

## How does your job compare?

This lady's name is Nimakala Pun. She's 58 years old and on her job. She's been doing this same work everyday for over eight years trying to squeeze out a living from the harsh circumstances life has placed her in. She is just one of the many who are displaced from Mijhing village in the Rolpha district of Nepal because of Maoist activity. Many women and children will spend their lives like this or travel to Kathmandu to labor daily near the brick factories carrying heavy loads. Life is tough in this part of the world.

The Rolpa district is known for its wealth. At the same time, it is the poster child of poverty and need. Located in the Rapti zone, one of the seventy-five zones that make up Nepal, its lack of infrastructure and government services have made it a haven and breeding ground for child trafficking, gambling, murder, and insurgency activity by the revolting army of communists. Yeah, life is tough for this 58-year-old.

This area, along with the bordering area of Uttar Pradesh, India, is the main focus of outreach activity this summer by our New Frontier Teams from West Nepal. We have piloted these groups since the mid 1990's having found them extremely effective. When we first began doing team outreach, we would equip and send groups of five brothers out for up to two weeks. For a number of years that seemed to be working well. Occasionally, two or three brothers would undertake a longer journey of a month or so into very remote locations. These were dangerous trips.

Within the last few years ,we've sponsored larger teams made up of up to twenty. The main reason for the change is on-the-job training for young Bible School students and graduates who have never been out on cutting edge evangelistic trips. Our teams are always made up of mature men and women from the local churches and nicely interspersed with students. Area saturation is the key, and these guys generally go out for three weeks at a time. In the past our New Frontier Teams cost anywhere from \$500 to \$750. But now, our costs are anywhere from \$2000 to \$2900 depending on where they are going, how many are going, and for how long. I've always thought it was such an empowering feeling to know that for the price of an old junk car here in the States, someone could co-labor with a group of dedicated brethren and see the Good News taken to those who have never heard. What an opportunity!

In Rolpa and the Dang area this year, the team will consist of twelve. They will be out for three weeks, attempt to distribute up to 15,000 tracts. They are praying for 800 to come to Christ, and see two churches and twenty house fellowships established. They are praying for safety also. Barnabas is committed to touching people where they live. We provide water, livestock, medicine, and emergency assistance. But we truly enjoy co-laboring on these outreach events each year. The paths these brethren walk are places where most of us would never get the chance to go. The people they will touch, like Nimakala, the lady in the picture, truly need hope. Life has dealt Rolpa women difficulty, and together, we can make a difference in their lives. Thanks for the help folks. By the way, give Nimakala some thought next time you feel like complaining about your job!



Photo courtesy of J. Pandey United We Blog

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