

# — MISSIONARIES —



- Sanctity of Life Baby Bottles Campaign
- <https://choicesoftheheart.com/>

## *Persecuted Christian*

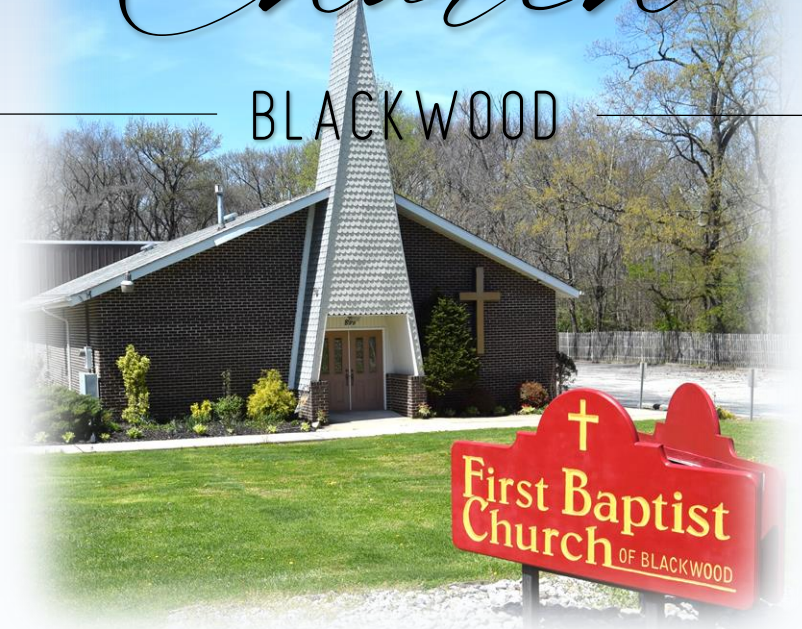
- INDIA -

### CHRISTIANS SINGLED OUT IN GOVERNMENT SURVEY

- In Andhra Pradesh state, officials are conducting a survey to identify all Christians who have come from Hindu families, married a Hindu or are conducting Christian activities. Such surveys have generally led to increased persecution and discrimination. Front-line workers ask for prayer for Christians in India as violence against Christians grows and is expected to increase even more as the 2023 national elections approach.
- Under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Hindu nationalist organization Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) has seen a 20% increase in membership. Its emboldened base seeks to forcibly unite India under Hinduism despite the country's great diversity of languages, cultures & religions. Although Prime Minister Modi has publicly said his government will not tolerate religious discrimination, his actions have proved otherwise. Vague policies such as laws forbidding the conversion of Hindus have passed in several Indian states, & the push for a similar federal law has gained support. These state anti-conversion laws have long been used against pastors, church planters & evangelists. Conversely, reconversion ceremonies known as Ghar Wapsi, or "homecoming", which return Indians to Hinduism (sometimes by force), have become increasingly common. Despite greater government restrictions on Christianity, churches are growing.
- About 80% of Indians are Hindus, & more than 10% are Muslims. India is also the birthplace of Buddhism. The Indian government does not release accurate statistics about its Christian population, so exact figures are not available. While there are an estimated 30 - 70 million Christians in India, this is no more than a 5% minority among India's staggering population of nearly 1.4 billion people.
- The main persecutors are well-organized Hindu extremist groups, local governments & nationalist Hindus who seek to "purify" India by making it entirely Hindu. They seek to appease Hindu deities by eliminating Christians, & they view Christian converts as traitors to the Hindu homeland.
- Hindu-nationalist informants live in nearly every village & report on the activities of Christians, resulting in attacks & arrests. When Christians are attacked, they often drop charges against their attackers to show forgiveness as a witness for Christ. Churches have been demolished & burned, worship gatherings have been disrupted, crosses in graveyards have been vandalized, & Bibles & other Christian literature have been confiscated & burned. Many pastors have been beaten & jailed, & several are martyred each year. Christians are often arrested & detained up to three weeks after being falsely accused of forcing Hindus to convert to Christianity. With legal assistance, they are normally able to post bail or show that the charges are unfounded.

[WWW.PERSECUTED.COM/STORIES](http://WWW.PERSECUTED.COM/STORIES)

# FIRST BAPTIST *Church* BLACKWOOD



PASTOR DAVE McMURRAY

*Every Member, a Minister*

#### SUNDAYS

9:15AM...Discipleship Class

10:15AM...Worship

#### WEDNESDAYS

7:00PM...Adult Bible Study & Prayer

7:00PM...Youth Gathering

- PO Box 254 -  
899 LITTLE GLOUCESTER ROAD  
BLACKWOOD, NJ 08012

856-761-2968 | [www.fbcblackwood.org](http://www.fbcblackwood.org)