



VOL 2 NO 2

# SUMPATHEO VOICE

COMPASSIONATE TOUCH MINISTRIES

FEBRUARY 2015

## FEAR OR FAITH?



**Scripture: Mathew 8:23-27**

*It's impossible to please God apart from faith. Why? Because anyone who wants to approach God must believe both that He exists and that He cares enough to respond to those who seek*

*Him. Heb 11:6 (MSG). Without faith, it is impossible to please God. Anyone who approaches the invisible living God should believe that He exists and He cares enough to respond to those who seek Him. Without fear, it is impossible to please devil, the deceiver. Devil induces fear. FEAR is nothing but False Evidence Appearing Real. Fear and faith cannot live together. Either one of them will consume the other. Therefore, pray about everything and fear nothing in life by being careless in the care of the Lord.*

**Mat 8:23-27** talks about how Jesus calms the storm. When Jesus and His disciples were traveling in a boat, they encountered a furious storm without warning. From this episode, we can learn six lessons on faith.

### **1. Presence of Jesus does not guarantee absence of problem. (Mat 8:23-24)**

Jesus means savior. Christ means **the anointed one**. In spite of the savior and the anointed one being in the boat, the disciples encountered a furious storm. Many times after accepting Christ, problems may appear in our life without any warning. Christ has not promised us a problem-free life. In fact, he has promised us that there will be problems (**John 16:33, 34**). Storms and waves are not there to destroy our faith but to build our faith.

### **2. Some problems are beyond our ability. (Mat 8:24)**

The disciples in the boat were experienced professional fishermen. They have seen and survived many storms in their life. However, the storm that they encountered while Jesus was in the boat was really a tough one. We are not called to handle storms with our own experience and strength. Every new storm demands a fresh anointing from the anointed one. Sometimes we are stuck up between the red sea and Pharaoh. Nevertheless, if we trust God, He will raise up a new private dry road for us in the red sea along with a signpost that says—no trespassing. God will make a way where there seems to be no way. Remember that the final say remains with Jesus alone.

### **3. Jesus won't interfere into our problems until we invite HIM. (Mat 8:25)**

While the disciples were struggling, Jesus was sleeping. May be He wanted to see how His disciples would handle the storms in life. When we handle the storms of life, our resources dry up quickly. However, when we trust Jesus the source, then we will never be disappointed. In the wedding of Cana, when the wine was over, the disciples did nothing. But Mary, the mother of Jesus, requested Him to help them. Though he was reluctant, he brought quality and life in that wedding. We also should learn to ask God and trust God for every small and big issues of our life. Those who call upon Him will never be put to shame.

### **4. Words of our mouth during the problem will reveal our level of faith. (Mat 8:25)**

During the storm, the disciples screamed, "We are going to drown". It is easy to sing during easy times. Unless we fill our faith through the scripture, we will surely sink in our problems. Hearing the words of their panic button, Jesus rebuked them addressing them as cowards and people of little faith. Will you be a coward or a person of faith while you go through the storms and waves of life?

### **5. Jesus can calm any winds and waves of our life. (Mat 8:26-27)**

Then, Jesus got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm. There is no problem so big that God cannot solve. There is no mountain too tall that God cannot move. There is no storm too dark that God cannot calm. There is no sorrow so deep that He cannot soothe. If He carried the weight of the world upon His shoulders, rest assured that He will carry you. Let this be our song while winds and waves strike our lives.

### **6. Faith obeys God. (Mat 8:27)**

Winds and waves obeyed Jesus. The donkey, the crow, the worm, and the nature, all obeyed God. But, what about us? Faith is complete only by an obedient action. When God asks us to go around Jericho wall 13 times, we cannot obey God unless and until we have faith. People may call us cracks, because there weren't any cracks in the wall even in the 12<sup>th</sup> round. Don't live by sight but live by faith. Go around the wall for 13<sup>th</sup> time, and in the final round, you will see the breakdown of the wall and a breakthrough in your life.

May God help us to live by faith and please Him in 2015.

God bless you!

- Pastor Benny

# PRISCILLA'S CORNER



## How Bright is Your Light?

By Julia Bettencourt

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

As Christians we know we are to shine as beacons of light in this sinful world but how bright do we shine? Our verse says, "Let your light so shine before men..." but do we really look any different to our co-workers and neighbors than anyone else they come in contact with? Is our speech different? Is our attitude different? When things go wrong in our lives do others see that we have something or Someone to lean on? Do people see that we as Christians have something they don't have?

Many of us learned the little song when we were small about not hiding our light under a bushel, but as adults that's exactly what we do sometimes. We get so caught up in living in this world that we forget that we are not of this world. We have something better in Christ but our sinful nature rears its ugly head, and we forget we are children of the King.

We need to realize that this world is dark with sin and people need us as Christians to shine. As we look around at the school shootings, drugs, crime, and the diluting of the family we are reminded of how there are hurting people all around. People need the Lord and they need hope. We as children of God can give that to them if we just live as a shining example of Christ. We can't keep Christ to ourselves. We have to flood the world with His Light!

### What Kind of Light are You?

#### ☞ Are you a Smokey Lamp with a Cloudy Globe?

When a lamp's globe is clouded up it doesn't shine to its fullest potential. Maybe the blackness of unconfessed sin has crept in and started smoking up your life. It just takes a little smoke to cloud up a lamp globe. The same is true with our lives. It just takes a little sin to make our light dull. We are always going to be prone to sin because it's our nature but we have to work on it one day at a time. We have to confess our sin to Christ. Having unconfessed sin breaks our fellowship with Christ and causes our lives not to shine our brightest for Him.

*"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9)*

#### ☞ Are You a Dim and Slow Burning Candle?

As a candle burns out it gets dim and burns slow. Are you this type of light? Remember when you first received Christ? The Christian life was exciting and new! Are you getting slow about having a devotional life? Is your prayer life getting dim? It's easy to become complacent in our Christian life, but when we do, our light for Christ begins to dim and others can't see Him in us. Take a step back, and get things into perspective, and remember what Christ did for you.

*"But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:8)*

#### ☞ Are you a Flickering and Hazy Light Bulb?

Just before a light bulb blows out, it flickers. It shines bright then dull and hazy, then bright and then dull again. Are you that type of light for Christ? Do you serve Him wholeheartedly then slack off? Maybe you get discouraged about something and you start flickering. Then you get fired up again and begin really serving the Lord only to be bogged down again and you find yourself not attending church, not reading your Bible, slacking off in your prayer life and fellowship with the Lord. The Christian life wasn't designed to be lived on and off again. It has to be a daily continual thing.

*"And he said to them all, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me."  
(Luke 9:23)*

#### ☞ Are You a Bright and Shinning Beacon?

When you think of a beacon you usually think of a light that is a bright and shining guide. That is the type of light that we should all desire to be. Being constantly in fellowship with Christ and sensitive to His leading will keep our lives as beacons to a lost and dying world. To do this, we have to work at it.



TIMOTHY'S CORNER



STORY TIME

THE PINK DRESS

There was this little girl sitting by herself in the park. Everyone passed by her and never stopped to see why she looked so sad. Dressed in a worn pink dress, barefoot and dirty, the girl just sat and watched the people go by.

She never tried to speak. She never said a word. Many people passed by her, but no one would stop.

The next day I decided to go back to the park in curiosity to see if the little girl would still be there. Yes, she was there, right in the very spot where she was yesterday, and still with the same sad look in her eyes.

Today I was to make my own move and walk over to the little girl. For as we all know, a park full of strange people is not a place for young children to play alone. As I got closer I could see the back of the little girl's dress. It was grotesquely shaped. I figured that was the reason people just passed by and made no effort to speak to her. Deformities are a low blow to our society and, heaven forbid if you make a step toward assisting someone who is different.

As I got closer, the little girl lowered her eyes slightly to avoid my intent stare. As I approached her, I could see the shape of her back more clearly. She was grotesquely shaped in a humped over form. I smiled to let her know it was OK; I was there to help, to talk.

I sat down beside her and opened with a simple, "Hello." The little girl acted shocked, and stammered a "hi";! after a long stare into my eyes. I smiled and she shyly smiled back. We talked until darkness fell and the park was completely empty.

I asked the girl why she was so sad. The little girl looked at me with a sad face said, "Because, I'm different." I immediately said, "That you are!"; and smiled. The little girl acted even sadder and said, "I know." "Little girl," I said, "you remind me of an angel, sweet and innocent."

She looked at me and smiled, then slowly she got to her feet and said, "Really?" "Yes, you're like a little Guardian Angel sent to watch over all people walking by." She nodded her head yes, and smiled.

With that she opened the back of her pink dress and allowed her wings to spread, then she said "I am." "I'm your Guardian

Angel," with a twinkle in her eye. I was speechless—sure I was seeing things. She said, "For once you thought of someone other than yourself. My job here is done".

I got to my feet and said, "Wait, why did no one stop to help an angel?" She looked at me, smiled, and said, "You're the only one that could see me," and then she was gone.

And with that, my life was changed dramatically. So, when you think you're all you have, remember, your angel is always watching over you.

Like the story says, we all need someone ... And, every one of your friends is an Angel in their own way. The value of a friend is measured in the heart. I hope your Guardian Angel watches over you always.

*Psalm 91:11 For he shall give his angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways.*



**Bangalore South Church**  
**Time: Sundays at 4:30 pm**  
**Age Group: 4 to 18 years**  
**Experience: Lively worship, God's Word, and Fellowship in Kannada and English**

# News & Notes

## Testimony for God's Glory



God in His mercy restored us by blessing a baby girl on December 4<sup>th</sup> 2014. Ever since our son Immanuel went to be with Jesus in Heaven, God gave us enough grace each single day and sustained us.

One thing we have learned through it all, everything in life is an undeserving gift from God, we don't own anything in this world.

During my second pregnancy, scanning reports of 22<sup>nd</sup> week showed some problem in baby's heart and during 35<sup>th</sup> week there was a cord tied around baby's neck and throughout the check-ups, the doctor was saying that I will have to undergo a C-section by Dec 4<sup>th</sup>. So a normal delivery was very unlikely. But for our God nothing is impossible and our church started praying for me and one by one miracles started happening. God removed the problem in baby's heart and He removed the cord which was around baby's neck and also gave me His grace to undergo a normal delivery exactly on Dec 4<sup>th</sup> and blessed us with a normal healthy child.

We have dedicated our child to our Lord Jesus to use her for His glory. Let His name alone be glorified.

—Nelson and Daya

## Prayer Requests



- \* All our children who are appearing for exams.
- \* VBS from 4<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> of May 2015
- \* Open doors among the locals, in Banashankari, Basavanagudi, Jayanagar, J P Nagar, Padmanabhanagar, Bannerghatta Road, and Uttarahalli
- \* Revival Meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of March 2015
- \* 10 new families to be added each to the English and Kannada services
- \* Exponential Growth in quality and quantity of the Church.



On March 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> we will be celebrating the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our Church. Pastor Varaprasad from Agape AG Church, Raichur will be ministering God's word on these two days.

### Sermons for this month on the topic— “Stronger Through Worship”

- 01.02.15 - “Living for the one who loved us” by Pastor Benny
- 08.02.15 - “Living to Please Him” by Pastor Benny
- 15.02.15 - “My Worship Matters” by Pastor Benny
- 22.02.15 - “The Jealous God” by Pastor Benny

These messages are available in MP3 format. Please contact the church office for the same.

### OUR VISION:

To reach Karnataka and the globe with the compassionate heart of Jesus Christ.

### OUR MISSION:

To establish self propagating, self governing, self supporting spirit- filled churches with equal focus on prayer, worship, fellowship, discipleship, ministry, and evangelism.

## Contact Us

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