



VOL 2 NO 3

# SUMPATHEO VOICE

COMPASSIONATE TOUCH MINISTRIES

MARCH 2015

## LIVE IN HARMONY WITH EACH OTHER

**Scripture: Rom 12:16, Phil 2:1-4**

United we stand, Divided we fall.  
Togetherness is not oneness.

**Rom 12:16** reminds us to live in harmony with each other. **Phil 2:1-4** provides us the recipe for harmony.



Harmony happens when the traits of Christ's life dwells in us and manifests in and through us. Some of the traits of Christ that are pictured in **Phil 2:1-4** are:

### 1. Encouragement from being united with Christ. (vs 1)

Encouragement is all about giving hope and support to someone or urging someone. When we are united with Christ, His encouragement flows in and through us to others. We should console, comfort, encourage, and strengthen the disturbed and upset people. To do this, like Apostle Paul, we should also experience the comfort and encouragement of Christ to flow into us when we are disturbed. When we allow Jesus to comfort us when we are disturbed, we would be able to comfort others when they are disturbed. Then, there will be no place for murmuring or grumbling (**2 Cor 1:3-7**).

### 2. Christ's love. (vs 1)

Christ's love is selfless, self-giving, and sacrificial love. It is an undeserving, unconditional, unending, and unselfish love. It is a love of reason and will. That is why when we were still sinners and enemies, Jesus could die for us. When this pure and holy love of Christ flows through us, it purifies our tank of love from all the strife, bitterness, and anger. Then, our love will not harm others but bless others even when we bleed. When we come to Christ we will have love for Christ. When we abide in Him, that love will be replaced by love of Christ. When we express that love the way Christ did, the whole world will know that we belong to Christ (**John 13:34, 35**).

### 3. Fellowship in the Spirit. (vs 1)

Once we become the child of God, Holy Spirit resides in us and He becomes the alongside helper for us. Then, He melts our heart and moulds it with other believers. We become one in life and purpose, with people of same faith. We see everyone through the eyes of Jesus. The Holy Spirit sanctifies our heart to have a holy look. Thereby, we see other believers as brothers and sisters. As a result, gossip and slander evaporates from our lives and we have genuine fellowship in the Spirit.

### 4. Tenderness and Compassion. (vs 1)

Tenderness means to be easily moved to love, pity, or

sorrow. Christ's tenderness and compassion moved Him from the highest heaven to the depth of the Earth—to us. The Bible mentions 10 times that Jesus healed the needy because of His compassion. His compassion moved him in action—in healing the needy. Jesus was not sensitive to himself, but he was always sensitive to the needs of others. True compassion is passion in action. In **2 Cor 10:1**, by the meekness and gentleness of Christ, Paul urges his rebellious spiritual children to get back to Christ. When Christ's compassion moves us, we will be sympathetic towards others and be willing to shoulder their weaknesses and burdens (**Rom 15:1; Gal 6:2**).

### 5. Concern for one another's Joy. (vs 2)

We will have real joy, when we learn to share and care. JOY stands for **Jesus-Others-You**. When we voluntarily and joyfully become third class, then we will become first class citizens of heaven. Our unity completes the Joy of Christ. How the joy will be completed? By being like-minded, having the same love of Christ, being one in spirit and purpose. Our harmony makes Christ sing.

### 6. Humility that considers others better than ourselves. (vs 3)

**James 3:13-16** says that selfish ambition is the cause of all confusion. In **James 4:1-3**, James addresses such selfish, restless people as adulterous people. When we are attention seekers, we want to make a good impression on others, and in that process, we become guilty hypocrites. **Mat 11:29** reminds us to learn humility and gentleness from Jesus Christ. Though Jesus owned everything, He was the most humble and gentle person who ever lived in the world. When we are like Jesus, harmony is an easy thing.

### 7. Focusing on other's also. (vs 3)

When we are full of ourselves, we cannot see others and their needs. If we are not careful, then we will see **Mat 25:43** coming true in our life. We should learn to take care of ourselves; else, we will be worse than unbelievers (**1 Tim 5:8**). But, if we think only about our own affairs, we'll become self-centered people. We should become Christ-centered people by managing our own affairs well and being others-centered. In other words, we should forget ourselves to lend a helping hand to our needy brother and sister in Christ.

May God help all of us to have the passion of Christ. God bless you!

- Pastor Benny

# PRISCILLA'S CORNER



## Tips on Handling Toddlers

By Pastor Frani Benny

Toddlers are kids between the age group of 1 to 3 years and can be still considered as babies. It is very important for parents and care givers to focus their attention on the first three years of a child's life because the early childhood experiences, either good or bad, can have lifelong effects on the child.

Research shows that by the age of 3, the brain of the child has developed to 80% of its adult volume. Early life experiences have a long time impact on the child's emotional state, ability to socialize, and capacity to learn. Qualities like resilience, persistence, and ability to work well with others are keys to success throughout our life and are shaped by earlier interactions. The effect of parental care, nurturing and stimulating, or abusive and negligence lasts for a life time. Children are most sensitive to both positive and negative influences between birth and 3 years of age. Early childhood experiences can translate into school readiness, academic success, and life-time well being.

We need to understand the developmental milestones of the toddlers before disciplining them. The physical developments are that the child begins to walk by himself, climb stairs, stand up on toes, kick a ball, and also run by himself. The cognitive developments are that he understands more than he can express, say several words, sometimes even short phrases and sentences, follow simple two-step directions, and identify shapes and colors. The motor skill developments are that he is able to build a tower with blocks, scribble with crayons, throw a ball, fill empty containers etc.

The emotional developments are he/she can express general excitement, joy, anger, sadness, fear, affection, shame and pride. The social development are imitating adults' actions and words, bring things to show other people, hugs and kisses to parents, familiar people and pets, begin to help around the house, feels jealous if he is not the center of the event, may play with another child but will not be willing to share. They may resent changes in daily routines.

**Pro 22:6** says *“Train up a child in the way he should go, even when he is old he will not depart from it.”*

Being a parent of a toddler is both fun and hard work. And, if you can work hard in training the child, even when he is old he will not depart from it.

**Here are some tips that will help you to handle your toddlers:**

### 1. Be consistent.

Toddlers resent changes in daily routines. When there is some predictability and routine, the child feels more safe and secure. They tend to be much calmer because they know what to expect. Try to keep the same schedule every day. This means to have consistent nap times, meal times, bed times, potty times, and fun times. Inform the child in advance if you are making any changes. This helps the child to have a secure feeling.

### 2. Avoid stressful situations.

Understand the child's trigger reactions such as hunger, sleepiness, change of venue, and be sensitive to those reactions. Make sure that your child is at home during meal times, nap times, and bed times. Avoid spending too much time in shopping or visiting friends during the child's meal times, nap times, and bed times. This can be stressful for the child and also for the care giver. You can also make use of a timer to maintain these critical times.

### 3. Think like a toddler.

Toddlers are not mini adults. They have difficulty in understanding many things that we take for granted, such as how to follow directions, how to behave properly. Also, give them two good options to choose from, be it food, toys, drink, books etc. Be patient with messy eating and play. Remember that your child is learning.

*...to be continued*

*Children are a gift  
from the LORD;  
they are a reward  
from him. Psalm 127:3*





## RUTH & NAOMI

In a place called Moab there lived a nice family. Elimelech, his wife Naomi and their two sons moved there because there was more food there than where they used to live. After a while Elimelech died but Naomi wasn't alone she still had two sons.

Her sons got married but after about ten years they died too. At least Naomi still had her sons wives to keep her company, their names were Orpah and Ruth.

Naomi called her sons wives and told them, "I am going to go back to where I used to live and I would like you also to go back to your family where you used to live. May God show you kindness as you have showed me." All the women cried and hugged each other because they were such good friends.

Orpah didn't want to leave Naomi but Naomi told her not to worry, she would be fine. So Orpah left to go back to her family. But no matter what Naomi said to Ruth, Ruth would not leave. "Don't ask me to leave. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your friends will be my friends and your God will be my God."

So Ruth and Naomi returned to Bethlehem together. It was a good thing Ruth went with Naomi because Bethlehem was very far away and Naomi couldn't have traveled all that way by herself. Notice that Ruth never complains but is a good friend to Naomi. She wasn't expecting anything in return, she just wanted to help.

When they got there Ruth decided that she should do some kind of work. It was harvest time, so she worked in the fields following behind the harvesters and picked up any barley that they had dropped.

The owner of the field came by to greet the harvesters and noticed Ruth in the field. He asked one of the harvesters who she was. "She came back from Moab with Naomi, that's all I know." Lucky for Ruth the owner of the field was Boaz, he was a kind man who believed in God. He had also been related to Elimelech (Naomi's husband that died).

Boaz went to go talk to Ruth, he said to her, "Don't go work in any other field but stay here with the other servant girls. I will make sure you are safe and whenever you are thirsty go and get a drink from the water jars." When Ruth heard this she

bowed down to Boaz and asked, "Why are you being so nice to me, I'm not even from here."

Boaz replied, "I know what you've done for Naomi, you left your family and moved to a place you've never been. May the Lord reward you for your kindness."

Ruth thanked Boaz and continued with her work in the hot sun. Boaz even ordered his workers to drop extra barley so Ruth could have more for herself.

Ruth took all the barley home and shared what she had with Naomi. And eventually Ruth married Boaz and everyone was very happy!



**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**



We had a wonderful time celebrating the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our ministry in our Bangalore South Church. It was a time of recalling the faithfulness of God all through these years. On this wonderful occasion, our Lord blessed us with a promise for the coming years from the book of **Amos 9:13-15**. Pastor Benny expounded the scripture to us very beautifully. Here's the exposition of the promise:

## **A FRUITFUL TREE THAT CANNOT BE UPROOTED**

**Scripture: Amos 9:11-15**

### **1. A PROMOTION (Vs. 11)**

God is rising up the Church with purity, power, and proclamation. We are going to minister in the power of the Holy Spirit and live a life of purity displaying the fruit of the Holy Spirit in and through our lives. A glorious position in God's presence, reflecting God's authority in the world.

### **2. A FIXING UP (Vs. 11b)**

God is going to fix up every area of people's lives, whatever needs to be fixed up, be it health, family, jobs, finances, relationships etc. And once God restores us back, we will all function in the calling that the Lord has called us and fulfill His purpose for our lives.

### **3. A STRENGTHENING TO POSSES NATIONS FOR GOD**

#### **(Vs. 12)**

God says that he will strengthen His people, so that they can possess the nations for God. God's people will be strong again and will seize what is left of the nations.

### **4. ABUNDANT RESOURCES FOR ALL THE DREAMS (Vs. 13)**

More than enough resources to establish God's work through word, works, and wonders. Before the harvest the next planting starts. Before one project is over the next begins.

### **5. A FRUITFUL TREE WITH DEEP ROOTS (Vs. 15, 14)**

Deep root refers to lasting fruitfulness. That is about growth and maturity. When God firmly plants us, we will enjoy God's sufficiency in everything we do.

May the Lord Himself bring all these promises to pass in our Church for the glory of God.

## **EPITOME OF THE SPECIAL MESSAGE**

Pastor Varaprasad from Agape AG Church, Raichur, ministered God's word on the days of the retreat. On the first day he ministered from the Book of Acts on **How to be a gospel witness**. To be a gospel witness, we should wait on the promise of God. We should pray to receive the promise of God, and then the promise of God will be reflected by the power of the Holy Spirit coming upon us, resulting in our proclamation of the Gospel. As we proclaim the Gospel we will progress individually and as a Church.

During the evening section Pastor proclaimed **Jesus the all powerful one**, based on the Gospel of **Mark 5**. How Jesus tamed the untamable and made him useful missionary to the 10 cities.

On the Anniversary day, Pastor's sermon was on **Why must we come to Church?** We must come to Church to enjoy the fullness of Joy that comes only from corporate worship (**Psalm 122:1**), satisfaction from God (**Psalm 65:4**), to learn God's ways (**Mal 2:1**), to flourish even in our old age (**Psalm 92:13,14**), and to bring our tithes and offerings to the house of God (**Mal 3:1**).

We as a Church were blessed by the word, worship, and fellowship on these two days as we celebrated the anniversary recalling the decade of faithfulness of God in our ministry. Dr. Raju Koneri, Dr. Roopa Koneri, Uncle K A Devaputra, Pastor Samuel Sujay Kumar and many others graced the occasion. And, on Sunday we all enjoyed a wonderful fellowship meal. Here are some of the pictures of the anniversary celebrations.



## **God's Family of Bangalore South Church**

# News & Notes

## Glimpses of 10th Anniversary Celebrations



Brother Dinesh Leading Worship



Mementos Presented to Rajuanna & Roopakka



Inspiring Sermon by Pastor Varaprasad

## Prayer Requests



- \* Pray for VBS that will be held from April 27<sup>th</sup> to May 1<sup>st</sup>
- \* Teachers, children, and volunteers for VBS
- \* 10 new families to be added each to the English and Kannada services
- \* Exponential growth in quality and quantity of the Church
- \* Open doors among the locals, in Banashankari, Basavanagudi, Jayanagar, J P Nagar, Padmanabhanagar, Bannerghatta Road, and Uttarahalli



- \* VBS from April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015 to May 01<sup>th</sup>, 2015
- \* VBS Celebration on May 02, 2015

### Sermons for this month on the topic— “Warmer through Fellowship”

- 01.03.15—“God’s Family-I” by Pastor Benny
- 08.03.15—“God’s Family-II” by Pastor Benny
- 22.03.15—“Live in Harmony” by Pastor Benny
- 29.03.15—“Gentleness in Fellowship” by Pastor Frani 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

Office Address : # 57, 1st Floor, 6th Cross, Pai Layout, Hulimavu Main Road,  
Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore - 560 076 Phone : 080-26483080 Mobile : 98440 36202  
E- mail : touchcompassionate@gmail.com