

Kirkspire



Matthew 6 : 30

APRIL 2018

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Editor : Mrs. R. Chandy

Word from the Pastor



*"...emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant and being made in the likeness of man."
- Philippians 2:7*

Often when we talk about humility, we confuse the meanings of humility and honesty. To acknowledge one's own weakness or inability is not humility but honesty. One of the many definitions of humility that I like is 'lack of vanity'. The greatest proven example of humility is the life of Jesus on earth in its entirety, not just in His birth but also in His life, ministry and death on the cross. Let me break it down to the three essentials that the Bible teaches about humility.

Personal Choice - Isaiah 53:7 says, 'He was oppressed and He was afflicted, Yet He did not open His mouth; Like a lamb that is led to slaughter, And like a sheep that is silent before its shearers, So He did not open His mouth.' Having the ability to create the world by the word of His mouth, to calm the seas by the show of His hands and much much more, yet willingly not using any of it even for a moment is Jesus' greatest control of Himself and humbling of Himself to do the will of the Father. The lesson for us is this: Having the ability and power is human, willing to submit all of that to God's will is the true mark of a disciple of Jesus Christ.

Powerful Tool - John 10:15 says, 'even as the Father knows Me and I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep.' Hebrews 12:2 says, 'fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.' True Humility as exemplified in the life of Jesus had self-confidence and perfect faith as their partners. The proud will not understand humility, the humble will need no use of pride.

Purposeful Plan - 2 Corinthians 2:8 says, 'For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sake He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become

rich.' Remember the phrase , 'though He was rich'. By humbling Himself, Jesus did not become poor. He was rich, He knew that He was rich and that's all that mattered. Knowing our standing in Christ kills all thoughts of insecurity, self-praise or depending on others opinions of us. Jesus came for a purpose, He lived for the purpose, He died for the purpose, He finished His purpose before leaving the earth.

Where are we today in our walk as Christ's disciples. Matthew 23:12 says, 'For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.'. Have a blessed month of April.

Rev. Isaac Johnson

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Answers to Bible Quiz No. 87 (March 2018)

An Employment Agent's Quiz

The answers are :

1. Musician — Gen. 4 : 21
2. An Iron - worker — Gen. 4 : 22
3. Man - Servant — 2 Kings 4 : 12
4. Overseer — 1 Kings 18 : 3
5. Shepherd — 1 Samuel 17 : 15
6. Farmer - Tiller — Gen. 4 : 2
7. Scribe — Jeremiah 36 : 4
8. Steward — Luke 8 : 3
9. Seamstress — Acts. 9 : 39
10. Teacher of Law — Acts 22 : 3

The winners are:

**Mrs. Indira Rajanayakam
Mrs. Jayanthi Suganthan
Mrs. Minnie Devadoss
Mrs. Peace Rani Sudhakar
Mrs. Snehalatha Bright
Dr. (Mrs.) Sujatha Elizabeth Prasad
Mrs. Victoria Basker**

Hearty congratulations!

Usha George



Medical Corner

BENEFITS OF REGULAR EXERCISE - 1

“Doctors treat, but Jesus heals”

Exercise is defined as any movement that makes our muscles work and requires our body to burn calories. There are many types of physical activity, including swimming, running, jogging, walking and dancing, to name a few. Being active has been shown to have many health benefits, both physically and mentally. It may even help us live longer.

1. It Can Make Us Feel Happier

Exercise has been shown to improve our mood and decrease feelings of depression, anxiety and stress. It produces changes in the parts of the brain that regulate stress and anxiety. It can also increase brain sensitivity for the hormones serotonin and norepinephrine, which relieve feelings of depression. Additionally, exercise can increase the production of endorphins, which are known to help produce positive feelings and reduce the perception of pain. Furthermore, exercise has been shown to reduce symptoms in people suffering from anxiety. It can also help them be more aware of their mental state and practise distraction from their fears. Interestingly, it doesn't matter how intense our workout is. It seems that our mood can benefit from exercise no matter the intensity of the physical activity.

2. It Can Help With Weight Loss

Some studies have shown that inactivity is a major factor in weight gain and obesity. To understand the effect of exercise on weight reduction, it is important to understand the relationship between exercise and energy expenditure. Our body spends energy in three ways: digesting food, exercising and maintaining body functions like our heartbeat and breathing. While dieting, a reduced calorie intake will lower our metabolic rate, which will delay weight loss. On the contrary, regular exercise has been shown to increase our metabolic rate, which will burn more calories and help us lose weight. Additionally, studies have shown that combining aerobic exercise

with resistance training can maximize fat loss and muscle mass maintenance, which is essential for keeping the weight off.

3. It Is Good for our Muscles and Bones

Exercise plays a vital role in building and maintaining strong muscles and bones. Physical activity like weight lifting can stimulate muscle building when paired with adequate protein intake. This is because exercise helps release hormones that promote the ability of our muscles to absorb amino acids. This helps them grow and reduces their breakdown. As people age, they tend to lose muscle mass and function, which can lead to injuries and disabilities. Practicing regular physical activity is essential to reducing muscle loss and maintaining strength as we age. Also, exercise helps build bone density when we are younger, in addition to helping prevent osteoporosis later in life. Interestingly, high-impact exercise, such as gymnastics or running, or odd-impact sports, such as foot ball and basketball, have been shown to promote a higher bone density than non-impact sports like swimming and cycling.

Dr. (Mrs).Rajini Kantha



ETERNITY IN MY SOUL

O soul, don't tire on this fading earth,
Press on with help from Above.
Don't give into the flesh and make the Spirit inert,
Don't cut the thread of love.

O my soul, saved through salvation
By faith in God's only beloved Son.
Be not weary, and fall into temptation.
For all the evil that passeth, you must shun.

O soul, await and be ready for your Saviour's coming
As not a soul knows, the hour or the timing.
Receive your Saviour with praise and thanksgiving.
O soul, prepare to be with your Saviour ascending.

Aarthi Christina Aruliah

LIGHTING LIGHTS ALONG THE WAY

"Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning" Luke 12:35

The beauty of our sanctuary is compelling; from the rise of the towering spire, the azure star-studded dome, the Ionic fluted columns, the soft glow of the stained glass, to the chequered black and white marble floor. The remarkable unseen foundation is made of 300 wells on which St. Andrew's rests. It is indeed a treasured legacy. One gets the feeling of a flavour of an age gone by.

Far more blessed than a building is that for almost two centuries devout men and women have upheld a rich tradition of worship and service. Today, our church is filled with possibilities and promises to effect and pursue this passionate work in lifting the name of Jesus. Our church is a vineyard. The Master is Jesus. With all our frailties and brokenness, we have been entrusted with caring, protecting and cultivating it. It has to yield rich fruitage.

In this venture, thousands of men and women over the years have striven together to serve their Master. They sought neither prestige nor power. They cared little whether they were not remembered or unsung. They have woven their strand of quiet service into the golden chord of the church. They are leaven in a lump. Last month, a dear friend woke up at 2am to bake cakes for the refreshment stall for a Project sale.

Our Master places a halo on the ordinary people. He who moved fisherfolk and tax collectors to become His kingdom builders, values us ordinary servers, as jewels lifted from the mire.

God in His wisdom has chosen each one of us to play a special role in the expansion of His Kingdom. Some are called to be leaders of the world, some to be giants of service, arts and learning. But the humble are precious in the eyes of our Lord. Did He not take the lowliest of jobs and wash the feet of His unworthy disciples? Our churches too should have a good stock of basins and towels.

Faithfully let us continue to light lamps along our way – perhaps serving a cup of coffee with a warm smile or to cross the street to sit with a sick or sorrowing person. Jesus loves us to walk the second mile with a friend or a stranger.

Let us not light a candle and put it under a bushel to be flickering its light out. "If we are under a bushel it means we have crawled there!" May we be vigilant and attend to our lamps, keeping them ever ready for our King. As we hold on to our lamps in the storm, we have the assurance that our God will keep them as fixed stars leading us on to Him.

Our sanctuary is a beautiful expression of our devotion to God, but it will be cold and lifeless like a museum if it is not lit up with our burning lamps of love and service. This alone will make our sanctuary alive and vibrant, filled with the glorious radiance of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Usha George



John's Corner

MARCH ON!

(April 1818 - Commencement of Kirk construction)

Read Mat 28 : 19, 20)

Yet another centenary,
Lord, of St. Andrew's Kirk draws near,
May we not forget its mission -
To shine for Jesus without fear.

Christ's obedient disciples,
May we strive hard always to be,
Ever true to His commission,
To spread the gospel zealously.

Forward may we walk with Jesus,
Eyes fixed on Him, holding His hand,
Never anxious for the morrow,
But rest assured He'll help us stand.

March on St. Andrew's Kirk, march on!
With Christ before you onward go;
Proclaim His love, His saving grace,
The way to Christ let sinners know.

John H. Bala Singh

Does our Faith or lack of it affect God's plan for our lives?

The Lord **had** said "Leave your country, your people and your father's household and go to the land I will show you"

I will make you into a great a nation and will bless you
I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing
I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses
you I will curse
And all the people on the earth will be blessed through
you - Genesis 12:1-3

During our Friday home fellowship, discussing our faith journey, we took up the life of Abraham and studied his walk of faith. We were encouraged to read Genesis 12-20 at home for a further in depth understanding. During our discussion it was pointed out that Abram was 75 years old when he was called. One question lingered in my mind on hearing this -

"What kind of life and Faith walk did Abram have for 75 years prior, for God to have made such a promise of 'making his name great?' – was it inevitable, destined to be for Abram alone?"

Extending our discussion in home fellowship and what He revealed on further reading, I would like to share God's revelation and invite you to keep your Bibles open beside, as we journey on understanding the life of The 'Father of many nations'.

Question: Why did God promise Abram material possessions of land (ch12 v7, ch13 v14-17, ch17 etc.) when He himself says have no other gods before me?

Nature and measure of his faith

Firstly we compare Abram in Egypt, to Abram in Bethel when he parted with Lot. In Egypt he was escaping a famine (in need) while in Bethel he was wealthy (ch13 v2). In both cases he parted with something that was his. Yet God's response in both were different. The Lord inflicted diseases on Pharaoh and his household, because He parted with what was *inherently his* (his own wife), while in Bethel he acknowledged the land was never his to keep or give

away and so God blessed him with another promise. This got me thinking "What on this earth can we truly call 'our own'?" We all have possessions that we feel no one else can lay claim to- "my phone, my car, my house". But do we realize that **we are merely tenants entrusted with the Master's property on earth** (even the small and insignificant things), until the master comes and when He comes, will settle accounts with us (Parable of the talents). Are we using what we are entrusted with to bring glory to God, or are we too busy gathering up things and claiming right over them? Notice what happened to the counterpart – Lot? Abram learnt that it wasn't what he had that mattered, but whether it brought glory to God and freely parted with it to resolve a conflict. I learnt that it is not what we have or to what quantity we have it, but whether we use it for His glory- as the verse explains "Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required; and from him whom they had entrusted much, they will demand the more" Luke 12:48.

Faith maturity – His Strength in our weakness

Secondly, God knows the measure of our faith, and He will not tempt us more than we can bear, but will provide a way out (1Cor 10:13). Don't you think that is also true in Abram's life? When the 'Father of many nations' gave the first (and best) choice of land to Lot, God reassured him by telling him to "*Lift* his eyes and *look* north, south, east and west" and "*Walk* the length and breadth of the land God was giving him" (Gen13:14-17). When Abram's faith batteries were low in ch15 vs2&3, God showed him a 'sprinkling of stars' in the canvas of the night sky to show the sheer vastness of the offspring God would bless him with ("Count the stars, *if indeed you can count them...* so shall your offspring be" ch13 vs5). For while we draw our assurance and encouragement in faith by 'So Great a cloud of Witnesses' (Hebrews11 & 12:1), **these Models of Faith also stumbled** and had God lifting them by showing a painting of stars, taking them to mountain tops to visualize the land that is theirs, challenged to count sand grains. *God used the physical and tangible to give a perception of the spiritual*, and their faith is what we testify to, that God is faithful. It now makes sense why Abram was called the *Father of Faith*. Now I see what '*all the people on earth will be blessed through you*' means. 'And make you into a nation' means not a physical one, but a spiritual one continuing in and through us, a kingdom that will never fall or come to ruin. It is no wonder that

he could give his land over to Lot so freely- knowing his promised nation was a spiritual one!

Legacy of Faith – Our inheritance

On that note of 'make you a great nation' I come to the 3rd point. The legacy of faith. It is interesting that in Gen 17 the promise given to Abram's (now Abraham) line of Isaac and Ishmael seems similar on first glance. Both were promised to be made fruitful and increase in number. Both were promised kings from their lineage and making of great nations. *Yet the covenant with Isaac was an Everlasting Covenant, and God proclaimed Himself 'their God', and them, 'His people'- what Abraham sought from the beginning was given as his inheritance and became his legacy (Gen12:3)*. Lot however chose the best his eyes sought after (materialistic - fertile land of Sodom), and this led to his downfall in incest. Sodom although physically burnt to ashes, still thrived in his daughter's hearts and this led to a corrupt lineage, so too it was with Ishmael's. Which begs the question what inheritance do we long for? The temporary attractive looking inheritance which rusts, rots and plunders our lives before themselves crumbling and falling? Do we also realize the legacy we leave behind by our choices?

In conclusion we learn that our faith journey isn't a onetime event but a continuous daily walk. It isn't to achieve material wealth and prosperity, but its use is to store up riches in heaven and a spiritually rich family (make you into a great nation). It isn't exclusive to few but is an invitation to all, and it is up to us to choose whether we want to be a part of God's plan which extends through generations (All the people will be blessed through you), it isn't a call to be perfect, but even in our failings God's strength is made perfect. God word is clear, do we choose to be a part of His plan and say "Here I am Lord, use me!"?

Adarsh Jacob - KYF

There are no prizes for knowing or understanding the truth. Words and ideas are cheap. Actions are painful, but they are the only evidence of reality.

EXPERIENCING STRUGGLE AND HOPE

The words “struggle” and “hope” have great meaning for me personally as I now live with an incurable cancer. However the cancer has not dimmed my global awareness, and both these words are embedded in our understanding of the darkness and light within our present world order. These are linked words. They stand together. It is not possible - both personally and globally - to think of the one without the other. No human life is free of some kind of struggle. Nor is our inter-connected world. But often at the heart of struggle we discover signs of hope. A truth repeated many times in the Biblical narratives - in both the Old and New Testaments. A great example of this is in the Psalms where struggle and hope leap out from almost every page.

And a good place on which to base our reflections is to take a moment every day to think of the many millions of children, women and men in our world who struggle just to survive because of lack of food and a decent shelter, or displacement or unemployment or the absence of health facilities. That list is endless. And this number grows daily, although it is also true that the prevailing global economic order has lifted millions of our sisters and brothers from dire poverty. We celebrate that fact. We also think of all those people and organisations who seek to alleviate these basic human struggles.

For many years Dorothy and I worked in South India and that experience taught us to understand struggle and hope in many new ways. Those with whom we worked knew that struggle was a daily reality. It was not something that would go away. Now with cancer I know that truth in a fresh way. For the villagers in India the fact that struggle was always present meant that the idea of a kind of “comfortable existence” was never present. Yet in saying that, happiness and hope were not absent. In our often rather bland affluent lives we sometimes fail to believe that in the midst of profound struggle and difficulty there can also be a real sense of hope. I can say that I experience that with cancer. Even with a serious illness within my body, my days can be blessed. In fact they are blessed. I see this combination of struggle and hope in many of the friends I have made at the local cancer clinic. Yes, times can be tough, but the sun also shines and the birds still sing! We are able to recognise within our lives that gentle and ancient truth that within

our daily living our hearts can still rejoice as the Psalmist said many generations ago.

One of the failings within affluent societies is that people sometimes do all they can to avoid struggle. In that situation, aided by the media, the search for comfort becomes our meaning. But paradoxically that very search can lead us away from lasting or meaningful hope. That is why folk who are only concerned about themselves and their own level of comfort are often unhappy. We are constantly presented with the image of the celebrity life-style but we all know that many celebrities live with great inner emotional turmoil.

The truth is that human beings need an edge to life if they are to live creatively and hopefully. Many modern novels deal with this theme, and it may be that within our affluence we are recognising more clearly that such realities as disappointment, betrayal and bodily weakness are integral to our humanity - not factors simply to be "overcome." Although most people in our materialistic societies do not read the Bible or know little of the Christian story, these truths about our humanity have been thought about for thousands of years. And this is true of all the great religious traditions in the world. At the core of their teaching is the acceptance of struggle lived out against a wider canvas of hope.

Some years ago, I wrote a book entitled "Our Hearts Still Sing". One person wrote to me and said that they always kept the book cover clearly visible as these simple words gave new strength for the day ahead. The inner spiritual task – whatever our situation may be – is to allow the heart to sing. For that is the source of hope: the hope that is born of God. That does not depend on what we have, but on how we are able to respond to God's grace and invitation always at work in us. This does not mean that we falsely transcend our sorrows and fears, but that with divine help, we come to see that they too are integral to our human journey. My cancer is not going to disappear. One day it will weaken my body to the extent that my breath will cease. There are health struggles ahead and many unknowns. Thousands of others are on a similar path. But today is a "new day" in which we can be glad. Yet it is not only Peter who can rejoice. The gift of that hope woven to justice is for all people and for the beautiful, endangered earth which sustains us.

Peter Millar, Edinburgh, Scotland, 20th September 2017.

A DAUGHTER'S TRIBUTE

There comes a time in everyone's life, let alone the believer's, when we see the harsh reality of living life in a sinful world. The parallels of Life and Death are on either side of us at all times, and it's a tricky road to walk.

Rewind to three months ago...I was in a state of bliss. My married life had just begun. After a great day of shopping with the husband, I went to my parents' place three streets away from mine. My mom made a big fuss when I came home – she treated me like I still hadn't left her nest. I enjoyed it thoroughly! I remember that day so vividly. When she got me a glass of milk to drink, she combed my hair and told me how she waited impatiently for my visits.

Why do I remember this particular day above any other? Because only a month later, she left our abode for the eternal one above.

My world was left shattered. Now, I often think of how life changes in a day. To call it "the death of a loved one" is an understatement here.

My mother was suffering from jaundice-like symptoms for 2 months before she was hospitalised, where they diagnosed her with a rare liver disease. A week later, she left us, full of faith.

My faith, on the other hand, was a different story. My faith had always been honoured by God, I thought this time would be no exception. Till the point of her death, I held on with faith so strong that tears never fell. But God taught me the FIRST important lesson that day. Proverbs 19:21:

Many are the plans in a person's heart, but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails.

It could not have been clearer than that. At all times, no matter what we plan, whom we plan it with, and how we plan it. . . short-term goals, long-term dreams . . . God's will prevails above all. And *hallelujah* for that, because when it falls within His will, He will most definitely carry us through the good and bad of it all.

I dreaded the days that lay ahead. I knew I would be a wreck without my mother. My mother kept teaching me how to live life until the

very point of her death. She taught me everything I know about God before I started experiencing His power and presence myself. She taught me how to put God first before anything and everything. She taught how it was God and me against the world.

I remember my Uncle putting an arm around me and asking me this question, "Who do you think can fill the void your mother left?" I had an immediate answer, "No one." After all, who could replace the love, the laughter, the lessons a mother gave? But he disagreed. He told me otherwise. "It's God. Only He can."

I was proved wrong. God did fill that void. In my bitter sorrow that over-shadowed all, I never even asked God for help. But He still held me through my pain, just like my mother used to do. Whenever I miss my mother now, I remember her laughter with a smile on my face, because I have the assuring voice of God telling me that she's laughing now – ten times more joyfully than she ever did on Earth! She's in a place of never-ending happiness and no sorrow. She's no longer in the state of pain that she previously was. She no longer has to carry the burdens she did in this world. On the other hand, we, on Earth, have not yet reached that state.

This is where God taught the SECOND important lesson. John 16:33:

In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.

This verse that seemed so unrelatable at some point in life, when life was so rosy, suddenly seems so glaringly obvious now. Earlier, I used to breeze through this verse with a confident shrug that God had it all covered. He most definitely has, even now, but not in the way we perceive – in ways unfathomable to human perception. Sometimes, ways that may bring bitter sorrow and disappointment, but always done with the best of intentions from God.

Finally, the THIRD important lesson that God led me to learn was from some unorthodox place. It was something I had read a while back by a man of celebrity status, who had posted it on Twitter,

Say it before you run out of time. Say it before it's too late. Say what you're feeling. Waiting is a mistake.

God made sure I learned this before my mom went and I'm so glad He did! If there is one thing that I have no regrets about, it is this. I loved my mom so much and I took an effort to make sure she

knew it. From the point that I realised what an amazing blessing it was to have my mother, I thanked her for any gesture of hers, both big and small. I appreciated her efforts to keep me happy and spent any and every spare time on the phone with her when we were apart. I do know that this isn't an innate character trait of mine, but rather a character trait inherited from my mother. God taught me to appreciate people's love, but more importantly, at the *right* time. To say a simple thank you would even suffice (if not a return in the same way) because it expresses your acknowledgement of their efforts, before it's too late to say so.

I realised that we might be led to believe that our loved ones will stay with us for a significant period of time, if not forever. But that is the most dangerous facade we can believe in. Rather, we need to open our minds and look at the ones we have now. Who are these people that God has placed in our lives to fill it with love and happiness? Anyone from family to a friend to even a stranger who made a difference. Let's not forget to acknowledge a selfless gesture. Let's not forget to give the love that God taught us to share. Let's strive to emulate our God and His *Agape* love. "We love because He first loved us" (1 John 4:19).

Life may be difficult now, without my mother but it's not impossible – as I imagined my life would be. God has stayed by my side, His presence has always been near, not because I asked Him to, but without conditions, because that is the God we serve. I knew the love of my mother for a short 23 years, but it has filled a lifetime for me. What comes next is the *blessed assurance* that God has started filling the void my mother left the moment she took flight.

Shereena Daniel

50% of my time is not with people who don't know what they should do. It is with those people who are trying to avoid doing it. – A Christian counsellor

Christianity can never be only an experience of the inner being, it must be a life in the market place.

Kirk News

Guest Speakers

- 11th Mar. 6pm** Mr. S. Gabriel, Elder spoke on "Reconciliation through God's love" from 2 Cor.5:16-20
- 18th Mar. 7 & 9am** Rev. Paul Asveen spoke on the topic "God's suffering is for us – our gain in the Appropriation in God's pain" from Isaiah 52:13 to 53:12.
- 6 pm** Rev. Paul Asveen spoke on the topic "God's suffering is with us – our gain in the Participation in God's pain" from Isaiah 52:13 to 53:12.

Bible Study continued on Mondays with the study of the Book of Ezekiel led by Pastor Isaac.

Friendship Club for elderly brothers and sisters met on 6th March for monthly praise & worship service. Please pray.

Evangelism and Missions Movement's Fasting and Prayer was held on Thursdays (except on 29/3 – Maundy Thursday) to uphold the ministries of our Church as well as to pray about national concerns and worldwide issues. We welcome you to join the group at the **SACCE HALL on Thursdays between 10:30 AM and 1:30 PM.**

Friday Prayer continued with the study of the Proverbs, led by Rev. Isaac Johnson.

House Church was held on 2/3 in the home of Mrs. Annamma T. George, on 9/3 in the home of Capt. & Mrs. Sujeet Mathew Oommen, on 16/3 in the home of Mr. S. David Devasahayam & Mrs. Corina David and on 23/3 in the home of Ms. K.V. Saramma.

Friday Prayer, House Church and Night Prayer were not held on 30/3 as it was Good Friday.

District Meetings District 5 met on 4/3 in the home of Dr. Praise Joseph Ambrose & Dr. (Mrs.) Christina Ambrose.

We thank the members for opening their homes in Christian love and fellowship.

Kirk Sunday school met for classes on three Sundays and closed for the summer break on 25/3.

Kirk Youth Fellowship met for prayer and fellowship on 4/3. They conducted the service at Tirupalaivanam on 11/3. Bible Study on the life of Jesus Christ was held on 11/3. CATALYST worship service happened on 25/3, followed by distribution of tracts in the Egmore area. The youth conducted the service in the evening at Gypsy Colony, Pallavaram.

The Kirk Men's Fellowship met on 18/3 for praise & worship, a message, prayer and fellowship. Bro. Bastain, CEO of Skillwise, a training company, and Haggai faculty, spoke on 'Business as Mission' focussing on witnessing in the work place.

The Kirk Women's Fellowship met on 18/3.

The Riber Memorial Day Care Centre ministry for less-privileged children held their annual Project Sunday on 11th March. Donations are welcome. Sponsorship of a child is Rs.6,000/- per annum.

Jumble Sale will be held on **Sunday, 15th April**. Please send us whatever you may no longer need at home: old or new clothes, linen, curios, household articles, gadgets, toys, books etc. Please ensure that the items are in usable condition. This is a positive way of spring cleaning! The proceeds will benefit the RMDCC. Items may be sent to RMDCC. Contact: Mrs. Gladys Veda Vimali Mob: 95660 41012, 2561 1235.

Vacation Bible School 2018 will be held in our church from **18th - 29th April**. The Theme for this year is "Get Connected" Eph.2:19. Parents, please plan your holidays accordingly so that your children can study God's Word during these days. If you wish to participate as teachers and volunteers, please block the dates and make yourself available to be used by God for His glory. Please fill in the volunteer/teacher registration slips available in the Church as God leads you.

Evangelists serving the church were relocated among the outreach churches. Two new evangelists were recruited for ministry at Tirupalaivanam and Poondi. Please uphold them in prayer as they strive to preach the Gospel of God's love and build His Kingdom.

OBITUARIES

Mrs. Gracy Joseph, w/o Mr. Cheriyan Joseph, our member, passed away on 2nd March aged 81 years. The funeral was held on 4th March in the Church, followed by burial at Kilpauk Cemetery.

Dr. C.A. Besant Raj, our member, passed away on 12th March, aged 85 years. The funeral was held in the church on 15th March followed by cremation. A Thanksgiving Service celebrating Dr. Raj's life was held on 18th March in Anderson Hall, Madras Christian College.

Mrs. Elizabeth Beatrice Sarah Roberts, our member, passed away on 16th March, aged 84 years. The funeral was held in the Church on 17th March, followed by burial in the Kirk cemetery.

We convey our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families.

CONGRATULATIONS!

D.S.P. Preetham Kumar and Esther Jayachandran, our members, were blessed with a baby girl, Kiara Hephzibah, on 22nd March.

Mahendra Kumar



Bible Quiz No. 88 - April, 2018

A Doctor's Quiz

Have fun in pursuit of well-known Bible Facts.

Give only 1 reference.

1. Who is the only physician mentioned by name, in the Bible?
2. What were the most common diseases in the Bible Lands?
3. What does Proverbs say is as good as medicine?
4. Did anyone beside Jesus ever bring someone back to life?
5. What was wrong with King Asa?
6. How was Hezekiah's carbuncle cured?
7. How did the woman with the issue of blood receive healing?
8. What was wrong with Peter's mother-in-law?
9. What happened at the pool of Bethesda?
10. In John's vision he saw 'the tree of life', whose leaves were for what?

Kindly send your answers to the church office by 22nd April 2018.

Usha George



Took branches of palm trees and cried "Hosanna"

