

FRIENDS MISSIONARY PRAYER BAND



A monthly Prayer Bulletin for  
**Youth**

# STAND WITH THE DOWNTRODDEN.



Vol 40-Issue 7 - July - 2026

Private circulation only





# THE PRIESTHOOD OF JESUS CHRIST

The human race could not be made perfect through the Levitical priests. However, Christ has opened a new and superior way for us.

## ♦ The King of Righteousness and Peace

The king named Melchizedek met Abraham and blessed him. The meaning of his name is “King of Righteousness.” Because he was the king of Salem, he was also called the “King of Peace.”

Altar of Praise: Jesus Christ is the “King of Righteousness” who has granted us forgiveness of sins and made us righteous before God. He is the “King of Peace” who has given our hearts a peace that the world cannot give. We are duty-bound to praise Him forever, for He possesses the power of an endless life.

## ♦ Superior to the Levitical Priesthood (Verses 4 - 11)

Unlike the earthly priests who were beset with human weaknesses, Jesus exists as a supreme Priest without any blemish.

Altar of Praise: Let us praise our High Priest, who came as our high refuge—not through ritualistic laws, but to bless us in spiritual righteousness.

## ♦ An Unchanging, Eternal Priesthood (Verses 23 - 25)

When earthly priests died, the priestly responsibility kept changing from one person to another. But because Jesus Christ conquered death and lives forever, His priesthood is unchanging.

Altar of Praise: Jesus is a faithful friend who hears our prayers and actions, sits at the right hand of the Father, and always intercedes for us. Let the sound of our praise ring out loud, for He is a God powerful enough to save us completely (Ultimate Salvation), never leaving us halfway.

## ♦ A Holy and Spotless Supreme Sacrifice (Verses 26 - 28)

Earthly priests had to offer sacrifices daily, first for their own sins and then for the sins of the people. But Christ, being holy and without sin, offered Himself as a sacrifice once and for all.

♦ **Altar of Praise:** Worshipping Christ the holy, blameless Lamb of God who became the supreme sacrifice for us, is the greatest altar of praise in our lives.

In conclusion, the altar of praise shown in Hebrews Chapter 7 is the unchanging, indestructible, and eternal priesthood of Christ. Since we have a supreme Savior who always intercedes for us without depending on rituals or human beings. Let us offer sacrifices of praise with courage and gratitude.





## 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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**SINGLE COPY -RS. 25/-**

**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**

## INDEX

|                                      |         |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| Teens Corner - French Curves         | - 5     |
| Lobo - A Biography                   | - 6 & 7 |
| France                               | - 10    |
| Sports Injuries                      | - 12    |
| Screen Gambling                      | - 14    |
| Does your God Speak in our Language? | - 15    |
| Do Not Rush... Do Not Suffer...      | - 20    |
| Thomas, the disciple of Jesus Christ | - 22    |

# STAND WITH THE DOWNTRODDEN

We greet all youth with love in the name of Lord Jesus Christ, who judges righteously!

Jesus Christ will be like a shepherd who separates the sheep from the goats. On what basis, and by what metric, will Christ separate humanity? Those who performed acts of love for Jesus during their days on earth will be placed on His right hand. These people will not even remember the things they did for Jesus. They are those who expected nothing in return for their help; they help without anticipating reciprocal favors, acting entirely out of love. Concerning such people, Jesus states in Matthew 25:40: "Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me."

The groups that divide people based on their economy, income, and lifestyle in society are referred to as "classes." This is the very basis on which we tend to categorize the people around us. But Jesus loves all human beings. He loves them as His own brothers and sisters. Throughout scripture, we see Jesus helping those who were cast out and rejected by high society. In Matthew 15:21-28, we know how Jesus helped the daughter of a Canaanite woman. Beloved youth! Let us extend help to those around us who are in various needs through the love of Jesus, without expecting any reward. Revelation 20:12 states: "And the dead were judged according to their works." Let us remember that on God's final day of judgment, we will be judged according to our deeds. Like Jesus, let us act out of love and stand with the oppressed in the class arena.

May the grace of God be with you.

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





# FAKE JUDGE DAN

"Fake" means a work of art that seems to be real but is not. In other words, it is a false creation made by copying something to make others believe it is genuine.

We are invited to reflect on the topic "Fake Judge," concerning Dan, the fifth son of the patriarch Jacob. In what ways did Dan try to model himself, and what kind of deception did he practice to achieve it? Let us look at this in detail in this article. Dan was born out of Rachel's intense jealousy toward her sister Leah, and her impatience regarding God's perfect plan for her. Driven by this, she forced her handmaid Bilhah to be given to Jacob as a wife. Rachel named him Dan, saying, "God has judged my case; He has also heard my voice and given me a son" (Genesis 30:6).

- **The name Dan carries two meanings:**

- To Judge (The one who judges)
- He Judged (The one who is judged)

The scales of justice serve as the symbol of the tribe of Dan.

- **The Mindset and Nature of Dan**

Generally, Dan's mindset reflects self-glorification and a persistent discontentment with what he had. The tribe of Dan was the last to draw lots for their inheritance in Canaan. Their inheritance was located in a narrow strip of land along the Mediterranean Sea, bordered by Judah to the south, Ephraim to the north, and Benjamin to the east, as we read in Joshua 19:47.

Therefore, through their own human efforts (much like Rachel), they sought to expand their borders. They marched to Leshem (also called Laish) at the northernmost tip, where the Sidonian people lived quietly. They captured it, settled there, and thus changed their dwelling place.

Later, just like Rachel who stole idols (Genesis 31:32), they stole the priest and the household idols belonging to Micah from the mountains of Ephraim. They established these idols in the city of Dan—the city they had captured and named after themselves (Judges 18:29, 30). Even though the true

Tabernacle and the divine presence of God were at Shiloh, they altered their way of worship by introducing idols.

Centuries later, after the reign of King Solomon (who built the Temple for the Lord in Jerusalem), the kingdom of Israel was divided. Jeroboam, the king of the northern kingdom, wanted to strengthen his political power. He made two golden calves, setting one up in Bethel and the other in Dan (1 Kings 12:28-31), thereby altering the place of worship for Israel.

- **A Father's Blessing**

The blessing of the father Jacob concerning Dan in Genesis 49:16-18 foreshadows the future of that tribe:

"Dan shall judge his people as one of the tribes of Israel." This prophecy became prominent in the life of Samson, who belonged to the tribe of Dan (Judges 13:1-5).

"Dan shall be a serpent by the way, a viper by the path, that bites the horse's heels so that its rider shall fall backward."

Using tactics symbolized by the cunning nature of a serpent such as ambushes and sudden surprise attacks. They overthrew even great and powerful enemies. However, Jacob recognized that true justice and salvation do not come through human effort or cleverness, but from God alone. Therefore, he concludes his blessing with a prayerful cry: "I have waited for your salvation, O Lord!"

- **A Leader's Vision**

Regarding the leader's (Moses') vision, it is said of Dan:

"Dan is a lion's whelp; he shall leap from Bashan" (Deuteronomy 33:22).

Though Dan was a small tribe, they possessed a fierce, aggressive nature like a young lion when launching rapid, sudden military assaults against their enemies. Bashan is known as a natural habitat for wild beasts east of the Sea of Galilee (Ezekiel 39:18) and an area famous for its oaks (Ezekiel 27:6).

(Continued on page 18)





# FRENCH CURVES

My dear teen boys and girls, warm greetings for the month of July to you and your family! It feels like school just reopened, but one month has already flown by. If we don't use our time correctly, we are the ones who will suffer in the end. Here is a small suggestion: try to finish your daily subjects on the very same day. At the very least, complete them over that weekend. If you waste time thinking, "I'll study tomorrow" or "I'll look at it later," you will never end up studying anything. Without disciplined study, you cannot understand any concept deeply. Over time, procrastination will become your habit. Keep this in mind.

The theme for this youth page is based on things you frequently use in your geometry box. For the last six months, we have been continuously looking at the compass, divider, protractor, and the 45° and 60° set squares and ruler. Accordingly, the very unique instrument we are going to look at this month is the French Curve.

Beyond mathematics and geometry, French curves are widely used in dressmaking and fashion technology. In civil and highway engineering, French curves are used to draft road construction profiles along naturally occurring curves. (A compass is not helpful for drawing an arc by connecting non-linear points. The exact instrument for drawing a non-linear curve is the French curve.) To put it simply so you can understand easily, it is the best instrument for drawing shapes like parabolas and hyperbolas.

Okay, now it's time for the Bible application. In geometry construction, if two points lie on the same plane, you can use a compass to draw an arc and complete the shape. But if those points are on two different planes, we call it non-linear. For any non-linear geometry or profile, what we need to draw it is a French curve. This non-linear profile teaches us a lesson. Our life is not a smooth, straight, linear path either. It is completely a non-linear pattern. Our life is a rough path filled with many ups and downs. This understanding is very important for us. Only then will you stay within a disciplined Christian lifestyle.

Even if the points are non-linear, just like how a French curve connects them to turn them into a beautiful profile, our non-linear life can be transformed into a beautiful profile only by Jesus

Christ. Observe the friends and classmates around us. Watching movies, or singing and listening to cinema songs, does not cause them any guilt. But for us who are in the Christian lifestyle, it is something that separates us from God. Therefore, we do not wish to do it, nor do we want to hang out with those who do.

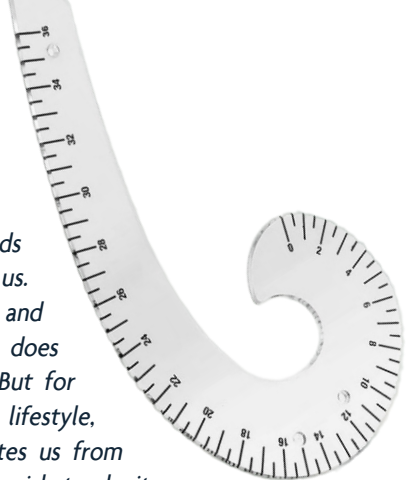
For those who follow the world, this is a normal (linear) thing. Just because the majority of people follow this linear lifestyle, it doesn't mean we have to follow it too. The Christian lifestyle is a non-linear lifestyle that is the exact opposite of this world. It is a lifestyle that reflects Christ as life itself.

Look at Abraham in the Bible. He and his family could have just stayed in Mesopotamia. But Abraham walked for 25 years to reach Canaan. Look at Joseph; if he hadn't reported the mistakes of his elder brothers to his father, and had just compromised with them, he wouldn't have faced any hardships. It was because he told his father about his brothers that they sold him to Egypt as a slave. Look at the verse about our Savior, Jesus Christ: "who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men" (Philippians 2:7).

If Jesus Christ hadn't come to this earth, we would have absolutely no idea what kind of a person God is. It would have been comfortable for Him if He hadn't given up all His supreme mercy and come down in human form. But it is only because He threw away all His comforts and chose a non-linear path that we received salvation.

So, my dear teens, living like the people of this world is not our calling. Our calling is a Christ-centered, peaceful, and contented lifestyle that does not carry the colors and flavors of this world. Why do we say this lifestyle is tough, non-linear, and rough? Because 90% of the people around us do not choose this pattern. This is not the broad road where crowds travel. This is the path of walking hand-in-hand with Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ has all the power, strength, honor, and authority to help you endure and handle all the sufferings that come while walking this way, and ultimately give you our final goal - eternal life. May He grant you the strength to live this Christ-centered lifestyle and to continue in it.

So, until then, see you next month. Bye!



# LOBO

This is the story of a young boy named Lobo who lived on the African continent. During the 16th and 17th centuries, people from Europe and America traveled by ship to Africa, captured the locals, brought them back, and used them as slaves. They brought these captives and sold them in marketplaces just like selling vegetables in a shop. Those who bought these slaves would make them work under brutal conditions. Once sold into slavery, a person lost all freedom and had to suffer for the rest of their life.

During this era, a young boy named Lobo was living in a part of Africa. While Lobo and his friend were playing, they suddenly heard the loud bangs of gunfire - Bang! Bang! Hearing this, everyone started shouting, "The slave catchers have come! Run toward the forest!" Lobo also tried to run. At that moment, a brutal hand grabbed him, clamped iron chains around his wrists, and bound him. When Lobo looked back, he saw that many others like him had been captured by these cruel men holding guns. They forced all of them onto their ship, and the vessel began its journey across the ocean. Lobo thought to himself, "Oh no! I won't be able to see my mom and dad ever again." As this thought crossed his mind, tears welled up. Seeing Lobo cry, one of the brutal men struck him sharply with a whip. Terrified, Lobo covered his mouth and stopped crying. After crossing the ocean, the ship arrived in America.

The cruel man who had captured Lobo dragged him and the others to the marketplace to sell them as slaves. Many people came to the market, bought the captured individuals to use as slaves, and dragged them away. Before these sold slaves were taken to their new homes, their backs were branded with a red-hot iron rod. If the slaves screamed in pain, they were told to shut up and were beaten. As each slave was being sold, young Lobo wondered, "Who is going to buy me? What kind of hardships will I have to endure?"

At that exact time, a gentleman named Daniel was on his way to buy his monthly groceries and had to pass by the slave market. As he walked past, Mr. Daniel's eyes unexpectedly fell upon Lobo. Because Mr. Daniel had accepted Jesus as his personal Savior, Jesus spoke to him: "Daniel, buy this boy from this slave market and set him free." Mr. Daniel hesitated at first. He thought, "I only have enough money with me for this month's expenses. If I buy this slave boy, where will I go for our grocery expenses this month?" At that moment, Jesus spoke to him again: "Deny yourself, and help others." Instantly, Mr. Daniel resolved that even if he had no money left for the month's expenses, he would buy this boy and set him free (John 13:3).

Mr. Daniel walked up to the shopkeeper with the money in his hand, pointed to Lobo, and asked, "How much are you asking for this boy?" The shopkeeper replied, "Give me 30 pieces of silver."



But Mr. Daniel said, "I only have 20 pieces of silver. Take it if you like." The shopkeeper agreed and sold Lobo for 20 silver pieces. He then picked up the red-hot iron rod to brand Lobo's back as a mark of ownership. Mr. Daniel immediately stopped him and said, "There is no need for any branding. Furthermore, unlock the chains on his hands and feet." The shopkeeper warned, "Sir, if he runs away, I am not responsible." The chains were unlocked, and he was not branded. Lobo wondered what a wonderfully kind master this was, and looking at his gentle face, he walked along with Mr. Daniel. The reason Mr. Daniel loved Lobo so dearly was that his heart was filled with the love of God (Romans 5:8). Do you know something? This same Jesus loves you too.

As soon as they reached home, Mr. Daniel arranged for Lobo to take a bath. Since Lobo hadn't bathed in many days, as he scrubbed with soap, layers of dirt washed off his body. My dear brother and sister, the dirt on our bodies goes away when we wash with soap. But if the sinful stains of your heart are to be cleansed, they can only be washed away by the blood of Jesus, who died and rose again for you.

After finishing his bath, Lobo came out wearing a brand-new shirt and pants given to him by Mr. Daniel. Afterward, he was served a good meal. Lobo lived in Mr. Daniel's house just like a child of the family, lacking absolutely nothing. However, at times, he would feel downhearted thinking about his family. Noticing this, Mr. Daniel bought a ticket for a ship sailing back to Africa so Lobo could return home. Handing it over, he told him, "Lobo, I am giving you your freedom. I have bought a ticket for you to return to your homeland." Lobo looked at him and asked, "Sir, you paid money to buy me as a slave.

If you set me free now, won't it be a loss for you?"

Mr. Daniel replied, "My boy, I too was a slave once upon a time. Someone set me free. Out of gratitude for that debt, I am setting you free." Lobo immediately asked, "Whom were you a slave to?" Mr. Daniel then explained that he had been a slave to sin, and shared how he received freedom and salvation through Jesus. Right away, Lobo said, "I also want freedom from that sin!" Mr. Daniel clearly shared the Gospel with him. That very day, Lobo accepted Jesus as his personal Savior. When the day came to return home, Lobo looked at Mr. Daniel and his wife and said, "I am returning to my country with two freedoms - first from the bondage of sin, and second from worldly slavery."

After returning to his country, Lobo proclaimed the Gospel of Jesus to many people, and many accepted Jesus as their personal Savior. Because of this, his entire village accepted Jesus. This happened simply because Mr. Daniel and his wife completely surrendered themselves to the Lord and helped Lobo.

My young brother and sister who have accepted Jesus! Listen carefully: when you deny yourself and help others, you too will see the reward that God will give you in due time.

That is why the Bible says:

**"And whoever gives one of these little ones only a cup of cold water in the name of a disciple, assuredly, I say to you, he shall by no means lose his reward." (Matthew 10:42)**

Lobo accepted Jesus that day and proclaimed the Gospel to others. Today, having accepted Jesus, will you come forward to do His ministry? The nation of India is in your hands.





# Nahum

This book is titled after the one who prophesied the word of God against Nineveh, the capital of Assyria. The name Nahum means "comfort" or "consolation." Furthermore, it is a shortened form of the name Nehemiah (which means Yahweh is my comfort). Although there is a cross-reference suggested between Nahum 1:15 and Romans 10:15, Nahum is not explicitly quoted anywhere in the New Testament.

For prophets, writing about their personal lives was not important; it was their message that held significance. Therefore, it is rare to learn about their lives through their prophetic words. We must turn to historical books to find the necessary biographical details. Aside from the mention of "the Elkoshite" in chapter 1, verse 1, there is no other information about him. This "Elkosh" refers either to his place of birth or the place where he ministered. Every effort to locate the city of Elkosh has ended in failure. It is speculated that Nahum's birthplace was Alqosh in northern Iraq (implying he might be a descendant of those exiled to Assyria in 722 BC), Capernaum (which means the Village of Nahum), or a place located south of Judah. Ultimately, his birthplace or residence is in no way vital to interpreting his book.

Since no king's name is mentioned in the book's introduction, the period of Nahum's prophecy can only be determined through historical data. When the message of judgment came against Nineveh, the nation was still powerful; this indicates a time prior to its fall in 612 BC, and even before the death of Ashurbanipal in 626 BC. Furthermore, No-Amon (also called Thebes) fell at the hands of Ashurbanipal. Since these memories were still fresh, as mentioned in Nahum 3:8-10, and no revival occurred even ten years after this event, the mid-seventh century BC—during the reign of King Manasseh—is suggested as the time of this book (2 Kings 21:1-18).

Nineveh, which had repented at the preaching of Jonah, returned to idolatry, violence, and arrogance 150 years later (3:1-4). Recovering from Sennacherib's defeat at Jerusalem (701 BC), Assyria was at the peak of its power (Isaiah 37:36-38), with its borders stretching all the way to Egypt. The book of Nahum serves as a continuation of the book of Jonah, which was prophesied centuries earlier. While Jonah declared a judgment that God promised would surely happen, Nahum depicts the fulfillment of that divine judgment in later days.

Nineveh prided itself on being an indestructible city because its walls were 100 feet high, its foundations went 90 feet deep, and it was surrounded by 150-foot moats. Yet, the Sovereign God declares with absolute certainty that He will take vengeance on those who violate His decrees (1:8, 14; 3:5-7). The very same God who judges evil is also a Redeemer, showering His love upon those who are faithful to Him (1:7, 12, 13, 15; 2:2). Nahum's prophetic words brought immense comfort to the Jews and to everyone who lived in fear of the Assyrians.

In Nahum 1:8, it says, "with an overflowing flood He will make an utter end of its place." Exactly as prophesied, the Tigris River overflowed to such an extent that it destroyed the walls, allowing the Babylonians to break in. Nahum foretold in 3:11 that the city would become drunk and go into hiding. After being completely obliterated in 612 BC, this site was rediscovered only in AD 1942. The prophetic Book of Nahum is an oracle leveled against the Assyrians, specifically targeting the wickedness and idolatrous transgressions of its capital, Nineveh.

► **Chapter 1:** The destruction of Nineveh is declared (The Judge) – Who. It explains God's power and man's malice.

► **Chapter 2:** The destruction of Nineveh is detailed (The Judgment) – How. It depicts the city being destroyed and dishonored.

► **Chapter 3:** The demand for Nineveh's destruction is stated (The Justification) – Why. It lists three primary accusations.

When we compare these two prophetic and historical accounts of Nineveh in the Bible, we see a striking contrast. First, the prophet Jonah was unwilling to obey God's word, but the people obeyed. As a result, God forgave and blessed them. 150 years later, that same city had advanced in material wealth, commerce, and economic growth. Consequently, sin and wickedness multiplied among the people. This time, the prophet obeys God's word, but the people are unwilling to obey. The result is total destruction. In the first instance, the prophet is saved from the waters; in the second, the people are destroyed by water.

Before concluding this message, I want to remind you of a historical parallel. 150 years ago, a generation in southern Tamil Nadu faced plagues and crushing poverty. The people cried out to the Lord. They knelt on parched lands and rough roads, crying out to God even in the scorching midday heat. As a result, they were preserved and blessed. We call them the Baby Boomer generation. Today, 150 years later, we call this current generation Gen Z.

Let us examine ourselves: Are we obeying God's word? Do we truly have the fear of God within us?





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

## UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR | REASI DISTRICT | REASI MISSION FIELD

### Introduction

Among the districts in Jammu and Kashmir, Reasi is considered a highly popular and sacred pilgrimage site by Hindus. This is because it houses the famous Shri Valshno Devi Shrine located in Katra, a town within this district. It is a visually stunning region featuring massive mountains, a dam, and numerous small temples. However, these mountains are largely composed of loose soil and rocks. Consequently, there is a very high risk of dangerous landslides whenever it rains.

The Reasi mission field was restarted recently in 2024. Even in such challenging terrain, our Lord is performing many miracles and signs through our missionaries. He has opened an effectual door for many souls to come to know Jesus. All glory be to the Lord!

### Religious Beliefs of the People in Reasi

The people here deity and worship human beings, referring to them as "Babas" and "Gurus." Throughout Reasi district, one can vividly see how people are kept in spiritual bondage through elaborate stories crafted around every temple and guru. Countless people spend their money, time, and energy just to visit, worship, and catch a glimpse (darshan) of the deity at the Shri Valshno Devi temple.

The vast majority of the population here does not know Jesus. Accepting Jesus as their personal Savior and taking baptism is an

incredibly daunting challenge for them. Many fear that if they leave their religion to follow Christianity, a curse will fall upon their families.

### Communities Found in Reasi

This region is predominantly inhabited by the Gujjar, Valmiki, Mahasha, Bhagat, and Chamyar communities. The Gujjar people mostly practice Islam. The Valmiki community is marginalized and looked down upon as a lower caste by society, often restricted only to sanitation work. While many among the Valmiki people know about Jesus, they remain unbaptized. Unfortunately, the lack of a strong Christian testimony in their lifestyles has created a distorted perception of Christ and Christianity among the other communities. Consequently, others fear that if they follow Christ, they too will be degraded and lose social respect.

### Let Us Pray:

- ▶ Pray that God will deliver the people of the Reasi mission field from the chains, dominion, and dark grip of Satan.
- ▶ According to the scripture, "The Lord has set apart the godly for Himself," pray that these people will come to know the true God and follow Him.
- ▶ Pray that those who worship human gurus will discover Jesus, the Ultimate Teacher of Truth. Pray that the eyes of their understanding will be opened and that God will save these gurus as well.
- ▶ Almost every household here has built a shrine for their ancestral clan deity (Kula Deivam). Because they worship these idols, they struggle to accept Jesus as God. Pray that the Lord Himself will displace these idols and become their true ancestral protector.
- ▶ Pray for the missionary family faithfully laboring in the Reasi mission field. Pray that God will use them to bring about a massive harvest of souls.



# FRANCE



France is a Western European nation known for its rich history and culture. It is famous for landmarks like the Eiffel Tower and the Louvre Museum. France has played a major role in shaping European politics and global culture.

|                  |                     |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Capital          | : Paris             |
| Currency         | : Euro (EUR)        |
| Languages        | : French (official) |
| Political System | : Republic          |
| Population       | : 68 million        |

## Religious Overview:

- ▶ Around 55–60% of the population identify as Christians (mostly Catholic with smaller group of people as Protestants).
- ▶ France also has one of Europe's largest Muslim populations (about 8–10%).
- ▶ A growing number of people (about 25–30%) identify themselves as non religious or secular.
- ▶ Catholicism has deep historical roots, but church attendance has declined, especially among youth in the recent years.

During this month – There is a special concert & song festival for youth called “The Jesus Festival”. This is one of France’s fastest-growing contemporary Christian music festivals. Attracting thousands of young believers, it features live performances by top Christian artists, creative workshops, games and activities for children and youths, this year expected youth is 7500 (Last year 6100 attended).

## Prayer points about Youth and Children in France:

- ▶ Let us pray for the 7,500 youth at “The Jesus Festival” to encounter Jesus through worship and fellowship, to be transformed in heart, turn from worldly

distractions, and embrace salvation in Christ as a bold generation shining like a light across France.

- ▶ Let us pray that many Christian families, churches and ministries to guide the youth and children faithfully, so that they grow strong in faith and become bold witnesses of the Gospel in their schools, universities, and communities.
- ▶ France is currently experiencing nationwide protests following the tragic death of 11-year-old Lyhanna, who was abducted and killed by a man with prior allegations of child sexual abuse and found murdered on June 4, 2026 (body discovered after she went missing May 29), sparking public outrage over systemic failures in child protection and judicial handling of sexual violence. Citizens across more than 160 cities are demanding justice, accountability, and urgent reforms. Let us pray for reforms that safeguard children and for healing of victims.
- ▶ France faces high prevalence of cannabis, cocaine, heroin, and MDMA use, with new synthetic drugs emerging. Let us pray for deliverance from substance abuse and for lot of rehabilitation programs to be initiated.
- ▶ Youth unemployment remains disproportionately high, with many struggling to enter the labor market. Unemployment rate expected to rise to 8.3% in 2026, up from 7.5% in 2025. Let us pray that new industries and businesses to open doors for job creation.





# PRAISE AND PRAYER POINTS FOR MISSION FIELD CHURCH CONSTRUCTION

## Praise Points:

- ◆ *Let us praise God for the more than 1,725 churches built so far through the Friends Missionary Prayer Band (FMPB).*
- ◆ *Let us praise God for all the supporters who have prayerfully given their offerings for the construction of churches in the mission fields.*

## Prayer Points:

- ◆ *Let us pray that the necessary lands may be obtained to construct churches in the mission field villages where worship services are currently being held.*
- ◆ *Let us pray that government permissions required for building churches in the villages may be granted smoothly without any hindrance.*
- ◆ *Let us pray that financial donations for church construction projects may come in without interruption, and that these funds are utilized systematically for the construction work.*
- ◆ *Let us pray that God will grant His special wisdom and counsel to the engineers, masons, laborers, and our missionaries involved in the church construction work.*
- ◆ *Let us pray that God will protect the construction sites, ensuring no untoward incidents, accidents, material damages, or losses occur during the construction process.*
- ◆ *Let us pray that all local believers will eagerly participate and offer their help in the church construction work.*
- ◆ *Let us pray for the provision of drinking water facilities, compound walls, restrooms, and missionary quarters in all churches built so far and those to be built in the future.*
- ◆ *Let us pray that the local believers and church elders will systematically maintain and protect the mission field churches.*
- ◆ *Let us pray for the immediate reopening and resumption of worship services in certain mission field churches that have been closed due to false cases, severe persecution, or various other reasons.*
- ◆ *Let us pray for the dismissal of false cases filed against our churches and church lands in various states.*
- ◆ *Let us pray that permanent churches may be built in all the villages where house churches or worship groups are currently meeting.*
- ◆ *Let us pray that churches may be established and places of worship built across all villages in India.*
- ◆ *Let us pray that God will abundantly bless our believers and supporters who generously donate land and finances for church construction.*
- ◆ *Let us pray that God will grant wisdom, guidance, and divine help to the Convener, Secretary, Committee Members, engineers, and office staff who coordinate these church construction works.*



# SPORTS INJURY



## What?

A sports injury is physical damage to the body that occurs during sports or exercise. It can affect muscles (Strains), bones (Fractures), ligaments (Sprains), tendons (Strains), or joints (Dislocations) and may range from mild discomfort to severe damage.

## Why?

Sports injuries often happen because of poor preparation, incorrect technique, overuse, lack of fitness, unsafe conditions, accidents, or fatigue. These factors increase stress on the body and reduce coordination, making injuries more likely during physical activity.

## How?

Sports injuries can happen in two main ways:

### 1. Acute Injuries

These occur suddenly during activity. Examples: Twisting an ankle while running, falling and breaking a bone, being hit by another player.

### 2. Chronic (Overuse) Injuries

These develop gradually due to repeated stress on a body part. Examples: Runner's knee, Tennis elbow and Shin splints.

## Is it treatable?

Sports injuries are generally treatable. With proper treatment and rehabilitation, many athletes recover fully and return to sports. Following correct training techniques, warming up, and using proper equipment can help prevent future injuries.

## Statistics:

- ◆ A 2025 study of 400 athletes in Uttar Pradesh found an overall sports injury prevalence of 48.5%.

- ◆ The highest injury rates were reported in: Football – 64% and Wrestling – 58%
- ◆ Male athletes showed a slightly higher injury rate (50.6%) than female athletes (45.2%).
- ◆ Injuries occurred more frequently during training sessions than during competitions.
- ◆ Current research suggests that approximately 40–50% of Indian athletes experience sports-related injuries, with football, wrestling, and cricket showing particularly high injury burdens.

**“But I will restore you to health and heal your wounds,” declares the Lord. — Jeremiah 30:17**

## Pray, For the Lord:

1. To restore the strength and to bring complete healing to every injured muscle, bone, ligament, and joint.
2. To grant the patience, courage, and endurance during the recovery journey, to all the injured athletes.
3. To give doctors, physiotherapists, coaches, and caregivers, wisdom to provide the best treatment and support.
4. To make the injured athletes recover fully and return safely to their sports, studies, work, and daily activities.
5. To protect athletes from future injuries and help them develop healthy habits and proper training practices.



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

## A SWEET CONVERSATION WITH REV. S. DEVADASS

**Question: Brother, could you please share some details about yourself?**

**Missionary's Answer:** My name is S. Devadass. In 1980, I joined the Friends Missionary Prayer Band (FMPB) as a full-time minister. In 1981, I was sent to Bihar as a missionary.

**Question: When did the turning point in your life occur?**

**Missionary's Answer:** The servant of God who sowed the seeds for my life of salvation was John Muthusamy. While studying PUC (Pre-University Course), a senior brother named Chelladurai took me to a state camp, where I learned about the Friends Missionary Prayer Band. The messages given there and the clarion call from the missionaries who came from North India redirected me toward ministry in North India. During the state camp held in 1981, I surrendered myself to the North India ministry.

**Question: What challenges did you face after your conversion?**

**Missionary's Answer:** My friends did not like my conversion. So, they started mocking me by calling me "Bhagavan" (God) and began looking down on me with great contempt. Ignoring all of it, I started doing ministry along with the senior brother. Amidst numerous challenges, this served as my divine strength.

**Question: How did you develop such a deep passion to cross cultural barriers and proclaim the Gospel?**

**Missionary's Answer:** The songs of the Friends Missionary Prayer Band used to touch my heart deeply. Songs like "Manthaiyil Sera Aadugale" (The sheep that have not joined the flock) and "Ullathil Avarpal Peranbullorellam" (All those who have great love for Him in their hearts) burdened me heavily for missionary work. Not only that, when the servants of God coming from North India shared the realities of the situation there, I felt completely broken. I surrendered myself to this ministry and completely dedicated myself, saying, "Lord! As long as I live, I will do your ministry."

**Question: What were the sufferings and struggles you faced on the field after entering the ministry?**

**Missionary's Answer:** I went to Bihar in North India at the age of 22. But within a few days, the conditions there, the mindset of the people, and the opposition made me feel very troubled and anxious. Because there were very few co-workers to labor alongside me, I began to do this ministry alone with prayer. It was very difficult for unmarried people to find a house there. Even in such a situation, God gave me the grace to



continue the ministry.

Later, in 1993, due to my wife's illness, a situation arose where we had to return to Tamil Nadu. But my wife said, "Please leave me here; I will die in Bihar itself." God honored those words and granted her complete healing from her sickness.

**Question: What were the outcomes among the people because of the price you paid?**

**Missionary's Answer:** God granted us souls as plunder (in great abundance) and also gave us many ministers. Therefore, we all joined together, and God helped us build three churches and baptize hundreds of people. As a result, many servants of God have risen from that district today.

**Question: What blessings did you receive by obeying the command of the Most High?**

**Missionary's Answer:** By the grace of the Lord, miracles began to happen here. People believed in the Lord and received baptism. Furthermore, churches were built. Because God used us mightily in that place, the people there were blessed.

**Question: What is the burden of your heart regarding the unreached people in the place where you served?**

**Missionary's Answer:** There are many obstacles to proclaiming the Gospel in North India. However, North Indians are coming to Tamil Nadu in large crowds. If we proclaim the Gospel to them, the Gospel will reach their native places through them free of cost. Therefore, we are still continuing the same ministry today in Chennai. We hold fast to the Word of God, which commands us to preach the Word carefully and persistently, whether the season is favorable or unfavorable.

**Question: What advice would you like to give to the readers of Kerith?**

**Missionary's Answer:** We do not know how many more days we will live on this earth. Therefore, utilize the rare opportunity available during your youth and come forward to do the Gospel ministry of Christ with a vision. May God help you. Amen!

**ONLY ONE LIFE, 'TILL SOON BE PAST, ONLY WHAT'S DONE FOR CHRIST WILL LAST."**

**Prayer Points:**

- ◆ Let us pray that all the North Indian people living in Chennai accept Jesus.
- ◆ Let us pray that the North Indian people who have accepted Jesus live as witnesses in their respective places and proclaim the Gospel to others.



# SCREEN GAMBLING



Dear brothers and sisters! This month, we are going to pray concerning the issue of Screen Gambling.

Among the games played on social media platforms, there are some where you can win real money! However, to play these, we must first place a bet using our own money. If we win, we receive money as a prize; but if we lose, we end up forfeiting our money. This style of gaming is what we call “screen gambling.” In addition to this, to continue playing certain online games, we are forced to pay money directly within those gaming applications. In neighboring countries, games like casino betting act as the primary blueprint for screen gambling. Adapting that very model, numerous gambling and gaming apps have cropped up these days.

Consequently, this has become a severe form of bondage affecting everyone from young adults to older individuals. Apps involving crypto-gambling and “loot boxes” have emerged as highly addictive online gambling platforms that target and attract youth. Because of this, many young men and women have resorted to lying to their parents and have even turned into thieves, stealing money from their own homes. Furthermore, some go to friends seeking financial help to cover their losses, which eventually escalates into physical altercations. Young people are being pushed into a vicious cycle of piling debt upon debt and compounding interest upon interest. Tragically, unable to cope with the devastation of their financial losses, some have even taken their own lives. Today, because of this crisis, many families are left broken, shattered by the loss of a father or a mother.

## **PRAISE POINTS:**

- ◆ Let us praise God for the court judgments upholding the validity of the government’s orders to ban and restrict online gambling.
- ◆ Let us praise God for the government’s initiatives to monitor gambling-related financial transactions with the help of domestic security wings and dozens of cyber service experts.
- ◆ Let us praise God that active measures have been taken across our nation to block and clamp down on more than 8,500 gambling apps and websites.

## **PRAYER POINTS:**

- ◆ Around 80% of those involved in online gambling use smartphones. Let us pray for the salvation of those who are using smartphones for gambling purposes.
- ◆ The global online gambling market sees a massive concentration of activity in regions like Europe, which historically holds nearly 50% of the market share. Let us pray with a heavy heart for the deliverance of people caught in this web globally.
- ◆ On a global scale, roughly 1 in 5 people amounting to an estimated 882 million individuals—engage in online gambling. Let us pray that this massive multitude of people will be delivered from this deadly bondage.
- ◆ Statistics show that men engage in online gambling at a much higher rate than women. Let us pray that God will dispel their blindness and ignorance.
- ◆ Driven by the desperation to recover lost money, people continuously trap themselves by wagering even more. Let us pray that people receive total freedom from this destructive mindset.
- ◆ When attempting to stop or cut back on gambling, individuals often experience restlessness, irritability, and severe anxiety. Let us pray that those trying to overcome gambling addiction will successfully conquer these withdrawal symptoms.
- ◆ Globally, helpline calls regarding gambling addiction have surged by 33%. Let us continue to pray that God will protect our nation and prevent such a grim situation from escalating here.



# DOES YOUR GOD SPEAK IN OUR LANGUAGE?

## BIBLE TRANSLATION MINISTRY- THE KURUKH LANGUAGE

*It brings me great joy to connect with you every month through this magazine. This month, let us look into the Kurukh language translation project and examine how having the Bible in the Kurukh language impacts church growth.*

### INTRODUCTION TO THE KURUKH MINISTRY:

The name Chhattisgarh literally means “36 Forts” (Chhattis meaning 36, and Garh meaning fort). The state of Chhattisgarh is located in the central region of India, where Chhattisgarhi and Hindi are spoken as the official state languages. The Kurukh tribals are an indigenous, ancient tribe living in Chhattisgarh. They have a total population of over 4 million people who speak the Kurukh language, with more than 800,000 Kurukh speakers residing within Chhattisgarh alone. Additionally, languages such as Korwa, Surgujia, Halbi, and Korku are also spoken in this region.

### THE BIBLE TRANSLATION MINISTRY

This translation project was pioneered in the state of Chhattisgarh in 2001 by Rev. Thomas and Mrs. Regina Thomas. By 2007, they successfully completed the translation of the New Testament into the Kurukh language, and it was dedicated for public use in 2014. The New Testament was also produced in an Audio Bible format in the Kurukh language and is currently being utilized across all churches to nurture the spiritual growth of believers.

### COMMENCEMENT OF FMPB MINISTRY

In 1983, the ministry among the Oraon (Kurukh) people was initiated by Rev. Karunakaran and Mrs. Elizabeth. Today, more than 18,000 believers live as faithful witnesses for God in this region. The field currently oversees 255 worship groups, 14 mission stations, 15 missionaries, and 42 native evangelists.

### MAJOR MINISTRY ACHIEVEMENTS

The foundational steps of the translation process, including phonology analysis and dictionary compilation, have been completed, and the language has been brought into a written script form. Along with providing the New Testament print copies and the Audio Bible to the community, adult



literacy curriculums have been developed. Proper training has been conducted, and adult education classes are running systematically across 45 villages. Furthermore, hymn books have been published in the Kurukh language. In the Old Testament, the books of Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Job, Psalms, and Proverbs have already been translated.

### KEY PRAYER POINTS:

- Let us pray that the entire Bible translation project may be completed by the year 2035, and specifically that major Old Testament books like Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel will be translated smoothly.
- Let us pray for the quick completion of the publication work for a special edition of the New Testament combined with Psalms and Proverbs, and pray for the dedication and cooperation of the translation assistants.
- Let us pray that God grants good health, strength, and protection to everyone involved in the Bible translation ministry so that the project can be completed within the designated timeline.

### FOOD FOR THOUGHT:

*The same God who used the obedience and deep commitment of individuals to give the Kurukh people of Chhattisgarh the Bible in their own mother tongue can do extraordinary things through you as well. God is inviting you to take part in this relay race of faith.*







## PROFITS OVER PASSION

FIFA's World Cup business model fuels a global gambling industry worth billions of dollars. While generating massive profits for the organization, it leaves host countries heavily burdened with public debt for infrastructure development.

- Let us pray that FIFA's greedy system will be dismantled, that host countries will be protected from debt traps, and that young people will be delivered from gambling addiction.

## TRAGEDY OUTSIDE PUB

Following an altercation outside a pub in Chennai, an SUV deliberately rammed into a motorcycle driven by an 18-year-old girl. Tragically, the young girl lost her life.

- Let us pray for the deliverance of today's youth who are trapped in alcoholism and substance abuse, and let us pray that young people will learn to live with the fear of God.



## STOLEN FUTURE

Exam paper leaks and corporate greed are devastating the public education system and driving families into bankruptcy, while unaccountable ministers exploit the system to retain their power.

- Let us pray that educational corruption will be completely eradicated and that hardworking students will receive fair and just opportunities.



## PROGRESS OR PARADISE?

India's ₹20,000-crore Great Nicobar mega-port promises massive economic growth. However, it faces severe backlash for sacrificing vital coral reefs and indigenous homelands for the sake of profit.

- Let us pray that God will protect our nation from corporate exploitation and greed at the expense of our natural heritage.



## CLASH OF WORLDS

The 2026 Summit sparked intense riots driven by widespread public anger over corporatocracy, corporate greed, economic inequality, climate negligence, and high-tier geopolitical control.

- Let us pray that the dangerous divide between the rich and the poor will be bridged, and that God will bring peace, healing, and justice to our broken global systems.



# Passion of Paul in Philippi

Over the last few months, we have been learning how God chose Paul and trained him to become a passionate missionary among the Gentiles. As a result, many churches were planted in the region of Asia Minor. However, God gave rest to his servants Paul and Barnabas for few months as they ministered again among the believers of their sending church at Antioch (Ac 14:28, 15:35).

Paul's passion for the Gentile ministry did not allow him to stay back long and so he urged Barnabas that they should revisit the places where they had proclaimed the gospel. As they were preparing to set out, they had a serious dispute over whether John Mark should accompany them. But, in God's calendar, the time was ripe for Paul to assume full leadership and so Paul and Barnabas got separated. However, it is interesting that both continued their ministry of mentoring younger leaders as Barnabas took Mark with him and Paul took Silas with him. Later Paul added Timothy also to his team (Ac 15:36-41, 16:3).

Paul in his passion tried to do ministry in places situated on the shore of the Black Sea. However, the Holy Spirit did not allow him to speak the Word in Asia. He also made Paul to travel in an exactly opposite direction (Ac 16:6-8). It is amazing that Paul was not only very sensitive to discern the mind of God but was also totally obedient. He had a definite understanding that the ministry belonged to God totally and he had no right to determine its course. This gave him an immense spiritual strength to face any eventuality. God in his sovereign plan took Paul to Europe to preach the gospel.

God led Paul and Silas straight to Philippi, which was the leading city of the district of Macedonia. However, there they did not find any Jewish Synagogue although they might have met a few God fearing Gentiles. So, as usual Paul began his ministry among those who knew about Yahweh. God opened the heart of Lydia so that she became one of the first converts to Christ in Europe. Slowly the church began to grow. But Satan

tried to stem the growth through his agent. A slave girl who had a spirit of divination followed Paul and his team for many days, crying, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation." At last, Paul's patience ran out and he exorcised the demon out of her. This resulted in a huge financial loss to her owners. So, they created an uproar and finally Paul and Silas were beaten mercilessly with rods and were thrown into a prison (Ac 16:12-24).

Despite these troubles, Paul and Silas did not lose their composure and they continued to worship the Lord through prayer and singing hymns. This gave an opportunity to the fellow prisoners to know about God. Through a supernatural earthquake, God freed all the prisoners from their chains. This resulted in the conversion of the jailor and his family to Christ (Ac 16:25-34).

## What was the result?

The church at Philippi became one of Paul's healthiest and most faithful congregations and continued to exist long after the events of Acts 16. The Philippians supported him financially more than once when other churches did not (Phi 4:15-16). Paul wrote Philippians a warm letter of gratitude, encouragement, and joy. The church continued into the second century and beyond. One of the most important pieces of evidence is Polycarp's letter to the Philippian Christians (early 2nd century AD). Over the following centuries, Philippi became an important Christian center in the Roman Empire and Christianity remained established in the city for many centuries. Eventually, due to wars, invasions, earthquakes, and the decline of the city itself, Philippi was gradually abandoned during the medieval period.

## What do we learn?

When we do ministry as guided by the Holy Spirit, he will help us to find the joy of lasting results. However, such a surrender does not always guarantee a protection from misunderstanding or persecution. But, God can use such testing moments also to further the cause of his kingdom and bring glory to himself.



(Continued from page 4)

Even though Bashan stands tall as a majestic mountain with many peaks in the Golan Heights, the Lord—the Lion of the tribe of Judah—chose Mount Zion, the holy hill in Jerusalem, as His permanent dwelling place (Psalm 68:15, 16).

- Bashan, which means “light/dry soil,” stands as a symbol of spiritual opposition.
- Zion, which means “fortress,” stands as a symbol of fulfilled spiritual desire.

### Conclusion

Everything observed in the life of Dan points to an eagerness to obscure the truth and attempt to establish something fake. The expression “from Dan to Beersheba” spans about 240 km (150 miles) and marks the northern and southern borders of the Promised Land of Canaan.

- Beersheba, located in the Negev desert, represents the well of God’s truth that renews covenants.
- Dan, born out of human effort contrary to the divine plan, represents an illusionary power that attempts to make people forget God.

Beloved! Deception is an illusionary net hidden right before our eyes. It is incredibly difficult to identify. If we lack a true understanding of reality, it becomes very easy to fall.

Look at the contradictions within the two meanings given to Dan’s name. Is he the one who judges? Or is he the one who is judged? In his attempt to position himself as a judge, he ended up being revealed as the one judged which is why he is left out and forgotten in the Book of Revelation (Chapter 7). Indeed, Dan’s actions and the biblical expositions about him reflect paths that lead us away from Christ, who is coming as the Eternal Judge.

**“They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.”**  
(2 Timothy 4:4-5)

## A CALL TO THE NORTH AND A VALIANT WOMAN SURRENDERED TO GO

*Glory be to God!*

*My name is Princess Sophia (B.Sc. Statistics). While I was in my second year of college, I attended a three-day state-level youth camp organized by FMPB at Bethel. During that youth gathering, the Lord planted a deep burden in my heart for the salvation of the people of India. During the vespers (evening service) there, when the speaker said, “I am calling you,” I realized that the Lord was calling me personally. That very day, I surrendered myself to full-time ministry. However, when I faced immense fear and confusion about this step, the Lord spoke to me through His Word and comforted me. To confirm His calling, He gave me scriptures like Genesis 12:1 and Acts 7:3, helping me stand firm in His call.*

*Though on one hand I had a strong desire to pursue higher studies, I chose to obey the voice of the Lord saying, “Should I not pity my people who do not know their right hand from their left?” With tears, I made the decision to go into ministry right away. Even when my parents objected and insisted that I must pursue higher studies instead of going into ministry, the Lord helped me stand unwavering in the call He gave me. I told the Lord that I would only enter the field with my parents’ consent, and I prayed for this daily. By the immense grace of God, my parents—who had adamantly said I should never go—came forward on their own one day and told me, “You may go and serve the Lord.” In this way, the Lord holds my hand every single day, leading me wonderfully just like a father guides his child. Praise be to the God of gods, who called an unworthy person like me and leads me faithfully without ever forsaking me.*

### PRAYER REQUEST:

*As I prepare to travel to North India for my Missionary Training, please pray for me. Pray that God protects me from falling ill due to the changes in weather and food at both the Institute and the field. Please pray that God grants me the strength to continue and fulfill His ministry until the very end.*







**AHAVA YOUTH CAMP**



**ANNUAL CAMP '26**



**PERIYAMALAI DAY**

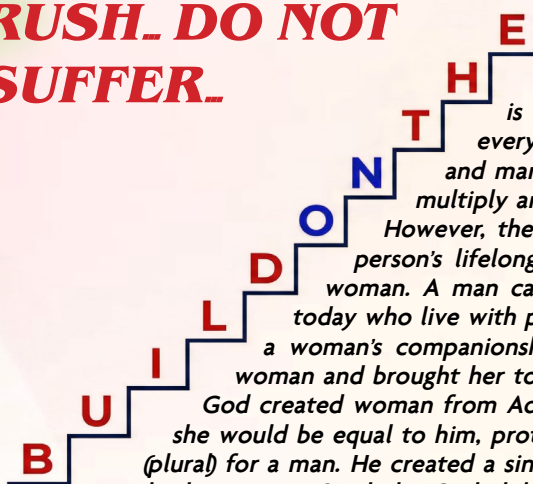


**YOUNG COUPLES MEET**



**DO NOT  
RUSH. DO NOT  
SUFFER.**

**HANDLE WITH CARE  
RIGHT FOUNDATION**



We know that marriage is an institution ordained by God. The fundamental truth regarding marriage in the Scriptures is found in the book of Genesis. The Triune God created everything in five days, and on the sixth day, He created animals and mankind. He created them male and female so that they could multiply and increase.

However, there was no suitable helper found for Adam (Genesis 2:20). A person's lifelong companion cannot be an animal. Therefore, God created woman. A man cannot live his life with an animal—though there are people today who live with puppies. Take heed! The Lord God, knowing that man needed a woman's companionship, fashioned the rib He had taken from the man into a woman and brought her to him (Genesis 2:22).

God created woman from Adam's rib. He took the rib from the side of his heart so that she would be equal to him, protected by him, and loved by him. God did not create women (plural) for a man. He created a single woman for a single man. Therefore, a man cannot marry multiple women. Similarly, God did not create a man for a man, or a woman for a woman. Therefore, homosexuality should not exist; it is a sin. These are God's conditions and His divine design.

**Guarding Your Holiness in Modern Times**

Consequently, as young people, we are living in a time where we must be extremely cautious. Terrifying things like the LGBTQ movement are causing many youths today to lose their way. They demand validation for these actions.

As a "child of God," if you are in a living-together relationship, you must discern everything correctly and preserve your holiness. The painful longing of countless young people who weep because they feel unable to live a holy life rings in our ears.

Two voices are constantly speaking into our ears: "Do it" and "Don't do it." Which voice will you obey? Satan's, or the Holy Spirit's? (Genesis 3:1-8).

**We always hear these two voices:**

1. God's Voice
2. The Devil's Voice, which comes at unexpected moments.

**The Battle of Voices**

- The Tempter: "Do this" ; The Spirit: "Don't do this"
- The Tempter: "Why not?" ; The Spirit: "Why don't you abstain?"
- Your Resolve: "No, No, I will never do it!"
- The Tempter: "Just once!" ; Your Response: "No, No, never!"
- The Compromise: "Ok, not now, but tomorrow."

Shut your ears to the voice of the devil. Guard your eye gate, mind gate, heart gate, and hand gate.

**WAIT UPON THE LORD**

"Do it quickly... Do it right now..." – Hurry always comes from the devil. Do not rush; be still, and wait at His feet. Pray for the holiness that the Lord loves. The devil will constantly attack us to somehow make us lose our way. Do not give any room to impurity.

David, a young boy, defeated the giant Goliath solely through divine strength. We, too, need the strength of Jesus Christ to live a holy life.

In a world where boundaries are vanishing and the philosophy of "live however you want" is spreading rapidly, making life incredibly difficult—dear younger brother and sister, as a follower of Jesus, learn to live with discipline in your mind, body, society, and spiritual life. Do not lose your life by getting carried away talking to people on social media networks. Make it a habit to meditate on the Scriptures daily and pray.

He will bless and beautify your life. Far beyond what you can think or ask, He will bless and honor your life. Surrender yourself completely (100%) to the will of God. He will grant you the right life partner and give you a blessed life that will cause many to marvel.

**"May He grant you according to your heart's desire, and fulfill all your purpose."  
(Psalm 20:4)**



# THE PARABLE OF THE TWO SONS

## Introduction

Jesus Christ clearly revealed the deep truths of the Kingdom of God to the people through parables. The Parable of the Two Sons, found in Matthew 21:28-32, explains how true obedience manifests in the Kingdom of God. This parable emphasizes to us that repentance and the actions that follow it are far more important to God than mere words.

## A Universal Call to the Kingdom Field

The father called both of his sons to go and work in his vineyard. This highlights that the call to serve in the Kingdom of God is extended to everyone. God does not reject anyone; instead, He invites everyone to partake in His work.

**“Son, go, work today in my vineyard.” —:**

**Matthew 21:28**

## The First Son – An Example of Repentance

The first son initially refused to go, saying, “I will not.” However, he later changed his mind and went to work in the vineyard. This demonstrates that those who once lived in sin can repent and enter the Kingdom of God. Jesus compares this to how the tax collectors and sinners listened to the message of John the Baptist and repented.

## The Second Son – Obedience in Words Alone

The second son replied, “I go, sir,” but he did not go. This represents those who display outward piety but fail to walk according to God’s will in their hearts. In the Kingdom of God, mere words are never enough; they must be backed by matching actions.

## What God Desires: Practical Obedience

In this parable, it was the first son who ultimately fulfilled his father’s will. Through this, we learn that God expects from us a life of genuine obedience, not just empty promises.

**“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven...”**

**Matthew 7:21**

## The Key to Victory in the Kingdom Field – Repentance

Jesus stated that the tax collectors and prostitutes would enter the Kingdom of God ahead of the religious leaders. This was because they repented and turned toward God, whereas the religious leaders were unwilling to transform their hearts. True victory in the Kingdom of God is obtained through sincere repentance and steadfast faith.

## Conclusion

The Parable of the Two Sons invites every believer into deep self-examination. It prompts us to reflect: Are we like the second son, displaying obedience only in our words? Or are we like the first son, repenting and putting God’s will into practice? This parable clearly teaches us that true spiritual victory is achieved not through verbal assurances, but through a practical life of obedience.

## Questions for Reflection:

- How do I respond and obey when God calls me?
  - Are the fruits of repentance visible in my daily life?
  - Do my words line up and agree with my actions?
- “...unless you repent you will all likewise perish.” — Luke 13:3**



# THE HONOURED JABEZ

Should mortal man but win the Grace Divine,  
This clay, though frail, a living scroll shall shine;  
The kiln-baked clay, though tried by scorching flame,  
Shall rise a fortress of immortal fame!  
The soul that bears the scourge of trial's night,  
Shall wake to victory, a son of light,  
And standing blest beneath the heavenly sun,  
Shall chart a course where mighty deeds are done.

With labor's scars he breached the worldly sphere,  
A "Son of Grief" to her who held him dear;  
Yet mother's milk and love's most tender art  
Bound up the sorrow of her breaking heart.  
With salty tears for ink, the scroll was penned,  
A living epic where the shadows end;  
The silent curse is slain, the night withdrawn,  
And lo! A wondrous new domain is born.  
Though cast aside, a stone the builders pass'd,  
Amidst his brethren, he is chief at last;  
For faithful prayers, like tempests from on high,  
Brought showers of life from out the barren sky.

"Enlarge my borders, Lord!" the suppliant cries,  
"Smite down the dark foes that against me rise!  
If but Thy finger touch this earthly frame,  
The trembling world shall magnify Thy name;  
If but Thy gaze upon my grief should fall,  
The ancient curse dissolves, and clears the thrall!  
Grant speed, O King, to reach the dawn's bright shore,  
And grant me wit to brave the wicked's lore."

"Compass me round, O Sovereign, like a shield,  
Lest cruel harm force my faint soul to yield!  
By Thy sweet Word, let heaven's gates unfold,  
And pour Thy mercies down a hundredfold!"  
The mother's pangs, once borne in bitter tears,  
Become a wellspring for the coming years;  
The paths of weeping turn to Canaan's strand,  
And dust-born man is honored through the land.

For prayer doth turn the wheel of human thought,  
And by the mind, are deeds of virtue wrought;  
The sea of tears shall dance in joy at last,  
And scars of wounds turn blossoms of the past!  
It was his fervent plea that brought renown,  
And tearful suits that earned a princely crown;  
The bended knee, in humble state and low,  
Is the grand sword that lays the hydra low,  
Turning the fiercest curse to ash and dust—  
An armor everlasting for the just.





# THOMAS THE DISCIPLE OF JESUS CHRIST

## Introduction:

Thomas was one of the disciples of Jesus Christ. This Christendom always remember the disciple with a title as 'doubting Thomas.' Because, initially Thomas did not believe that Jesus Christ was risen from the death. His absence created a vacuum in the team for total faith in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. However, his absence created another opportunity for the community of disciples to experience to have one more time of conversation with Him and to see His Resurrected Body.

## Thomas the Disciple of Jesus Christ:

Jesus selected Thomas as His disciple. According to the gospel of St John, Thomas was familiar with two statements. One is [a] his doubtful attitude brought a statement saying that, "unless I see and put my finger in His wounds, I won't believe." Second is [b] when Jesus has shown his wounded areas to Thomas, he cried and uttered that 'My Lord and My God.' Doubted but convicted to call Him 'God and Lord.'

## Thomas, the disciple of Jesus Christ has different characters than other disciples

★ **Courageous:** Jesus wanted to return to Judea. He was threatened by the Jewish religious leaders and their followers to stone Him to death. However, Thomas was stood beside His statement and declared to the disciples that 'let us also go, that we may die with him.' [John 11]

★ **Ready for Martyr-ship for Jesus Christ:** It is marvelous to hear that even under the apprenticeship in the band of disciples, Thomas made up himself to give his life for Jesus Christ. Not afraid of the Jewish leaders and Jewish Laws. He believed Jesus Christ is the Messiah and He will perform miracles as well as to show the way of Salvation. A slow process of understanding Jesus Christ confidentially and committed his life to live for Him. That is discipleship.

★ **Explicit Declaration the Divinity of Jesus Christ:** Thomas was doubted to understand the resurrection of Jesus Christ. However, none of the disciples declared His power of resurrection from the death. The movement Thomas heard Jesus' resurrected voice and invited him to touch His resurrected body; he was convinced and unable to reject His power of resurrection. He is now standing very close to the resurrected Christ. His body is visible and his voice is audible. He was able to declare that 'You are My God and My Lord.' Thomas wanted to see His physical body; but he was able to see the Resurrected Divine Body of Jesus Christ. The paradigm shift of 'Doubt' to 'Faith' is a great lesson that we can learn from this incident.



★ **Questioner and Self Confident in his interaction with Jesus Christ:** During the historical event of the Last Supper, when Jesus uttered that He will go to the Father. Jesus knows the place of the Father and the Way to go to the Father. However, Thomas was innocent to ask him that he does not know about the place where He will go. He was bold enough to understand the Way to reach the Father and His Dwelling place.

The question of Thomas was skeptical but it logical. Thomas wanted to know Him more and willing to accept His answer and to follow Him. The doubtlessness enquiry in a doubtful question has brought 'a doubtless answer.'

That brought a great statement of Jesus Christ as an answer but irrevocable truth about Him. Jesus replied, "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life; without Me no one can reach the Father."

## The later life incident of Thomas after the resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ:

The church history records that Thomas wrote a book, but it was not accepted by Scholars or in the New Testament Canon. It is counted as 'apocryphal.' The Church Growth History records that Thomas came as a cross-cultural missionary in 52 AD and to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ in India. It is remarkable that the churches established by Thomas is exist even today both in Kerala and Tamil Nadu. Thomas died in 72 AD at Mylapore in Chennai. Still the historical proof is that Thomas came to India as a missionary and died as a martyr for the sake of the gospel.

## FMPB is looking forward for the disciples like Thomas:

FMPB is inviting young men and women to join with the organization as cross-cultural missionaries and contribute their best for the extension of His Kingdom. Secondly, the unreached ethnic people groups need to have knowledge on Jesus Christ and to worship Him. FMPB is looking forward of church planters and Bible teachers to educate the disciples of Jesus Christ. Like Thomas, those who had an encounter with Jesus Christ are welcome to join with the great organization. Be a Modern Thomas for the People who do not know the Unchanging Christ. Come and join the organization.





## FRIENDS MISSIONARY PRAYER BAND

“Shine like Stars” - Philippians 2:15

C.S.I - TND - Arumuganeri Region  
Friends Missionary Prayer Band  
Co-hosted

# A DISCIPLESHIP CAMP FOR YOUTH

(A Special unique spiritual programme for Genz)

- Day** : 12.07.26 (Sunday)
- Time** : Evening 3.00pm
- Place** : Abraham Nagar Beach
- Message** : FMPB GENZ TEAM, Chennai



*We cordially invite all youths to participate.*



**Contact No** : Rev. T. Y. P. Asir, FMPB  
**9444393228**



FRIENDS MISSIONARY PRAYER BAND  
KELAMBAKKAM REGION PRESENTS

# YOUNG COUPLES FELLOWSHIP GET-TOGETHER

- Date** : 26.07.26 (Sunday)
- Time** : Evening 5.00 pm onwards
- Location** : #6/298, M. K. Stalin 4th Cross Street,  
Thalambur, Chennai – 600 130.

- Message By** :  
Rev. J. Daniel Arulmani,  
FMPB - Chennai
- Special Session** :  
Mr. Benjamin &  
Mrs. Ahi Benjamin

*Exciting Songs,  
Inspiring Messages &  
Fun Activities*



ONLY for **COUPLES** with **0** to **12** years of marriage



**For Contact: FMPB – 77082 73734**



**Friends Missionary Prayer Band**  
Pattabiram - Southern Region

# YOUTH MEETING

- Date** : 19.07.2026 (Sunday)
- Time** : 3.00 pm onwards
- Venue** : JCBF Church, Vellavedu  
(Opp Coco – cola Company)
- Message By** : Rev. J. Daniel Arulmani, FMPB - Chennai
- Missionary Sharing** : Rev T. Yuvanesh, FMPB - Gujarat
- Special Testimony** : Eva. D. Madhiahagan - Chennai
- Age** : 18 to 30



LOVELY SONGS



ENGAGING SESSIONS



INSPIRING MESSAGES

*Inviting all youth from all Denomination to come  
experience the love of Christ!*



**Contact: 98419 36067, 98419 10411**



## FRIENDS MISSIONARY PRAYER BAND

Friends Missionary Prayer Band  
Tamil Nadu & Pondicherry presents

# STATE-LEVEL FASTING PRAYER CAMP



**DATE &  
TIME**

: 2026 August 7<sup>th</sup> Friday 10.00am to  
9<sup>th</sup> Sunday 1.00pm



**VENUE**

: 'Daily Bread' (Andrandrulla Appam)  
Prayer Hall  
Christu Kula Ashram, Tirupattur



**SPEAKERS**

: Rev. I. K. Abraham,  
Former General Secretary, FMPB  
Rev. Vijay P. Isaac,  
General Secretary, FMPB

*Come, let us sit at God's feet, fast, and pray,  
for our nation to experience the love of Jesus!*



**Contact: FMPB – Prayer Wing**  
**94888 05454, 94443 96208**