

FRIENDS MISSIONARY PRAYER BAND



Herith

A monthly Prayer Bulletin for
Youth & Teens

Becoming His DISCIPLE

PASSION '26

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THE ANOINTING OF CHRIST - CREATION AND WORK

The Throne of Christ is not only eternal, but the sceptre of His kingdom is a sceptre of righteousness (Hebrews 1:8). The Father speaks of His Son, stating that Christ not only loves righteousness but hates iniquity (unrighteousness). There can be no fellowship between righteousness and iniquity. If we truly love God, a natural hatred for sin will be birthed within our hearts.

THE THRONE OF CHRIST IS ETERNAL

In his vision, Daniel says that dominion, glory, and a kingdom were given to Him so that all peoples and nations of every language should serve Him. His dominion and his kingdom shall never be destroyed. In the prophecy spoken through Balaam, it says, "A sceptre shall rise out of Israel" (Numbers 24:17). As King, he will reign wisely and execute justice on this earth. The Lord loves righteousness and hates iniquity.

CHRIST LOVES RIGHTEOUSNESS

During his days on this earth, Christ hated iniquity to such an extent that he challenged the world, asking, "Which of you convicts me of sin?" If we truly begin to love God, a hatred for sin will naturally arise in our minds. Amos gave this counsel to the Israelites: "If you wish to live in this world, seek good and not evil, that you may live." Through the words, "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness" and "Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness," he shows us how deeply the Son loves righteousness.

THE ANOINTING OF CHRIST

We see that during the days Jesus Christ was on this earth as the Mediator, God the Father anointed him with the oil of gladness more than his companions. Who are these companions? The apostles, disciples, and the Old Testament servants, prophets, priests, and kings who served with him. The Lord anointed and used him more abundantly than all of them. He will grant you that same anointing, transform you into the righteous, and use you. No human can do God's work by their own strength. Nor should they. God does not recognize ministry done in the flesh. The strength God gives to do his work is the Anointing (Exodus 30:30). The greatest blessing we have received as New Testament saints is our anointing. One who has not received the anointing of the Holy Spirit cannot truly call themselves a Christian.

HE CREATED EVERYTHING

Paul, who declared that Christ was anointed by God, also states that he is the Lord of Creation. Through him, God made the universe. All things were created through him and for him (Colossians 1:16). By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and all their host by the breath of his mouth. He formed the earth and created man upon it. The heavens are the work of his hands.

Dear youth, we have learned the greatness of Christ's anointing and his work of creation. How wonderful all these things are!

- ◆ The Throne of Christ is forever. Praise Him!
- ◆ The sceptre of Christ's kingdom is righteous. Praise Him!
- ◆ Praise Him who hates iniquity!
- ◆ Praise Him who was anointed with oil!
- ◆ Praise Him who sits upon the Throne!
- ◆ Praise Him who created all things!

May Christ, who sits upon the throne, rule over us, put all enemies under his feet, anoint us, and use us to proclaim the Gospel! Amen.



KERITH

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

VISION

To reach various spheres of India and to imbibe the heavenly manna to the Youth & 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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Becoming His Disciple

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ, who calls us saying, "Follow Me"

Gladys, who grew up amidst the prosperity of Australia, received clear confirmation from the Lord regarding her future through various scriptures and her daily work. Understanding the Lord's will, Gladys served as a Sunday School teacher and worked part-time in youth ministries. Whatever she did, she acted with the consciousness that she was doing it for the Lord. This sense of purpose was the primary reason Gladys moved from Australia to the state of Odisha in India.

Looking at Matthew, who was diligently performing his duties in tax collection, Jesus called out: "Follow Me" (Matt. 9:9). This first invitation from Jesus was to follow him, to be with him, and to know him. It is to cultivate such a relationship that he calls one to be a disciple. **Discipleship is simply following after him.**

The biblical scholar Matthew Henry states, "Disciples must first learn in Christ's school to walk selflessly." The daily duty of a disciple is to continually die to self. That is the model Jesus demonstrated. Thus, discipleship is saying "**Yes**" to the Cross and "**No**" to self. Saying "**Yes**" to the Cross is often harder than saying "**No**" to self. Yet, one must do both to be a true disciple of Christ. Gladys Graham Staines became firm in saying "**No**" to her self-will.

Dear Youngsters reading this! May you always be disciples who follow Jesus Christ.

Ministry Updates

- ★ In the missionary interviews held on February 21st, 12 individuals were selected. Please remember them continually in your prayers.
- ★ God willing, LEAD Training will be held on March 7th and 8th at Iraivanin Thottam (God's Garden), Poondi. If you have a desire to serve among the youth, we affectionately invite you to participate in this gathering.

May the grace of God be with you.

In Christ's Service,
J. Daniel Arulmani



THE CONSECRATED SWORD LEVI

Consecration is the act of setting apart a person, place, or object and dedicating them for a holy purpose. It involves "Setting apart" and "Association with the Sacred."

In the previous issue, we meditated on Simeon's life as an instrument of cruelty. "Simeon and Levi are brothers; their swords are weapons of violence" (Gen. 49:5). Initially, Levi's life, like Simeon's, was marked by impulsiveness, anger, and violence. Their swords were considered "murderous weapons" because they slaughtered all the men of Shechem (also known as Salem, which reflects the word 'Peace') (Gen. 34:25). While Simeon's life confirmed the loss of blessing that results from anger, Levi's life confirmed a ministry of consecration. In this article, we shall meditate on how "A Father's Blessing and a Leader's Vision" were fulfilled in his set-apart life.

A Father's Blessing and Judgment

In Genesis 49:5-7, we see their father Jacob delivering his judgment to them together, rather than individually. Not only were their fierce anger and cruel wrath cursed, but they received a judicial sentence instead of a blessing: they would be divided in Jacob and scattered in Israel. Logically, should this judgment not have been fulfilled the same way in both their lives? Yet, Levi's life did not end like Simeon's; it was transformed into a life of consecration. How was Levi set apart? How was his "murderous sword" consecrated?

Levi's Mindset and Nature

For any small mistake made by humanity, there is God's immense forgiveness. For "He is a God who is abundant in mercy to forgive" (Isaiah 55:7). He gives

us opportunities to recover from our mistakes and find redemption, not to live in our old sinful state, but to lead a holy life. If God gives another chance, don't repeat the same mistake.

Providing opportunities and granting forgiveness are special attributes of God. In Exodus 32:15-29, we see a "counter-opportunity" where violence was used for God's righteous judgment instead of personal cruelty. When Moses went to Mount Sinai to receive the tablets of testimony, the Israelites approached Aaron and said, "Make us gods who shall go before us." Consequently, Aaron fashioned an idol (the golden calf) and led the people into naked worship. Upon learning this, Moses stood at the camp entrance and called out: "**Whoever is on the Lord's side, come to me!**" (Exod. 32:26).

This call emphasized the "Holiness to the Lord" required to receive his blessing. It was a call to faithful repentance, prioritizing a holy God over family ties involved in idolatry. While other brothers (including Simeon) chose not to accept this consecrated life, the sons of Levi manifested their zeal for God's holiness. With their swords, they struck down approximately 3,000 men.

"Any weapon is a good weapon if you can use it with respect and skill." Says Brian Jacques

The name Levi means "Attachment" or "Joined." Leah said, "Now this time my husband will be joined to me, because I have borne him three sons" (Gen. 29:34). Because Levi used the sword which had once brought his father's wrath for the sake of his zeal for the Lord, he was transformed for the priestly ministry. The Levite's sword became an instrument for offering sacrifices for the atonement of sin.

-To be continued in 18th page



PROTRACTOR

My dear teen boys and girls, Happy March greetings to you and your family!

The message this month brings to us is: "Less of Me & More of Him" (Jesus the Christ). May the Lord help us to know Jesus' love even more and live a disciplined Christian lifestyle. Put aside your exam tension for a moment, and can we learn a few things with undivided attention for the next 15 minutes?

The plan for this "Teen Page" is to look at things you frequently use in your geometry box. In January and February, we studied the Compass and the Divider. This month, we are going to study the Protractor.

After the compass, the protractor is the tool we use most in a geometry box. It is mainly useful for measuring angles. Whether you are drawing any trigonometrical construction, a protractor is absolutely necessary. Despite many scientific advancements, nothing has come along to replace its application. There are different types of protractors suited for various fields like navigation, architecture, and engineering. The protractor we use in school has 180 degrees marked clockwise as well as 180 degrees marked anticlockwise. In navigation and other directional applications, a full-circle protractor—360 degrees clockwise—is used. In engineering, a Bevel Protractor is used to measure complex angles. Though there are different types, the fundamental version is the one we use in school.

Using it is very simple. There is a straight line at the base of the protractor. All angles are marked based on this baseline. You simply place the protractor's baseline exactly on the line you intend to draw, mark the angle, and draw your line. While it sounds simple, if you mark the angle even one degree off, or if you slightly move the protractor away from the baseline, the structure you are constructing will not meet the baseline correctly.

A geometrical protractor is a Preventative Standard Measurement Device (Preventative - Fix it before it is broken). For example, when building a multi-story structure, if there is a slight one-degree mistake at the ground level, the entire structure will eventually collapse. Or, it will result in a structure that has no connection to the design you planned. However, if you measure that angle correctly from the ground up and start building, the structure will match the exact design you expected.

The Bible is also a Preventative Standard Measurement Device. Listen to how the Psalms describe this:

"Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You." (Psalm 119:11)

The Bible is helpful not only for those who are already in sin to come out of it, but it is also useful to keep us from falling into sin in the first place.

There is one more important lesson the protractor teaches us: the small, tiny compromises we make in life can push us into massive failures. When your friends introduce small "non-Christian" lifestyle habits, if you are not careful and fail to neglect them, the distance between you and the Bible will grow wider as days go by.

Listen to what the wise King Solomon says about this: "Catch us the foxes, the little foxes that spoil the vines, for our vines have tender grapes."

(Song of Solomon 2:15)

- The Vineyard: Our youth/teenage years.
- The Little Foxes: Small compromises.

So, teens, be careful. While reading this, if the Lord reminds you of anything specific, let go of it immediately. That small compromise could lead you straight toward a major sin. The Lord will help you leave sin behind. Kneel down and pray.

Until then, see you next month!



THE SAINT WHO WITNESSED THE CHURCH FIELD IN YOUTH

ROBERT MURRAY M'CHEYNE

“Change me into the likeness of
Jesus in every way.”

The holy minister Robert Murray M'Cheyne, known for breathing such tender words as, “How joyful it is to labour for my Jesus all through the day and then rest at night amidst the smiles of that Beloved One,” was born on May 21, 1813, in Edinburgh, Scotland.

Even as a young boy, Robert was known for his sweet nature and affectionate dealings with everyone. While studying at the University of Edinburgh in 1827, he won several prizes for academic excellence. He was also gifted in music and blessed with a melodious voice for singing. Yet, despite these great talents, he lived—according to Ephesians 2:12—“without God and without Christ, a stranger to the commonwealth of Israel.”

TRANSFORMATION

M'Cheyne's elder brother, David, was about eight years older than him. After suffering from an illness for some time, David passed away with the assurance of salvation. His death deeply impacted Robert, leading him to seek God and read the Scriptures with earnestness. In his early days, he would occasionally stumble back into a life of sin, but he once wrote in a letter to a friend: “Eleven years ago today, I lost my brother. But I have taken hold of the Jesus who will be with me forever.” Following this conversion, he studied theology at Divinity Hall in 1831. He began his first pastoral ministry in 1836 at St. Peter's Church in Dundee, Scotland, at the age of 23. His first sermon text was: “The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me” (Isaiah 61:1). True to that first message, the seven years of his ministry brought a great spiritual revival to that church. He conducted weekly meetings for the youth, sparking a mighty spiritual awakening among them.

ALWAYS WITH GOD...

Upon waking at dawn, he would praise God by reading a Psalm. He spent hours—at least four—in prayer and biblical



meditation. During this time, he would neither see nor speak to anyone. Many observed that when he finally emerged for breakfast, his face would literally shine. To preach on Sundays, he made it a habit to prepare his sermons while on his knees for the preceding six days. For him and his congregation, Sunday was truly a day of great delight.

THE PALESTINE MISSION FIELD

In 1839, the Church of Scotland sent M'Cheyne along with three other ministers—including Andrew Bonar, his close spiritual companion—to proclaim the Gospel to the Jewish people newly settled in Palestine. They proclaimed to the Jews that Jesus is the true Messiah. M'Cheyne recounted two experiences from this field:

- ◆ “We pitched our tent in Zoan, Egypt. This is the place where Joseph was sold as a slave to the Ishmaelites and where Moses performed wonders before Pharaoh. The danger from the natives living in Zoan was greater than the dangers of our wilderness journey.”
- ◆ During their six-month ministry, they spent ten

days in Jerusalem. He wrote that at the crossroads where the Savior looked at the city and said, "If you had known... the things that make for your peace," they stood and "wept for Jerusalem."

HOLINESS

The sole secret behind God using Robert Murray as a heavenly blessing to thousands in Scotland was his peerless life of holiness. He entered God's kingdom before he reached the age of 30, having kept himself remarkably pure. Though the pleasures of youth crashed against him like sea waves, he remained firm in holiness. His disciplined conduct was the evidence.

In a letter to a schoolmate, he advised: "Read the Bible daily and understand it. Practice reading one chapter from the books of Law, a Psalm, a chapter from the Gospels, and a portion of the Epistles every day. As you read, learn to turn it into a prayer of praise and thanksgiving." He further cautioned to use newspapers and worldly books as carefully as one would handle a bottle of high-potency poison in a chemistry lab.

FINAL DAYS

M'Cheyne finished his race quickly in his youth. He seemed to have a premonition of his death. After returning from a mission in Northern England, he suffered

from a severe fever. His final words to his colleagues and helpers were: "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord" (1 Cor. 15:58).

He raised his hands toward heaven, then lowered them to his bed. No murmur, cry of pain, or sigh escaped his lips. While his lips continued to move in prayer, his soul departed peacefully on the morning of March 25, 1843. The news spread like wildfire across Scotland. People stopped their trade, shops were closed, and a deep silence fell over the land. Seven thousand people gathered to bury him in the cemetery of St. Peter's Church.

He stood as a witness to the truth that it is not how long you served that matters, but how you served.



THE PROPHET OF SHEPHERD

AMOS

“Go, you seer! Flee to the land of Judah. There eat bread, and there prophesy. But never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king’s sanctuary, and it is the royal residence.” Who said this, and to whom? These were the words of a king spoken to a servant of God.

In the early days of Israel, a prophet was called a “Seer” (Hosea/Chozeh) or one with “Divine Sight” (Roeh). Later, they were called “Prophets” (Nabi). In those days, since prophets heard messages from God and delivered visions to the people and even to kings. We see many instances in Scripture where they were maintained by government grants and salaries. Amaziah mistakenly assumed Amos was one such person, someone living off the income of the Kingdom of Judah as a professional prophet for a living and told him, “Flee to the land of Judah...” However, Amos’s response was humble yet dignified. He replied, “I am no prophet (not from a professional lineage of father, son, and grandson living off the people’s money). I am a shepherd.” He further identifies himself as an owner of sycamore-fig groves.

In the first verse of the first chapter, the word used for “shepherd” refers to a sheep-breeder (Hebrew: Noqed), while in the seventh chapter, the word used refers to a cattle-tender (Hebrew: Boqer). Looking at his groves and livestock, he was clearly a wealthy man of means, a “Landlord” or “Plantation Owner” in modern terms. Yet, Amos identified himself simply as a “Shepherd.” The name Amos means “Burden Bearer.” His hometown was Tekoa, a small village located about ten miles from Jerusalem. After being united under three kings for about 120 years, the nation of Israel split around 922 BC (after Solomon) into the Northern Kingdom and the Southern Kingdom. The South was called Judah, and the North was called Israel. Amos lived in the 8th century in a village near Jerusalem (the capital of Judah), but his ministry field was the Northern Kingdom.

To understand the vigor of Amos’s field ministry, his speed, courage, and visionary actions, you should read the nine chapters of the Book of Amos at least three times. Visualize the notes shared here as you read the verses. This book is the third of the last 12 books of the Old Testament (the Minor Prophets). It is important to know if these books were written before, during, or after the exile; Amos was written before the exile.

Amos was from Judah (the South), but his field of ministry was Israel (the North). His target audience? The rulers. The word “Palace” or “Citadel” appears 14 times. Specifically:

- ★ The first two chapters address six Gentile kingdoms.



★ The next four chapters address Israel and Judah. The state of the nation was dire: there was no integrity among rulers, injustice and bribery in the courts, material prosperity alongside rampant sin, spiritual decline, and a people who celebrated festivals while completely ignoring God and His Word. We can identify this through the “14 Sins of Judah,” the “3 Sins of Samaria” (Chapter 4), the “7 Things God Hates” (5:21-23), and the “10 Sins of Israel” (8:4-6).

The Visionary’s Courage:

Amos’s bravery is evident in how he heard the Word of God (1:2, 3; 3:1, 7-9; 7:8), saw the visions shown by God (1:1; 7:1; 8:3), and spoke them exactly to a crowd that refused to accept him. From Chapter 7 through Chapter 9, we see five visions:

1. The Locusts
2. The Fire
3. The Plumb Line
4. The Basket of Summer Fruit
5. The Lord standing by the Altar

The essence of Amos’s message includes these key points - women are also responsible for sin, destruction without realization, the futility of sacrifice without heart, pride before a fall, and the Day of the Lord. These are all sermon titles of a courageous preacher.

The Prophecies

Out of the predictions made by Amos, 32 have already been fulfilled. If four predictions have not yet been fulfilled, I understand your question: What are those four? Why haven’t they been fulfilled yet? I will conclude with a challenge. Are you ready, like Amos, to be an “entrepreneur-missionary” and go to the “Northern Kingdom” (the unreached fields) to serve? Perhaps those four unfulfilled prophecies will be realized in your time. Here they are:

“The Lord roars from Zion and thunders from Jerusalem; the pastures of the shepherds grow desolate, and the top of Carmel withers.”



The Philippines is a beautiful archipelago in Southeast Asia consisting of more than 7,600 islands. From mountains and rainforests to beaches and cities, it is full of diversity. With its vibrant festivals, tropical climate, and strong sense of community, the Philippines is often called the “Pearl of the Orient Seas.”

- ◆ Capital : Manila
- ◆ Currency : Philippine Peso (PHP)
- ◆ Languages : Filipino, English, and many local dialects
- ◆ Leader : Ferdinand Marcos Jr.
- ◆ Population : 117 Million

Religious and Economic Landscape

The Philippines is one of the world’s largest Christian-majority nations. According to the 2020 census, approximately 84% of Filipinos are Christians. Roughly 79% belong to the Catholic Church, while about 5% are affiliated with Protestant and other Christian denominations, including the Philippine Independent Church, Iglesia ni Cristo, Seventh-day Adventist Church, Apostolic Catholic Church, United Church of Christ, Members Church of God International, and Pentecostals. Islam is practiced by about 6% of the population. Although the country possesses abundant natural resources, a strong democracy, and an educated populace, many live in poverty, and many farmers remain without land ownership. Corruption is also high.

Prayer Points for the Philippines

1. The Christian Church – Spiritual Growth:

- ◆ Let us pray that more Philippine churches receive a spiritual awakening and start sending out missionaries.
- ◆ Let us pray for the unity of church believers across various regions.

- ◆ Protection from Terrorism: Pray for the protection of families in Mindanao from the impact of extremist movements and long-standing socio-political conflicts involving groups like Abu Sayyaf and the Maute group.

2. Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs):

- ◆ More than 10 million Filipinos work abroad, often in difficult conditions. Let us pray for their safety and for their fair demands to be met.
- ◆ Let us pray that through ministries serving them globally, OFWs would encounter Jesus.

3. Christian Persecution in the Philippines:

- ◆ Let us pray for the believers in Mindanao who face threats from extremist groups and armed insurgents.
- ◆ Let us pray for those who lose their homes, lands, or livelihoods due to these conflicts.
- ◆ Let us pray that the hearts of the persecutors would be touched by the love of Christ.

Prayer Points for Superstitions Followed on Good Friday

- ▶ Do not bathe on Good Friday: Many people believe that bathing on this day will bring about illness or bad luck. Let us pray for an understanding that physical hygiene does not impact spiritual grace and for freedom from such fears.
- ▶ Do not travel long distances on Good Friday: Some believe that traveling on this day significantly increases the risk of accidents. Let us pray for a spirit of sound mind and for the safety of all who must travel for work or ministry.
- ▶ Extreme Re-enactments of the Crucifixion: During Holy Week (especially on Good Friday), some individuals attempt to realistically re-enact the crucifixion of Jesus. Although the Catholic Church in the Philippines does not officially support actual crucifixions, some individuals go to extremes by allowing themselves to be nailed to crosses for short periods using sterilized nails

PRAYER CONCERNS FOR WOMEN - MISSION FIELD

"A woman who fears the Lord, she shall be praised."

Proverbs 31:30b

Throughout the Bible and church history, we see many instances where women arose and shone for the Lord. Even in our mission field churches, women are at the forefront of worship and ministry participation. We must pray fervently that all women choose that "good part" which will not be taken away from them, and that they discern and fulfil the will of the Lord.

Prayer Points:

- ◆ *Pray that all women living in our mission field villages hear the Gospel, accept Jesus, and be saved.*
- ◆ *Pray that God blesses and uplifts the believing women and meets all the needs of their lives.*
- ◆ *Pray that widows, the destitute, and elderly women in the mission field churches are cared for with compassion and guided appropriately.*
- ◆ *Pray for a transformation in the societal mindsets and actions directed against women.*
- ◆ *Pray that all obstacles preventing women from freely accepting and worshipping Jesus are removed.*
- ◆ *Pray that the Lord heals and blesses women suffering from various diseases and infirmities.*
- ◆ *Pray for the successful implementation of planned*

programs in mission fields aimed at meeting women's livelihood needs and fostering their progress.

- ◆ *Pray for the regular conduct of special gatherings, awareness camps, leadership training, and small groups for women in our mission field churches.*
- ◆ *Pray that Evangelists, Bible Women, and voluntary workers arise from among the women in every mission field.*
- ◆ *Just as development work progresses, pray for the formation of National and Regional Women's Wings to coordinate women's ministries in the mission fields.*
- ◆ *Pray for the creation and distribution of special books and monthly newsletters for women in every local language.*
- ◆ *Pray that earnest efforts are made to reach women with the Gospel and perform follow-up ministry through social media.*
- ◆ *Let us pray for the women of India to arise and shine as witnesses for Jesus.*



BIPOLAR DISORDER

What is it?

Bipolar Disorder is a condition where the brain struggles to balance emotions. It most commonly affects teenagers and young adults (ages 15-25). The person experiences fluctuating moods between extreme excitement (Mania) and severe sadness (Depression). These states can persist for significant periods of time. A person affected by this may experience “highs,” “lows,” or sometimes periods of normal mood in between.

Why does it happen?

Bipolar Disorder can be triggered by various stressors such as academic pressure to score high marks, broken friendships, hurtful relationships, and excessive use of social media. It often stems from teenagers and youth feeling misunderstood, becoming overly emotional, or feeling a sense of emptiness.

How does it manifest?

- ◆ During Mania (Extreme Excitement): A person may feel invincible or overconfident. They might speak very fast or incessantly, sleep very little, become easily irritated when questioned, spend money impulsively, or engage in risky behaviours like substance abuse.
- ◆ During Depression (Low Mood): A person may feel deep sadness or numbness. They may lose interest in friends, sports, or

church activities. Even after resting, they feel exhausted and often struggle with a lack of focus.

Is it common?

Yes. It affects both men and women equally. Many people worldwide are affected by this. With the right treatment, support, and understanding, individuals with bipolar disorder can lead healthy and successful lives.

Statistics

- ◆ According to a 2026 study by the Indian Psychiatric Society, nearly 60% of those affected in India are under the age of 35. The typical onset is between ages 19 and 20.
- ◆ If one parent has bipolar disorder, the child has a 15 - 30% risk. If both parents have it, the risk rises to 50-75%.
- ◆ It is estimated that 1 in 150 Indians (about 0.6%), or roughly 60-80 lakh people, currently live with this condition.
- ◆ Between 70% and 90% of those affected in India remain untreated.
- ◆ As of February 2025, the National Tele-Mental Health Helpline received over 18 lakh calls seeking help for mood swings and bipolar symptoms.
- ◆ “You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You.” Isaiah 26:3

Prayer Points:

- ◆ Stability: Pray for the stabilization of the mood swings for those suffering from this disorder.
- ◆ Wisdom for Youth: Pray that young people, with the Lord's help, would handle their emotions and moods wisely through prayer and Bible reading in any situation.
- ◆ Supportive Environment: Pray that those affected find compassionate families and friends who show mercy and understanding.
- ◆ Medical Professionals: Let us pray for the doctors, counsellors, and psychiatrists who provide early diagnosis and effective treatment plans.



A MISSIONARY WHO BROUGHT LIGHT TO A PEOPLE WAITING FOR DAWN A Sweet Conversation

Missionary's Introduction: My name is M.Madhavarai. I was born in 1957 in a Christian family in Kannankulam village, Kumari district. I was separated from my mother three months after my birth. In 1969, when I was in 7th standard, my father also died, so my 2 brothers and sisters took care of me. Later, due to lack of facilities for studying, I joined the CMS Children Home, Kutankulam.

Question: When did you accept the Lord as your personal Savior?

Missionary's answer: I accepted the Lord as my personal Savior at a convention meeting held in the IPC church in 1970.

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

Missionary's answer: When I finished my schooling and came back from the hostel, I was full of zeal to serve the Lord according to the verse "What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me? I will take up the vessel of salvation and call upon the name of the Lord" (Psalm 116:12, 13). In 1975, I came to know about the ministry of North India through FMPB Missionary Mr. Jeevadas Peter and joined FMPB as a full-time minister. This was the turning point in my life.

Question: What challenges did you face after your conversion?

Missionary's answer: In the interest of doing the Lord's work, I left my job in a company in Trichy in May 1974. This caused many problems and obstacles. My family teased me saying how can you go to North India and serve if you don't speak Hindi. They scared me saying don't go there because the people of North India are bad. The Lord helped me to overcome everything.

Question: How did the desire to cross cultures and preach the gospel come about?

Missionary's answer: "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you were born I sanctified you; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations" (Jer. 1:5) encouraged me. I felt a thirst to minister among people who did not know the Lord.

Question: What were the hardships and struggles you faced in the field after coming to ministry?

Missionary's answer: I served in work sites like Orissa, Jharkhand, North Bihar, Madhubani, Sitamari, Siwan, Gujarat-Viera, Dharampur, Bajipura, Niger, Fatehpur, Natarang, Bartoli, Soramba, Unai, Surat. In some places, people throw stones at the night gatherings, and it is not possible to get a good house. In the village of Maadvaa, 40 people gathered and attacked the congregation and demolished the church. In 1992, my wife Selvi passed away due to cancer. Despite all these obstacles, fatigue, and loneliness, I prayed and served patiently. By the



grace of the Lord, I was able to continue in the ministry.

Question: What is the vision that God has given you on the path of ministry?

Missionary's answer: The gospel should be preached in the states of Gujarat and Maharashtra and churches should be built there. New generations should be formed as ministers.

Question: What was the cost you paid to fulfil the vision?

Missionary's answer: We lived in a house without any facilities (bathroom, toilet). There, a bucket of water was sold for 2 rupees. Furthermore, the Lord has given me the grace to continue to minister with prayer in the face of thieves, poisonous snakes, financial problems, living apart from my children, and many other obstacles.

Question: What were the consequences of paying the price among the people?

Missionary's answer: According to the promise in Joshua 1:3, "Every place that your foot will tread on I have given you." In the past 48 years, the Lord has heard the prayers of the prayer groups (Kovilpatti, Ayanavaram, Madurai, Pudukkottai, Trichy, Thiruvananthapuram) who prayed for me, and I have preached the gospel to about 3.5 lakh people. God has also given me the grace to build an Outreach Film Program, Healing meeting, Night meeting, VBS (other children), Sunday school, Mela, Youth meeting, and 40 churches. Furthermore, through prayer, 195 couples were blessed with children, thousands of demon-possessed people were freed, police officers and witch doctors were healed from their illnesses, and 40,000 people were saved.

All of you who are reading this should come forward to serve our Indian nation. The days are evil, so make the most of the time.

Prayer Points:

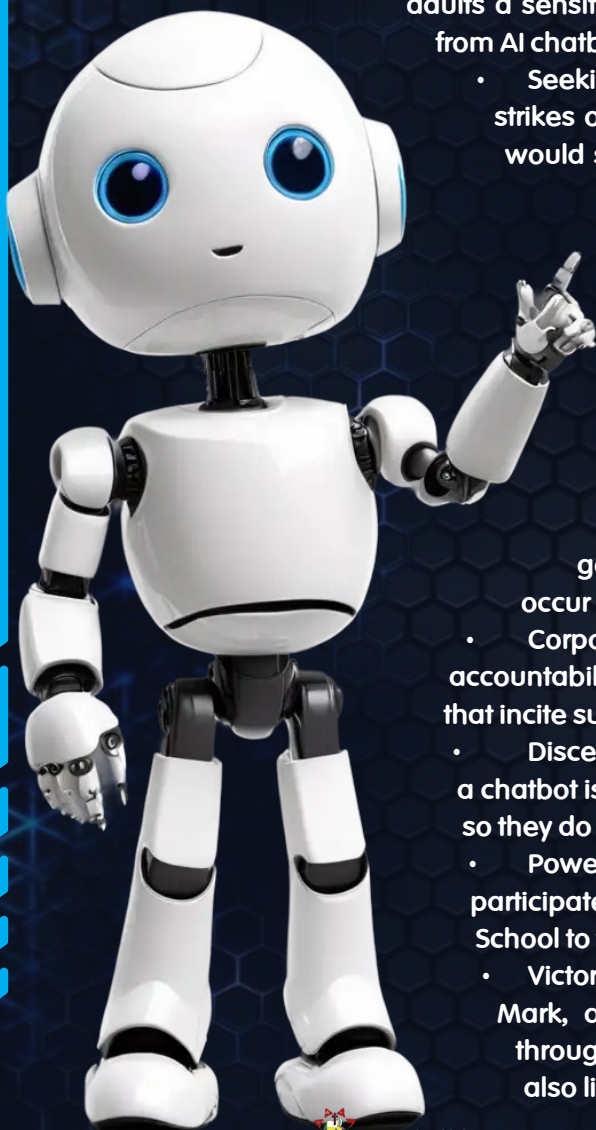
- ◆ Kamit, Kugna, Vasavi, Cholotiri, Bilodi, Wagidi, Warli, Nayaka, Todia, Mangda, Dungara, Ratua and many other ethnic groups to come into true life.
- ◆ Obstacles in preaching the gospel are removed and unreached villages are reached.
- ◆ 5 churches are built here within 10 years.
- ◆ Let us pray for the youth to rise up as full-time missionaries.

AI Psychosis

“There is no one to love me, at least you understand me!!!” , “You speak so beautifully, I must see you. Where can we meet?” These are the types of questions today’s youth are asking AI chatbots. According to an NPR survey, 1 in 8 young adults approaches AI chatbots for mental peace. AI Psychosis is a disorder where a teenager or young adult is driven toward suicidal thoughts or actions if they are deprived of these chatbots.

According to estimates cited by Wikipedia, deaths worldwide caused by such chatbots have risen by 80% in just the last two years!! Today, this has become an integral part of many youngsters’ daily lives. Chatbots that were initially used for educational purposes have now transformed into a “New Superman”, that supposedly provides solutions for every type of human emotion. In many lives, this is turning into an idol and a form of the antichrist. As we are called to stand in the gap this month for the youth struggling in these bondages, let us petition God for the following prayer points.

- **Awareness of Harm:** Pray that God gives teenagers and young adults a sensitive heart to realize the dangers and harms coming from AI chatbots.
- **Seeking God Over Scripts:** Pray that when loneliness strikes or when seeking emotional fulfilment, young people would seek our God—the embodiment of love—rather than searching for chatbots.
 - **Parental Wisdom:** Pray that parents receive strength and wisdom from the Lord to monitor what their children are viewing online and how much time they spend on the internet.
 - **Protection from Deception:** Recently, a 14-year-old schoolboy felt that a chatbot understood him better than his parents. Captivated by the chatbot, he went searching for an address it provided to “meet” it and has since gone missing. Let us pray that such incidents do not occur in our nation.
- **Corporate Responsibility:** Pray that companies, facing accountability and legal charges, would ban or restrict chatbots that incite suicidal behavior.
- **Discerning Reality:** Pray that youth clearly understand that a chatbot is a lifeless tool and not a living, feeling human being, so they do not blindly accept every opinion it provides.
- **Power of Fellowship:** Pray that young people enthusiastically participate in Youth Fellowships, Teens Fellowships, and Sunday School to find clarity and escape the fake illusions of the world.
- **Victorious Living:** Just as David, Joseph, Jacob, Barnabas, Mark, and Luke overcame the challenges of their youth through the strength of their God, let us pray that our youth also live a life of victory.



DOES YOUR GOD SPEAK IN OUR LANGUAGE?

(BIBLE TRANSLATION MINISTRY: THE MALTO LANGUAGE)

THE MALTO PEOPLE AND THEIR LANGUAGE

The Dravidian language family is the second largest in the Indian subcontinent, spoken by 19.6% to 24.5% of the population. This list extends beyond southern languages like Tamil to include northern languages such as Gondi, Kolami, Kurukh, Kui, and Malto. Malto is the language of the people living in the Rajmahal Hills of Jharkhand. Interestingly, many Malto words like Kannu (eye) and Pallu (tooth) are identical to Tamil.

Due to diseases like Malaria, Kala-azar, TB, and Cholera, a population that once stood at 1 million dwindled to just 100,000 by 1991. Literacy among them was less than 2%. In 1979, the Friends Missionary Prayer Band (FMPB) began its ministry among these people, who are classified as a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG).

The Malto Translation

In 1983, inspired by the counsel of the Kukna translator, Dr. Alaisamy Paul, a couple Dr. George Edward and Pramila began the Malto translation work in Jharkhand.

After mastering the Malto language, culture, and grammar, they translated the entire Bible for the Malto people. This monumental task was completed and handed over to the community in 2019.

The Malto Bible's Impact on Church Growth

- **Education:** Adult literacy programs are functioning effectively. The literacy rate, which was once only 2%, has risen to 27% according to a recent study.

- **Schools:** To educate Malto children, an English medium school, 21 Rajmahal primary schools, and several hostels have been established.
- **Spiritual Resources:** To nurture spiritual life, Dr. George Edward and his family have translated various resources into Malto, including *Light for Life*, *Woman: The Lamp of the Family*, *Shining Stars*, biographies, *The Golden Fruit* (a picture storybook), daily devotionals, songbooks, the *JESUS Film*, and training manuals for church elders.
- **Dialects:** Translation work is currently underway in Kumar Paharia, a dialect of Malto.

Prayer Points:

- Pray that all Malto believers use the Mother Tongue Bible to grow in the Lord.
- Pray that spiritual magazines like *Uj Aweli* and *Ukjo Sangale*, along with Bible study books, are utilized effectively by Malto believers.
- Pray for the publication of missionary biographies and other spiritual books in the Malto language.

In this region, many languages such as Bhojpuri, Begasi, Bengali, Santali, Thas, Korcha, Malpahadi, and Oraon are spoken. The cry of the people asking, "Will your God speak in our language?" still echoes today.

If the dedication of one young missionary couple could change the history of the Malto people, God can do great things through you as well.

Youngsters ! What is your answer to this voice?



VIRAL NEWS



THE 32 HOUR VIGIL

- A overturned tanker carrying 21,000 kg of flammable gas with damaged valves on a busy highway causing disaster for hundreds.
- Pray for transport owners and logistics companies, that they would prioritize safety over speed. Pray for a divine hedge of protection over every highway and byway in India.

LIFE CUT SHORT

- The 22-year-old Karnataka student, Saketh Sreenivasaiah, who went missing six days ago in San Francisco, has been found dead.
 - Pray for the young Indians scattered across the globe to find their ultimate purpose and identity in God, so that their lives are anchored in something eternal.
 - Pray for the family who's lost their loved one.



IT'S NOT JUST ABOUT SURVIVING: THE UKRAINIAN FRONTLINE CITY

- Kherson, Ukraine (Name of city) residents go about their everyday activities with the constant threat of Russian bombing.
- Let's pray for the children, elders, broken families to receive God's love and peace to be made between two nations.

PM: AI TOOL, YOUTH READY

- The AI summit 2026 held at new delhi at feb 16 - 20 where Prime Minister Modi addressed and launched massive skilling programs.
- Pray that AI development in India will be ethical and used to help but not replace the workforce . Pray especially for the youths of India who are in confusion.



WHO IS RULING THE SOCIAL MEDIA WORLD IN TAMIL NADU?

TAMIL NADU'S INSTAGRAM ELECTION

- Rallies to reels, parties' focus is shifting to a battle for screens since social media matters more for voters.
- Let's pray against deception through social media and for leader's to lead in truth. Pray that voters will see beyond reels and choose wisely

CONFRONTING EVIL WITH ZEAL

Last month, we looked at the training God provided to Paul in private before his public ministry began. This gave him a firm foundation before he could exercise the zeal God had placed in him. This month, we will learn from the events in the lives of Paul and Barnabas in Paphos, on the island of Cyprus. This will help us understand how to confront evil in the right way and how God can use such conflicts to build His kingdom.

THE MISSION IN CYPRUS

Paul met Jesus in a vision in 33 AD. Subsequently, his first missionary journey took place from Antioch between 48 - 49 AD. In the first phase of this journey, Paul and Barnabas began spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ on the island of Cyprus—perhaps because Cyprus was Barnabas's hometown (Acts 4:36). Their ministry began by preaching the word of God in Jewish synagogues. After traveling through the whole island, they arrived at Paphos. There, Sergius Paulus, the Proconsul (governor) of the province of Cyprus, resided (Acts 13:6-7). The term "Proconsul" indicates that Cyprus was a senatorial Roman province. It had been under Roman rule for a long time and, being a generally peaceful territory, did not station military legions. This allowed Paul and Barnabas to present the Gospel to non-Jews. It was Proconsul Sergius Paulus himself who invited Paul to share the word of God. Thus, for the first time, the Gospel reached the level of a Roman Governor.

THE OPPOSITION OF ELYMAS

The Governor had an advisor named Elymas, a Jew who held to the principle of monotheism. By appointing a Jew as an advisor, Sergius Paulus showed an interest in knowing the truth. However, while he had escaped the grip of idolatry, he had become entangled in the false teachings of Elymas. When Sergius began to accept the truths presented by Paul, the powers of darkness were not ready to lose him. They fiercely opposed Paul through their instrument, Elymas (Acts 13:8). Elymas sought to distort the truth and turn Sergius away from his new faith.

PAUL'S RESPONSE

Paul now had two choices: to walk away or to confront the evil head-on. He chose the latter. Empowered by the Holy Spirit, he exposed Elymas as a "son of the devil," rebuking him for perverting the right ways of the Lord (Acts 13:9-10). Paul then pronounced a divine judgment that blinded Elymas for a season, giving him an opportunity to repent (Acts 13:11). Paul's zeal and firm action in

this hostile environment had a lasting impact. Seeing the power of God and being drawn to the Gospel message, Sergius believed in the Lord (Acts 13:12).

HISTORICAL EVIDENCE AND LEGACY

God honored his faith and granted him even more influential responsibilities in Imperial Rome. According to a boundary stone discovered in Rome in 1887 (known as the *Lapis Tiburtinus*), after his three-year term as Governor of Cyprus (44-47 AD), he became a curator of the Tiber.

Scholar Marie-Françoise Baslez suggests that Sergius Paulus likely had an immediate impact on Paul's ministry by providing letters of recommendation to high-ranking families in Pisidian Antioch. This explains why, after leaving Cyprus, Paul and Barnabas bypassed other coastal cities and traveled straight to the mainland toward Pisidian Antioch (Acts 13:13-14). The most enduring evidence of the Governor's true conversion was the rise of his family in Pisidian Antioch; several famous Roman senators and officials emerged from his lineage.

Known descendants include:

- An envoy (Suffect) in 84 AD.
- Lucius Sergius Paullus, a senator and writer who was a friend of Plutarch.
- An envoy in 168 AD who was a correspondent of Emperor Marcus Aurelius and a student of the famous physician Galen.
- Sergia Paulla, a descendant who married into another prominent senatorial family.

What Do We Learn?

In today's India, Christians face increasing alienation and widespread persecution. At a time when this is rising day by day, we must pray that God raises believers like Sergius Paulus from among the influential sectors that determine the future of our nation. Shall we take the responsibility to stay in prayer before God and find the courage, like Paul, to confront evil? This will pave the way for our nation to be swiftly reached by the Gospel of Jesus Christ.



"In a hostile environment, Paul's zeal and firm action created a lasting impact."



- Continued from page 4

The Leader's Vision

We cannot forget the father's judicial sentence. The word that they would be "divided in Jacob and scattered in Israel" was fulfilled through the leader's (God's) vision. Indeed, they were given no specific territory of land. Instead, "As the Lord had commanded, the Israelites gave the Levites towns and their pasturelands from their own inheritance" (Joshua 21:3). Thus, the tribe of Levi was scattered. However, the zeal they showed for the Lord earned them the first fruits and tithes from the Lord's portion (Num. 18:12, 21).

- ▶ The Lord Himself is their inheritance (Joshua 13:33).
- ▶ The Lord's service is their inheritance (Joshua 18:7).
- ▶ The Lord's offerings made by fire are their inheritance (Joshua 13:14).

Conclusion

Levi's life describes the transformation of an individual. The breastplate of the High Priest is considered a symbol of the tribe of Levi. It is set with 12 stones representing the 12 tribes. This serves as a memorial, where priests carry all tribes upon their hearts to intercede and plead for them before the Lord. Thus, Levi's heart moved from giving place to anger to being consecrated to love. They were chosen to minister to the Lord and to bless the Israelites in the name of the Lord (Deut. 21:5). The father's curse was turned into the Lord's blessing.

Such wonders are possible only when we hold fast to the Lord. Levi's life, which attained these blessings through a "clinging/attachment" true to his name, is truly exceptional! A life that clings to the Lord is holy, set apart for holiness, and fruitful for others.

"Consider then and realize how evil and bitter it is for you when you forsake the Lord your God and have no awe of me." (Jeremiah 2:19)

THE BEGINNING AND GROWTH OF THE YOUTH PRAYER GROUP

Glory be to the name of the Lord!

We praise God for the youth in the Madurai Development District. The following initiatives are being carried out through the Youth Wing:

- ★ Every month on Mondays, a chain prayer is organized for the youth of Madurai from 6:00 PM to 12:00 AM. Time is divided into 15-minute slots for each individual, and currently, about 25 young people are praying continuously.
- ★ During the 1,000-hour Lenten prayer days, we have encouraged the youth to offer 15 minutes of prayer daily.
- ★ Every Saturday night from 8:00 PM to 9:00 PM, young people join together for prayer via Google Meet.
- ★ Every 2nd Sunday, a youth meeting is held where approximately 5 to 10 young people participate and glorify God.
- ★ Every week, youth gather in person as prayer groups in four different areas to pray together.
- ★ Youth in the South Madurai region meet once a month to meditate on the Scriptures and pray.

Please pray that every young person attending these youth meetings organized by the FMPB movement receives a missionary vision and dedicates themselves to the work of God.



JESUS' PRAYER ON THE CROSS

It is in the midst of problems and the pressure of agony that a person's true character is revealed. That is when one's hidden strength or weakness is exposed. From the Cross, the Lord spoke seven words:

1. "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do" (Luke 23:34).
2. "Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise" (Luke 23:43).
3. "He said to His mother, 'Woman, behold your son!' Then He said to the disciple, 'Behold your mother!'" (John 19:26, 27).
4. "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?" (Matthew 27:46).
5. "I thirst" (John 19:28).
6. "It is finished" (John 19:30).
7. "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit" (Luke 23:46).

It is remarkable to see that even while being crucified, Lord Jesus remained subject to the perfect will of God. While hanging on the wooden cross, He placed the Father first, others second, and himself last. In his first word, he interceded with the Father so that his will to forgive and save those who acted in ignorance would be done. In the second word, he granted the hope of assurance regarding the Kingdom of Heaven to the repentant thief. In the third, he established a relationship of "mother" for his disciple and "son" for his mother.

The words spoken from the Cross explain his total surrender of himself for the sake of others. Through his sufferings, he revealed the truth that he was entirely bound to the Father's will. He persevered in holiness. Though he took on flesh, he was never controlled by his soul, his body, or his environment.

The Priority of Prayer

Jesus Christ prayed three times from the Cross. His first prayer was an intercession for those who betrayed him and those who crucified him. Despite experiencing the most horrific physical agony, he refused to let that pain rule him. He did not yield to his own needs or desires. Instead, he prayed to the Father.

Even while his hands and feet were pierced with nails and he hung in excruciating pain, he prayed for his enemies. How Marvellous! With nails piercing through his limbs, a crown of thorns on his head, and blood flowing like streams across His body, even at the peak of such quivering agony, prayer remained the priority of his life. He proved that "every moment is a time for prayer."

A Call to Us

May it never be said of us that we were in a state where we "could not pray." Let us not say, "I am exhausted, so I didn't pray," Or "I am too broken and distressed, so I cannot pray." By pleading from the Cross, the Lord established that a human being "must pray at all times, in all circumstances, and at any cost." The Lord's purpose is for man to pray in every second, every state, and every opportunity.

The Lord's eyes were always fixed on the Father and always focused on the needs of others. His eyes looked with thirst for the people to be forgiven. This focus always led him to prayer.

The final word spoken by the Lord from the Cross was also a prayer. The Savior began his time on the Cross with a prayer and ended it with a prayer. How did he pray?

Father, your glorious Son prayed throughout his entire life. Even when he felt the most severe agony of separation from you because he carried our sins, he looked nowhere else but toward you and asked, "Father, why have you forsaken me?"

Lord, transform my life and my heart to be like his. Draw me to yourself and redirect everything that is mine toward you. Lord, teach us to pray. Bind our hearts together with yours. As you do this, we will be completely transformed into your likeness. Thank You, Lord, for you are going to do this. Amen.





HANDLE WITH CARE RIGHT FOUNDATION

TRUE LOVE IS SINCERE AND CONSTANT



"I have no freedom at all..."

"Everything always comes with a condition..."

"Don't go there... Don't do this... Don't speak... Don't look..."

"What kind of life is this? The only solution is to get out of this house as fast as possible." This is the essence of the Parable of the Prodigal Son. To him, his father's embrace and the protection of his home felt like an immense burden until the moment he left. For today's youth, this is an undeniable reality.

Anyone captivated by thrilling talk, a provocative glance, or an action that shatters the subconscious cannot claim that as true love. The danger of love centered purely on emotion is that infatuation (lust) has speed and intensity. In a state of clouded judgment, the mind dances to the tune of every mistake. From this state emerge "Himalayan promises" like: "I can't live a minute without you" or "You are everything to me." However, when misunderstandings arise in daily life, when expectations go unfulfilled, or when life's circumstances flip upside down, the gap between those who said "You are my everything" widens. Phone calls are disconnected. The bus stops where they once waited for each other become desolate. This is how emotion-driven, lust-centered love behaves. True Love does not look for "something better" after a while. It doesn't turn sour after a few days. It does not hesitate to pay any price. The journey of those who truly love remains united in every circumstance.

In Luke 15, the father did not go looking for a "new son" to replace the one who left. He did not fill that vacancy with someone else. He maintained his peace. He was not swayed by his son's rebellious actions, harsh words, or lustful deeds; instead, he remained centered on the deep relationship he had with him. This is the true love God shows us. Christian marriages are not like butterflies that flutter from place to place; they are centered on a deep Christian covenant.

Physical Attraction	Real Love & Commitment
Self-centered; asks, "What can I get out of this?"	Sacrificial; asks, "What can I give/do for this?"
Focused on personal expectation.	Reflects the nature of Christ.

In the parable of the prodigal son, even though he had lost everything, the father's love remained sincere and constant. Christ's love is exactly the same. Those who truly express love toward you will not focus on physical needs, nor will they disappear when times get tough.

My dear Christian youth! Before you seek a relationship, ask yourself:

- *Am I a person who prioritizes myself and seeks attention through attraction?*
- *Or am I prepared for a commitment centered on God's will?*
- *If God's guidance goes against my personal choice, am I a person who can fully submit to His will?*
- *Aside from these, am I choosing a relationship just because the world "hypes" me up, saying I must have a boyfriend or girlfriend?*

Rather than getting trapped and shattered by the talk of peers who claim being single is "cowardice," remember that the Lord's voice, which truly adorns your life is constant, true, and fulfilling.

What is your choice?

Is it the lustful love that triggers a momentary thrill? The prodigal son chose that and ended up wandering in distress. But the father's love is steady, deep, and will beautifully adorn your life. It always provides fulfilment and a life of joy.

The choice is in your hands...

"The Lord's voice, which truly adorns your life, is constant, true, and fulfilling."



THE PEARL OF GREAT PRICE

INTRODUCTION

Among the parables told by Jesus Christ, the "Pearl of Great Price" is brief, yet it contains a very profound message. Found in Matthew 13:45 - 46, this parable clearly illustrates the value of the Kingdom of God, the sacrifice required of man, right understanding, and total commitment.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking beautiful pearls, who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it."

(Matthew 13:45, 46)

Throughout Matthew chapter 13, Jesus explains the truths of the Kingdom of God using everyday examples such as seeds, fields, weeds, and hidden treasure. In ancient times, pearls were extremely rare and held immense value. Pearl merchants were experts at identifying quality. Therefore, the merchant in this parable represents a person of knowledge and experience.

The core concept of this parable is Supreme Value. The merchant searches for many pearls, but once he finds a single pearl of higher value than all others, he sells everything he owns to acquire it. This pearl represents the Kingdom of God. The Kingdom is not just a future hope; it is the reign of God manifested in human life today. To a person who realizes the true worth of God's Kingdom, everything else becomes secondary.

"THE PARABLE OF THE PEARL OF GREAT PRICE EMPHASIZES THE MATCHLESS VALUE OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND THE NEED FOR TOTAL COMMITMENT."

2. KNOWLEDGE AND THE RIGHT RESPONSE

It is noteworthy that the merchant in this parable was actively searching. This highlights the importance of spiritual seeking. The Kingdom of God is revealed not to the indifferent, but to those who truly seek it. "Seek, and you will find" (Matthew 7:7). After realizing the value of the Kingdom, a person must make a clear decision. A half-hearted attitude or delayed obedience is not enough.

In today's world, money, power, and fame are often considered the ultimate goals of life. This parable makes us reflect:

- What is the most valuable thing in my life?
- Am I ready to change my priorities for the sake of the Kingdom of God?
- Do my actions reflect my faith?
- This parable reminds us that Christian faith should not be just a part of our life, but its very center.

CONCLUSION

The Parable of the Pearl of Great Price emphasizes the matchless value of the Kingdom of God and the need for total commitment. Through this, Jesus calls us to recognize God's reign and make it the priority of our lives. What we receive in Christ is always greater than what we give up.

Realizing that the Pearl is indeed worth its price, let us dedicate ourselves to the Lord and work together with Him for His reign! May the Lord bless us!

1. SACRIFICE AND DISCIPLESHIP

The primary theme here is sacrifice. One cannot say the merchant "lost" everything; rather, he gained something far superior. This sacrifice is not forced but voluntary and wholehearted. This aligns with Jesus' teachings on discipleship:

"And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple."

(Luke 14:27)

Christian living sometimes involves letting go of wealth, status, or selfishness. The call of this parable is for the Kingdom of God to become the primary priority of our lives.



THE WOMAN OF HONOR

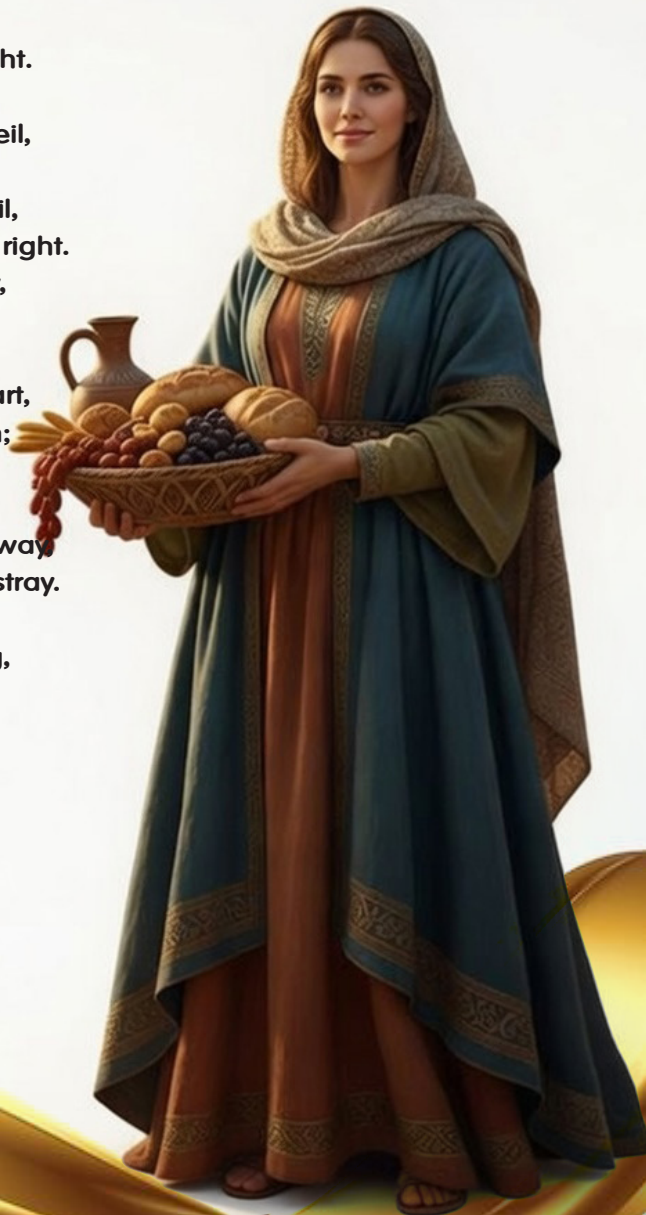
O, Lady Great, in Heaven's sight held dear,
Whose heart didst bloom with mercy's sacred grace?
The poor found comfort in thy presence near,
And Isaac's resting-place didst hide thy face.
Thou flower of Shunem, soil and soul entwined,
With earthly pride and Heavenly love combined.

Thy board was spread, yet ne'er for price or gain,
Thou beckoned weary saints to take their rest;
No holy pilgrim sought thy door in vain,
But found a haven, being doubly blest.
A tower of bounty, giving with delight,
To serve the King's own servants day and night.

With wisdom graced to see through mortal veil,
Thou knew the holy man by God's own light;
A chamber built, that strength might never fail,
Thy husband's heart thou guided toward the right.
Like ancient trees that strike their roots below,
That upward, golden fruits of faith may grow.

Though tempests dark struck your gentle heart,
And sorrow's blade didst cut thy soul in twain;
When life was fled, thou found a quiet rest,
And whispered, "It is well," despite the pain.
Though mountains shake and hills be cast away,
Thy steadfast heart from God wouldst never stray.

Before thy faith, e'en Death didst lose its sting,
The grave retreated, vanquished by thy plea;
For every deed that to the Lord we bring,
Returns in floods of grace eternally.
Let every small and joyful act of love,
Give glory to the Sovereign King above!



JAMES THE DISCIPLE OF JESUS CHRIST

Introduction

James, was a prominent disciple among the twelve disciples and very close to discussion forum of Jesus Christ. His father was Zebedee and John was his brother. The Bible records that James and John were called as "Boanerges" which means "Sons of Thunder." His profession was fisherman by trade and a native of Galilee.

Call of James

James was born in a Jewish family and his parents were Zebedee and Salome. And Salome was a sister of Mary [Mother of Jesus], thus James became a Great cousin of Jesus. Jesus Called James while he was mending his nets at the sea shores of Galilee [Matthew 4:21]. James is described as one of the first disciples of Jesus.

Characteristics of James

By the traditional occupation, the fisherman James became fisher of men. A zealous personality for God and His Mission. An important companion of Jesus among twelve as well as prominent three at the Transfiguration Mount. James responded to the call of Jesus to follow him. No hesitation and second thought about his future.

James was a partner with Andrew and Peter in fishing trade and became partners in the Discipleship program of Jesus Christ. The call made him to put aside of his trade and net and with instant obedience he left everything for the sake of His Kingdom. James, the cousin of Jesus accepted Saviourhood and Messiah declaration of Jesus Christ. No arguments and reasoning with relationship but accepted His leadership for the sake of preaching the Goodnews of Kingdom of God.

James was one of the three disciples at the Transfiguration Mount. A strong witness for the Messiahship of Jesus Christ by experiencing the conversation event with Moses and Elijah by Jesus Christ at the mountain.

Credibility of James

Jesus called him to follow. His promptness in accepting the call was remarkable and demonstrated in action by leaving everything like the boat, net, fish and father too [Matthew 4:21-22]. His readiness in the midst of business was awesome and set a model to the professionals in the present context. No excuses after hearing His voice, "Follow Me."

Commendable Life Style of James

After the call, James became follower of Jesus Christ. His life transformed from fishman to Disciple. James became leader of the Jewish Christians and apostles in Jerusalem [Acts 15:13]. He wrote and became an authentic author of the Epistle of James. James was an important team player among three who were selected by Jesus to be with him [[Mark.5]. A man who saw Jesus to talk with the Old Testament Prophet Moses and Elijah at the Transfiguration Mountain [Matthew 17:1-9].

James a courageous man who joined with John, Peter and Andrew to enquired about the destruction of the Temple and Signs of His Second Coming.

Common manhood of James

After the death of Jesus, few disciples went to fishing which was their business and trade. Hypothetically, it would be out of frustration, fear and change in their life style or felt much



hungry. Whatever it would be, James also joined them. However, James too saw the resurrected Jesus at the seashore along with John and Peter. "Son of Thunder" became "Son of ordinary human being" while circumstances were not in favour of him. Extraordinary personalities too became ordinary person when situations were not in supporting him.

Closing Life Events of James

James also suffered under persecution soon after the death and resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ. He was so prominent as a "Leader of the Church" at Jerusalem. [The Church was a new concept in that period]. According to Acts 12:2, James experienced persecution and was arrested by Herod for his faith and leadership of the New Religion called, "The Christian Community." Tragically, James was beheaded by Herod Agrippa in 44 A.D. As the first apostle to be martyred. The history records that James was in Spain and preached the Goodnews of Jesus Christ. The tradition records that his body remains are buried at the Cathedral of Santiago De Compostela, in Galicia, which a major pilgrimage site and autonomous community of Spain. The records hold that he died at 44 AD.

James stands as an example for the ages of devotion and passion for evangelism.

Call and commission of Jesus Christ to FMPB

The Lord Jesus Christ is looking forward for "kind of James personalities" to join with the ministries of FMPB. Read to accept the gentle voice of Jesus. Willing to follow Jesus. To be with Jesus in His marvellous work through the mission work of FMPB.

The FMPB provides opportunities to follow Him as a cross-cultural missionary, teacher in a school, medical worker in the hospital, animator in the education program for adults, Bible translators in a tribal and non-tribal languages, be a part as a young and dynamic mission associate with the ministries of FMPB.

Conclusion

James is a living witness in the Mission of God. A strong Personality and became Leader of the Christian Community. Young Man. A Straight Call to You. Come and Join Us. No excuses. His Call is still available to You. Will you Respond to His Call. Live a life worthy and magnify the Lord Jesus Christ. A good number of missionaries have already joined in the team. What about you?

The Time of His Second Coming is very near. Join in the Mission of God and do your best contribution through the ministries of Friends Missionary Prayer Band. Blessings.



**Friends Missionary Prayer Band
Youth Wing Presents**

LEAD TRAINING '26

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



March 7-8
Sat 9 AM - Sun 1 PM



Iraivanin Thootam
Poondi, Thiruvallur

Exclusive for
volunteers &
Counsellors

Speakers

**Mr. Valentine Davidar
Rev. Emmanuel Ranjithsingh**



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FRIENDS MISSIONARY PRAYER BAND

Presents

TAMIL

Annual CAMP 2026

Date: **May**
From **21** To **24**
From Thursday to Sunday

Venue:
**BETHEL CAMPUS,
DANISHPET, SALEM**

Statewide Youth Bible Quiz
(Specially for Teens and Youth)

BIBLE AND MISSIONARY BIOGRAPHY EXAM - 2026



SYLLABUS:

- From Isaiah chapter 40 to chapter 66
- Missionary Biography and News from the Kerith edition of March, April, May (2026).
- Bible Memory Verse Portion - Isaiah 53 : 1 - 12
- English Bible version to be used - NKJV

INSTRUCTIONS:

- The Exam will happen in the Annual Camp.
- First 3 prize winners of the Quiz will be rewarded with Special prizes.
- All participants will be rewarded with Special gifts.
- Age group for participation - from 13 to 30 years.

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