

Assembly Update

September 2006

Private Circulation Only

Shepherd's Corner

Elijah - Man of God

Br. Thomas Chacko

Elijah was a prophet who lived around 3000 years ago. He was one who stood for God when circumstances were against him. His name is significant in the Bible (even Old Testament ends with his name - Mal 4:5, 6). *Today he speaks to us.* How? When the mission of our life gets tough we can and glean examples of his courage and determination from his life. We see that in his life he had many enemies and moments of contradiction, but he never failed to accomplish his mission. Elijah was a one-man army against many. Even though his tasks were tough he had no co-workers. When we have God on our side being alone is not an issue. His presence is better than thousands of co-workers with us. Let us look to Elijah as an example and entrust ourselves to the hands of Almighty God, who is able to give us our victory. What was the response to Elijah's labor? Did people move away from Baal? No, Ahab & Jezebel had no change of heart. Their hearts were hardened. Elijah's labors were in vain, there was no result. It was not one of the high points in his life. But even then he still speaks to us. Elijah was a simple man. James 5:17 says that Elijah was a man like us. He had failures but God raised him up and gave him victory in his task. God does not use qualified people; He qualifies those that He calls for His purpose. We are only clay ready to be molded into whatsoever shape that He desires of us. The qualities of clay are the only traits required of us. He appears suddenly in Israel's history (1Kings 17:1). But that's not where his life began. Nobody can be an Elijah in a day. Israel's cry and prayer to God for deliverance was behind his sudden appearance. God knew about him even before men came to know of him. We should display courage and determination as that of Elijah and live for God. We can do this by submitting to God's plans and purposes for our life. We have a long journey before us but let us remember that we are not alone in it but that He is with us.

Believer's
Assembly
Chicago

101 N. Kensington,
La Grange, IL 60525
708/354-9001

*To know Him, to make
Him known.*

Youth Corner

Radical Change for a Glorious Result

Br. Jim Tharu

Heb 10:31 – "It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God". Most people like to think of God as only a loving God, and nothing else; but this is not true. God loves all of mankind, but he has a special interest in the ones that are redeemed, and when we deviate from our spiritual path, that hurts God and he waits to see if we will mend our ways and get back on track. If it comes to a point that we have gone so far with no hope to return, he intervenes in various ways to bring us back on track, just like the Good Shepherd who left 99 of his sheep to go find the 1 lost sheep. I would like to give you two examples, one from the bible and one from outside of the bible. The biblical example is a very familiar one - life of Paul (Saul on the road to Damascus). That was the day God decided to stop Paul from working against Him anymore. Saul went on to become Paul, the author of several New Testament books. The second example is of a young boy back in India. He was a typical rebel child, not listening to his parents, always did that which he liked etc. One day he met with a very serious accident. He was rushed to the hospital, most of his bones were broken, including both his collar bones, he couldn't breathe on his own, they performed several surgeries, and the doctors gave up all hope. But God had plans for this young man; he made it through and today he is a vibrant evangelist serving the Lord in the mission field. In short, if we need to make corrections in our life let's do that before we fall into his hands.

This Month

Weekly Meetings

Wednesday/Thursday

Prayer Meeting (Des Plaines Area) 7:00 p.m.

Saturday

Prayer and Bible Study (At assembly hall unless notified otherwise) 7:00 p.m.

Sunday

Sunday School/Adult Bible Study 9:45 a.m.
 Worship & Breaking of Bread 10:30 a.m.
 Fellowship 11:30 a.m.
 Singspiration/Announcements 11:45 a.m.
 Ministry of the Word (30 minutes) 12:00 p.m.

Ministry of the Word

Sep 3, 2006 - Br. Tharu Varghese

Sep 10, 2006 - Br. Aniyam Varghese, India

Sep 17, 2006 - Br. Abraham Philip

Sep 24, 2006 - Br. Mathew Varghese, India

News and Views

For Prayer

- Unity, stability and growth of our Assembly. Remember each other in our personal/collective prayers.
- Elderly & sick for continued strength and good health (Br. Anil's father, Br. Tharu Varghese's mother.)
- Those who are unemployed. School/college students for success in their education & future.
- Sunday school students & teachers
- Baptism plans for October.
- Youth for active participation in Church activities/meetings.
- Pending repairs to the Assembly building.
- All the evangelists who will be visiting us this month.

US & the World

- Leaders of our nation/nations around the world, that peace may prevail and Lord's work will continue unhindered till His coming. Special prayers for peace in the Middle East.
- Literature, radio & evangelical ministries around the world.
- Those around the world persecuted for their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Pray for China, Africa, Asia and the former Soviet Union.
- Growth of Indian Assemblies in the US and worldwide.

India Update

- All evangelists & their families in India. Pray for the growth of assemblies in India.
- Gospel teams in India. Pray for their safety and for God to grant an abundant harvest for their labor.
- Bible Schools, hospitals, orphanages, and old age homes in India.

For Praise

- Continue to thank God for blessing us with His grace and provision.
- For successful meetings with Br. Krishnankutty. Special thanks to all believers who participated and helped in many ways to arrange the location and coordinate refreshments etc.
- Br. Timothyose & fly for their new home.
- Br. Anil Varghese & fly for their new home.

Notes/Reminders

Special Meeting
 September 23, 2006 @ 7 pm
 Speaker: Br. Mathew Varghese

Second offering & Potluck lunch –
 September 24, 2006

For further information, contact:

Br. Tharu Varghese, Elder
 630/910-4148

Br. Thomas Chacko, Elder
 847/718-9378

Br. Abraham Philip, Elder
 847/827-4095