior to me. To my surprise early in the morning he came to my house and waited until I got ready.

After getting to the church he introduced me to Pastor James who was one of the graduates of Peniel Bible Seminary. In the next meeting, by God's grace, I accepted Jesus as my Lord and Saviour on September 16, 2000 at the age of 15. Pastor James visited my house and shared the Gospel with my father, mother and sister. It is by God's grace they all received Jesus on October 15, 2000 and on November 09, 2000 we together, along with seven other people testified Jesus in the water followed by seven days of fasting and prayer in the church.

Once I was going home with my mom I happened to see some believers at Cheranalloor ferry distributing gospel tracts. I hurried to them and talked with them, they were students of Peniel Bible Seminary. No doubt this had impacted me a lot. As I began to grow spiritually, the wonderful day came when for the first time I could take part in a large Christian convention which was no other but Peniel Good News Convention. The very first time the pastor introduced this convention to the church I was one with many others in the church who decided to go by the vehicle provided by Peniel Bible Seminary. Let me be honest, indeed I was blessed.

## My Decision to Study in a Seminary

When the time came for me to decide whether I should pursue a job, secular studies or Biblical Studies I decided to go for Biblical Studies.

My pastor fortunately directed me to Peniel Bible Seminary. It was on the 22nd of April, 2001 at 4pm I came to Peniel Bible Seminary to join for my studies.

On the first day at the evening prayer, the student leader invited all the fresh students saying "You all are welcome to the Peniel family" and those words impressed me very much. During the years of my studies at Peniel I could realize the very meaning of the word Peniel as in the Bible was being fulfilled not only in my life but also in many others' lives.

## The Things I Learned at Peniel

### Importance of Studies

I recollect an incident that happened to me at Peniel that encouraged me for further studies. According to the chapel list I was assigned to preach. After my speech one of the teachers told me, "Antony you have done well, you must grow to your best". This word of encouragement revived me to appreciate myself because I came from a place where of not hearing such encouraging words. Another example that prompted

my ambition for further studies was the life examples of the faculty of Peniel Bible Seminary. One of my teachers used to say "It is my desire to preach the simple gospel on the streets with degrees like M.Th and Phd." As a result by the grace of God I could successfully completed courses Dip.Th in 2004, B.Th in 2007 and M.Div in 2009. After getting Diploma I was been ministering in a place called Chalakudy. It was during my studies of B.Th that my father was promoted to glory. The prayer and support of Peniel helped me to withstand the death of my father.

### Importance of teaching ministry

After my M.Div program I was doing church ministry in a place called Kizhakkambalam. It was Peniel that imparted the vision of teaching to me. Once Dr. C.P. Varghese, the founder and president of PBS, told me "You can reach many states of India (teach and send students) with the gospel through the class rooms." Wow I have never thought about that. Not only the words but also the opportunities were made available to me by Dr. C.P. Varghese and others at PBS to serve the Lord with Peniel Bible Seminary. Thus I joined Peniel as a faculty member in the year 2010. I take this time to express my gratitude towards PBS.

### Importance of Prayer

It was at Peniel I have learned the power of personal as well as communal prayer. I am sure that no graduates of PBS will forget the experience of chapel services, fasting and prayer, seminars, and other prayer meetings held at PBS.

### Importance of Evangelism

During my studies at PBS every Thursday afternoon we would go for outreach ministry as a team. We the students had been given a practical training in different kinds of outreaches such as open air meetings, house visiting, hospital visiting, tract distribution and prayer. I will never forget the first time I had preached in an open air meeting. I, along with hundreds of PBS graduates may say that we are inspired by Dr. C.P. Varghese to keep gospel tracts in our bags to distribute wherever we go.

## Today I am

Serving the Lord as a professor and registrar at PBS and ministering as an assistant pastor in a town called Cheranalloor during the weekends. My future plan is to join a Master of Theology program as I continue to serve at Peniel.

## Concluding Words

The impact of the Peniel experience changed Jacob forever as mentioned in the book of Genesis, likewise many have the life changing experiences at PBS. I am just one among them. Please pray for me, my mother, my sister and her family, and my ministry.

Let me conclude by expressing my **joyful thanks to everyone especially the well wishers, prayer partners and supporters** of PBS. May the Lord who has begun a good work in us, bless us. All glory be unto the ALMIGHTY. Amen

Antony PC