

# *Lamp Lighters World Ministries*

## *July Newsletter*

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Our year is half over it doesn't seem possible!

Of course this month we celebrate our independence as a nation. We enjoy many freedoms because of God's grace. But we must remain vigilant to the attacks of Satan to try and undermine the Biblical tenets our country was founded upon.

Our freedom as a nation came at a high cost. Literally millions have given their lives and millions more sacrificed so we could have freedom and remain free. Freedom is never free!

When we think of freedom surely our minds go to the freedom we enjoy because of what Jesus Christ has done for us.

We have been set free from sin, the second death, and the Old Testament law and all its regulations. This is what the book of Galatians is all about, freedom in Christ.

The spiritual freedom we enjoy also came at the high cost of the life of Jesus. His death brought us freedom and gives us eternal life.

Paul warns us not to take our freedom in Christ for granted or to use it as a license to do evil but to use it to glorify God.

The best way we can glorify God with our freedom is to share with others what He has done for us.

You are a part of that by supporting this ministry through prayer and finances. So we thank God for your partnering with us. May God bless you for what you do!

Because of Christ, Steve, Niranjana and Sona

### **News from Niranja**

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

These are the hottest months we are experiencing right now in Sri Lanka. All over the country people are suffering from the heat. There's not much sleep during the night and people start to sleep only after the midnight because of the heat and humidity. The government has increased the electricity unit rates also; therefore, people are suffering in both ways. Eagerly expecting the monsoon rains.

God is good all the time and he gives us grace and strength to manage all kind of situations in smooth ways. We face personal and ministry related issues everyday but His grace is sufficient for us.

Thank you for your kind consideration about Sri Lankan ministry and the support financially and through prayers.

God bless you!

Niranjan and Sona

### **Youth Gathering Again**

As usual we have youth meeting once in four months which brings all Christian church youths together. This is the 2nd youth meeting this year.

Usually we have this meeting on a Poya day (full moon day). We planned to have this meeting in June but there was no holiday during weekdays to have it. So, we postponed to have it on July 3rd at the Eruvil Christian church. This time, we will only focus the church youths to encourage and empower them in God's work.

### **Bible Quiz Brings Growth in Christ**

We had started the Bible quiz via online using the google forms, it helps the believers to read the Bible everyday and do the inductive Bible study.

Every week we will send them 50 questions from 14 chapters then they will answer them within certain time period.

After they started to read the Bible regularly, they share their testimonies in the churches of how this has helped them to know more about our amazing God. Not only that but it also helped our youths who participated in the Bible quiz conducted by church fellowship in our area and some of our youths received high places in that competition.

### **Pray for Land for Church**

We are still searching for a property to build the church in the Porativu area.

Pastor Kushaya has been conducting ministry activities for several years in Porativu which is has heavy influence of Hindu people living there. They are highly opposed to having the Christian activities in their surrounding area.

Recently many of them went abroad and earned money, then the villagers took the decision to not to sell land to any Christian or church.

There are some believers coming to the worship place (Kushaya's relative's house) where Kushaya is conducting the service, but he is facing problems to carryout all the activities of ministry.

Now we are looking to purchase the land from surrounding villages. Please keep this in your prayers for God to open the way to buy a land where we can peacefully build a church building.

### **NOTES FROM STEVE**

Each weekend I speak with my kids in Sri Lanka so I keep up to date with what they are doing. It gives me the opportunity to speak of my love for them and to encourage them.

One thing which is an encouragement to me is they are very involved in the programs of the church. Leading in worship, teaching and assisting in Sunday school, the youth programs and involved in the Bible quiz we spoke of earlier in this letter. In fact two of my daughters placed in the Bible quiz competition of the area church fellowship. This made me feel proud and very thankful that God has allowed Shanthi and me to have a positive spiritual influence on them and that they continue to grow in their faith.

Tharsha, who has been struggling with the migraines finally was able to do a CT scan of her head and this showed no abnormalities like an aneurism so I'm praising God! They changed her medications also which has helped somewhat.

Sowmiya has been doing an internship, through her university, in Koddai Kallar main school. She's been doing teaching and also tutoring of students. She's in her final year of studies.

Please continue to pray for their protection as there have been many kidnappings of young people in our area.

### **PRAYER CONCERNS**

1. For youth meeting and their commitment in Christ to grow.
2. For God to open the way to buy land in Porativu.
3. For starting Bible school at our church.
4. For disciple making efforts of our preachers.