

FRIENDS MISSIONARY PRAYER BAND



Herith

A monthly Prayer Bulletin for  
Youth

# Valorous in VISION!



Vol 38 - Issue 5 - May - 2026



Private circulation only

# CHRIST IS GREATER THAN MOSES



To the Jewish people, Moses was a monumental leader. He was the one who received the Law from God. However, the author of the book of Hebrews explains very clearly that no matter how great Moses was, Jesus Christ is far superior.

## 1. Superiority Based on Calling (Hebrews 3:1)

- Heavenly Calling: We are all partakers of a heavenly calling.
- Apostle and High Priest: Moses was a prophet. However, Jesus is the “Apostle” (the father/author of our faith) and the “High Priest” who intercedes on our behalf.
- Reflect: Scripture calls us to look beyond Moses and fix our eyes intently on Jesus.

## 2. Superiority Based on Creation (Hebrews 3:3, 4)

- The House and the Builder: No matter how beautiful a house is, the builder of the house deserves greater honor than the house itself.
- The Creator: Moses was a part of the “house” (the people of Israel). But Jesus is the One who created the entire house.
- Authority: Moses was a created being; Jesus is the Creator.

## 3. Superiority Based on Status (Hebrews 3:5, 6)

- Servant vs. Son: Moses served in God’s house as a “faithful servant,” acting as a witness to the things that were to come.
- Christ: Christ is the “Son” who has authority over God’s house.
- Inheritance: A son, who is the owner of the house, possesses far more authority than a servant.

## 4. Superiority Based on Obedience

- Human Frailty: Moses showed a lack of faith at certain moments (Numbers 20:12).
- Perfect Faithfulness: Christ remained perfectly faithful to the Father’s will, even unto death on the cross.

### Prayer of Praise

- We praise You, the Creator who fashioned all things. We offer our thanks to You, who are higher than any human leader!
- We worship You, the faithful Son who holds authority over the Father’s house. We magnify Your greatness for making us Your own home and ruling over us!

### Illustrative Story: The Map and the Prince

A traveler wanted to cross a dense forest to reach a beautiful city. He carried an old map of the area. He kept praising the map, saying, “This map guides me wonderfully.”

Suddenly, a massive landslide occurred, and the path shown on the map disappeared. The traveler was lost and confused. Just then, the Prince of that city arrived on horseback. He looked at the traveler and said, “This map is old. It is merely a piece of paper that points the way. But I am the owner of this land. Follow me! I will lead you there personally.”

**Moral of the Story:** In this story, the map represents the Law given by Moses. It shows the way, but it does not have the power to actually bring us to Heaven. The Prince represents Jesus Christ. He is “The Way” (John 14:6). While the map (Moses) guides like a servant, the Prince (Jesus) leads us personally as the Lord of the land. Therefore, the Prince is far greater than the map.

**Amen!**

## KERITH

The monthly magazine Kerith is published by the Friends Missionary Prayer Band for the benefit of Youth prayer Cells.

## VISION

To reach various spheres of India and to imbibe the heavenly manna to the Youth who are the future pillars of "Our Nation"

## OBJECTIVES

A monthly magazine to strengthen the prayer cells...

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**YEARLY SUBSCRIPTION -RS. 250/-**

A Note for Prayer Cell Leaders: The messages and the prayer points in Kerith are divided for 4 weeks, so that you can use it to pray and meditate on it in your prayer cells each week. The prayer points are at the centre page. The leader can detach and use them during the prayer time. You can read and also share the magazine with your friends. We will meet you every month through this magazine with new informations. Kindly use them and strengthen Your Prayer Cells.

*For more prayer points kindly use*

**FRIENDS FOCUS**

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# VALOROUS IN VISION

Greetings of love to all young people in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, who calls us by name!

The prophecy given by the Lord through Joel says: "Your young men shall see visions" (Joel 2:28). Peter notes in Acts 2:16 that this prophecy was "spoken by the prophet Joel" and was coming to pass. Following this, they all began their gospel work with a vision. As a result, "the Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved" (Acts 2:47).

A vision or foresight is focused on a future goal. It is a forward-looking, inspiring statement that shows what an organization desires to achieve or how it wishes to ascend to a higher state in the future. It is a clear picture of success. Those who receive this vision should not keep it to themselves but must share it with others around them. When shared, it brings growth and success.

In 1959, about 25 members of the VBS Friends Fellowship gathered to pray in a room in Kovilpatti. Because the Lord placed a special spirit within the hearts of those who gathered, they received a clear vision from the Lord to enter into a definitive plan of action. This missionary movement, known as the Friends Missionary Prayer Band (FMPB), was born out of that vision. In 1967, this movement sent out its first missionary. By continuing to pray and act with vision, it has grown into the massive movement it is today.

Leonard Ravenhill's maxim states: "Vision and passion are the two essentials for a successful Christian life." We can take Nehemiah as an example of this. He was one of the greatest among leaders who pray. Because of his absolute faith in the Lord, he completed even the most difficult tasks that seemed impossible. His prayer, sacrifice, hard work, and stubborn determination all helped fulfill the vision the Lord gave him to rebuild the wall.

Beloved youth! Do you have a vision for your future? If you are in a state where you have no such vision, surrender your future to the Lord. Do not forget that you have the responsibility to proclaim the Gospel to all Indians. If you receive a vision, the Lord will help you find strength in the field.

During the 21<sup>st</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> of this month, there will be a special meeting for youth at the Annual Camp held in Danishpet, Salem. We affectionately invite each of you to come and participate along with your friends, church members, and relatives. We eagerly look forward to your arrival at this camp.

May the grace of God be with you. Amen!

**In Christ's Service,**  
*J. Daniel Arulmani*



# ZEBULUN

## THE ANCHOR OF THE SHIP



**The Anchor** - An instrument used to keep a ship from drifting away due to wind speed and water currents, holding it in a single place. It is considered a symbol of a firm, unwavering mindset. In this issue, we are invited to reflect on Zebulun, one of the patriarchs who operated with the courage to face struggles and an unshakable commitment to his goals - much like a ship's anchor.

Zebulun was the sixth son born to Leah, the wife of the patriarch Jacob, and the tenth son among all of Jacob's sons. His birth occurred during the rivalry between the sisters, Leah and Rachel, as they competed for their husband's attention. At his birth, Leah said, "God has presented me with a precious gift. This time my husband will treat me with honor, because I have borne him six sons," and she named him Zebulun. The name Zebulun means "dwelling." In Jacob's blessings, Zebulun gains prominence immediately after Judah (surpassing five other brothers).

### CHARACTER AND MINDSET OF ZEBULUN:

The Bible does not provide extensive details about Zebulun's personal life. However, we can identify his character based on the later actions of his descendants. The tribe of Zebulun consisted not just of infantry soldiers, but also of educated officers and military commanders skilled in organizing armies.

- **Valiance:** During the war against the Canaanite commander Sisera, those who "handle the marshal's staff" (or the pen of the writer) came down from Zebulun (Judges 5:14).
- **Commitment:** They possessed the fortitude to risk their lives unto death on the battlefield to face enemies within their borders (Judges 5:18).
- **Integrity:** Generally, Zebulun reflects an undivided heart. They desired to dwell in the land

promised to them. They were trained to craft weapons of war and to keep rank to defend their side. They could go to war without deceit (1 Chronicles 12:33).

Their inner desire and actions identify them as stable and successful people. An unshakable commitment to the goal describes an "anchored" mindset that faces struggles without giving room to deceitful thoughts.

### THE FATHER'S BLESSING:

"Zebulun will live by the seashore and become a haven for ships; his border will extend toward Sidon." (Genesis 49:13)

The prophecy regarding Zebulun's descendants speaks of their maritime trade. Their tribal allotment lay between the Mediterranean Sea and the Sea of Galilee. This area was famous for seafaring and commerce. The trade route known as Via Maris (Way of the Sea) ran from Damascus in the northeast to Egypt in the southwest. A boat or ship serves as their symbol. The second truth in Jacob's vision was that his border would reach Sidon. In the distribution of tribes, the area of Sidon, which was originally with the tribe of Asher, became accessible to Zebulun (Joshua 19:27, 28). The valley parallel to the northern coast there is called the "Valley of Zebulun."

### THE LEADER'S VISION:

In the vision of the leader Moses regarding Zebulun: "Rejoice, Zebulun, in your going out, and you, Issachar, in your tents. They will summon peoples to the mountain and there offer the sacrifices of the righteous; they will feast on the abundance of the seas, on the treasures hidden in the sand." (Deuteronomy 33:18, 19) Zebulunites were those who went out for maritime trade and business, while Issacharites flourished in agriculture and teaching the Torah within their tents. There was a mutually beneficial relationship between the two.

-To be continued in 18th page

# SET SQUARE 60°

My dear teen Boys and Girls, Happy May month greetings to you and your family!

When we say May month, it's Vacation mode. It would be great if you spend your time usefully instead of just roaming around too much with friends. You decide on that. Also, you must definitely come to the Annual Camp happening from the 21st to the 24th of this month at Danishpet, Salem, through FMPB. Bring your friends along too. Let's meet at Danishpet!

The plan for this "Teen Page" is based on the things found in the Geometry box that you frequently use. For the last 4 months, we looked at the Compass, Divider, Protractor, and the 45° Set Square. Accordingly, this month we are going to look at the 60° Set Square.

Usually, when we think of angles, our hand goes straight to the Protractor. While that is correct, using a set square for certain specific applications is a very efficient method. Basically, a 60° set square has three angles: 30°, 60°, and 90°. With this, you can easily draw equilateral triangles (where all angles are 60°). Set squares are very useful for drawing 3D shapes efficiently. Additionally, you can easily draw parallel and perpendicular lines in any projection. By combining a 45° and a 60° set square, you can easily construct complex angles like 15°, 75°, 105°, 120°, etc. Whether it's angles for 3D drawings or triangles, everything can be constructed efficiently. Even with modern drafting software, the 60° set square remains a vital tool in manual drafting. It is essential for quickly sketching a building layout or furniture design. Its applications are numerous, including parallel walls, decorative structures, elevations, and staircase design.

## BIBLE APPLICATION TIME

The equilateral triangle drawn with a 60° set square (where all angles are 60°) reminds us of three things. An equilateral triangle has 3 sides and 3 corners. No matter which corner you measure, the angle will be 60°. In a structure built with an equilateral triangle as the base, if even one corner is 59° or 61° instead of 60°, that structure will become weak.

Similarly, there are three important elements in our life: Mind (Spirit), Body (Physical), and Soul. If these three are not equally balanced, our Christian lifestyle will totally collapse.



## 1. MIND (SPIRIT)

Generally, the mind (spirit) is usually somewhat fit because of the training our schools provide. But are we using that to memorize Bible verses? There are many advantages to such memorization. We memorize so many things for school, but ask yourself: how much importance do we give to the Word of God that changes our lives? Listen to the instruction Paul gave to the Colossian church regarding this Christ-centered lifestyle:

**"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom"**  
(Colossians 3:16a)

## 2. BODY

Can you walk 5km without any prior preparation? Will you do a 10km slow jog? Can you do 10 pushups or 10 pull-ups? I am asking both boys and girls. If we don't involve our body in any physical activity, it is a big mistake, because our body is the temple where the Lord resides. Engage in at least 30 minutes of physical activity. Your Christ-centered lifestyle will be very healthy. Listen to Paul's instruction to the Corinthian church:

**"Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?"** (1 Corinthians 6:19).

## 3. SOUL

Lastly, the Soul—this is the part that is aligned with God. Prayer and Bible meditation are what keep us aligned with Him. If you cannot spend even 30 minutes a day reading the Bible and praying, YOU ARE NOT ALIGNED WITH GOD. We find hours of time for music, games, and chatting, but no time for prayer and Bible reading? Examine your lifestyle seriously. Listen to what the Psalmist says about this Christ-centered lifestyle:

**"Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stands in the path of sinners, nor sits in the seat of the scornful; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and in His law he meditates day and night."** (Psalm 1:1-2).

So, teens, examine your Christian lifestyle once. Keep your Mind, Body, and Soul balanced and Christ-centered. May the Lord be with you!

Until then, see you next month. Bye!!!



# BAD LEGS

## ELINOR YOUNG - BIOGRAPHY



Elinor Young was born on November 5, 1946, in Spokane, Washington, USA. Her parents were Alfred Earl and Rosetta Young. Her father served as a “Range Manager” in Washington, assisting farmers with various aspects of livestock rearing.

In December 1951, Elinor contracted polio. She spent seven months in a hospital in Spokane and subsequently underwent two years of outpatient treatment. Between the ages of 9 and 14, she was hospitalized multiple times.

From the age of 9, Elinor dedicated herself to discovering and following the Lord’s will. She developed a deep desire to serve as a missionary abroad. After being accepted by the RBMU (Regions Beyond Missionary Union, now known as World Team) and raising support for her ministry, Elinor began her work at the age of 27 among the Kimyal (or Korupun) tribes in Irian Jaya, Indonesia.

When she first arrived among them, only a few knew the basics of the Gospel, and they did not have the Bible in their own language. Therefore, Elinor made it her mission to learn their language and culture and translate the Bible into Kimyal. To understand the hearts and language of the people, she spent a vast amount of time with them. She traveled to various villages to teach Bible stories to the children.

Each village was connected by long, steep mountain paths. Due to her condition, she was unable to walk these paths. To travel, she used a contraption made of two long wooden poles with a board used as a seat and a flat net bag attached in the middle. Depending on how steep or rugged the path was, two to eight men would carry these poles on their shoulders with her sitting in between.

During her 17 years in Irian Jaya, she mastered the Kimyal language. Elinor worked tirelessly on the Bible translation

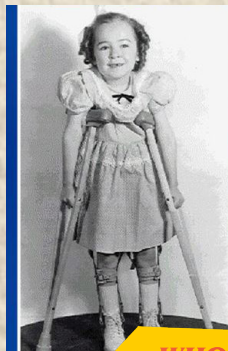
and demonstrated God’s love to the people through her way of life.

After living in Korupun for many years, Elinor heard the Kimyal people give her a new name: “Yan Meely” (Bad Legs). Elinor asked Pastor Siud about it: “Why do you call me ‘Bad Legs’? I know my legs are impaired, but what is the real reason?” He replied:

“Your ‘Bad Legs’ are important to us. Our people with ‘bad legs’ cannot leave these mountains and valleys. Yet, even with your ‘bad legs,’ God brought you all the way here to give us His Word. Furthermore, God helped you to stay here with us.”

Elinor realized that to the Kimyal people, her disabled legs were a symbol of the love God had for them. What a wonderful name, and what an amazing God! After nearly 18 years, Elinor’s body became too weak to continue her ministry in Korupun. Although she had to leave, God continued to work through other missionaries and the Kimyal people to complete the translation of the entire New Testament into the Kimyal language. The New Testament was finally produced as a book, just like our Bible.

The Kimyal people celebrated and rejoiced over the New Testament. They called it “EIM AYOUNG DI GEID YUBU,” which means “Sky Father’s Holy Word.”



**WHOM THE LORD CALLS,  
HE WILL USE.**

MR. B. BENJAMIN



# WHAT IS A MISSIONARY CALL?

## First

It is a call that comes to us from the Highest. It is the call that arises within us when we study the Holy Scriptures diligently.

## Second

The call comes from all around us. There are more than 3,000 distinct people groups living around us. Approximately 96% of the country's population are non-Christians. There is a critical need for the Bible to be translated into at least 200 more languages. In the northern states, there is a pitiful situation where many districts do not have even a single church.

## Third

The call is a feeble cry from below. It is like the call given by the rich man who looked toward Lazarus and Abraham. He pleaded, "Send him to me, or at least send him to my brothers who are perishing." This is a perfect example of the call from below. Are we aware that countless calls are constantly coming from below? Our watches tick 60 times a minute. Every time it ticks 60 times in a minute, 105 people pass away in various parts of the world. The funeral processions we pass on the road serve as a reminder that every second, human beings are perishing and entering into a Christless eternity. Many of them were never even given the opportunity to be delivered from the "second death."

## Fourth

It is the call that comes from within us. It is the growing dissatisfaction you feel toward the worldly work you are doing. It is the increasing desire to do something for God.

If you look at these four explanations together, there will be no room for you to make any excuses.



# JONAH

## THE FOOLISH DOVE



There is a story of a man to whom the Lord appeared after many days of prayer. The Lord said, "Ask for whatever you want! But remember one thing: whatever you ask for, your neighbor will be given twice as much." Startled by this condition, the man asked for a week's time to think. After a sleepless week, he returned to the vision and said without hesitation, "Let me lose one eye." The Lord replied that the condition was for giving, not taking away, and departed.

This story fits Jonah perfectly. Jonah, the fourth among the Minor Prophets, has a name that means "Dove." However, by turning away from God's will, he became a "foolish dove." He held two distinct viewpoints: first, that the Israelites were God's chosen and therefore the only ones belonging to God; and second, that all non-Israelite Gentiles were abominable to God and themselves because they were idolaters. This flawed thinking drove Jonah away from God's purpose.

To Jonah, the Assyrians were loathsome and deserved punishment. He could not even dream of them fearing God's warning, repenting, and being forgiven. Instead of going to Nineveh, he paid the fare and boarded a ship for Tarshish. This four-chapter book reveals both Jonah's mindset and the burden of God's heart. The central theme of the book is: "Salvation is of the Lord" (2:9b). The powerful message is that a compassionate God is able to save anyone.

### A JOURNEY OF CONTRADICTIONS

**Chapter 1:** The Flight: We see Jonah's journey away from God end abruptly. While Jonah's personal journey stalled, the

chapter ends with the pagan mariners praying to the Lord and offering sacrifices. We see a contrast between Jonah, who distanced himself from God's will, and the sailors, who turned toward Him. God desires to save everyone.

**Chapter 2:** The Cry: A repentant Jonah prays to God from the belly of the fish and is subsequently delivered to the shore. This shows us that if we turn back to God, there is redemption regardless of our situation. He simply desires our return.

**Chapter 3:** The Proclamation: Jonah obeys and goes to Nineveh to preach against it. Unexpectedly for Jonah, the people repented. It is not our preaching, but God who works. This result distressed Jonah.

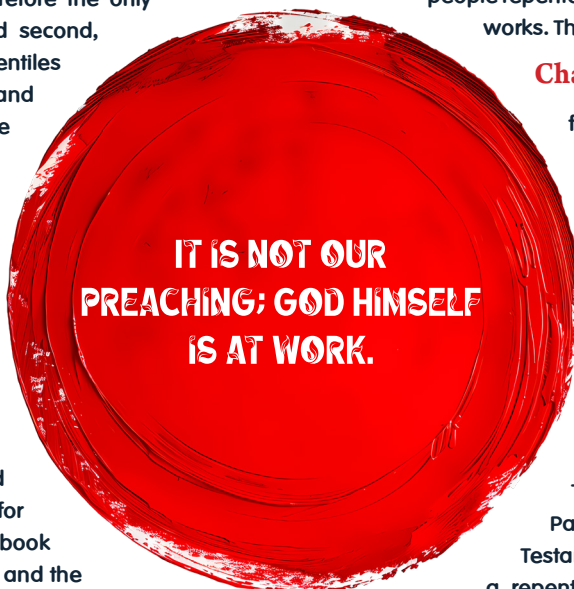
**Chapter 4:** The Resentment: Jonah, frustrated with God's mercy, built a shelter outside the city to wait and see if the Assyrians would be destroyed. But the Lord willed to rescue them from destruction and save them.

### CONCLUSION: THE ELDER BROTHER SYNDROME

This narrative reminds us of the Parable of the Prodigal Son in the New Testament. It shows a father who accepts a repenting son and an elder brother who refuses to accept it, thereby losing the blessing of sharing in the father's joy.

Similarly, Jonah refused to align with the Lord's burden for souls. Instead, he maintained his stance that it was better for him to die, causing grief to the Lord.

- What change has the Lord's burden for souls made in our lives?
- Do we carry that same burden?
- Or do we, like Jonah, become a burden to the Lord?



IT IS NOT OUR  
PREACHING; GOD HIMSELF  
IS AT WORK.



# COME, LET'S GO TO THE NEXT VILLAGE!

**TANAKPUR MISSION  
FIELD CHAMPAWAT DISTRICT  
UTTARAKHAND STATE**



## Introduction to Tanakpur

Uttarakhand is a beautiful state nestled in the foothills of the Himalayas. Tanakpur is a municipal town located in the southeast of this state, near the China border. It sits at an elevation of 3,000 feet. White-water rafting in the Kall Sharda River is very popular here. According to 2020 estimates, approximately 28,300 people live here. Among them, 78.82% are literate. However, the sex ratio is skewed, with only 905 females for every 1,000 males. The average temperature remains around 15.2°C throughout the year.

## The Tharu People

The Kumaonis, Valmikis, and Tharu people reside in the Tanakpur region. The Tharu people belong to a tribal community. The word "Tharu" is derived from the word "Sthavir," which means followers of Buddhism. They live in Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Nepal. We desire to minister among these people. The Tharu people speak a language called "Tharu" or "Tharuwadi." They build their houses using bamboo and mud. To seek healing, they rely on a sorcerer/shaman called a "Bara." They are also known for creating exquisite paintings called "Ashtimki."

Due to biological changes caused by frequent bouts of malaria over generations, there is a high prevalence of hereditary conditions among them, such as Sickle Cell Disease (91%) and Thalassemia.

## Urgent Need

The Tanakpur mission field has been waiting for a missionary for about 4 years. Recently, a native worker has been sent there temporarily to minister. If a cross-cultural missionary joins them, it will add great momentum to the ministry.

## Pray For:

- ▶ Missionaries to rise up with the commitment to say, "Give me this mountain country."
- ▶ Healing from hereditary diseases like "Sickle Cell" that afflict the community.
- ▶ The Tharu people, who currently trust in sorcerers, to put their faith in the True God who grants real healing.
- ▶ The Bible to be made available to all Tharu people in their own mother tongue.





# ITALY

Italy is a nation rich in history, culture and faith, shaped by its Roman heritage. It is one of the most historically significant countries of Christianity, with about 74% of its population identified as Catholic Christians. The Vatican City, located in Rome is the global headquarters of the Catholic Church and the residence of the Pope making Italy unique as both a nation and a spiritual hub. Gospel has reached Italy through our Apostle Paul and his disciples in 60's AD, but still Roman Catholicism is the dominant faith, deeply woven into Italy's culture, traditions and national identity.

- ▶ Capital : Rome
- ▶ Currency : Euro (EUR)
- ▶ Languages : Italian (official)
- ▶ Political System: Parliamentary Republic
- ▶ Population : ~59 million

**Special Prayer Concern:** Beginning on May 1st, the statue of the saint is placed in a golden coach drawn by an ox and showering the way with flower petals as it makes its way from Cagliari to Nora. This pilgrimage, one of the longest and most important, has been held every year since 1656 as a vow of gratitude. For three days, the faithful devotees accompany the statue in devotion and celebration, until the journey concludes on May 4th, when the statue is solemnly returned to its church in Cagliari. Let us pray that Jesus opens their spiritual eyes.

## Prayer points for Italy:

### Ancient Rituals & superstition beliefs:

- Pray for Italians who are bound by traditions, rituals and superstition to encounter the living Christ and experience true freedom.
- Pray for their Roman Catholic worshipers to turn towards Jesus Christ.

During the Jubilee of Youth (a movement), held in Rome from July 28 to August 3, 2025, thousands of young people gathered from across the world for prayer, celebration, and fellowship with the Pope. Let us pray that beyond the events and festivities, these young hearts may truly encounter Jesus Christ, experience His transforming love, and return to their nations as bold witnesses of the Gospel.

### Prayer concerns for Youths in Italy:

- ▶ Over 35% of Italians aged 20-30 are unemployed which is more than double the European in average.
- ▶ This unemployment worsened after the 2008 financial crisis and spiked again during the 2011 economic downturn.
- ▶ Anxiety, depression and Illegal relationships are increasingly reported among Gen Z in Italy.
- ▶ Prayer life is strongly shaped by Catholic traditions and many who pray tend to turn more often to saints than to Jesus directly. Let all youth glorify and praise Lord Jesus alone.

**Thanksgiving Prayer:** Let us thank the Lord almighty for the Christian conferences that are going to be held in Italy, namely, "The Salesian Family Spirituality Days" in January, "The preparations for the World Feast of Gratitude" in April and the "Go to the Ends of the Earth - Jesus Youth Conference" in Rome this October. May God intervene and guide every step of the preparations and may these Christ centered and mission oriented gatherings resound across the world with the proclamation that Jesus Christ is our Lord and Saviour.



# SPECIAL PRAYER CONCERNS FOR NATIVE WORKERS

“And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues.” (1 Corinthians 12:28) Jesus gave His disciples a specific prayer point: “Pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest” (Matt. 9:35-38). Accordingly, when we pray for God to raise workers from within the people groups where we serve, the Lord responds by raising many laborers from local churches. Glory be to God! Through the mission-field churches of the Friends Missionary Prayer Band (FMPB), God has raised over 1,000 local evangelists, pastors, and voluntary workers, using them mightily among their own people for the expansion of God’s Kingdom.

Let us praise God for these native workers and pray earnestly for their well-being. Let us pray with a burden that armies of God’s servants will arise from every people group in India.

## Praise God for...

- ◆ The more than 1,000 native workers and pastors God has raised from our mission-field churches.
- ◆ Their dedication and vision as they serve among their own people in various capacities as part-time volunteers, full-time ministers, and local church pastors.

## Pray That...

- ◆ The native workers who have dedicated themselves to God will be firm in Biblical truth, grow in faith, maintain holiness, and endure until the end.
- ◆ God would bless the children and families of these workers and grant them the grace to fulfill God’s ministry as a family unit.
- ◆ God would grant every native worker good physical health and protection during their travels.
- ◆ Their family needs and ministry requirements would be met without any hindrance.
- ◆ The powers of the devil working against the well-being and ministry efforts of these workers would be defeated.
- ◆ False cases and forced conversion allegations filed against native workers in various states would be cancelled and dismissed.
- ◆ Proper Bible and leadership training programs would be conducted for them, and that they would be prayerfully molded into future church leaders.
- ◆ They would remain faithful in the ministry responsibilities entrusted to them and keep themselves upright before God in all circumstances.
- ◆ Those ordained as pastors would perform their duties prayerfully and diligently, serving as role models to the flocks entrusted to them.
- ◆ There would be a spirit of oneness and brotherly love among the native workers serving in every region.
- ◆ Native workers would work harmoniously with regional and field supervisors, giving no room for thoughts of division or schism.
- ◆ Field-level native workers would guard themselves against false doctrines and lead their congregations clearly in Biblical truth.
- ◆ God would raise thousands more workers from among all the people groups across India.



# OBSESSIVE COMPULSIVE DISORDER (OCD)



## What?

Obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) is a mental health condition characterized by a cycle of intrusive, unwanted thoughts (obsessions) and repetitive behaviours or mental acts (compulsions). These symptoms are typically persistent, time-consuming, and cause significant distress or impairment in daily life. OCD usually begins in the teen or young adult years, but it can start in childhood.

## Why?

The exact cause is unknown, but researchers believe it involves a combination of factors, including genetics, differences in brain structure and chemistry, and environmental influences.

## How?

**OCD is commonly understood through these two key elements:**

**Obsessions:** Fear of being contaminated by touching objects others have touched, Intense stress when objects aren't orderly or facing a certain way, Images of driving your car into a crowd of people, Unpleasant sexual images, and fears about harm coming to oneself or others.

**Compulsions:** Excessive handwashing or cleaning, checking locks or appliances repeatedly, counting in specific patterns, arranging items to be "just right," and seeking reassurance.

## Is Obsessive Compulsive Disorder Treatable?

OCD is chronic and long-lasting with periods of severe symptoms followed by periods of improvement. Treatment can improve ability to function and quality of life, and is usually reflected by improved Y-BOCS scores. Treatment-resistant obsessive-compulsive disorder is also managed with transcranial magnetic stimulation or, as a last resort, surgical options like deep brain stimulation.

## Statistics:

1. OCD is the 4th most common mental disorder worldwide.
2. The prevalence of OCD in the Indian population to be approximately 0.6%.
3. Average OCD onset age is 19 years (range 7-35).
4. As seen globally, OCD in India frequently co-occurs with other conditions, such as major depressive disorder, generalized anxiety disorder, and ADHD.
5. A study of medical undergraduates in India (published in 2025) reported a significantly higher prevalence of probable OCD symptoms (around 29%), which researchers link to intense academic and professional pressures.
6. In India, because of the fear of social judgment, many individuals do not report their OCD symptoms to family members or healthcare providers.

## Prayer Points:

### The Lord to:

1. Replace the urge to fix or analyze things with providing a sense of calm, quiet mind and a settled heart.
2. Calm the mind that feels overwhelmed by intrusive thoughts.
3. Grant the strength to face the fears that OCD presents.
4. Grant the families and friends of those affected by OCD, with the wisdom to provide support that is truly helpful and the patience to walk this path with their loved ones.
5. Make their homes and relationships be a sanctuary of safety, where there are honest communication and freedom from the pressure to be 'perfect' or symptom-free.

# THE MISSIONARY WHO BROUGHT DAWN TO THOSE WAITING FOR THE DAY

## A SWEET CONVERSATION WITH REV. G. SAMUEL SUBRAMANI

**MISSIONARY INTRODUCTION:** My name is G. Samuel Subramani, and my wife's name is Susila Samuel. We have a son and a daughter, both of whom are married and involved in ministry. We served as missionaries among tribes such as the Kukna, Bhil, Varli, Koli, and Dhodiya for 43 years. We are currently retired and residing in Coimbatore.

**QUESTION: HOW DID YOU DEVELOP THE DESIRE TO SERVE IN THE MINISTRY?**

**MISSIONARY'S ANSWER:** Pastor Wesley Durairaj, who led me into Christ, answered many of my questions based on the Bible and his own life testimony. Furthermore, he clearly explained the immense need for teaching the Word of God and serving through music ministry. This ignited a deep desire in me to serve the Lord.

**QUESTION: HOW DID YOU COMMIT YOURSELF TO BECOMING A MISSIONARY?**

**MISSIONARY'S ANSWER:** Observing my desire, Pastor Wesley Durairaj advised me to study at the Bethel Bible Institute in Danishpet (Salem) and then go to North India for ministry. I enrolled in a one-year course called Bachelor of Mission Service. During that time, promotional secretaries from FMPB (Friends Missionary Prayer Band) visited the college and used slideshows to explain the dire need for workers in North India.

They showed how, in Uttar Pradesh, people would cast elderly family members into the flowing Ganges River to wash away their sins. They believed that when the bodies floated as corpses and vultures ate them, their sins were removed. Hearing that people were still living with such beliefs in the 20th century filled me with a heavy heart, and I committed myself to go there as a missionary.

**QUESTION: WHAT CHALLENGES DID YOU FACE IN YOUR MISSIONARY WORK?**

**MISSIONARY'S ANSWER:** The hardships and struggles I faced on the field were many. Finding a place to stay was a problem, and there was a severe water shortage during the summers. Moreover, because of rugged terrain and a lack of proper transportation, I often had to walk many miles to conduct ministry. Since the local people were backward in education and other areas, they found it



difficult to understand things easily. Beyond all this, I faced opposition from village leaders and priests, and there were many days when I was physically attacked. Yet, amidst all this, God gave me the grace to serve powerfully.

**QUESTION: WHAT WERE THE IMPACTS OF YOUR MISSIONARY WORK AMONG THE PEOPLE?**

**MISSIONARY'S ANSWER:** My goal was for all the people in my ministry areas to achieve upliftment. With the help of local believers, I was able to establish churches. Today, the people have progressed by 60% in terms of self-reliance, independent thinking, and sharing the Gospel.

Dear Young People! There are still many people like these who do not know the Lord. Will you come forward to rescue them from destruction? The Lord is calling you with open arms. Step forward to do the Lord's work!

**POINTS FOR PRAYER:**

- ◆ Pray that all people among the Kukna, Bhil, Varli, Koli, and Dhodiya tribes come to know the true God.
- ◆ Pray that the obstacles in proclaiming the Gospel be removed and that unreached villages be reached.
- ◆ Pray that the believers do not backslide and continue to participate in church worship.
- ◆ Pray that many young people rise up as full-time ministers.

# Bhajan Clubbing

This is seen as a trending spiritual gathering highly celebrated by Gen Z and Millennials. Specifically held during night hours, "Bhajan Clubbing" is when one person leads bhajan verses (hymns) while the crowd joins in unison - clapping, singing, and dancing. It appears almost like a "Christian Concert." These events mislead youth through attractive buzzwords like "spiritual club night" and "sacred clubbing."

Tickets for these events are sold on apps like BookMyShow. Prime Minister Modi himself has supported this trend by posting several tweets. Many young couples in our country have resigned from their daily jobs to take up singing and composing for these Bhajan Clubs as a full-time profession.

Recently, the first Bhajan Club held in Bangalore was viewed by approximately 50,000 people online alone, with over 2,000 people attending in person. The Ambani family also organized a large Bhajan Club for their son's birthday, inviting many guests to celebrate. The days when we organized children's and youth gatherings to sing and praise God are fading, and today, they are being replaced by "Bhajan Clubbing" that seeks after foreign gods.

## Prayer Points:

- ▶▶ Let us pray for organizations like ISKCON, Nirvana Station, Alive Experiences, Rashi Entertainments, and Backstage Siblings that take responsibility for conducting these Bhajan Clubs.
- ▶▶ Let us pray for the salvation of Gen Z and Millennials in cities where this is most prevalent, such as Bangalore, Chennai, Visakhapatnam, Goa, Kolkata, Delhi, and Mumbai.
- ▶▶ Let us pray for youth gatherings, all-night prayer meetings, and revival meetings that currently appear sluggish or weary.
- ▶▶ Let us pray for youth to be delivered from social media and online games that hinder them from attending spiritual gatherings.
- ▶▶ Let us pray that God ignites a fire of revival among young adults and teenagers.
- ▶▶ Just as parents send their children to academic and sports classes, let us pray they encourage them to attend spiritual meetings with the same enthusiasm.
- ▶▶ Just as a degree requires three to five years of training, let us pray that youth realize that the Christian life and the journey to heaven also require spiritual discipline and attendance at spiritual gatherings.
- ▶▶ Let us bow our knees and pray that the feet currently rushing in crowds toward Bhajan Clubs will experience the love of Jesus and run toward Him instead.
- ▶▶ Let us pray for God to halt the rapid spread of these trends, which are moving beyond India to nations like the U.S. and U.K.
- ▶▶ Let us intercede regarding the "Bhajan Rallies" held in the streets to gather support for Bhajan Clubs, and pray for the police and ministers who facilitate them.

# DOES YOUR GOD SPEAK IN OUR LANGUAGE?

## BIBLE TRANSLATION MINISTRY- THE VASAVI LANGUAGE

*I am very happy to meet you through this column every month. This month, let us explore the Vasavi language and the impact of the Vasavi Bible on church growth.*

### INTRODUCTION TO THE VASAVI MINISTRY:

In 1980, after completing a three-month general linguistics course in Nashik, and through the Lord's guidance to undertake Bible translation in the Vasavi language, the work was started at the end of 1981 by Mr. Rajendran and his wife Mrs. Leelabai.

In March 1981, they joined the FMPB administration and learned the Gujarati language in the Unai region. They conducted a preliminary linguistic study using a list of 200 words among the Warli and Koli people of Maharashtra and the Dhodiya people of Gujarat. In 1981, since there was no major transformation among the Warli, Koli, and Dhodiya people, it was very difficult to choose which language to focus on. At the same time, FMPB pioneers Mr. Alaichamy Paul and Mr. Christopher Thomas had begun translation work among the Kukna and Chaudhri people, respectively. Since many people in those groups were accepting Jesus, Bible translation in those languages was given priority.

### CHOOSING THE VASAVA PEOPLE:

In October 1981, a fasting prayer meeting was held in the Unai area. Missionary Mr. Nesamani came to that meeting from Dediapada. He spoke about the opportunities for ministry among the Vasava people. He reported that a small church had been built in Jarkham village in September 1981 and that many had accepted Jesus and received baptism. He also noted that the language spoken by the Vasava people was very different from Gujarati. Consequently, in December 1981, Mr. Alaichamy Paul and Mr. Rajendran went to Dediapada to investigate. They realized that the Vasavi language was very unique, decided to start the Bible translation in Vasavi, and obtained permission from the administration.

### EARLY CHALLENGES:

When they moved to Dediapada in January 1982, people refused to rent them a house because they



were Christians. Later, they stayed in a simple house in Jarkham village and began learning the language. Living without facilities like electricity or toilets was very challenging for them.

### PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENTS:

- **New Testament:** After many years of learning Vasavi and working with the help of local people, they translated the 27 books of the New Testament into the Vasavi Amburi dialect by October 2003. It was published in December 2006. All 2,000 printed copies of the New Testament were fully distributed.
- **Dialects:** Later, the New Testament was also published in the Vasavi Dehwali dialect in 2011.
- **Khandeshi Region:** Translation is currently being done in the Devanagari script for the people of the Khandesh region.
- **Note:** Due to illness, Mrs. Leelabai has since reached the Kingdom of God (passed away).

### LET US PRAISE GOD:

- For the preparation of literacy books for adults.
- For providing education through camp-based methods.
- For the production of the Luke video in 2012.
- For the Vasavi Bible being available on the mobile app.

### LET US PRAY:

- That the ongoing Old Testament translation will be completed and published on time.
- That the goal of publishing the entire Bible by 2030 will be fulfilled.
- That the plan to publish the Bible in other Vasavi dialects will also be accomplished.

Dear Young People! What is your role in this relay race? Does the voice of the risen Jesus Christ calling you to this ministry not ring in your ears? What offering are you going to give to Jesus, who redeemed you at a great price? Think!





## BETRAYAL OF THE BADGE

- A young man was brutally assaulted by police officers during a protest march.
- Let us pray that the unjust attacks on civilians by the police will stop, and that the police will act with justice, integrity, and truth.

## COUNTDOWN TO SPLASHDOWN

- Astronauts of Artemis II returned to earth and USA celebrated its successful splashdown.
- Pray for the astronaut's health . Pray that the same precision used to sustain human life would be applied by world leaders to protect and preserve life here on Earth.



## THE IPL PARADOX

- The IPL auctions trade in hundreds of crores, the real cost is often paid by fans who trade their time and emotional health for team loyalty while neglecting their own financial and personal growth.
- Let's pray for against the spirit of addiction that turns entertainment into idol.

## NBA'S NEW MINISTRY

- Several NBA players have recently become prominent figures in a growing movement of faith-based activism, using their platforms to openly discuss Christianity.
- Let's pray these athletes remain steadfast in their convictions, finding the courage to lead with grace while being a light for the world and be a good influence.



## EASTER BLOODBATH

- Northern Nigeria was marred by coordinated attacks across in at least 33 deaths, mass kidnappings that have left Christian communities in a state of mourning.
- Pray for the grieving families in asking for God's comfort to replace their mourning; pray also for the safe release of the over 150 captives.

# PASSION AND RISK TAKING

Last month we saw that Paul boldly proclaimed the Good News of Jesus Christ in the midst of stiff opposition. However, God gave him a pattern to work among the Gentiles which he successfully replicated wherever he went. This month we are going to see how God helped his servant to face more stiff opposition. Despite facing life threatening situation, Paul and Barnabas were unwaveringly focused on the job of establishing the churches they had planted. When the opposition of Jews in Pisidian Antioch began to increase, Paul decided to move to the neighboring district of Lycaonia. But before moving on, he followed the advice of our Lord Jesus and shook off the dust on his feet (Ac 13:51). This was a reminder to the opposing Jews that their actions were grievous sins and they would be punished for rejecting the Good News (Mt 10:14). Then, Paul and Barnabas went to the cities of Iconium, Lystra and Derbe.

In Iconium, they entered the Jewish synagogue and presented the Gospel message according to their custom (Ac 14:1). As usual, many Jews and Greeks responded positively. However, soon the unbelieving Jews entered the scene and began thwarting the efforts of Paul. When Paul and Baranabas learnt that they were attempting to stone them, they escaped to Lystra and Derbe (Ac 14:6). The verbal opposition was turning physical and God protected his messengers.

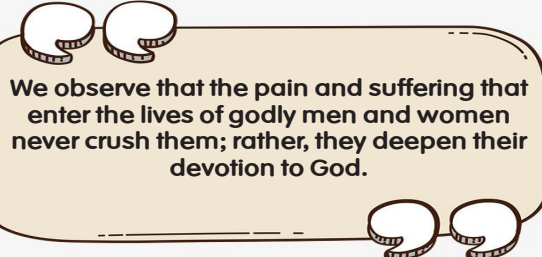
In Lystra, God did a great miracle through Paul by making a man crippled from birth to walk. However, such a profound miracle did not yield the intended result. Instead of believing the message Paul brought, the people were trying to honor him and Barnabas as if they were gods. When they understood about the people's misunderstanding, they were grieved and they restrained people from honoring them (Ac 14:8-18). Many times, we think that miracles are the solution to change unbelief. But we can understand clearly from this incident, unless God opens the minds of people, they will not understand the message of salvation.

Utilizing the moment of confusion and deadlock, opposing Jews from Antioch and Iconium stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing that he was dead (Ac 14:19). God was gracious to Paul by reviving him both physically and spiritually. This incident taught Paul to rely not on himself but on God alone irrespective of the intensity of difficulties he faced (2 Cor 1:9). Thus, we see that pain and suffering in the lives of godly men and women never crush them but intensifies their reliance on God. Also, we see that God raises the bar of suffering gradually so that we become beacons of hope and comfort to

people undergoing similar suffering (2 Cor 1:3-4). Paul and Barnabas then moved to Derbe and preached the Good News of Jesus Christ. Here they witnessed the gracious hand of God so that they could lead many into salvation (Ac 14:20-21). Their despair changed to great joy. However, during this period of relief and restoration, Paul understood that his mission of establishing churches would be incomplete, if he failed to install local leaders to take care of the believers in his absence.

Hence, Paul and Barnabas did two things in every church they had planted. Although they could face more persecution, they returned to every congregation without fear. First, they taught the believers that the Christian life would be full of trials and tribulations and that they should persevere to the end to enter the kingdom of God. Then, they appointed elders to take care of the believers. With prayer and fasting, they committed the elders to the Lord in whom they believed (Ac 14:21-23). This establishment of local leadership provided the crucial structure for long-term survival of the planted churches.

In 2018, Breytenbach and Zimmermann analyzed "hundreds of funerary inscriptions" from Lycaonia. These Christian tombstones provided a valuable proof that the believing community expanded from cities into rural villages. This community also developed a distinct local culture of caring and sharing. In the 4th-century, there was a notable bishop, Amphilochius who was a close friend of the famous theologian Basil the Great. He hailed from Iconium. From his writings we understand that the church evolved from a mission outpost into a lasting regional center of religious authority.



**We observe that the pain and suffering that enter the lives of godly men and women never crush them; rather, they deepen their devotion to God.**

## What do we learn?

Miracles are not the ultimate gimmick of Gospel work. They can either help people to have faith on Jesus or turn them away from him. So, we should not be mongers of signs and wonders. We should fix our eyes on Jesus who only can bring people to the saving grace. Secondly, we should always mentor many leaders and install them to take care of the Church and mission. We should always endeavor to seek the joy of seeing someone else leading the things started by us.



## CONCLUSION

The life of Zebulun describes a life firmly anchored. They acted with loyalty in purpose. By undertaking sea voyages, they earned not only economic resources but also spiritual resources. Indeed, Jesus, who was born in Bethlehem of Zebulun (one of the towns), fulfilled a complete ministry in the Sea of Galilee region.

Capernaum, a travel route in the Canaanite region, served as Jesus' greatest ministry base. By sharing the spiritual wealth of the Gospel, multitudes of people came to Jerusalem to offer sacrifices of righteousness. Understanding this noble purpose, the tribe of Zebulun acted like a boat, sharing the prosperity of the seas and working with a heart free of deceit to bring others to God. "The people walking in darkness have seen a great light" (Isaiah 9:1, 2).

They are warriors in the spiritual battle. They keep their ranks. They operate with a stable mind and live successfully. This is the "good gift" that Leah spoke of (Genesis 30:20).

Beloved! Loyalty was found in the purpose of Zebulun's life. This calls us to fulfill God's plan without divisive thoughts, prioritizing His will over seeking benefit, help, profit, or expectations from others. Therefore, "forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, let us press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called us heavenward in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:13, 14).

May God bless us! Amen.

**It calls us to act without divisive thoughts to fulfill God's plan—without prioritizing or expecting benefits, assistance, or gain from others.**

## THE BEGINNING OF PAMMAL YOUTH PRAYER CELL...

In the Pammal area, God graciously enabled the start of a new FMPB Monthly Youth Fellowship. Thirty-five young people from nearby churches participated in the very first fellowship gathering, titled "LoggedIN." This meeting brought great enthusiasm and blessing to all the youth who attended.

During the session, Mr. Valentine Davidar shared a meaningful message regarding the love of God. Additionally, Mr Joshua Madi encouraged the youth by sharing a powerful testimony that manifested God's faithfulness.

This was a refreshing experience for all the participants, serving to strengthen their faith. It has been decided to conduct this youth fellowship every month on the 4th week. Let us pray for this gathering to continue without any hindrance, for many more young people to join the monthly meetings, and for them to gain a burden for souls and engage in missionary work.

To God be the glory!



# VISION 2030

- ◆ **The Friends Missionary Prayer Band (FMPB) is a movement of praying people created by the Holy Spirit. This movement was formed by those who were obedient to the vision granted by God.**
- ◆ **On June 9, 1967, the first missionary was sent out, and the first mission field was established.**
- ◆ **Between 1972 and 1981, a new vision emerged to send 440 workers to 11 states and 220 districts within 10 years. The faith mantra, “To send a missionary to every village in the world, let every person lend a hand for the Lord,” was born.**
- ◆ **As a result of the vision to send 440 workers, God helped send 250 people by 1982. He also provided 180 prayer groups to support the missionaries and more than 600 growing prayer groups.**
- ◆ **In the planning meeting held in 1991, two new action plans, “Let us Multiply ‘95” and “Mission ‘95,” were introduced.**
- ◆ **980 people participated in the “Mission ‘95” gathering. 313 people dedicated themselves to full-time service. Among them, about 100 were eager to join the ministry immediately.**
- ◆ **Today, as a result of the ministry carried out among 263 people groups in 24 states, God has given us more than 8 lakh (800,000) souls.**
- ◆ **“Mission 2030” is the vision given by the Lord for 1,000 young people and young couples from Tamil Nadu and Puducherry to go out as cross-cultural missionaries to win Indians for Jesus. To fulfill this vision, we need prayer warriors! We need prayer groups! We need those who will rise up and go as missionaries!**
- ◆ **It is the responsibility of all of us to pray for the fulfillment of this vision. Realizing this responsibility, let us pray with concern and a burden for souls.**

## **Prayer Points:**

- ◆ **Pray for young people and young couples who have accepted Christ as their Savior to receive a missionary vision and go out as missionaries to the needy areas of our nation.**
- ◆ **Pray for parents who have children with a vision and desire for missionary work to willingly send them into the ministry.**
- ◆ **Pray for our churches and pastors to not only share the missionary vision in their congregations but also to send forth the youth of their churches as missionaries.**
- ◆ **Pray for youth gatherings and monthly fellowship meetings to be held in our promotion districts and for systematic follow-up work to be conducted.**
- ◆ **Pray that the vision and burden to send 1,000 missionaries by 2030 will create a powerful**

**“A PRAYER GROUP FOR EVERY VILLAGE;  
A MISSIONARY FOR EVERY PRAYER GROUP.”**



# WALK IN DIVINE WISDOM!

## HANDLE WITH CARE RIGHT FOUNDATION



On a busy road, the glowing “**Stop, Look, Go**” signals on traffic lights help us travel, stop, and turn safely. These warnings prevent accidents and ensure a secure journey. Similarly, every person entering married life stands before a signpost that reads: “**Observe,**” “**Think,**” and “**Decide.**” Do not enter this married life in a rush or with an attitude of indifference.

### OBSERVE:

- Marriage is not a one-day game. It is a “crop for a thousand years” (a lifelong investment).
- God said that marriage is honorable among all (Hebrews 13:4).
- Marriage is not a Contract; it is a Covenant. A contract is for a short term, but a covenant is a deep bond between two people.
- Marriage is a lifelong covenant. Only death can separate this bond.
- Therefore, do not fail by giving importance only to outward appearances.

Values are vital. There must be clarity regarding work, lifestyle (where are we going to live?), income, debt, savings, and spending habits. Share these with an open heart with the partner appointed for your marriage. Those who are transparent in these matters succeed. No “magical change” happens suddenly after marriage. Therefore, be careful in choosing a partner. Seek Divine Wisdom.

### THINK:

The Lord God said, “It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him” (Genesis 2:18). A wife is neither a laborer nor a slave. She is the one who builds the family along with her partner. Therefore, after becoming a couple, we must be partners in spiritual life, social life, and family life.

Marriage is not merely for physical pleasure; that is just one aspect of it. Many will come to share in wealth and happiness. But the bond of marriage the “suitable helper” - was established by God to share in intimacies, hardships, and failures. Therefore, think well and choose a partner after knowing God’s will.

### DECIDE:

The most important thing in married life is making the right decision. Marriages centered on fleshly emotions, losing one’s heart to the lust of the eyes without a second thought, will end in the pain of an accident - much like a driver crossing the road recklessly.

Life is not a bed of roses. Differences of opinion may arise from within the family and from outside. Christians will also face attacks from the devil. What matters is how we handle pressure, failure, and criticism when we face them in our lives. Do we take responsibility for our Emotional Maturity, or do we blame others?

A life without any conflict might be impossible. But how we handle it in our exchange of words is what’s most important. In this modern world, family life is attacked by pressures, confusion, a lack of devotion to God, trends, the false teachings of the media, and a fascination with new cultures. In this peaceless world, the only way is to allow the Prince of Peace into our families. When His will is fulfilled in your life, quarrels, “you or me” ego clashes, violence, wounds, divisions, and divorce will vanish, and peace will abound.

**The decision is in your hands...** Observe and think about this today, and give room to God to decide your future life. Grow in God’s Word and in fellowship. May God bless you.

**“Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God; Your Spirit is good. Lead me in the land of uprightness.”** (Psalm 143:10)

# THE UNFORGIVING SERVANT

MATTHEW 18:23-35

In human life, forgiveness is a vital spiritual quality. Jesus Christ illustrates this through a very clear and detailed parable: "The Unforgiving Servant."

## THE ANALOGY OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD

In this parable, a king begins to settle accounts with his servants. One man owed the king ten thousand talents - a debt he was completely unable to repay. Consequently, the king commanded that the man, his wife, his children, and everything he owned be sold to settle the debt. However, the servant fell down, prostrated himself before the king, and pleaded, "Lord, have patience with me, and I will pay you all." Moved with compassion, the king released him and forgave his entire debt.

Similarly, the grace God offers us is immeasurable. We cannot pay the debt of the sins we have committed; yet, God is faithful to forgive them all.

## FORGIVEN, YET UNFORGIVING

The man who received such immense forgiveness went out and found a fellow servant who owed him a very small amount. He seized him and demanded, "Pay me what you owe!" Even when that man fell at his feet and pleaded, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you all," the first servant refused to forgive and instead threw him into prison.

The great contradiction here is that despite receiving massive forgiveness himself, he did not have the heart to forgive another person's minor mistake.

## JUSTICE AND JUDGMENT

When the king learned of this, he was furious and punished the unforgiving servant. He asked, "Should you not also have had compassion on your fellow servant, just as I had pity on you?"

This teaches us that those who have received forgiveness must not be unforgiving toward others.

## SPIRITUAL LESSONS

The key lessons we must learn from this parable are:

- **Forgiveness Is God's Nature:** The forgiveness we have received is boundless.
- **An Unforgiving Heart Is Dangerous:** It leads us toward judgment.
- **We Must Forgive Others:** We must extend the same grace to others that we have received.
- **Forgive From the Heart:** Forgiveness should not be superficial; it must be sincere and true.

## Application in Our Lives

In today's world, we often hold onto grudges over small matters. This leads to divisions within families, churches, and friendships. Jesus' message regarding this is clear: "If you do not forgive others from your heart, neither will God forgive you."

## CONCLUSION

The parable of the "Unforgiving Servant" acts as a mirror for us. When we reflect on the grace we have received from God, it is unjust to remain unforgiving toward others. Therefore, let us live not only as those who receive forgiveness but as those who grant it. Let us surrender ourselves to the Lord to live such a noble life. May the Lord lead us in this way. Amen!



# THE NOBLE GAMALIEL

A Pharisee, by mortal men most graced,  
In whose pure soul the Holy Law was traced;  
A master of the Great Jehovah's hand,  
Who taught the scrolls throughout the sacred land.  
Within the Council, poised in balance true,  
A heart of mercy, bathed in heaven's dew;  
To weed the garden of unrighteous sin,  
This man of truth did holy war begin;  
The sire of wisdom to that chosen one,  
Great Paul, who followed as a faithful son.

He sought no pelf, nor lucre's base delight,  
But kept his honor as a beacon bright;  
Against the shifting tongue he stood his ground,  
In God's eternal Law his beauty found.  
A Rabbi robed in majesty and might,  
The Council's crown, a jewel of the light;  
Before his feet, the elders bowed the head,  
By his high grace and noble spirit led.

A man of history, firm as mountain stone,  
Whose humble heart was God's own earthly throne;  
Of patience, he the very mirror stood,  
A well-spring of the wise and holy good.  
A treasury of counsel, deep and vast,  
Who sowed the seeds of peace that ever last;  
A sage who calmed the tempest with a word,  
Whose silent thought the spirit's depths had stirred.

For works of men shall crumble into dust,  
And turn to clay as all things mortal must;  
But works of God, like living waters, run,  
Beneath the circuit of the golden sun.  
The wrath of man shall break and fade away,  
Like morning mist before the heat of day;  
No blessing waits on judgments made in haste,  
Nor angry hearts in history's hall are placed.

Let us the robes of quiet peace assay,  
And pluck the roots of dark injustice 'way;  
To live as mirrors of the Truth's own face,  
And speak with dignity and noble grace.  
Tear down the life that holds no inner prize,  
And shun the world that charms the foolish eyes;  
The subtle paths of justice let us learn,  
And to the Eternal King our praises turn!



# PHILIP THE APOSTLE

## Introduction

Philip, the apostle belongs to the band of Jesus's disciples. He belongs to Bethsaida village. From the same village Peter and Andrew became disciples to Jesus Christ. Philip introduced Nathanael to Jesus Christ. The act communicates that Philip was quick in action and was able to identify Jesus Christ as the 'Coming Messiah.' The historical records notices that Philip was an evangelist to Greece and Asia Minor one who preached the gospel of Jesus Christ.

## Philip, an Evangelist for Jesus Christ

Some scholars believe that Philip was one of disciples of John the Baptist. John the Baptist, the forerunner of Jesus Christ, was teaching that the coming of the Messiah was very nearby. The biblical records communicates that Philip saw Jesus Christ and he was strongly believed that 'He is the Coming Messiah.' Immediately, he rushed to Nathanael and communicated that he has seen 'the Messiah.' In addition, Philip insisted Nathanael to join him to see Jesus Christ.

## The Call of Philip, the disciple of Jesus Christ

The gospel of John recorded that Jesus found and called Philip directly and commissioned to follow Him. Philip was a good communicator. Philip carried a Greek name and positively acceptable that he could speak Greek. The assumption would be that the Greek pilgrims in Jerusalem approached him to meet Jesus Christ. Philip was in part of team ministry. Along with Andrew, he could lead a group of the seekers from the Greek community to have a meeting with Jesus Christ.

## The family of Philip, the disciple of Jesus Christ

The Bible shows few hints about his daughters in the book of ACTS. It supports that he was married and blessed with three daughters. According to the historical records, Clement of Alexandria stated that Philip had married and had three daughters.

## The Ministerial Records of Philip, the disciple of Jesus Christ

Philip was good in personal conversation. He brought Nathanael to Jesus Christ. He was able to lead a group of Greeks to Jesus Christ, who were seekers of the Messiah. Philip was close to Jesus Christ and was a good communicator in the needs of the ministry. He conveys the need of food for the 5000 people who were attending the campaign to listen the sermon of Jesus Christ. Philip was asking clarification from Jesus to show the Father to them at the Last Supper. The traditions recorded that after the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, Philip the disciple went as an evangelist and was doing ministry in and around Samaria.

## Philip the disciple of Jesus Christ as a model to Missionary Life

Philip had a close foundation with the Lord and in His Church. He was preaching the gospel of Jesus Christ among the non-Jewish people in Samaria. He baptized prominent sorcerer named Simon [Acts 8:13]. Philip was keeping team-spirit and was keeping connection with Apostles in Jerusalem. When Peter and John visited him, he



was able to join them.

When the sorcerer was not prominent in faith, Peter removed him from the fellowship. Philip as a team-worker accepted the leadership and decision of Peter. His submission to the authorities was very clear in the ministry. Moreover, Philip allowed Peter and John to pray for his new converts to receive the anointment of the Holy Spirit [Acts 8:15]. The authoritative actions and prayers were not a threaten to Philip and his ministry. But he has not seen as a challenge but as a beneficial help to the new church to grow in the knowledge of God in Samaria.

Philip was not very stubborn in his apostolic rights. He was able to give-up his position as a senior pastor in the newly established church at Samaria for the sake of His ministry. He was so successful but the Lord took him far away from Samaria after an encounter with the Minister of Ethiopia in the wilderness.

Philip was a cross-cultural missionary and communicator of the gospel. The conversion of the Ethiopian represented the gospel reaching a new, non-Jewish audience.

Philip did not stay in one place by seeing all his success and leadership in the church. He was with Jesus Christ. He moved to Samaria. He travelled in the wilderness for just one person. He was taken by the Holy Spirit to Caesarea. He was able to host the band of cross-cultural missionaries on the missionary work at Caesarea.

## The death of Philip, the disciple of Jesus Christ

The death of the Apostle is not recorded in the Bible. But the traditional records shows that around 80 AD, he was martyred in Hierapolis, Phrygia [modern Turkey]. Most early church traditions states that Philip was crucified upside down.

## A Message from Friends Missionary Prayer Band

The organization is looking forward of people like Philip for the ministry as a cross-cultural missionary. To accept the Lordship of Jesus Christ and guidance, the organization looking forward youth to join as vibrant communicator of the gospel to the unreached people of different ethnic groups.

Join us as an evangelist and church planter. Be in the band of missionaries and travel across the country but not to stay in one place. Be a good communicator of the gospel in the personal evangelism. Lead a good family life and set a model in the ministry of God.

Are you willing to accept the biblical concepts of the missionary models through the ministry of Friends Missionary Prayer Band.





**FRIENDS MISSIONARY PRAYER BAND**

# TAMIL Annual Camp 2026



Date: **MAY**  
**21<sup>st</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup>**  
Thursday 9.30 am – Sunday 7.30 am

Place: **BETHEL**  
Danishpet, Salem

Speakers:  
**Dr. Rajesh Duthie**  
**Mr. G. John Samuel**  
**Rev. Vijay P. Isaac**  
**Mr. Y. Navaneethar**  
**Rev. J. Ruban Samuel**  
**Rev. S. Emmanuel Ranjisingh**  
**and Field Missionaries**

**Special Arrangements:**  
Separate sessions for Adults,  
Young Couples, Teens,  
Youths and Children.

**Registration fee:**  
For Adults: **RS.300/-**  
Children **RS.200/-**

Spirit-filled songs, Powerful messages, Inspiring Samthya sessions and meaningful sharing of ministry experiences.

We invite you to participate as a prayer group, family, and church to grow stronger in your spiritual life and in missionary vision.

QR Code for  
Camp Registration



### How to Reach the Camp Venue:

- ① Danishpet, Bethel Campus is located 6 km from Theevattipatti on the Salem-Bangalore Highway.
- ② From Salem New Bus Stand you can take buses to Bommiadi, Lokkur, or Ramamoorthy Nagar and get down at Bethel Hospital bus stop.
- ③ By train, travel via the Jolarpettai-Erode or Erode-Jolarpettai route. Those coming should get down at Danishpet Railway Station.
- ④ If you inform the travel coordinators about your arrival, they will receive you and bring you to the venue.
- ⑤ From the early morning of May 21, volunteers will be available at Salem Railway Station, Salem Bus Stand, and Theevattipatti junction to assist you.
- ⑥ For travel coordination, contact:  
Mr. A. Gnanaadas - 90429 45090  
Mr. P. Rathnaraj - 94873 25000

- ⑦ Separate accommodations have been arranged for men and women within the camp campus.
- ⑧ Bring a Bible, Notebook, Pen, Plate, Tumbler, Blanket, and a Torch light.
- ⑨ Food will be served at 5:00 PM after the fasting prayer on May 22 (Friday).

Tamil Nadu State Level Bible and  
Missionary Biography Exam for Teens and Youths

**BAMB**  
**BIBLE AND MISSIONARY**  
**BIOGRAPHY**  
**EXAM - 2026**

AGE LIMIT:  
**13-30**  
YEARS

- 👉 ISAIH CHAPTER 40 TO CHAPTER 66.
- 👉 BIOGRAPHIES OF MISSIONARIES AND NEWS PUBLISHED IN THE MARCH, APRIL, AND MAY 2026 ISSUES OF 'KERITHI' MAGAZINE.
- 👉 MEMORY VERSE PORTION - ISAIH 53:1-12.
- 👉 THE EXAM WILL BE CONDUCTED IN TAMIL AND ENGLISH. (NKJV & NIV ENGLISH BIBLE WILL BE FOLLOWED).
- 👉 VENUE: BETHEL CAMPUS, DANISHPET, SALEM.
- 👉 EXAM DATE: 2ND DAY OF THE ANNUAL CAMP (22.05.2026).
- 👉 EXAM TIME: 8:30 PM TO 10:30 PM.
- 👉 MUST SCORE AT LEAST 50 MARKS TO GET A PRIZE.
- 👉 SPECIAL PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED TO THE TOP THREE SCORERS, OTHERS WILL BE GIVEN A CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION.

For more details:  
**FMPB YOUTH WING** 📞 9445040148

📅 The camp will conclude on the morning of May 24th with a Holy Communion service.

✉ Email address for camp registration:  
annulacampfmpb2026@gmail.com

### Contact:

**FRIENDS MISSIONARY PRAYER BAND**  
29, High School Road, Ambattur, Chennai- 600053  
Phone: 044-26570404, Cell: 9443039555, 9488805454