

Kirkspire



SEPTEMBER 2017

CONTENTS

Word from the Pastor	3
John's Corner	4
Sowing and reaping	5
What a friend we have in Jesus	8
God's work on the Imprudent	9
Medical Corner	10
Most Valued Treasure	12
Purpose of Life - Part 4	13
Bible Quiz No. 81	16
Kirk News	17

Editor : Mrs. R. Chandy

Word From the Pastor

Thanksgiving - Disciples' Style



Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. (1 Thessalonians 5:18)

How many times have we asked ourselves or someone else, what is God's will for my life? In many cases, we would like to know what will happen in my future and what decision should I make for a better future. The verse mentioned above throws a different perspective on 'Knowing God's will'. Those who do not have a personal relationship with Jesus might feel that saying the phrase 'thank you' or giving to the poor or for a needy cause will be sufficient. It might pacify one's own religious appetite or give self-satisfaction. But God's word teaches much more than that. Here are three lessons that every 'Disciple of Jesus' should follow as expression of Thanksgiving.

Always give thanks to God. The Bible has many beautiful narratives of people who gave thanks to God at all times. I will point out these two examples. One is Joseph who stands before his brothers in Egypt and enlists the goodness of God even though the journey he went through was not favourable and comfortable. He tells them how God was always with him and he is able to see God's hand in all that had transpired. If God is not part of our equation when we reflect on our life's journey, we are left with a self-led and meaningless journey. Only God can make us see meaning in the midst of calamity. Second example is from the prison narrative where you see Paul and Silas worshipping God. How were they able to do that? Not out of the goodness received but the God they were experiencing. Most people say thanks for the good they have received but the disciples of Jesus are called to say thanks for 'God' they have. Do you say thanks to God every day just because you have God on your side? Make it a habit, you will see good even when things seems bad.

God's will for me - Romans 8:28 is often quoted to talk about the results that God has planned for us. But Paul is writing to the church not to encourage them about the results to come but to make us realise that everyday, we are in God's will whether we realise or not. God's will in the life of Moses was as much to lead the people of Israel from Egypt to the Promised Land as much as it was in everyday leading to it. God's will was to use the Samaritan woman who was an

adulteress to reach her entire village with truth as much as it was in every detail leading to it. You and I are to give thanks to God not only when we reach landmark moments and high times but to know that as God's children we are in God's will everyday more than we realise or appreciate.

In Christ Jesus - I John 3:2 says we are the children of God. Romans 8:17 says 'we are heirs of God and co-heirs with Jesus Christ' How do you sufficiently thank God for this great an honour that cannot be bought, defined fully or appreciated enough. This is what unbelievers, religiously blind people and ungodly do not understand. We are His and He is ours both now and forevermore. Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

As a church, as individual families and as individuals, let's not celebrate a shallow Thanksgiving sat a Disciple's Thanksgiving. It will be meaningful, useful and purposeful.

Rev. Isaac Johnson

John's Corner



Remind me

(Read Ps 107:1, 2 Cor 9 : 7, 8, 11)
Sept. 10th is Thanksgiving Sunday)

Countless, undeserved, rich blessings,
Upon me, Lord, You shower each day;
Make me, Master, truly thankful
For all the good that comes my way.

Often Lord, I am too busy,
And rarely find the time to say,
'Thank You', for the many blessings,
I from Your hand receive each day.

So remind me to be thankful,
Lest I through vanity and pride,
Forget that grace, Your grace alone,
My worthless life has glorified.

Blessed with a heart that overflows
With gratitude, dear Lord, may I
My blessings share so others too,
With me Your name may glorify.

John H. Bala Singh

Sowing and reaping



Sowing in the morning, sowing seeds of kindness,
Sowing in the noontide and the dewy eve;
Waiting for the harvest, and the time of reaping,
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves.

(Knowles Shaw 1874)

Anything we put our time, energy, money, or focus on is an act of sowing. Reaping is the results or consequences of what we've sown.

The ancient unspoken laws of this beautiful earth God has given us revolves around sowing and reaping .Man was asked to sow, reap and live .God promises to His people "The seed will grow well, the vine will yield its fruit, the ground will produce its crops, and the heavens will drop their dew. I will give all these things as an inheritance to the remnant of this people ".Zech 8:12

What are the seeds that we can sow ?

The word is the seed as we see in the parable of the sower. The word is life and as we sow it in lives we know according to the promise in Isaiah 55:11 it will not return empty, but will accomplish what the Lord desires and achieve the purpose for which He sent it. We can sow love, joy, peace, kindness, goodness, money and time too.

Are you sowing seeds of kindness, peace, and love?

Does your labor for Jesus ever prove

You've converted some soul from the tempter's control,

That will shine in His kingdom above? (Daniel S Warner 1893)

Gal 6:7 reads "A man reaps what he sows" this verse always sounds like a serious warning to me .For Paul in Galatians 6 starts the verse as "God cannot be mocked". He further says "Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life." Samson fed his lust of the flesh and had his eyes plucked out, Haman had a high gallows built for Mordecai only to be hanged on the gallows himself. Daniel was saved from the lion's jaws while even the bones of his

accusers were chewed altogether . So let us walk in the Light sowing to please the Spirit.

Sow in peace

When we sow peace we will reap a harvest of righteousness James 3:1 8 This is done with the wisdom that comes from heaven. Jesus says "Blessed are the peacemakers for they will be called the sons of God" Matt.5:9. Let us put in seeds of peace one by one or even a handful so we may be called the sons of our righteous Father. Let us bury the hatchet letting no bitterness dwell in us, let us root it out so that we may not forfeit the grace of God but reap a harvest of righteousness.

Let us sow in Peace. Start your day with the "gospel of peace" shoes on your feet praying for peace in your homes, over your children and release peace over everyone you come across. Luke 10:5, "Whatever house you enter, first say, Peace to this house." Luke 24:36. "Jesus himself stood in the midst of them, and said to them, Peace to you." (John 20:19, 21)

Sow continually

Sow your seed in the morning, and at evening let your hands not be idle, for you do not know which will succeed, whether this or that, or whether both will do equally well. Ecc1.1 :6

Day in and day out we need to be servants of the Lord for we are called to follow Him and He is always there with us. We may not remember this all through the day but we are children, servants, soldiers and ambassadors of the kingdom and should always be alert to sow the seeds. We need to be doing what we can while we can and leave the results with God knowing that our labour is never in vain (I Cor. 15:10, 58) also knowing it has consequential implications on others.

Sowing in the sunshine, sowing in the shadows,
Fearing neither clouds nor winter's chilling breeze;
By and by the harvest, and the labor ended,
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves. (Knowles Shaw 1874)

Sow generously

Let us sow generously for God is no mans debtor. 2 Cor 9:10 says 'Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also

supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness.' Just as He opens His hand for us let us be moved to sow generously.

Keep on casting your bread upon the waters for after many days you will find it again (Ecc1.1:9). Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you." Luke 6:38

Sow in tears

Psalm 126:6 "Those who go out weeping, carrying seed to sow, will return with songs of joy, carrying sheaves with them." Having a burden for our sins, for the people around us, for the broken world, we sow in tears only to come home with sheaves of joy .The gracious salvation grace of our Lord Jesus Christ is for everyone just as his common grace that showers rain upon all on earth.

Whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. Gal.6:8b. Yes when we confess our sins and give our lives to God, He forgives us of all our sins, washes us clean to start a fresh new life and reap joy and eternal life with Him.

Going forth with weeping, sowing for the Master,
Though the loss sustained our spirit often grieves;
When our weeping's over, He will bid us welcome,
We shall come rejoicing, bringing in the sheaves. (Knowles Shaw 1874)

Let us remember to sow good seeds
Sow righteousness for yourselves, reap the fruit of unfailing love,
and break up your unplowed ground; for it is time to seek the LORD,
until he comes and showers his righteousness on you. Hosea 10:12.

Dr. (Mrs.) Anita Chelliah

What a friend we have in Jesus

"What a Friend we have in Jesus" is a popular hymn sung by children young and old throughout the world in different languages. This hymn was written by Joseph Scriven (1819-86).

Scriven carried with him all his life a secret sorrow which made his devotion to Christ all the more intense. On the eve of Joseph Scriven's intended wedding day, his bride-to-be was tragically drowned. Later he emigrated from Ireland to Canada. Once again he became engaged to be married, only to lose his second fiancée after a brief but fatal illness.

It was not his own troubles that led him to write this hymn. He sent the words to his mother when she was going through a very distressing time. As with many other hymns, in **'What a Friend we have in Jesus'** a private message has become a source of comfort to people across the world. Joseph Scriven treasured them for his own comfort too. When he was asked by his friends how he, without any known or marked gifts as a poet, had managed to write the verses he replied, "The Lord and I did it between us."

Like all the finest in hymn-writing, there is a personal experience running all through Scriven's hymn, simple but sincere.

What a Friend we have in Jesus
All our sins and grief to bear;
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer.
O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear;
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in Prayer.

In spite of loneliness, poverty and his own precarious health, he spent rest of his life helping the physically handicapped, as well as teaching and ministering among his fellow Christian brethren.

Joseph Scriven was a devoted servant of God.

Jacob Sumithran

GOD'S WORK ON THE IMPRUDENT

Prologue

Sarah was independent and took initiative,
And imprudent in her thoughts and decisions.
Yet, God's Covenant with her is quite active
For a heir from them to prove His generations.

The fairest woman of all in the Holy Bible
Was the wife of Abraham, the man of obedience
To God at all times in his life, till his brim-full
Walked in the path of God with all radiance.

Sarah the barren, ashamed, agitated and anguished
Came forth with a decision that the Egyptian Hagar,
The maid would be the mate to bring forth a child
To be the heir of Abraham and waited no longer.

Hagar was pregnant and Sarah was diminished.
Brought the case to Abraham, who was in confusion.
The uncontrollable Sarah was left to do on her own.
And Abraham stopped none of what she had decided.

Due to famine Abraham and Sarah came to Egypt.
And hid the truth; 'She is my sister' he whispered.
Allured by the beauty, the king took her to court.
Alas! God revealed the truth and freed her untouched.

With no faith laughed Sarah sarcastically to herself,
For what the Lord had promised at her advanced life.
When asked by the Lord to Sarah, Did you laugh?
With fear, a blatant lie, she uttered, No I didn't laugh.

Epilogue

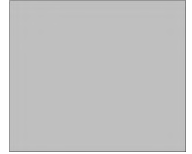
Yet, the covenanted Father didn't slacken
To bring the heir to Abraham's lineage
For His promises are firm and unshaken
To the people of His creation in all ages.

Snehalatha Bright

Medical Corner

LASIK

DOCTORS TREAT BUT JESUS HEALS



What is LASIK?

Laser in - situ Keratomileusis is the latest FDA approved technology and technique, being used all over the world to correct refractive errors (myopia, hypermetropia, astigmatism) of the eye. LASIK can make the dream of a clear natural vision a reality!

What is the objective of LASIK? What to expect of LASIK?

The objective of LASIK is to eliminate dependence on corrective eyewear like Glasses and Contact Lenses, with the resultant lifetime advantage. A thorough counseling will help in understanding who are likely to benefit from LASIK.

How are the Patients selected for LASIK?

- The patient should be more than 18 years of age
- Stable spectacle power for 1 year.
- Pachymetry to determine the thickness of cornea.
- Topography to study the surface curvature.
- Retinal examination.
- The LASIK surgeon will decide the suitability of the eye for LASIK after the above tests, are favourable.

Is the procedure painful?

LASIK is a quick and painless surgical procedure performed using "eye drop" topical anaesthesia; no injections are required. Both eyes can be treated at the same time. It takes only a few minutes to treat both eyes. Vision is restored almost immediately. Crystal clear clarity is noted within 24 hours. Ideally a person can resume work within 48 hours of undergoing LASIK.

Intralase

In Femto second LASIK procedure the flap is raised by a LASER machine. Thinner flaps are possible with a Femto.

What are the side effects and risks of undergoing LASIK?

LASIK is a safe procedure, provided it is done after a thorough screening at a reputed centre, using the latest equipment under the supervision of the expert surgeon.

What precautions are required to be taken after LASIK?

Rubbing of the eyes is prohibited for a few weeks after LASIK. If accidentally rubbed in the first few days, it is advisable to consult the doctor.

SMILE

SMILE (Small incision lenticule extraction) is another procedure done where a very thin corneal tissue (lenticule) is removed to correct the refractive error. A corneal flap is not required in this procedure and so it is a safer option.

Dr. Rajini Kantha

Answers to Bible Quiz No. 80 (August 2017)

Based on the book of Second Samuel (1 Kings)

The answers are :

1. Elisha - 19 : 19
2. Zedekiah - 22 : 24
3. Angel of the Lord to Elijah - 19 : 7
4. Solomon - 4 : 25
5. Solomon - 10 : 21 (Gold)
6. 10 fat oxen, 20 oxen from the pastures and a 100 sheep - 4 : 23
7. 'c' - 9 : 16
8. 'a' - 11 : 33
9. 'c' - 19 : 18
10. 'd' - 8 : 63

The winners are:

- 1. Mrs. Minnie Devadoss**
- 2. Mrs. Victoria Basker**
- 3. Mrs. Indira Rajanayakam**
- 4. Peace Rani Sudhakar**
- 5. Dr. (Mrs.) Sujatha Elizabeth Prasad**

Hearty congratulations!

Usha George

MOST VALUED TREASURE

A friend is a gift you give yourself. If the friend happens to be Jesus Christ you have given yourself the most wonderful gift a man can possibly give himself. I think to myself 'There are things to be considered'. The friend says, "In this world you'll have tribulations" but he adds, "Be of good cheer. I have overcome this world." He continues, "I give you peace. My peace I leave with you."

Did he promise a peaceful life without any difficulty? – No, no – but peace amongst all the storms of the world. Once we choose to walk with him there is no turning back. His voice will guide us. "Narrow is the way and the gate is small. Not many will find it. Wide is the gate and broad is the way to destruction."

Yes, we choose the narrow way and we are sure our friend and Saviour will not fail us. So begins the journey. Someone said, "If knowing answers to life's questions is absolutely necessary to you, then forget the journey. You will never make it, for this is a journey of unknowables – of unanswered questions, enigmas, incomprehensible, and most of all, things unfair".

Peace is promised. Eternal life assured. No guarantee of a smooth journey. We need to do the hard yards.

In my walk with Jesus, I have been angry and upset with him many times and refused any intimacy with him; but then, he has been patient with me. And God, who created the sun, moon and stars in seven days, has been working on me for the past fourteen years and the product is yet to be finished and polished. My gut feeling is, it is an ongoing process that will go on until the day of Christ Jesus. Someday, hopefully, I will be a vessel fit for the Master's household. Till such time, I keep pressing on.

At times the LORD asks me, "How can you be polished if you are irritated with every rub?"

It is the pain that builds our character.

In everything give thanks!

A friend in Christ

*V.G.Sundar
Architect*

Purpose of Life – Part 4

The Big Picture.

We are finite and God is infinite. Unless God reveals Himself, we cannot understand the purpose for our lives. God has revealed his plan and purpose for mankind through Nature, Conscience, Scripture, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit progressively. We have to see the overall big picture.

Jigsaw Puzzle.

In a jigsaw puzzle, there would be several pieces. No one piece would reveal the whole picture. We have to join each piece to the other in a logical way until the whole assembly of pieces makes sense as a complete picture. Each Scripture verse is like a piece in the jigsaw puzzle and we will have to assemble them from beginning (The book of Genesis) to the end (The book of Revelation) to form a meaningful picture.

It is like the children's story told to us when we were young about several blind men trying to describe an elephant by touching and feeling a part of the elephant. The person who felt the tusk said the elephant is like a horn and the one held the tail said it is like a rope and so on. Each one of them was right in their own way but none were wholly right. Similarly, each verse of the Scripture can mean something but only when we connect them with God given reason and logic we can see the whole picture of God's plan.

God is revealed through Nature.

The universe with its vastness and complexity gives testimony to God and His glory

The Psalmist says in Psalms 8:3-4 "When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what is mankind that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them?"

"The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they display knowledge. There is no speech or language where their voice

is not heard. Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world." Ps.19:1-4

Paul in his epistle to the Romans Ch.1:20 says "For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities-his eternal power and divine nature-have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.

God is revealed through our conscience.

God has also revealed himself through our spirit, mind and conscience. "Now what I am commanding you today is not too difficult for you or beyond your reach. It is not up in heaven, so that you have to ask, 'Who will ascend into heaven to get it and proclaim it to us so we may obey it?' Nor is it beyond the sea, so that you have to ask, 'Who will cross the sea to get it and proclaim it to us so we may obey it?'" No, the word is very near you; it is in your mouth and **in your heart** so you may obey it." Deut.30:11-14

All societies have certain moral codes built in, through which stealing, lying, murder, and such things are condemned. Mankind's sense of right and wrong testifies God's existence. The Apostle Paul wrote:

"Indeed, when Gentiles, who do not have the law, do by nature things required by the law, they are a law for themselves, even though they do not have the law. They show that the requirements of the law are written on their hearts, **their consciences** also bearing witness, and their thoughts sometimes accusing them and at other times even defending them." Rom. 2:14,15

God revealed Himself through the Scripture.

The Scripture (The Bible) from Gen.1:1 where it begins "In the beginning **God** created" to Rev.22:21 where it closes "The grace of the Lord Jesus be with **God's** people. Amen.", book after book, reveals **God**. With Adam, Noah, Abraham, Jacob, Moses, Joshua and the Israelites as a people, God had been directly dealing. And in the New Testament period, apart from being revealed through the Lord Jesus Christ, God has been revealing Himself through the lives and deeds of the Disciples and Apostles.

God is revealed through the Son.

God has revealed Himself through His Son Jesus Christ.

In John Chapter 14 Jesus Himself declares "If you really knew me, you would know my Father as well." (Vs.7); "Anyone who has seen me

has seen the Father." (Vs.9) and "Don't you believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in me?"(Vs.10)

The writer to the Hebrews explains in his letter at Ch.1:1-3 stating "In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe.

The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word." Again, Paul writing to the Colossians affirms in Ch.1:15 "He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation."

God is revealed through the Holy Spirit.

In John 14:26-27, Christ Himself tells His Disciples "But the Counsellor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you."

Even today we are being taught by the Lord through His Spirit.

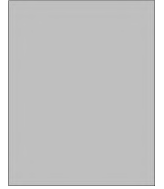
Significance of Progressive Revelation.

The God of the Bible has revealed Himself and His requirements progressively. He revealed more to Cain than to Adam.

In Gen 4:6-7 the Lord said to Cain, "Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must master it." With Adam there was just one command – "Don't eat. If you do you will die." But with Cain we see God's 'Concern' (Why angry? Why downcast?); God's 'Encouragement' (IF you do right, will you not be accepted?); God's 'Caution' (if you do not; sin crouching at your door; desires to have you; master it).

God didn't stop with Cain, but revealed more throughout the Scripture through Prophets, Kings, Christ, Apostles and now through His Spirit. We, therefore have no excuses but to follow His revelations, requirements and statutes and live a life that would glorify God, and thus, fulfill the purpose for which He created us and sent us into this earth.

M M Narendranath



Bible Quiz No. 81 - September, 2017

Based on the 2 Kings (King James Version)

Give only 1 reference.

1. The King who was a leper throughout life?
2. In what story was a poison plant put in the stew instead of herbs?
3. What two men, one in the Old Testament and one in the New Testament are said to have worn 'a leather girdle'?
4. A King of Judah who had his meals in the presence of the King of Babylon throughout his life time?
5. A secret which was hidden to Elisha?
6. "Am I God, to kill and to make alive?"
7. 'Fear not, for they that be with us are more than they be with them.'" Who said to whom?
8. Who tore down the altar that was at Bethel which Jeroboam the son of Nebat had made?
9. How many female bears mounded the youths who mocked?
10. "Is thine heart right, as my heart is with thy heart?"

Kindly send your answers to the church office by 17th September 2017.

Usha George

Kirk News

The Bible says "Great Peace have those who love the law, and nothing can make them stumble" Psalms 119:165. We as people of God are blessed as we have the law. Let us thank God for His word which guides us and keeps us in great peace. Let us continue to worship the God of Peace as we enter this new month of September.

Guest Speakers

- 13th Aug 7 a.m /9 a.m. Mr. Neil Vimalkumar of RZIM spoke on the topic "The Apologetic of His presence" from Luke 10:25-37 as part of the Annual Church Retreat.
- 6pm Mr. Asgar Ali of RZIM spoke on the topic "Divine glory of the Son of God" from John 1:14-18 & Matthew 17:1-5, 9 as part of the Annual Church Retreat.
- 20th Aug 6 p.m. Mr. Rampert Ratnaiya spoke on the topic "Can anything good come out of pain?" from 2 Corinthians 12:7-10 at the Asha Sunday service.
- 27th Aug 7 a.m./9 a.m. Mr. Sam Kamaleson, spoke on the topic "People of vision" from Acts 26:12-20.

House Church Meetings

During the month of Aug, The Hosts of the Meetings were: on **11th Aug**, Mr. & Mrs. John Ravinder Rathnasamy, on **18th Aug**, Mr. & Mrs. Larsen Sathyaseelan, on **25th Aug**, in the home of Mr. & Mrs. Sathish Moses. We thank all for opening her home in Christian love and fellowship.

District 5 met on **6th Aug** for a time of Bible Study and Fellowship in the home of Mr. K. Theogarajan & Dr. (Mrs.) Devaki Theogarajan. We thank them for their open home.

Friday Prayer Cell met on **11th Aug, 18th Aug & 25th Aug**. Pastor led the study of Proverbs.

Monday Bible Study On 7th August, Pastor Isaac began a new study on the Book of Ezekiel. All are welcome.

Confirmation Classes were held on **6th Aug, 20th Aug & 28th Aug**. Children and their parents attended.

Monthly Night Prayer was held on **25th Aug**. The topic of discussion was "Pray in the Holy Spirit (Acts 19.2)". It was a time of intercessory prayer for Revival in the family, the Church, the Nation and the world at large.

CATALYST Youth Worship Service happened on the **on 27th Aug** between 9 & 11 AM.

The Kirk Youth Fellowship - After Catalyst on **27th Aug**, distributed tracts in and around Egmore. They also visited Gypsy Colony, Pallavaram, in the evening to conduct the service. Please continue to pray for the youth ministry.

Kirk Men's Fellowship & Kirk Women's Fellowship met on **20th Aug** for a time of testimony, worship and prayer. The Women's Fellowship met on **19th Aug** also for a time of fasting and prayer from 10am to 1pm at the Pastor's residence

Evangelism and Missions Movement's Fasting and Prayer was held on **10thAug, 17thAug, 24th Aug & 31st Aug**. Please continue to pray for our Evangelists, our Missionaries and the life and activities of our Church along with our concerns for the present situations of our nation, which are of great importance, and for the world.

Asha Sunday was observed as a special service of thanksgiving to the Lord for all His goodness to the Asha ministry among the differently-challenged. 'Asha' needs Rs.3 Lakhs every month to meet the cost of training 60 children i.e. Rs.5000 per month per child. Though an earlier request was made that a 'special child' be sponsored at Rs.1500 p.m. (presently it is Rs.1500 pm / Rs. 9000 per half year / Rs.18000 per annum), we request you to please kindly pray and consider contributing a higher quantum, as the Lord leads, to meet growing needs.

We invite you to consider being a **regular continued partner** in this mission by sponsoring regularly. All support to Asha may be by cash or **Cheque in favour of 'ASHA TRUST'**.

Foreign contributions may be made in favor of 'St.Andrew's Church Kirk Session Foreign Contribution Account No 426-0-500357-9'.

All contributions to Asha are exempted from Income Tax u/s 80G of Income Tax Act.

The Annual Church Retreat was held on the theme "Understanding Islam, engaging with her followers" on **Saturday, 12th Aug & Sunday, 13th Aug**. The speakers for this year were Mr.Asgar Ali, Mr. Arputraj & Mr.Neil Vimalkumar from Ravi Zacharias International Ministries

(RZIM). All were blessed and we praise God for the Speakers and also the people who took time out to attend.

Bible Quiz Competition This year, the Quiz Competition features the **Book of 1 Samuel!** It will be held on **Sunday, 29th October after the 9AM service.**

The competition is in **2 categories:** School students (classes 1–12) can take the quiz on Chapters 1 to 16; College students and adults can take the quiz on the entire Book. Please enrol in the sign-up sheet in the church office. May the Most High God fill you with His Eternal Word and His promised blessings! (Matt.4:4, Psalm 119:129).

Thanksgiving Sunday will be held on the **10th of September 2017.** We as a congregation need to remember the bountiful provision of the Lord and thank Him during the **7 a.m. & 9 a.m. services** by bringing offerings in kind.

The offerings will be distributed the same day to various Christian organizations that work among the needy. We encourage all who worship here to donate Rice, Wheat, Dhal, Pulses, Rava, Atta, Sugar, Cooking oil, Milk Powder, Horlicks / Complian / Boost / Bournvita, Washing / Toilet soap, Talcum powder etc. May the generosity of your offerings through the grace of God result in "many expressions of thanks to God" (2 Cor.9:11-12)!

VOLUNTEERS ARE REQUIRED TO HELP IN COLLECTING, SEGREGATING AND DISTRIBUTING THE ITEMS. PLEASE CONTACT MRS.KALA DENNIS – 94440 39720.

KYF Camp '17: The Annual Youth camp was held at Kodaikanal between the **13th&15th of August.** The youth had a blessed time. We thank God for his mercies throughout and also thank the participants of the Youth Camp.

Independence Day Celebration was held through a joint program of AKCDC, RMDCC & ASHA on Tuesday, 15th August 2017 at 9am in the Church campus.

OBITUARY

Mrs.Georgina Wayte, w/o (Late) Major E.D. Wayte, our member, passed away on Tuesday the 15th August, aged 92. *R.S.V.P.* Suhasini Fredrick (daughter) 98841 89841.

We express our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family.

Dr Samip Baruah



Pastor speaking at the gathering on Independence Day



Asha students performing on Asha Sunday (20th August)
Children of RMDCC celebrating on Open Day