

As Thanksgiving Day is quickly approaching we pray it will be a day in which you can truly thank God for the blessings of the past year and for His continued grace to be on us throughout the next year.

2020 has been a difficult year for all of us. Dealing with the stress and problems that the Covid virus has brought and continues to bring have not made it easy for us to be thankful it times.

At the end of September I was diagnosed with Covid and had to miss three Sunday services because of it. By God's grace my symptoms were not severe and I recovered quickly but still had to remain quarantined.

Paul tells us we are to give thanks in all circumstances, not for them but while we are going through them. We need to look for how God is blessing, guiding, changing us and how He can even use us during tough times.

In spite of Covid and the struggles it has brought to us let's not give up being thankful this season!

One thing that I am so thankful for is that God continues to bless this ministry through you our supporters. Your prayers and faithful gifts make it possible to continue doing the work in Sri Lanka.

You are a blessing to us and God will bless you for your willingness to partner with us!

May you all have a blessed and Happy Thanksgiving this year!

Because of Christ,

Steve, Niranjan, and Sona

Happy Thanksgiving!

NIRANJAN'S NEWS

We have gone through another month which has brought along with it many changes in the ministry as well as in us.

We face many trials in the ministry and must deal with many situations as well as people that are difficult, but God is good all the time! Whatever comes to us in our day to day life, the Lord Jesus calms us with His promise, "and the peace of God which transcends all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus." Philippians 4:7.

I along with my wife Sona feel peace in our hearts and minds. We praise and thank our Lord Jesus for everything that He allows in our lives. He teaches us, even through the trials that we face, to trust in Him.

THIRD WAVE OF COVID HAS HIT SRI LANKA

Once again we are faced with the threat of the Covid virus here in Sri Lanka. Because of carelessness this virus was brought into our country and now all are suffering for it.

This time it is spreading much faster than before with new cases found all over the island not just in isolated areas.

The government has brought out new restrictions, as before, including all religious gatherings must be stopped, this will be until further notice.

We had been making plans to try and restart our Sunday School programs as Christmas is quickly approaching but now we don't know how things will be. We may not be able to celebrate Christmas in the churches this year.

Only if God intervenes will we be able to hold the programs. We will simply have to wait and pray that by God's grace we will be able to do something.

The Christmas programs are always a time of outreach for the churches and are usually well attended by parents who do not come to church.

COWORKER IN MAHILOOR HAS RESIGNED

During the first week of October, sister Jino, the wife of Sutha the preacher who died in August, informed me that they were resigning the ministry in Mahiloor.

She stated in her resignation letter that they faced many difficulties while trying to do the ministry there and that I was to blame for the problems they were facing. She misled many of the believers and brought much confusion to the ministry in the Mahiloor church before she and her family left.

This has been very difficult for us to face and accept, but we continue on with God's strength and help.

After discussing with the Lamp Lighters founder, brother Steve, we accepted their resignation letter.

When they left they took with them many items which actually belonged to the church but we did not prevent them as God will see to it that all these things will be replaced.

Jino has moved to Batticaloa and is doing the ministry work there that Sutha and she had started about two years ago.

We pray that God will guide them with His word and that He will bless them.

After discussing with brother Steve I have taken on the responsibilities of the Mahiloor church until a new preacher can be found to take up the ministry there. By visiting the believers, many had already returned to the church.

Much work, teaching, and prayers are needed for this congregation to get back to normal.

We held a clean up day and many believers came and helped clean the property, building, and preachers quarters.

Already one of the believers has purchased a new drum set for the church, all the praise to God for this.

Please for us as we lead in the healing process as many are hurting from the entire situation. And pray that God will bring a new worker to take on this ministry in Mahiloor.

PRAYER CONCERNS

1. For a new preacher to come and take up the work of ministry in Mahiloor.
2. For there to be unity among all the coworkers and that each will faithfully teach the Word of God and work to His glory.
3. For God to intervene concerning the Covid virus, to stop the spread of the disease and our lives and ministry to come back to normal.
4. For God to give me wisdom and guidance to do the work of ministry here.
5. Pray we would be able to hold the Christmas programs this year.