

FRIENDS MISSIONARY PRAYER BAND



Herith

A monthly Prayer Bulletin for
Youth & Teens

Be Holy

PASSION '26

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CHRIST IS GREATER THAN THE PROPHETS



To sit at the right hand of the Father signifies the majesty and authority that Christ received (Eph. 1:20-23). This is the most honoured seat in heaven. This is why Christ is considered superior to the Old Testament prophets - He is not merely a messenger of God, but God manifested as the Son. This is a central theme of the Book of Hebrews.

Prophets spoke for God; they delivered the messages they received. However, Jesus spoke as God. He is the Son of God. With the coming of the Son, the systems of the Old Covenant have come to an end. Christ is God's final and complete revelation, and the only way of salvation.

1. The Exaltation of Christ

- ◆ **THE WORD OF GOD:** Prophets announced the Word of God by saying, "Thus says the Lord." But Jesus is the Word of God. That is, He is God.
- ◆ **SON:** Prophets were servants, but Jesus is the Son of God, equal to God. Praise Him who is equal to God.
- ◆ **CREATOR:** Prophets were created beings, but Jesus is the Creator of all things. Praise the One who created the universe.

2. The Ways God Spoke to People

God spoke "at many times and in various ways." He spoke through visions, dreams, and events. Had the Almighty God willed it, He could have revealed everything about Himself, His Son, sin, the fall of man, and salvation all at once. However, it pleased God to announce them in parts and various forms across different eras.

Comparison between the Old and New Covenants:

	Old Testament	New Testament
When He spoke	Ancient times	These last days
How He spoke	In parts and various ways	As a complete revelation
To whom He spoke	To the fathers (ancestors)	To us
Through whom He spoke	Through the prophets	Through the Son

3. Christ: The Radiance of God's Glory

Christ is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature, sustaining all things by His powerful word. No one can see the glory of the Father directly (Exodus 33:18-20). Therefore, Jesus Christ manifested as the Son of Man so that sinful humans could perceive God (Matt. 9:6; 12:8, 40).

4. Christ: Heir of All Things

God appointed the Son, Jesus Christ, as the heir of all things. This means he was appointed as the owner of everything (Romans 8:17). Typically, a son becomes an heir to property only after a father's death. But here, God is eternal; He never dies. Yet, to honour His Son, God declared Him his heir because he is the one who created the world (Psalm 2:7, 8). Thus, Christ is God's final and complete revelation.

- ◆ Praise Him for the words of grace that proceed from his mouth!
- ◆ Praise the Son, who was with the Father from the beginning!
- ◆ Praise the One who speaks through the Son in these last days!
- ◆ Praise the Son, who sustains everything by his word!
- ◆ Praise the One who revealed his only begotten Son for us!

May the grace and peace of the Lord fill you. Amen.



KERITH

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

VISION

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

OBJECTIVES

A monthly magazine to strengthen the prayer cells...

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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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Be Holy

Grace and peace to all the youth reading this Kerith magazine in the name of Jesus Christ, who is holy and has called us to his holiness.

**"But as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct."
(1 Peter 1:15)**

Through this verse, Peter conveys that since the Lord is holy and so His people must also be holy. Holiness means leaving behind the sins found in this world, loving the Lord, accepting Him, and living a set-apart life of worship. However, even after saying "I am saved," why do we keep falling into sin and struggling to get back up? It is because when we are saved, we are delivered from the punishment of sin. Deliverance from the presence of sin is the future life we will live with Christ. Right now, we are being delivered from the power of sin. Even though we pass through temptations and sinful circumstances, we can overcome sin with the help of the Holy Spirit (1 John 2:1; 3:9).

In his youth, Augustine lived far away from Jesus, walking in many sinful ways and listening to false doctrines. One day, while sitting alone in a park filled with mental confusion, he heard a voice say, "Take and read." He opened the Bible to Romans 13:12 and read it. Immediately, he confessed the wrongs he had done in his life and repented to Jesus. Later, he transformed into "Saint Augustine," bringing many sinners to Christ. In his Confessions, he said:

"O Jesus, how late have I come to understand and love You! You were within me, but I was wandering in the outside world. You were with me, but I was not with You. Now, I hunger and thirst for You alone. I long for the true peace that You give."

Young people, how many of you have left the love of Jesus and are longing for someone else's love? Examine yourselves. According to the verse, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind" (Matt. 22:37), Jesus is calling you to live close to Him, leave sin behind, and live a life of complete holiness for Him. The place where you live, the place where you study, and the place where you work is your mission field. Will you commit yourself to living a holy life in this mission field? (Romans 12:1). The Holy God will sanctify you if you surrender.

"The miracle of all miracles is that God takes a unholy man out of an unholy world, makes him holy, and puts him back into that unholy world and keeps him holy."

- Leonard Ravenhill

The Lord helped the youth camps held in January to proceed excellently. I express my gratitude to everyone who prayed with a burden, worked, and took action for this. As the Lenten season (fasting days) begins this month, I encourage the youth to gather as groups in your areas for one or three hours to fast and pray for the nation and for missionary work. Use these days to grow in your spiritual life.

May God's grace be with you.

In Christ's Service,
J. Daniel Arulmani



AN INSTRUMENT OF
CRUELTY – SIMEON

Before his death, Jacob called his twelve sons together to bless them. These blessings were prophetic announcements about their futures, based on their individual characters and past actions. Along with the blessings, some received praise, while others received rebukes. Following Reuben, who lost his birthright, this article examines Jacob's second son, Simeon. The name Simeon means "Hearing." When his mother Leah conceived and bore a son, she said, "Because the Lord has heard that I am unloved, He has therefore given me this son also." And she called his name Simeon (Gen. 29:33).

Simeon's Mindset and Nature

Upon hearing the news that their sister Dinah had been defiled by Shechem, the prince of the land of Shechem, Jacob's sons were deeply grieved and very angry. Jacob, who had made peace with Esau and entered the city of Shechem to live a peaceful life as God desired, found this news distressing. However, the anger of Jacob's sons turned into treachery. They turned circumcision—the holy sign of God's covenant—into a trap to exact their revenge. While the men of Shechem were still in pain from the procedure, Simeon and Levi killed them with their swords. Those who should have been identified as children of God became instruments of cruelty, identifying themselves through violence, deceit, and revenge.

The Father's Blessing and Judgment

Simeon was identified by his father Jacob as an "instrument of cruelty" (Gen. 49:5). Their fierce anger was cursed. Instead of a traditional blessing, Jacob spoke words of anger: "I will divide them in Jacob and scatter them in Israel" (Gen. 49:7). "A quick-tempered man acts foolishly" (Proverbs 14:17). An angry person is unstable and unable to control their emotions. Therefore, their counsel is never reliable. This is why Jacob warned: "O my soul, come not into their secret; unto their assembly, mine honour, be not thou united." He said this as a warning to other tribes. "For the wrath of man worketh not the

righteousness of God" (James 1:20). Our anger doesn't just hurt others; it consumes us and blocks the blessings intended for us.

The Leader's Vision

Simeon, who was rebuked by his father, was later "forgotten" by the leader Moses. In Deuteronomy 33, Simeon has no portion in Moses' final blessings. Though the tribe of Simeon was recorded as the third-largest tribe in Numbers 1:23, about 35 years later (Numbers 26:14), it had lost its strength and become the smallest tribe (decreasing by about 63%).

Furthermore, when the land of Canaan was divided by Joshua, the Simeonites received an inheritance within the territory of the children of Judah (Joshua 19:1). Simeon's fierce anger was eventually swallowed up and regulated by Judah's leadership (Judges 1:3). Over time, their portion shrank within Judah. Their cities became part of the tribe of Judah (1 Chron. 4:27) and they merged with Judah during the days of King David. After the Babylonian exile in 586 B.C., the tribe lost its identity and disappeared, fulfilling Jacob's prophecy.

Conclusion

In Simeon's life, we see the consequences of fierce anger, secret plots to do evil, a thirst for revenge, betrayal of trust, and the misuse of God's covenant signs for wrong motives. Though he was a child of the covenant chosen to hear and respond to God's plan, he misused his life. Consequently, he lost the blessing of the holy covenant (the birthright). The tribe of Simeon is often symbolized by the Sword and the Gate. The sword became his symbol because he killed the people of Shechem with it. However, because their land sat on the road between Shechem and Jerusalem, a gate is sometimes used as a symbol. Are not these symbols—the sword of cruelty and the loss of inheritance—monuments to remind us of the cost of uncontrolled anger?

"Wrath is cruel, and anger is outrageous" (Proverbs 27:4).



GEOMETRIC DIVIDER



My dear teen boys and girls, Happy February greetings to you and your family! We finished the first month of this year so quickly. With Pongal and Republic Day holidays, January flew by. I believe you attended many camps during these holidays and found them useful. The “plan” for the section you are about to read is based on the items you frequently use in your Geometry Box. In January, we learned about the Compass. Similarly, this month, we are going to study the Divider.

Personally, when I was in school, I don't think I used the Divider even once. No one explained its correct usage properly. There is another reason too: since we can do almost all Divider tasks using a Compass, we don't use it much. However, scientifically, it has specific applications. First of all, a divider is a Measuring Instrument. It is used to measure the distance of projecting lines that we draw. It is highly useful in Geological Surveys and map-reading. But nowadays, no one really “reads” maps manually. Since our phones do that job, no one knows this skill anymore. However, even today in the Army, map-reading remains one of the most important skills. The Divider is an instrument that transfers measurements. It helps us take a distance measured on a scale and mark it onto a graph sheet or drawing sheet to complete a geometric design. Additionally, the divider is definitely needed for drawing geometrical constructions like perpendicular bisectors and angle bisectors.

Okay! Now, shall we compare the Divider with the Bible?

A Divider has two legs, and both are pin-point legs. These pins are what allow it to measure and, instead of just keeping that measurement to itself, transfer it. There is a very important lesson for us to learn here. How do you tell your friends about Jesus Christ? By putting up a WhatsApp status? Or by sharing reels with Christian content? You cannot truly “transfer” Christ to others just by doing these things. According to the Bible, your life must be completely transformed.

Your friends should look at your speech and your actions and say themselves that you have changed. This is the first step. After that, they will ask you about it, and then you can easily “transfer” Jesus Christ to them. In our parents' time, they gave out Christian tracts and short books with Bible content to everyone. But those things might not work as effectively with this generation.

In this era, showcase your own life as the Gospel to be transferred. My dear teens, this is not a choice at all—it is mandatory in a Christian life.

“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.” (Matthew 5:16)

(Good works – in a Christian life, this refers not just to your words, but your deeds and actions as well).

Share your experiences of sharing the Gospel with your friends in this way! You can share them as a voice message to our Kerith Book Editor, Rev. Daniel Annan (9445040148). It will be useful for others too. We will also pray for you.

Until then, see you teens. Bye... Bye...



DEBATE

Moderator: Church Warden (Sexton)

Today's Topic:

The Creed (Statement of Faith): Do we know it? Or not? Do we need it? Or not?

Participating Teams

Y.M.F. : Young Men's Fellowship
M.F. : Men's Fellowship
W.F. : Women's Fellowship
S.S.T. : Sunday School Teachers Fellowship
Y.C. : Young Couples Fellowship

M.F.: Sir, this topic itself is wrong. I feel like asking if this debate is even necessary. Because Romans 10:10 clearly says that with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

Church Warden: Sir, you've started it very clearly. Our debate today is exactly about what we should confess.

M.F.: What doubt is there? It's "Lord Jesus!"

Y.M.F.: That's why we sing songs about Jesus, conduct worship, and listen to messages.

Church Warden: True, brother. But my question is: Do you know the Creed? Or not?

S.S.T.: Jesus himself said we don't need the "Law" (Old Testament Law) anymore. Now why are you bringing a new law called the "Creed" (Apostles' Creed)? I haven't seen this anywhere in the Bible.

M.F.: What you say is right; the Creed isn't in the Bible. But it is essential for a church service. Not just that - the Lord's Prayer, the Song of Zechariah, the Song of Simeon, the Song of Mary, the Song of the Three Young Men, and the Litany prayer are all important.

Church Warden: Sister, you are right. But for now, let's look only at the Creed.

Y.M.F.: Our Pastor won't use anything that isn't in the Bible - whether it's a traditional summary prayer or anything you're mentioning.

Church Warden: Brother, I accept what you say. In your 2 or 3 hour service, do you have the Lord's Prayer? At the end, do you have the Praise of David?

Y.M.F.: We just told you - we won't say anything that isn't in the Bible.

S.S.T.: I think the Lord's Prayer is in the Bible. But the Praise of David and those songs that sister mentioned are not in the Bible.

Church Warden: Sister, you are careful about what is and isn't in the Bible, but everything you just said is wrong [factually].

Y.C.: I know the Creed you're talking about. But I'm out of touch with it now. After school life, through college, job, and marriage, I've been in city churches. But why talk about it now? Is it necessary?

Church Warden: I want to ask you three questions:

1. When was the last time you heard a message about the Second Coming of Christ?
2. Can you list out in order - the Secret Coming, the Public Coming, the White Throne Judgment, the Battle of Armageddon, the giving of accounts, and the separation of the goats and sheep? Who are they for and when?
3. What is the central core of our faith?

Y.C.: All three questions make me think.

S.S.T.: The answer to the third question is "Jesus," obviously. What's the doubt? For the first question, they are providing daily updates on YouTube even today. For the second question - that's God's business; why should we need to know that?

M.F.: That's exactly why I'm coming to this point. Why should we force our traditions on this generation? My daughter-in-law attends our village service once a year.



DEBATE

She says our service isn't "on fire." I'm afraid that if we force these traditions in her church, she might stop coming to church altogether.

Church Warden: Sir, I understand the fear behind why you said this debate isn't needed.

W.F.: When we were young, we always had four books in our hands (The Bible, Song book, Hymn book, and the Prayer book). We would be inside the church and on our knees before the second bell rang.

Church Warden: Sister, don't scare them by reminiscing about all that.

Y.C.: Okay, let's get back to the Creed. What is so important about it?

Church Warden: To my third question, the Sunday School teachers gave an answer that was "correct but wrong." Our core is the Triune God. Three in one, and one in three. We worship the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We must be clear on this. The Creed reminds us of this again and again, imprinting it into our very blood vessels.

S.S.T.: Tell us the whole thing once, then.

Church Warden: I can't say it right now. I didn't come here to teach it to you. I came to make you understand its importance. The Holy Spirit is for worship; Jesus is for the message. In Hebrew, certain words are used for God's name that have now become common. Because we don't confess the words "Conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary," we get doubts. Because we don't confess "He will come again to judge," there is doubt about whether He

will return. The purpose of the Creed is to ensure we worship God with balance in our messages, prayers, and worship.

S.S.T.: Okay, can you tell us who wrote it and why?

Church Warden: The history of its writing is quite long. I'll just tell you why it was written. It was created during a time when Bibles weren't widely available, literacy was low, and people didn't know how to read. It was designed to center on the Triune God, covering Christ's birth, suffering, death, resurrection, the final judgment, and the one baptism. It was created so that the structure of our sermons, songs, and prayers remains within this framework.

Y.M.F.: Looking at what you're saying, do they use this in mission fields today?

S.S.T.: We are well-educated now. We even go to Bible competitions. What is the use of saying the same thing over and over?

Church Warden: You asked it right, sister! Our Christianity is a "Way" (faith), not just a religion. It has fundamental doctrines and hope. These must be believed. To grow continually in salvation, they must be confessed. Otherwise, we will turn ourselves into just one among a hundred religions. "Loud" worship feels good, but we must realize if it's dulling our senses. We must move toward "Meaningful" worship.

(Church Warden stands with tears in his eyes and joined hands.)

(Though the answer is known, the path is not found, and the debate disperses.)

Postscript:

The Prayer Book is available in traditional churches or at CLS, ELS, WOC, or Christian bookstores. Please buy one and read it at least once.



JOEL

THE LORD IS GOD

REV. JOHNSON DANIEL

2nd WEEK MESSAGE - OT - Passion Prophet

African tribes use a peculiar method to catch monkeys in the forest. They take fried peanuts - a favourite food of monkeys and place them inside a large pumpkin through a small hole. Attracted by the aroma, a monkey reaches in; its open hand passes through the hole easily. However, once it grabs a handful of peanuts, its clenched fist becomes too large to be pulled back out through the small opening. Unwilling to let go of the peanuts to escape, the monkey remains trapped. Similarly, the spiritual state of Judah (the southern part of Israel) was corrupted by two conflicting mindsets. They distanced themselves from their relationship with God and committed spiritual adultery. They cast aside Jehovah, followed foreign gods, backslid, defiled the Temple, and eventually became enemies of God. In this situation, through His servant Joel (whose name means "Jehovah is God"), God issued a challenge to return to Him and be saved from the judgment of the Day of the Lord.



kingdom of Israel) were unwilling to learn any lessons. They followed the same path, distanced themselves from God, and eventually became slaves in foreign lands. Therefore, the Word of God comes through the prophet to those in foreign lands. We must examine our lives and reflect on the lessons taught by the bitter consequences of being enslaved to sin. It is not enough to be righteous on a single day; like Daniel, it is essential to be found blameless before God every single day. To achieve this, it is vital to remain "on fire" (fervent) in our spiritual lives. Today, we often have a tendency to blame others for the state of our nation or our church. But have we ever realized our own responsibility? Are we growing daily in our relationship with God and living as witnesses for Him? Do we have the zeal to fulfill God's plan for our nation or our church?

The Day of the Lord - The Necessity of Repentance

Much like John the Baptist in the New Testament, the prophet Joel calls out five times across three chapters (1:15; 2:1, 11, 31; 3:14) stating that the Day of the Lord is near, therefore, "Repent." Specifically, in the first chapter, he warns the people by describing the sinful state of Judah and the resulting judgment from God. The first step toward salvation is the conviction of sin. The realization that "I have sinned against the Lord" is the foundation of our spiritual health. Joel emphasizes this to his people: "Behold, a judgment like you have never seen or heard of is coming." In Joel 1:1-11, he explains that their sins and iniquities are the cause of this. He stresses the urgent need for repentance to recover from the nation's current pathetic state. It is no exaggeration to say that the transgressions of an individual can lead to the destruction of a nation. Do we realize that our repentance is essential for the prosperity and well-being of our nation?

The Day of the Lord - A Time for Change

Despite seeing the consequences of a backslidden life in the northern kingdom of Israel, the people of Judah (southern

The Day of the Lord - An Unchanging Promise

While our Lord hates sin, His other unchanging attribute is that He loves sinners. God sent the prophet Joel specifically to redeem the Israelites who had drifted away due to sin. In the third chapter, He promises not only to deliver them from slavery and bring them back to their land but also that He Himself will come to meet them. He confirms that those who enslaved them and treated them without mercy will be interrogated and will face judgment. Similarly, He promises: "I will be a shelter for my people, and a stronghold for the children of Israel." This clarifies that even in the midst of judgment, the righteous will be saved. Furthermore, we can understand that there is a future hope for His people.

The Lord has not rejected us completely. He calls us to repent and live as His children, with Him and for Him. Are you ready to follow Him?



COME, LET'S GO TO THE NEXT VILLAGE!

TELKOI MISSION FIELD – KEONJHAR DISTRICT, ODISHA



Odisha is a state rich in ancient languages and culture. In the years 1980, 1999, and 2008, we began ministry among the Juang people in Keonjhar district—a group identified as a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG). (Out of 744 tribal groups in India, 75 are designated as PVTGs due to low literacy, economic backwardness, and declining or stagnant populations). Due to physical infirmities, we were unable to continue the ministry consistently. However, since 2010, the Pallahara mission field was established and ministry has been flourishing there.

In this context, after surveying the nearby Telkoi revenue block, we desire to start a new mission field among the Juang people in Telkoi.

An Introduction to the Telkoi Mission Field:

In the Keonjhar district, approximately 27,000 Juang people live across revenue blocks such as Telkoi, Harichandanpur, Banspal, and Kanjipani. In the Telkoi revenue block alone, there are 95,718 people living in 146 villages. The literacy rate in this region is only 65.79%, and female literacy is a mere 47.51%. The number of Christians in this area is only 469, which is just 0.49% of the population.

The Juang - A Particularly Vulnerable Tribe:

The Juang people are commonly referred to as "Patua," meaning "those who wear leaves." This is because, in ancient times, they wore only leaves as clothing. Currently,

they wear sarees and dhotis. They worship deities such as Dharam Devta, Basu Mata, and Gramshree.

Livelihood and Occupation:

Traditionally, they were hunters and gatherers of forest produce. Currently, they make a living by collecting and selling mushrooms, beedi leaves, and firewood. They are also involved in bamboo basket weaving and agriculture.

Health:

The Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) among tribal people in Odisha is 78.7/1000. However, the severity is even higher among the Juang people.

Points for Prayer:

- Pray that these people, who practice animism (spirit worship), may come to know the True God.
- Pray for the Juang people—whose overall literacy is only 42.8% to receive education and rise in their standard of living.
- Pray for a change in the nutritional status; malnutrition stands at 57.5% among men and 62.6% among women.

Dear Youngsters! Will you come to perform the Lord's soul-harvesting work in the Pallada and Telkoi mission fields of Odisha, so that the Juang people living in these borders of darkness may receive a better life?



México



Mexico is one of the largest countries in North America. It covers an area of approximately 1,964,375 square kilometres, making it the 13th largest country in the world. It shares its northern border with the United States of America; It is southern borders with Guatemala and Belize; It is southwest with the Pacific Ocean; and its eastern borders with the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean Sea. The country's landscape includes deserts in the north, fertile valleys in the centre, and tropical rainforests in the west/south.

- ◆ Capital: Mexico City
- ◆ Currency: Mexican Peso (MXN)
- ◆ Political System: Federal Democratic Republic
- ◆ Population: Approximately 129 million
- ◆ Holy Sites: Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe
- ◆ Feast of Faith: Fiesta de San Valentin (St. Valentine's Day - February 14)

RELIGIOUS HISTORY

The history of Christianity in Mexico began in the 16th century with the arrival of Catholicism, which remains the dominant religion today. About 78% of the population identify as Catholic. Catholic traditions continue to shape Mexican culture significantly. However, Protestant and Evangelical denominations are growing, especially in rural and indigenous areas. Currently, the Evangelical Christian population exceeds 11%, creating a diverse Christian landscape. Alongside religion, football (Soccer) and Baseball are very popular, reflecting a blend of strong traditions and modern culture.

PRAYER POINTS FOR MEXICO:

1. PERSECUTION OF CHRISTIANS

REGIONAL HARDSHIP: Christians in certain parts of Central and Western Mexico face persecution from traditional religious leaders and armed rebel groups. Let us pray for mental strength and courage for those who remain faithful despite being rejected,

and for the Lord's protection over families facing violence and loss.

SOCIAL REJECTION: Many believers are rejected by their communities due to their faith in Jesus. As a result, they have lost jobs, land, and family property. Let us pray for the unity of believers even amidst the loss of land, water, or livelihoods.

2. MEXICAN MIGRANT WORKERS

DANGEROUS JOURNEYS: Every year, more than two million people migrate within the country or across borders (especially to the USA) seeking work to support their families. Hundreds die while attempting the crossing. Let us pray for the safety of those who risk their lives to cross borders.

HARD LABOR: Migrants are often engaged in low-wage, physically demanding jobs in sectors like agriculture, construction, manufacturing, and domestic work. Let us pray for the families who depend on the income sent back by these migrant workers.

“With the hope of supporting my wife and two children, I came to America as a seasonal agricultural laborer from Oaxaca, Mexico. My employer withheld my wages and forced me to work long hours in unsafe conditions. I lived in overcrowded, unsanitary housing, which made me fall ill. When I sought help, I was threatened with deportation. Over time, the physical hardship and mental stress affected my health and well-being at a very young age.”
Miguel, 28-year-old Migrant worker.

“My troubles began in 2021 when I accepted the Lord Jesus. The authorities in my community first tried to seize the deed to my land. They confiscated my certificates so that I could no longer work on my own land. They also imprisoned both me and my wife for 24 hours. Finally, they cut off our drinking water and public services.”
Mauricio, a Mexican Christian believer.



YOUTH MINISTRY PRAYER CONCERNS

“Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, so are the children of one’s youth.”
(Psalm 127:4)

Beloved, this month we are going to pray for the multitudes of young people living in our mission fields. In many mission villages, many youths remain unaware of the Gospel of Jesus Christ or continue to reject His love. On the other hand, there is a small number of new generation believers who have accepted Jesus. Let us plead with God for their soul’s salvation and their well-being.

- **Raise Missionaries for God’s kingdom:** Pray that the Lord would raise many missionaries to carry out youth ministries in every district, taluk, and village across North India.
- **Campus Ministry:** Pray for the commencement of prayer groups in all colleges and universities throughout North India.
- **Church Fellowships:** Pray that youth prayer fellowships be started and conducted regularly within our mission field churches.
- **Literature Ministry:** Pray for the creation and distribution of monthly magazines, annual Bible meditation books, and various spiritual literatures in all the major languages of our mission fields to aid spiritual growth.
- **Digital Outreach:** Pray for initiatives to take Biblical truths and deep, meaningful songs to the youth in their respective languages through social media.

- **Support Systems:** Pray for the establishment of communication networks to assist and follow up with youth who migrate from our mission fields for education and employment.
- **Living Witnesses:** Pray that young believers live as witnesses for Jesus in their homes, places of education, and workplaces.
- **Provisions:** Pray that the educational and livelihood needs of the youth are met without any hindrance.
- **Deliverance:** Pray that the Holy Spirit would deliver young people who are enslaved to various works of darkness and superstitions.
- **Youth Ministry:** Pray for the appointment of passionate missionaries to meet the youth in our mission regions and to coordinate youth ministries.
- **Youth Gatherings:** Pray for special youth meetings to be held across all mission fields and for many other young people to participate and be blessed.
- **Leadership & Influence:** Let us plead and pray that God would raise many ministers of God from among the young believers, and that they would be elevated to high positions in various sectors such as government administration, media, and business.



INSOMNIA DISORDER

Insomnia is a condition characterized by difficulty falling asleep, inability to stay asleep, or feeling physically exhausted even after waking up.

Why does it occur?

Common reasons for irregular sleep patterns among today's youth include:

- ◆ **Blue Light Exposure:** Excessive use of mobiles, laptops, and TVs before bed leads to daytime sleepiness.
- ◆ **Academic Pressure:** Mental stress caused by studies and exams.
- ◆ **Mental Health Struggles:** High expectations, tension, frustration, and other psychological issues.
- ◆ **Poor Routine:** Lack of the "early to bed, early to rise" habit and insufficient total sleep time.

How does it affect you?

Poor sleep negatively impacts your mood, memory, learning ability, and energy levels. If this continues long-term, it causes significant harm to both physical and mental health.

Is there a treatment?

Yes, insomnia is a treatable condition. It can be rectified through small changes in lifestyle.

What to do if you notice symptoms?

- ◆ **Sleep Environment:** Keep your room quiet, dark,

and cool. Go to bed and wake up at the same time every day (aim for 8 hours of sleep at night).

- ◆ **Digital Detox:** Reduce the use of mobile/laptop/TV at least 1 hour before sleep.
- ◆ **Dietary Habits:** Avoid tea, coffee, and heavy snacks during the night.
- ◆ **Association:** Do not study or work in bed; this leads to lethargy and confuses the brain's association with sleep.
- ◆ **Activity:** Exercise during the daytime.
- ◆ **Mental Offloading:** Before bed, write your worries in a notebook/diary or talk to a counsellor.

Statistics:

1. In Delhi, about 1 in 5 youths (20-22%) suffer from sleep disorders caused by depression.
2. A study by Bayer Consumer Health (a leading multivitamin company in India) revealed that many people aged 25-35 frequently wake up tired and suffer from insomnia.
3. About 59% of Indians sleep less than 6 hours a night, leading to this condition.
4. Surveys like the "Wakefit Scorecard" indicate that over 80% of young people go to bed late because they use their mobiles right before sleeping.

“For He gives His beloved sleep.” (Psalm 127:2)

Points for Prayer:

- ◆ Pray that God grants peaceful sleep to those with restless and weary souls.
- ◆ Pray that every heart be filled with peace, removing worry, fear, and negative thoughts.
- ◆ Pray for everyone to make wise decisions to cultivate healthy sleep habits.
- ◆ Pray that youth find interest in prayer and Bible reading to overcome nighttime stress, mobile addiction, and academic/work pressure.
- ◆ Let us pray for young men and women to surrender their thoughts and future to the Lord and live with hope and without fear.



A MISSIONARY WHO BROUGHT LIGHT TO A PEOPLE WAITING FOR DAWN

A Sweet Conversation

Praise the Lord, Brother!

Question: Tell us about yourself...

Missionary's Response: My name is R. George Edward. I am from Madurai. I completed my school and college education there. Although I was born and raised in a Christian family, I lacked a personal devotion to the Lord. During my college days, at a student meeting organized by the Evangelical Union (EU), I dedicated my life to the Lord and accepted Him as my personal Savior. Since then, my relationship with Him has continued to grow. I praise the Lord with gratitude for the work of the EU.

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

Missionary's Response: I committed myself to full-time ministry during a meeting conducted by Mr. Augustine Jebakumar of the GEMS organization. Later, at an EGF (Evangelical Graduates Fellowship) meeting centered on Bible translation, I dedicated myself to missionary work and joined FMPB (Friends Missionary Prayer Band). During my initial ministry with FMPB, I met Rev. Alaichamy Paul, the Kukna Bible translator. He encouraged me to take up Bible translation and guided me on how to move forward despite many obstacles. This was the turning point in my ministry.

Question: What challenges did you face after your conversion?

Missionary's Response: Turning away from worldly pleasures was a challenge. However, through church worship, Bible reading, and family prayer with my parents and siblings, I was able to grow in the Lord and His truth, and know Him more deeply.

Question: What was the resolution you made after overcoming these challenges?

Missionary's Response: I resolved to remain steadfast in my commitment to the Lord under any circumstance and to continue growing in faith without looking back. Though I stumbled at times, the Lord never forsook me. As a result, I was able to grow in my spiritual life and ministry.

Question: How did you develop the thirst to go beyond your borders to share the Gospel?

Missionary's Response: While I was working at a school in Kodaikanal, a message shared by Mr. Augustine Jebakumar lit the spark in my heart to dedicate myself to missionary work in North India. Professor Ivan Paulsingh from Thoothukudi introduced me to FMPB. I then joined FMPB with a deep drive to use all my talents and energies for the expansion of God's Kingdom.

Question: What were the struggles and trials you faced in the field?

Missionary's Response: While working as a Church Planter

among the Kukna people in Gujarat, the greatest struggle I faced was loneliness. Since there were no opportunities to even listen to music for comfort, loneliness was hard to manage. After my marriage, finding a suitable house to live in and carry out translation work was also a challenge.

Question: What was the vision God gave you for your ministry path?

Missionary's Response: The vision was to focus on translating the entire Bible into the Malto language so that the Gospel could reach the Malto people of Jharkhand.

Question: What was the price you paid to fulfill this vision?

Missionary's Response: Our ministry involved meager facilities and many obstacles. Specifically, in the work of Bible translation, finding the accurate vocabulary and expressions in the Malto language was a constant challenge.

Question: What were the results among the people because you paid that price?

Missionary's Response: Because of our ministry, many continuous changes occurred among the Malto people. The Malto community, once considered to be fading away, began to progress with population growth and spiritual revival. The Malto community is the first tribal group to receive the complete Bible in their own language. Because of this, Malto people living in both India and Bangladesh have received the Lord's blessings. Even after our retirement, the Lord continues to use us as Resource Persons for various projects, including the Warli Bible translation in FMPB. You young people must dedicate yourselves to reach the unreached. Then, heaven will be filled with Indians!

Points for Prayer:

- ◆ Pray for the salvation of all Malto people.
- ◆ Pray that the Malto people read the Bible translated into their language and grow in faith.
- ◆ Pray for the current FMPB ministry among the Malto people to yield a great harvest.
- ◆ Pray for the protection of our missionaries, local workers, and believers serving there.
- ◆ Pray that many Malto youths will rise to minister among those who still do not know the Lord.



Dating Fatigue



In this modern age, wherever we look, the word “Dating! Dating!” is constantly heard among the youth. No matter whom you ask, they say they are dating! This month, we are going to stand in the gap for the young people who have fallen into and are struggling within this “Dating” obsession. Are you ready for that?

There are more than 1,500 dating apps and websites in the world today. Their impact is significantly high in India as well. Apart from global dating apps, young people are extensively using apps developed within India. In the name of “Monetization,” these dating apps push users toward various lustful and impulsive actions!

Recently, we have been hearing about many fraudulent crimes related to these apps. Through “Fake IDs,” many portray themselves as beautiful men or women and interact with others on the app. Once they gain the victim’s trust, they reveal their true motives. They often lure people with sweet words, asking them to meet privately or stay a day in a hotel room, promising expensive gifts in return. Believing this, many book rooms in big hotels and enjoy talking with the opposite sex. Subsequently, by mixing sedatives in their food or drinks, the fraudsters steal expensive cell phones, laptops, and lakhs of rupees. We are duty-bound to pray for such people.

Prayer Points:

- *Let us pray with a burden for the youth who are struggling after losing their money, time, first love, and trust through dating apps.*
- *Let us pray for young people who remain unmarried due to the fear of being cheated again in relationships.*
- *Let us pray for the youth who, drawn by alluring words, fall in love and subsequently get trapped, unable to escape the threats and harassment that arise from those relationships.*
- *Let us pray for the salvation of young people who use these apps just for “Time Pass.”*
- *Let us pray that the children of believing families seek the Lord and hold fast to Him.*
- *Let us pray that students in schools and colleges protect themselves from such forms of addiction.*
- *According to statistics, there are 75 million people on the Tinder app in 2026. Let us pray for their repentance.*
- *In India alone, statistics suggest there will be 28 million users by next year. Let us pray for this situation to change.*
- *Let us pray that young people recognize the works of Satan, who shows momentary pleasures only to push them into the lake of fire, and instead look toward the Lord to live a holy life.*

DOES YOUR GOD SPEAK IN OUR LANGUAGE?

THE PAWRI LANGUAGE (Bible Translation Ministry)

An Introduction to the Barela Pawra People

The powerful living word of the living God continues to be translated into many languages by many dedicated people today. One such language is Barela Pawri, which belongs to the Bhil language family. The Barela Pawra people originally migrated from the Pavagadh region of Gujarat. Today, approximately 10.42 lakh Barela Pawra people reside across the states of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Maharashtra. Their primary language is Barela Pawri, though dialects like Rathwi, Bhilala, and Palya are also spoken in the region, alongside Bhili, Mawchi, and Ahirani.

Agriculture is their main occupation. They traditionally practice animism (spirit worship), though some now follow various gurus. Their culture includes brewing local liquor and a tradition of dancing all night during funerals and weddings.

The Barela Pawri Translation Ministry

There was once a fine young man in the town of Tiruvannamalai belonging to the Lutheran Church. As the eldest son, he was raised with great devotion; his parents had dedicated him to God's ministry from his very birth. His parents were also leaders of a Friends Missionary Prayer Band (FMPB) prayer group. Like any youth, he had many dreams of living a fun and beautiful life. However, while completing his final year of M.Sc. (Maths), he clearly sensed God's call during prayer to enter the field of Bible translation. He immediately obeyed, joined our movement in 1991, and underwent linguistic training for translation work.

That man was Rev. Immanuel Irappitcheal. He and his family served for 5 years in church-planting ministry among the Malto people in Jharkhand. In the year 2000, they moved to Maharashtra to start ministry among the Barela Pawra people. He mastered the Pawri language, its grammar, and culture, shared the Gospel with the Pawra people, and translated the New Testament into Barela Pawri. He also dubbed the Jesus Film and provided Vacation Bible School (VBS) materials in

their language.

In 2019, God's grace allowed the New Testament to be dedicated at a state camp in Salem Danishpet. Suddenly, after completing 21 years of translation ministry, he was affected by COVID-19 and reached God's kingdom on April 9, 2021. You might wonder, "Oh no! Did the translation work stop with him?" Many had that question. But his wife, Mrs. Jane Immanuel, has continued this ministry. With God's grace, the Bible was printed by the Bible Society of India and dedicated in the Maharashtra mission field in 2023 for distribution.

Challenges and Opportunities in Translation:

- ♣ **Cultural Barriers:** For those going from Tamil Nadu to North India, learning a new language and culture is a huge challenge. Therefore, specific linguistic and translation training is provided.
- ♣ **Infrastructure:** In the early days, there were power cuts for 12-14 hours a day. However, computers and generators were provided to overcome this.
- ♣ **Resources:** Since dictionaries exist for many Bhil languages, it provides an easier opportunity to carry out translation work in other related dialects.

Points for Prayer:

- ♣ Pray for the successful completion of the Old Testament translation work.
- ♣ Pray for the completion of the Audio Bible in Pawri and the recording of the Covenant Film.
- ♣ Adult literacy programs are being conducted in their own language in 18 villages. Pray that these efforts yield good results.
- ♣ Pray that believers grow spiritually by reading the Pawri New Testament daily.
- ♣ Pray that missionaries, local workers, and believers use the Pawri Bible during church services.
- ♣ Pray that the Pawra people do not look down upon their mother tongue compared to state languages, but rather use the Mother Tongue Bible with pride.

Young Brothers and Sisters!!

The Lord who used Ziegenbalg to give us the Bible in our Tamil language can use you to give the Bible in many other languages. If the Lord calls you into this relay race of Bible translation, will you immediately obey and dedicate yourself??



VIRAL NEWS February '26



USA VS VENEZUELA

Regarding Narco-Terrorism Charges - As President Maduro is set to appear in a New York court regarding drug trafficking allegations, the United States maintains that it is not at war with Venezuela.

For Global Leaders and Consumer Nations - Let us pray that world leaders and consumer nations rule with wisdom that transcends political or personal gain, and that they remain steadfast in honesty during negotiations and agreements.

BJP'S VICTORY IN BMC ELECTIONS

- The BMC Election Outcome The BJP's victory in the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) elections is considered a significant turning point in Mumbai's local politics, effectively challenging the long-standing dominance of the Shiv Sena.
- A Call for Integrity and Service Let us pray that the elected officials move beyond partisan interests and serve the public with unity, selflessness, integrity, and cooperation



3 KILLED AT ILLEGAL MANJUVIRATU EVENTS

- Three people, including participants and spectators, lost their lives during Manjuvirattu (bull-taming events held in Salem and Krishnagiri districts).
- Let us pray for comfort and strength for the grieving families of the victims. Let us also pray for the wisdom to implement necessary safety regulations and the grace to follow them during future traditional events to prevent such tragedies.

DELHI IN EXTENSIVE PREP FOR 77TH REPUBLIC DAY

- In view of Republic Day, Delhi was placed under tight security arrangements. The occasion was marked by a grand parade, significant traffic diversions, and vibrant decorations throughout the city.
- Let us pray for leaders and institutions dedicated to public welfare to act with justice and transparency. We also pray that the youth of our nation commit themselves to working for the country's well-being and progress



SOCIAL MEDIA & GEN Z OVERCONSUMPTION

- The Influence of Digital Culture Consumption habits among Gen Z have significantly increased due to social media, targeted advertising, and the "influencer culture." Psychological triggers such as FOMO (Fear of Missing Out) and the desire for instant gratification play a major role in shaping these behaviors.
- Let us pray that the Gen Z generation receives wisdom in financial management. May their hearts be turned away from fleeting worldly possessions and toward the Lord, our eternal treasure

COLLEGEMATES BEAT YOUTH TO DEATH IN VELLORE

- Danny, a 19-year-old college student, was allegedly murdered by two of his classmates following a suspicious dispute regarding a relationship with a girl. Reports indicate that he was strangled and beaten with an iron rod before his body was dumped in the border area of Andhra Pradesh.
- Let us pray that the Lord opens the eyes and hearts of all young people to recognize the sanctity of every human life. We pray that the youth turn away from the paths of jealousy and anger, and instead walk in the way that is pleasing to the Lord



PAUL'S ZEAL FORTIFIED IN SOLITUDE

Last month, we saw how Jesus met Saul, who was once filled with fierce zeal for the beliefs of the Pharisees. As a result, Paul's zeal for persecuting the newly formed Church was transformed into a zeal for proclaiming Jesus Christ. However, through the lives of those used by God, we learn that the initial power and energy generated during such a transformation are not enough to sustain their zeal until the end. Therefore, God begins His training for them almost immediately. Moses expressed his zeal for the welfare of his people at the age of 40 (Exodus 2:12). Immediately, God took him to the "University of the Midian Desert" for the next 40 years to receive training. This month, we will see how Paul was similarly trained by God.

Paul met Jesus in a vision around A.D. 33. His first missionary journey from Antioch took place around A.D. 46–48. During these intervening 13 to 15 years, Paul was removed from the intensity of opposition and placed under training. This was a period of intense spiritual molding, practical training, and divine guidance. These years are often referred to as his "Silent Years."

Because Paul had been trained by Gamaliel, one of the greatest Jewish teachers, he was well-versed in the Scriptures (Acts 22:3). However, in Damascus, God placed Paul under the training of an ordinary believer named Ananias (Acts 22:12-16). He healed Paul, baptized him, led him to be filled with the Holy Spirit, and confirmed his calling. This process completely stripped Paul of the religious pride he once held. Later, Paul was sent south of Damascus to Arabia. Here, he was alone with God. He gained further clarity regarding the nature of Jesus Christ and His mission (Gal. 1:11, 12; 2 Cor. 12:1-4).

Afterward, Paul returned to Damascus for practical training and began preaching in the synagogues. He learned to present Christ from the Old Testament. However, he immediately faced persecution. To escape, he was lowered in a basket and moved out secretly (Acts 9:23-25). This taught him from the beginning that living for Christ would bring suffering. He then

went to Jerusalem, three years after his conversion. There, he stayed with Peter for 15 days and also met James, the brother of Jesus (Gal. 1:18, 19). This provided him the opportunity to associate with the key Apostolic leaders. As he debated with Grecian Jews, death threats arose (Acts 9:29). Therefore, he was sent to his next training station: his hometown of Tarsus in the province of Cilicia.

Paul spent about 8 to 10 years in Tarsus. This was a long period of "forgotten" local ministry. He was not idle; it is believed he preached the Gospel and established many churches in his native regions of Syria and Cilicia (Acts 15:23, 41). He performed church planting and pastoral care during his training period. God used this time to mature him, deepen his understanding of the local church context, and allow his reputation as a "persecutor" to fade, replacing it with the reputation of a "preacher of the faith."

Finally, Barnabas—needing help for the growing Gentile church in Antioch—sought Paul out in Tarsus



and brought him to Antioch. For an entire year, they taught the church together. This was crucial teamwork training. Paul, the brilliant theologian, learned from Barnabas (known as the “Son of Encouragement”) how to work as a partner, how to care for a diverse church, and how to function in a major city filled with various types of people. While the church at Antioch was worshipping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit explicitly said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” After further prayer and fasting, the church laid hands on them and sent them off. This was the divine and ecclesiastical mandate that served as the foundation for his first missionary journey. His training was now recognized and confirmed by both the Spirit and the people of God (Acts 13:1-3).

What Are We Learning?

Paul received training in five different locations to learn the various facets of ministry. This provided a firm foundation before he began executing the zeal God had placed within him. As we emphasized last month, God has a specific training program for you to fulfill your unique calling. When I look back at my own life, I see that God chose me to be His servant from my very birth. I received my initial inspiration for missionary work through my father, and I consecrated my life to the Lord at the age of ten. Later, at the age of thirteen, the loss of my father plunged my life into difficult circumstances.

However, God led me toward higher education and a position at a wonderful scientific institution. From the age of sixteen, the Lord trained me to grow in prayer. Finally, before calling me into full-time ministry at the age of thirty, He helped me grow in the grace of giving, in the deep study of the Word, and in the passion for sharing the Gospel by visiting villages with a prayer team.

Dear young people, have you identified God’s calling for your life? Do you understand the wondrous ways in which God is training you right now, and are you cooperating with Him?

THE BEGINNING AND GROWTH OF THE PRAYER CELL...

Glory and honour be to the Lord Jesus Christ, who has graciously enabled the Youth Wing of the Friends Missionary Prayer Band (FMPB) in the Salem region to function excellently. We also extend our greetings to all of you reading this.

Although special fellowship meetings for youth were held occasionally since 2010, starting from the beginning of 2022, a regular youth gathering has been held at a fixed location on the 4th Sunday of every month. About 25 to 30 young men and women participate in these meetings. Furthermore, young women have divided into 3 groups and young men into 2 groups to meet once a month for prayer.

In every gathering organized by the Salem District FMPB, the youth participate excellently through songs and choreography. During village film ministries and Christmas carol rounds, the youth worked together as a team, considering these tasks as a responsibility entrusted to them by God.

Please pray that the young people participating in the gatherings organized by FMPB will receive a missionary vision and dedicate themselves to the work of God.

To Christ Jesus be the glory! Amen!



ARISE AND SHINE - 2026

LIVING WITNESSES RAISED BY THE LORD AT THE YOUTH CAMP

- I learned how to come out of sin and how to pray consistently. It was very useful for me. The missionary sharing created a huge impact on me. I decided to pray for them. I realized that the youthful years are very valuable. Therefore, I resolved to spend more of my life with God.
- This gathering helped me renew my salvation. The care, food, and every session were very optimal and valuable.
- This 3-day camp was a great blessing to me. More such meetings should be conducted through FMPB. This generation of youth was able to learn much more about missionaries.
- The missionary sharing session was extremely useful to me.
- Every program was beneficial and impactful. Particularly, the second-day devotion was helpful.
- This camp was very useful for my personal and spiritual growth. It helped me renew my relationship with God. Some sessions made me think deeply.
- I learned many new things. God gave me a heart for prayer. I have now dedicated my life to God. You organized this very beautifully.
- This meeting was very beneficial. Jesus spoke to me during the message and I was transformed during these three days.
- This gathering was very useful for my life. I felt that it will change my future life decisions. I learned many good things during these three days. It helped solve my problems and I surrendered myself completely to God.
- I received good counsel at this camp. It helped me control my mobile usage and a desire was born in me to be more active for God. You should conduct many more camps like this.
- These three days were very useful. I felt that I should pray more for missionaries and also developed an interest in going to the mission field.
- I really liked the dance by the Gujarat team and the missionary sharing. I thank God for bringing me to this camp.
- Every session of the camp was very profitable. I was able to grow in holy living, increase my fellowship with God, and learn more about the ministry.
- I liked this 3-day camp very much. The words spoken by the missionary from Gujarat burdened me and I have decided to pray for them.
- The food and accommodation during these three days were very good. Every session of the camp was wonderful. This world made me depressed, but knowing that Jesus is the light, I have decided to live the life he desires. Thanks to those who conducted this camp.



BUILD ON THE RIGHT FOUNDATION

Marriage is a gift from God. However, your life must be built upon Christ the Rock, not merely upon your emotions.

According to Matthew 7:24, “A wise man builds his house on the rock.”

Beloved! Before choosing your life partner, choose your foundation. If your life is built only on these things...

- Only romantic feelings - It will collapse.
- Only money or career - It will shake.
- Only looks and excitement - It will fade.

However, when your life is structured on these foundations (The 3 G's):

- God's Purpose
- God's Word
- God's Timing

Then your marriage will stand strong in any storm. This is exactly what the Bible teaches us (Matt. 7:24-27; Luke 6:47-49).

1. *Come: Based on the verse “Come to Me,” sit at His feet and seek Him. According to Matthew 11:28, cast your burdens, needs, and desires upon Him.*
2. *Hear: Through the phrase “Hear my words,” listen to what He is telling you. According to Psalm 32:8, He will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go.*
3. *Do: “Do whatever He tells you.” James 1:22 says, “Be doers of the word, and not hearers only.” (True obedience is not just words but deeds). A foundation built on the Rock will not be shaken (Luke 6:48) and will not fall (Matt. 7:25).*

You may be entering marriage with fear, questions, and confusion. Here is some advice (The 3 Wills):

• **Perverved Will of God:**

Having a wrong motive, being self-centered, and organizing life contrary to the Lord's will.

• **Permitted Will of God:**

Thinking, “This partner is my choice, my desire.” Pursuing your own will and asking God to bless it, rather than seeking His original plan.

• **Perfect Will of God:**

Surrendering to the perfect will of God, saying “Your will is my desire,” and essentially signing a “white paper” to fully depend on Him to build the life He shows you.

Which of these will you choose? Prepare yourself through prayer. God's guidance is available to you.

“And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.” (Romans 8:28)



THE HIDDEN TREASURE

In the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, I am very happy to meet you through this short brief from the word of God. In this section, let us meditate deeply on the Parable of the Hidden Treasure under the theme "Today's Kingdom Field."

The Lord Jesus Christ revealed the secrets of the Gospel through his parables. In the 13th chapter of the Gospel of Matthew, he shares seven parables known as the "Parables of the Kingdom." The primary parable among these is the "Hidden Treasure." The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field." (Matthew 13:44). This parable explains the value of the Gospel Kingdom and the sacrifice one prepares for it. Under this scripture, let us understand the meaning of this parable deeply and apply it in our daily lives.

Interpretation of the Parable:

There are three key aspects to this parable:

The Hidden Treasure: The treasure was hidden in the field. Similarly, the Kingdom of the Gospel is hidden from the eyes of the world. Many live without ever knowing it. However, it is discovered in Jesus Christ. This hidden treasure provides wisdom, transformation, and peace.

The One Who Found It with Joy: Once the man found the treasure, he was filled with joy. Those who discover the Kingdom of the Gospel attain that same peace and ecstasy.

Selling Everything to Buy It: The man sold all his possessions to obtain the treasure. This signifies the sacrifice required for the Kingdom. Jesus says that whoever leaves houses, brothers, sisters, father, mother, children, and property for His name's sake and follows Him will receive all blessings a

hundredfold. The Lord rejoices in seeking and finding us, who were separated from Him by sin, to bring us into His eternal Kingdom.

Application to Our Lives:

In today's world, finding the true treasure is a challenge. People are attracted by money and fame. However, many have voluntarily left their jobs, relatives, and habits to choose Christ and find joy in doing his work.

- **Daily Search:** Seek the Kingdom of God through Bible reading and prayer (Matthew 6:33).
- **Being Prepared:** Leave sin behind and engage in the Lord's work.
- **Sharing with Others:** Show the treasure of the Kingdom of Heaven to others and invite them.

Conclusion

The Kingdom of the Gospel, which is the hidden treasure, will transform your life. Having found it, be prepared to leave everything behind to obtain it. May the Lord Jesus himself bless you all and lead you by doing good things in your lives. Amen!



THE HONORED MORDECAI...

Great Mordecai, by history's quill renowned,
In Shushan's gate a faithful watchman found.
Of Benjamin's brave seed, a Jew of grace,
Who gave a father's heart to Esther's face.
As mother broods, he bore her in his dreams,
An emperor of wise and godly schemes.
No traitor's knot could bind his upright soul,
Nor bribe corrupt his duty or control.
He sought no silver for the good he wrought,
But bided time as Heaven's wisdom taught.

The chariot that bore the scent of death,
Hath stayed its wheel and held its icy breath.
No mortal arm could turn that tide of woe,
But spiritual fires made the spirit glow.
The flesh was humbled, and the heart made bright,
To seek the Most High in His hallowed light.
By the Great King's unmoving, holy grace,
A "True Life" dawns that time shall not erase.

With Heaven's seal upon his steadfast brow,
To serpent's craft he would not bend nor bow.
No sycophant to those who idols crave,
He stood a freeman, ne'er a fashion's slave.
Divinity hath mapped the stars' intent;
The foe's dark arrows are but vainly spent.
The gallows rest—a holiday of peace—
As God from sorrow grants a sweet release.
The stroke of ruin, meant to fell the head,
Becomes a crown of honor there instead.

Exaltation springs from the Lord's own hand;
Prosperity doth bloom at His command.
The Master's count is true, His ledger just,
His Word of Truth shall never bite the dust!
He wielded power, yet no pride did wear,
A generous soul with naught of selfish care.
Like to a servant was his mind brought low,
While all his senses like a sword did show.
The Cross's banner to the clouds he threw
O people of the Lord, your strength renew!

Upon the trumpet's blast, arise and stand,
Ye Mordecais of this darkened land!
Unto the harvest, children of the Light,
Like pearl-born examples, shining bright.
Young sculptors whom the world can never buy,
Protect the Word, and let your history fly!
In silent service, seek no hollow fame,
But take your vow in the Eternal Name!



ANDREW

THE DISCIPLE OF JESUS CHRIST

Andrew, the Apostle

The Apostle Andrew was born into a Jewish family in Bethsaida. The name "Andrew" means "the brave one."

Andrew, the Fisherman who Caught Men for Jesus Christ

Initially, Andrew was a disciple of John the Baptist (John 1:40-42). In a way, it can be said that he continued the work of John the Baptist. Andrew was the very first Apostle chosen by Jesus. He was the brother of Simon Peter. Both Simon and Andrew were fishermen in Galilee. Interestingly, Jesus called them both together to become "fishers of men." Later, it was Andrew who introduced Philip to Jesus.

Andrew, who Walked Closely with Jesus Christ

Andrew was the first to recognize Jesus as the Messiah, and he immediately shared this Good News with his brother, Simon Peter. Furthermore, these two brothers were close associates in the ministry of Jesus Christ. It was Andrew who introduced the young boy with five loaves and two fish to Jesus. He also brought the Greeks to Jesus. He was with Jesus on the Mount of Olives when they asked about His second coming and the end of the age. He also participated in the Last Supper.

Andrew, a Disciple of Jesus Christ

Andrew's name is included in the list of the twelve apostles. He followed and learned the teachings of Jesus Christ for about two and a half years. He is also mentioned as an Apostle in the Book of Acts.

Andrew's Ministry for Jesus Christ

According to the records of Eusebius, Andrew went to Scythia (modern-day Southern Russia and the area surrounding the Black Sea). According to Hippolytus of Rome, he preached in Thrace (modern-day Bulgaria, the eastern part of the Balkan Peninsula, and parts of Greece and Turkey). The apocryphal book The Acts of Andrew



mentions his presence in Byzantium (modern-day Istanbul, Turkey). Traditionally, in A.D. 38, he established the See of Byzantium and appointed Stachys as the bishop.

Andrew, who Died as a Martyr for Jesus Christ

According to the book of The Martyrdom of Holy Andrew, he was stoned and crucified in Scythia. Tradition states that around November 30, A.D. 60, in the city of Patras, Greece, he was accused of converting many people, including the governor's wife. He was crucified on an X-shaped cross and died as a martyr. It is said that he requested this specific type of cross because he deemed himself unworthy to die on the same type of cross as Jesus.

Andrew as a Model for Gospel Work

Andrew knew with certainty that Jesus Christ was the coming Messiah and followed Him without any hesitation. He walked with Jesus and was fully involved in His ministry. The way he focused on individuals and introduced them to Jesus is notable in the Bible. Starting from his own home, he shared Jesus with his people. Andrew is an excellent model for personal evangelism and a great communicator in ministry. He left everything to follow Jesus.

Dear young brothers and sisters, the blood of Andrew still speaks. It pleads with us to live for Jesus Christ. Many are wandering, seeking to know the Living God and the way to heaven. You can join us as communicators who take the Gospel of Jesus Christ across cultural boundaries. Through the media sector, you can introduce Jesus Christ using modern technologies like WhatsApp and short plays/skits.

Live for Jesus Christ; dedicate your lives. Join the Lord's work and live for Him!





friends missionary prayer band

THE HEART CRY OF GOD IS
WHOM SHALL I SEND

THE VERY HEART BEAT OF THE
LORD JESUS IS MISSION...!
DO YOU WISH TO FULFILL THE
GREAT COMMISSION
OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST?



Come &
join
the fmpb
family!

MISSIONARIES
WANTED
WHAT HAVE YOU DONE FOR THE
BILLIONS OF LOST SOULS?



Staff Recruitment:

Qualification : Minimum 12th Standard
(HSC) or above.
Age Limit : * Unmarried: 18 – 30 years
Married : Up to 35 years
Venue : Friends Missionary Prayer
Band (FMPB), Headquarters, No. 29, High
School Road, Ambattur, Chennai - 600 053.
Date : 21.02.2026 (Saturday)
Time : 8:00 AM

- IF YOU WISH TO BE A
- ▶ PIONEER MISSIONARY
 - ▶ CHURCH PLANTER
 - ▶ BIBLE TRANSLATOR
 - ▶ MEDICAL MISSIONARY
 - ▶ MISSIONARY TEACHER
 - ▶ CHILD EVANGELIST
 - ▶ YOUTH MINISTER
 - ▶ MEDIA MISSIONARY



God Is Calling.
»will you answer?

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
29, HIGH SCHOOL ROAD, AMBATTUR, CHENNAI - 53.
email: hrd@fmpb.org / www.fmpb.co.in
044 2657 0404 / 26573553

Contact - 044-2657 0404 / 80731 30527



friends missionary prayer band

Youth Wing *Presents*

LEAD TRAINING '26

"I have called you by name, You are mine" – Isaiah 43:1

Date:

March – 7th to 8th
Sat 9:00am – Sun 1:00pm

Place:

IRAVANIN THOTTAM
Poondi, Thiruvallur

Speakers:

MR. VALENTINE DAVIDAR
REV. EMMANUEL
RANJITHSINGH

EXCLUSIVE FOR VOLUNTEERS & COUNSELLORS

CONTACT: 9445040148, 9486147408