



youth on fire

ABLAZE

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Quarterly newsletter from the Youth Wing of The Pentecostal Church of God, Ahmedabad – Affiliated to Sharon Fellowship Church

Greetings, from Team Ablaze!

The world is an uncertain place these days. There is violence among countries, violence within communities and hatred among human beings. Amidst all this, the world celebrates days like “Fathers’ Day”, a celebration of human relationships. A father is a symbol of security, shelter and loving care – qualities that the human race is very much in need of today.

As Christians, we celebrate even in uncertain times, because God has promised to be our Father, for ever. We believe in this and we have shelter in times of trouble and the comforting Word of God which speaks to us and guides us. One of the roles of a Father is to teach his young children what is good for them and what could be dangerous, to teach the child the safest way to live her life. Our heavenly Father promises just that (Psalm 32:8). He promises to teach us, instruct us and always keep his loving eye on us. Isn't that a comforting thought?

In this issue of Ablaze, we invite you to read a variety of articles based on the Word of God. The articles deal with relationships, hospitality, the will of God, dealing with depression and fatherly love. We hope that you will be blessed by reading this issue.

If you have a write-up to contribute to the newsletter, or would like to share some feedback, feel free to write to us at ablazeyof@gmail.com

I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my loving eye on you. (Psalm 32: 8 NIV)

*Blessings,
Bejini Sajan, Winny Mathews, Annie Rachel Royson*



RELATIONSHIPS MATTER

PASTOR FRANKO DAVID

You might have come across someone having problems in their relationships or you may be going through a tough time yourself. It is difficult to maintain relationships, it gets harder during problems and after that to get things back to normal. We always wonder why relationships are so complex in nature. The answer to that is because we don't have the right relationship with the right person, that is, Jesus Christ. Once we set right our relationship with Him, everything falls into its place. It's just like a giant jigsaw puzzle, with Jesus all the pieces start to make sense and complexities vanish.

We mostly try our own ways to maintain and mend relationships, sometimes we succeed and sometimes we fail. The only sure way to have a proper and peaceful relationship with our dear ones and others is based on how we deal with our relationship with Jesus Christ.

Jesus Christ in **Matt.22:37-39** talks about the two greatest commandments - 1) Love your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. 2) Love your neighbour as yourself. From this we can derive three relationships that we should have. First and foremost, we must have a relationship with God the Creator. Second, we must have relationship with ourselves and third, we should have relationship with people around us beginning with our immediate family members.

Man is a created being and cannot do anything by himself. Man should have the correct relationship with God. Jesus in **John.15:4** says, 'remain in me so that I will remain in you, so that you can bear fruit'. If we have a good relationship with God, only then will we be able to understand ourselves - who we are in Christ and love others. The heroes in the Old and New Testament from Abraham, Moses, David to Peter and Paul, all had a right relationship with God. They knew God fully and personally. That is the reason they understood themselves and had great self-esteem, and also could appreciate others and were successful in their life. Right relationship leads to right understanding and right understanding always leads to success in life.

David had a right relationship with God and he knew very well who God is. This enabled him to face the giant Goliath. He won the fight with a mere sling because his strength was not his own but the dependence of God. From his early age he learnt to depend on God, enquire from the Lord and converse with God and thus he knew the heart of God. This was his biggest strength and God himself testifies of him as "A Man after God's own heart". Also, David had a right relationship with himself because he had good relationship with God, so he understood that he is fearfully and wonderfully made (**Ps.139:1-24**) and he humbled before God. Since David had a good relationship with his God he understood others and therefore, he spared the life of King Saul, saying 'how can I lay my hand on God's anointed?' though he got many opportunities to kill the king (**1Sam.24:5-7;26:21**). Though King Saul tried to kill David (**1 Sam.19:1**), David maintained a good relationship with the King.

As you are reading this article you may be struggling in some areas of your relationship, ask forgiveness and come back to God and have a good relationship with Him (**Prov.1:7**). This will help set right your relationship with yourself, build your self-esteem and confidence. Furthermore, there will be peace in your relationship with others and you'll succeed all through your life. Always remember the right relationship with God will help you have the right relationship with yourself and others.

IMPORTANCE OF BEING HOSPITABLE

VV MATHEWS

The three of major New Testament writers commend the actions/character of an ordinary person named 'Gaius'. St. Paul, St. Luke and St. John aptly describe the personality of Gaius. Jesus and His teachings underline the importance of a mindset rooted in serving others, "whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant and whoever wants to be first must be your slave" (**Matt.20:26,27NIV**). On a study of the Good Samaritan 'Gaius', we observe his name appearing at 5 different places in NT. The first time his name figures at **1Cori.1:14**; there the mention is very brief, say, "I am thankful that I did not baptize any of you except Crispus and Gaius." Here, we see the beginning of Gaius' spiritual journey and subsequently he becomes an active disciple in a local church therein serving the church as a whole and especially the strangers attending the church on their spiritual ministry.

Gaius again appears in scripture in the book of **Acts.19:29, 20:4**; St. Luke mentions Gaius in the backdrop of the commotion erupted in Ephesus and Gaius being rounded up by the authorities for accompanying St. Paul in his itineraries. In Romans, St. Paul categorically includes the name of Gaius in the list of people sending their greetings to the church at Rome ("Gaius, whose hospitality *I and the whole church* here enjoy, send you his greetings" **Rom.16:23**). Finally, the name, 'Gaius' appears in John-III, where St. John has addressed the whole letter to a single person, viz., "To my dear friend Gaius." Epistle of Jn-III consists of only 14 verses, in all, and the same is given a place among the other 26 books of New Testament. If it is so, definitely, the 14 verses have some very special meanings and importance in it. The theme of the book revolves around 3 different personalities, Gaius, Diotrophes and Demetrius. Gaius' good standing in the Lord was testified by St. John and St. Paul and the work done by him was also highly acclaimed (**III Jn.Vs.5**). Another purpose Holy Spirit achieved vide, III John was witnessing the bad deeds of Diotrophes (**III Jn.Vs.12**). The word of God never hides anything for the sake of being sacred; even though the issue involved is bitter, the Holy Spirit reveals the same for general edification. It is noteworthy that John has written this epistle to a person who was a member of functioning local church. The church has a lot to do on the aspect of hospitality and welfare to others. St. James in his epistle emphasizes the need to show the faith by the good works, "Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to him, 'Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed,' but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it?" (**Jas.2:15-16**). Jesus' prime concern was ensuring perfect love among his followers. His new and foremost commandment was love one another as I have loved you and by doing so all men will know that you are my disciples (**Jn.13:34**). The perfect love shall culminate in actions, like in the case of a mother who sacrifices her comforts for her children.

The manifestation of spiritual gifts in the church of God is explained in I Cor.12:28, "And in the Church, God has appointed first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, also those having gift of healing, *those able to help others*, those with gifts of administration and those speaking in different kinds of tongues." But in furthermore, counter-questions are found being asked by the Holy Spirit- Are all apostles? Are all prophets? So on (I Cori.12:29-30). Since we get all the answers to all such questions in "negative", we find one question with regard to one of the gifts as missing!! , and that one is "*Are all able to help others?*". This particular omission of such a question by Holy Spirit confirms that one and all are gifted with the gift, namely, '*helping others.*'"

When we consider hospitality from the biblical viewpoint, the example of Patriarch Abraham dealing with the men of God is of high relevance. The way Abraham treats the guest and the way how Lot treats them is noteworthy. Abraham prepares a feast of baked bread of fine flour, curds, milk and prepared tender calf (Gene.18:6-8). Lot also prepares dinner for the guests he received; Lot welcomed the guests and served them with only baked bread without yeast (Gene.19:3). The attitudinal difference between the two is quite palpable here; Lot has not taken any extra pain in attending to the guests whereas Abraham was found running (Gen.18:7) so as he could make his guests more comfortable.

The portrayal of Diotrefes as one who loves to be first (III Jn.:9) is highly significant in current state of affairs. To have prominence in itself do not have anything sinful or wrong in it, but, to invent wrong methods to reach at helm of affairs stand hardly justified. St.John could perceive the correct meaning of teachings given by Lord Jesus that "whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant and whoever wants to be first must be your slave", and on observing explicit deviations from above principles, the Apostle has expressed his displeasure on the pattern of behavior as noticed in Diotrefes, a believer, who acts gracelessly. The Apostle of love has taken pain to record the actions of Diotrefes, "I will call attention to what he is doing, gossiping maliciously about us. Not satisfied with that, he refuses to welcome the brothers. He also stops those who want to do so and puts them out of the Church", (Vs.10) which is in sharp contrast towards the actions of Gaius, another believer. Even in secular world of commerce and industry, the dictum goes "the Boss evokes fear and Leader radiates love". The leader is readily available in the church as pictured in III Jn.Vs.12 "*Demetrius is well spoken of by everyone-and even by the truth itself.*" But, he (Demetrius) does not seem to be interested to join in the run for the 'first' position in the church.

The three characters as illustrated by St.John in his letter do speak a lot to the spiritual world. The love radiated through the sweet verses as forthcoming shall energize the body of Christ to grow and prevail over the kingdom of darkness, "you are faithful in what you are doing for the brothers and sister even though they are strangers to you. They have told the church about your love. Please send them on their way in a manner that honors God. It was for the sake of the Name that they went out, receiving no help from the pagans. We ought therefore to show hospitality to such people so that we may work together for the truth" (III Jn.5-8). The spiritual deliverance alongside giving support to soul and body are cherished by Jesus our Lord. God says, "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith." The Greek word for 'saved', *sozo*, doesn't just mean to save from hell, but also to heal, preserve and make whole. Gaius has excelled in faith, by showing his faith through works of faith, the most relevant factor for extension of His kingdom, God bless.

(Note: This article was earlier published in the magazine 'Light of Life' in year 2011. Published here with permission.)

THE FELLOWSHIP OF HIS SUFFERINGS: THE TESTIMONY OF AMY CARMICHAEL

COMPILED BY SONA JESTEEN



AMY CARMICHAEL

Few would have expected David and Catherine Carmichael's eldest daughter, Amy, to grow up to become one of the world's most famous missionaries.

Born in 1867 in the small village of Millisle, Northern Ireland, there was nothing particularly unusual about this girl, who was known for her willfulness, tomboyish attitude and a propensity to get into mischievous pranks. Little did the Carmichael parents realize that their daughter would be God's tool for rescuing hundreds of children from a life worse than death in the darkness of the Indian jungles.

Though Amy's father died when she was five, the gap had been amply filled by the widower Robert Wilson. Cofounder of the Keswick Convention, Wilson was a

catalyst for the holiness movement in England and a support for many missionaries around the globe. When she was in her young twenties, Wilson asked to be allowed to adopt Amy, for whom he felt a special fondness after the loss of his only daughter. Thus it was that Amy moved in with Mr. Wilson and his sons to work as his secretary. The job put Amy in direct contact with many of the missionaries around the world, including Hudson Taylor, Theodore Monod and F.B. Meyer. This was no doubt instrumental in pressing upon Amy the call to mission work.

An Unlikely Missionary

Amy was an unlikely candidate for the life of a missionary. She suffered from neuralgia, a disease that stimulates the nerves to feel pain and which caused Amy to have to spend entire weeks in bed. Moreover, she felt reluctant to leave Robert Wilson, as the two of them had grown extremely attached to each other. Yet the call of Jesus upon her

would not go away. Around this time she wrote to her mother that “Everything, everything seemed to be saying ‘Go’, through all sounds the cry seemed to rise, ‘Come over and help us.’ Every bit of pleasure of work which has come to me, has had underlying it the thought of those people who have never, never heard of Jesus; before my eyes clearer than any lovely view has been the constant picture of those millions who have no chance, and never had one, of hearing of the love which makes our lives so bright.”

Amy initially had no idea where the Lord was leading her to go. She only knew that she needed to go somewhere. Rejected by the China Inland Mission because of her frailty, she was eventually able to go to Japan as a Keswick missionary with the Church Missionary Society. In the providence of God, however, Amy was only able to stay in Japan for fifteen months because of ill health. God had other plans for this young woman.

Amy remained restless, eager for a new assignment. The opportunity presented itself nine months later when she was accepted by the Church of England Zenana Mission to go as a missionary to India. Sailing for India in 1895, Amy had no idea that she would remain there for the next fifty-six years.

Rescuing Children

It took Amy some time to settle down to life as a missionary in India. Having little in common with the other missionaries and being unable to speak to the natives, Amy experienced acute bouts of loneliness. Additionally, she struggled with ill health to such a degree that some of her fellow missionaries predicted that she would not last more than six months. Despite these setbacks, Amy persevered with a rigorous study of the Tamil language, longing to be able to share the gospel in a language the natives could understand.

It was after being appointed to minister in the Tinnevely District that Amy first became aware of the horrifying practice of dedicating little girls to the Hindu gods. The practice, which had begun sometime around the 6th century, involved grooming girls, some of them only babies, for a life of ritualized prostitution. These girls were a valuable commodity since they would become the sex slaves of the Brahmin priests who ran the temples. Considered to be the property of the gods, the girls had no rights of their own and could be abused and tortured without censure.

Because the Hindus were taught that it was meritorious to donate their children to the gods, and since there were often financial rewards for parents who did so, many children were dedicated even before their birth. Some girls were simply kidnapped and forced to spend the rest of their lives as sex fodder in the darkness of the jungle temples.

Amy's work in the Tinnevely District brought her to Dohnavur, a small village thirty miles from the southern tip of India. Originally, Amy and her fellow missionaries intended to use Dohnavur merely as a base for a few months' missionary activity in the region. But again, God had other plans. Dohnavur became a base for one of the world's most successful missionary endeavors, offering sanctuary to hundreds of girls, and eventually to boys too, who had escaped from a fate worse than death.

Preena's Escape

It started when a small girl named Preena was given as a gift to the gods at the age of seven (possibly younger). Preena was removed from her mother and placed in the care of a woman charged with teaching her singing and dancing in order to make her more desirable to the Hindu priests. Like all the others in her position, she was also subtly trained to find sin attractive, in order to break down the natural barriers that might inhibit her usefulness once she reached puberty.

Preena was too young and innocent to understand what it meant to be “married to the god,” but only longed to be back with her mother. When she could endure it no longer, Preena escaped and made the two day journey back to the town of Tuticorin where her mother lived. However, the woman into whose care she had been placed was quick on her heels. No sooner had Preena arrived home than the wicked woman caught up with her and demanded to have the girl returned. While Preena clung to her mother begging not to be sent away, the woman threatened wrath from the gods should she refuse to consent. Fearing the Hindu deities, Preena's mother unloosed her daughter's clinging arms and returned her to the temple's service.

As a punishment for escaping, Preena had her hands branded with a red hot iron. Yet this incredibly painful procedure seems to have only made Preena more eager to be free. Not long after this, Preena overheard her captors making plans to marry her to the god as soon as possible. Misunderstanding the Hindu idiom “tied to the god”, Preena believed she was to be tied with ropes to the figure of an idol she had seen in the dark recesses of the temple. Terrified by the prospect, Preena made up her mind to escape again. This time, she was wise enough not to flee to her mother, but escaped to the town of Pannaivilai where she was found and offered accommodation by a Christian woman. Providentially Amy and her friends happened to be traveling through her old town at the same time and met Preena the next morning. Preena described her first meeting with Amy:

Our precious Ammai [‘Ammāi’ means ‘true mother’ in Tamil] was having her morning chota. When she saw me, the

first thing she did was to put me on her lap and kiss me. I thought, 'My mother used to put me on her lap and kiss me – who is this person who kisses me like my mother?' From that day she became my mother, body and soul.'

The stories Amy heard from Preena filled her with horror and made her more determined than ever to bring down the horrible industry of sex trafficking. Amy began finding out everything she could about the trafficking, developing a growing network of helpers and informants.

The Dohnavur Fellowship

After gaining a reputation for rescuing children, many escaped girls made their way to Dohnavur. But Amy did not just wait around for people to arrive on her doorstep. Whenever she heard about someone in danger, Amy would be proactive in doing all she could to rescue the child. She would sometimes travel incredibly long distances on India's hot, dusty roads just to save one child.

Amy was even known to engage in covert activities of questionable legality in order to save girls and boys from the horrors of temple service. As the years progressed, Amy became a shrewd detective, often finding missing clues supplied by a chance circumstance or even a dream that could only be explained by the Providence of God.

But she was not always successful. One child she had been unsuccessful in saving was drugged and (as she confided to her own private notebook after learning the horrifying facts) "then died in such agony that the one who was responsible fled from the house with his hands over his ears to shut out the sounds of her screams."

In 1918 a boy arrived, the first in what would become a whole community of boys next to Dohnavur's small village of girls. Amy loved working with the children, always finding time to play with them and let them know that they were loved and valued. Inspired by her example, many others came and joined the ministry at Dohnavur, offering their unique skills and gifts to the expanding operation.

As more and more children were rescued, Dohnavur became an expanding orphanage. But it was more like a family than an orphanage, with Amy functioning as the mother for hundreds of unwanted children. She was affectionately called 'Amma', by the children, the Tamil word for Mother.

The Dohnavur fellowship, as it came to be known, became a model of Christian living. Though not perfect, the growing community had few parallels in modern times for the unity, prayer and love that emanated from it. The following quotation, taken from a little manuscript Amy wrote for some of her closest co-labourers, shows what Amy's heart was for all of Dohnavur:

We are trusted to spread the spirit of love. Tenderness in judgment, the habit of thinking the best of one another, unwillingness to believe evil, grief if we are forced to do so, eagerness to believe good, joy over one recovered from any slip or fall, unselfish gladness in another's joys, sorrow in another's sorrow, readiness to do anything to help another entirely irrespective of self- all this and much more is included in that wonderful word love. If love weakens among us, if it ever becomes possible to tolerate the least shadow of an unloving thought, our Fellowship will begin to perish. Unlove is deadly. It is a cancer. It may kill slowly but it always kills in the end. Let us fear it, fear to give room to it as we should fear to nurse a cobra. It is deadlier than any cobra. And just as one minute drop of the almost invisible cobra venom spreads swiftly all over the body of one into whom it has been injected, so one drop of the gall of unlove in my heart or yours, however unseen, has a terrible power of spreading all through our Family, for we are one body – we are parts of one another. If one member suffers loss, all suffer loss. Not one of us liveth to herself.

Confinement

When she was in her young sixties, Amy broke her leg and twisted her spine in a fall. The injury left her bedridden for the remainder of her life and in almost constant pain. Rarely did she sleep through an entire night without waking up in pain.

Being convalescent did not come easy for Amy, who was naturally an energetic and active person. She would later reflect, "I never found patience easy, being by nature a most impatient mortal; even one week in bed seemed impossible in old days."

Despite her own suffering, Amy remained remarkably others-centered. Because of her own trials, Amy was able to have a remarkable empathy for the sufferings others had to endure, offering comfort and refreshment even when those trials were comparatively mild compared with hers.

Legacy

The love of God radiated from Amy like a power magnet, touching so many lives and irresistibly pointing people towards Jesus.

When Amy died in 1951 at the age of 83, she left behind herself a remarkable legacy, both in the lives of those she

had touched as well as in the literary output that she left behind.

From Dohnavur Amy wrote book after book, including the highly influential *Things as They Are: Mission Work in Southern India* (1903) and *Gold Cord* (1932). As a result of her books, more and more Westerners began following the work, supporting it with gifts and prayer. Moreover, these works alerted the West to the evils of the Hindu temple system and played a key role in the eventual downfall of the industry.

Lessons from The Life of Amy Carmichael

Amy Carmichael did not merely write about her missionary work. Many of her books are devotionals that have inspired countless men and woman into deeper love for their Savior and a hunger to follow him more completely. Perhaps the greatest lesson that Amy's life and writings teach us is how to know Christ in the fellowship of His sufferings.

Suffering was a constant companion to Amy Carmichael. Despite the bodily hardships she faced, her worst sufferings were not even physical. Having so much love and tenderness in her heart, words cannot describe her anguish when occasionally she would lose a child she thought she had rescued, sometimes from her very doorstep.

Despite the difficulties of her life, the Lord helped Amy to see these sufferings positively, as battle wounds and honors gained in the service of her Savior.



EMBRACE OR EMBARRASS – WHAT DO YOU WISH FOR?

ROYSON RAJAN

The Parable of the Prodigal Son is not unknown to us [Luke 15:11-32]. With all his wealth, the prodigal son decides to leave his father's place and enjoy his life. He must have said **MY LIFE, MY RULES**. With his wealth, he had friends all around him and he squandered his wealth in wild living. Soon he exhausted his wealth and all his friends abandoned him. Famine struck his life and he felt helpless and craved for food.

So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything. He felt **EMBARRASSED** when he knelt in the presence of men.

Prodigal Son soon realized his mistake and thought **How many of my father's hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.** So he got up and went to his father.

"But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him. His father **EMBRACED** him.

*If you kneel in the presence of the Lord He will rise to embrace you
If you kneel in the presence of Men, they will rise to embarrass you*

What are your plans? Would you like to get **EMBRACED** or **EMBARRASSED**? For it is better to repent and return to the presence of the Lord than to be embarrassed in the presence of men. God loves us so much that he gave his only begotten Son so that we receive eternal life.

He wants to embrace you. All you need to say is **Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.** and he is all ready to ask his angels to be **Quick!** and **Bring the best robe and put it on us. Put a ring on our finger and sandals on our feet.** He wants to celebrate and have a feast with us. He knows that we were dead in sin and are alive again; we were lost and now found!

Let's kneel in the presence of God, pray to him and repent and wait for him to embrace us and lead us to his eternal kingdom.



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Loving the life you live. Each one of us loves those times in our lives when we are totally experiencing God's wonderful blessings and His joy. But there are those other times, when life is challenging, when there are hardships, when relationships are falling apart, when businesses don't flourish, when results do not come out as expected. It's drudgery and horrible. How are we facing this situation in our lives? Are we going into '**DEPRESSION**', are we losing **HOPE**? Is ending your life the only **SOLUTION**?

Statistics say that about 16-18 million Americans each year are affected by this condition called, '**DEPRESSION**'. It is a **SERIOUS CONDITION**. As Children of God, how are we dealing it? What has the Word of God to offer us in such situations. God's word definitely gives us insights and offers us tremendous help to deal with our battle to stay encouraged. God wants us to be encouraged at all times.

We could take the example of King David, In First Samuel 30: 6-10, we read of how David overcame depression and encouraged himself in the Lord. David was greatly distressed after he returned to Ziklag along with his men, as the Amalekites had attacked Ziklag and had taken captive the women and everyone else. Their houses were destroyed by fire, nothing left to survive. To add to it David's men were talking of stoning him; each one was bitter in spirit. In such distress, David turned to God. He asks God for direction. He encourages himself in the Lord and also encouraged the others who were in distress. He did not end his life; he did not lose Hope.

Here are some thoughts on this topic that emerged from a discussion among the youth of our Church during a youth meeting:

1. When in depression, the first thing to do is to turn to God. It is better to put our trust and confidence in God. It is important to spend time with God.
2. David always asked God for directions in all his hardships. We as youngsters should give God the authority to direct us. His directions will definitely help us overcome whatever hard situation we are in.
3. In times of our distress, we tend to only think about ourselves. We try harming other people, we blame them, we hurt them. I Samuel 30: 6 & 9, we read that David's men were planning to stone him, they were in bitter spirit. But David kept calm, he found comfort in the Lord and when out of the 600 men only 400 were ready to go with David to pursue the Amalekites, David very happily agreed to take 400 and allowed the rest 200 to stay back. Here, we learn that it is important in times of distress, to treat ourselves and the others fairly.
4. Depression is such a serious condition. It does not allow us to think, we lose hope, we GIVE UP. We tend not to take others advice. We need to speak up, discuss our problems with our loved ones, or with the elders of your church, our family or our church Pastor. During such situations, it is important to listen and take heed of our dear ones' advice.
5. When in trouble, listening to that Sweet voice of God is just the right thing to do. God speaks in a still small voice. Like Elijah, who did not see God in wind, nor in the violent earth quake or storm and thunder, but God whispered, Oh! That sweet voice. It is important to be near to God, to have a seeking heart. Our troubles will vanish. It would give us that strength and encouragement to overcome anything.
6. God intends for us to enjoy life. It is not that there won't be any trouble if you follow Christ. There will be troubles and challenges. But God wants us to find comfort in Him and His word and stay encouraged despite our troubles.

What do you think of this passage? If you have anything to add to this discussion, please do write to us at ablazcyof@gmail.com. We would love to hear from you.



WILL OF GOD

J BLESSING

This is a very important subject for every Christian. Christian life is nothing but to find out the will of God, to know the will of God you need to go to the Bible. The more you know the will of God, the more you will walk in it. Inside the will of God there is full safety, outside the will of God there is full danger (Jonah 1).

Jesus came into this world to fulfil the will of Father God. Jesus said "I don't seek my own will but the will of the Father who sent me (John 5:30). Jesus' food was to do the will of God who sent Him and finish His work (John 4:34). The prayer Jesus taught to His disciples, the important prayer point was "... Your will be done, on earth as it is heaven (Matthew 6:10). Your Calling is by the will of God (1 Cor 1:1, 2 Cor 1:1, Eph 1:1, Col 1:1, 2 Tim 1:1). There are some common will of God which you can see in the Bible.

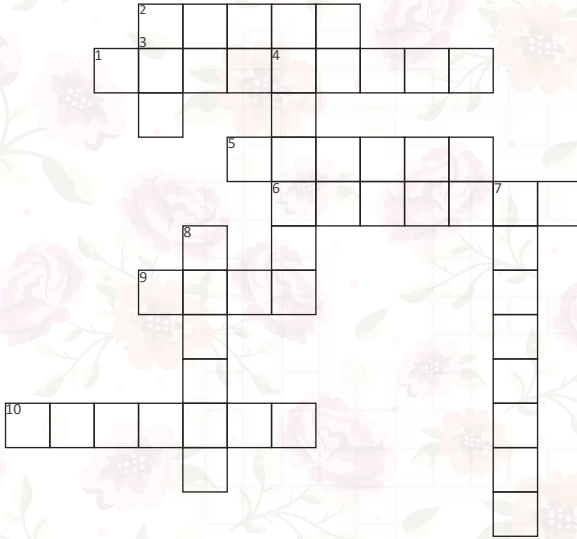
1. Giving Thanks in Everything: In everything give thanks for this is will of God in Christ Jesus for you (1 Thess 5:18). The Bible says, In EVERYTHING give thanks. So does that mean if you have sickness you give thanks? No. Healing is the will of God. Jesus finished all the works on the cross (John 19:30). So give thanks for healing, the more you give thanks the more you will see the manifestation.

2. Ask everything: If we ask anything according to His will, He hears us (1 John 5:14). The Word of God is the Will of God. If we quote the Scripture and ask God, He will grant us. All the promises are Yes and Amen and it is the will of God (1 Cor 1:20). So quote more promises in your prayer times, that will release the miracles and that is the will of God.

That is the reason Paul prayed for the Church of Colossians and now I pray for you that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy; giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed us into the kingdom of the Son of His love, in whom we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins. In Name of Jesus, Amen (Col 1:9-14)

CROSSWORD

ANGEL MARY ALEX



ACROSS:

1. Where was Nadab killed?
2. Name Othniel's father.
3. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of _____?
6. Which city is known as the "City of Palms"?
9. Who is known as the preacher of "righteousness"?
10. What was the name of one of the men from Emmaus?

DOWNWARDS:

3. Where did the King of Assyria deport the inhabitants of Damascus?
4. Who prayed earnestly that it would not rain?
7. What comes before honour?
8. Whose bones did Moses carry when the Israelites left Egypt?

Winner of Jan-Mar 2016 Crossword:

Sister Hephcy Sara Minan

(Sharon Fellowship Church, Sabarmati)

Answers: 1. KIRIATH JEARIM 2. MARK 3. PROPHECIES 4. MOCKERS 5. ABIEL 6. BABYLON 7. DIDYMUUS 8. MOSES 9. EYE 10. ZIMRI 11. HOPE 12. LYSTRA



BIBLE QUIZ

(FROM THE BOOK OF EZEKIEL)

1. To what was the Assyrian compared?
2. What will the LORD rain against Gog when he comes against Israel?
3. Where was Ezekiel when he wrote this book?
4. What was Ezekiel to do with the roll of a book?
5. What would the remnant that escaped do?
6. Upon whose foreheads did the man, clothed with linen, set a mark?
7. "Son of man, you dwell in the middle of a _____ house..."
8. What did the bones to which Ezekiel prophesied represent?
9. With what did the man in the vision measure the building?
10. What shall be the names of the gates of the city named after?

Quiz time!

Answers to the Who am I Quiz (Jan-Mar 2016): 1. Balaam 2. House of Rekhav 3. Stars 4. Saul 5. Jabez 6. Hur 7. Theophilus 8. Pharaoh 9. Joseph 10. Wine

(Note: Please send in your answers for the CROSSWORD and the BIBLE QUIZ to ablazeyof@gmail.com by August 15th, 2016)

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