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SATHTHIYA

VAARTHAI

IBT Founder (Late) Rev. Prof. S. Panneer Selvam

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MAN'S EXTREMITY -

GOD'S OPPORTUNITY

In our life's long high way, often we come to the Dead-end. Till then, we feel we are smart and we can go on our own free-way, without ever bothering to refer to the road-map. When we do reach our Dead-end, then we throw up our hands and wonder 'hey, what is happening, where am I going?'. Then and only then, we start seeking the help of others around us. This is exactly the method God employs in our own lives. I remember the incident that happened on the banks of a big lake. A man was drowned and he was crying for help. On the shore there were only very few people. Only one man knew swimming. Others urged him to go and save the drowning man. But he stood like a statue, unmoved by the wailing cries of the drowning man, who in the mean time completed 3 times, going into the water and then surfacing. As soon as the drowning man surfaced the 3rd time and started sinking again into the water, the swimmer on the

bank jumped into the water like an arrow from the bow and rescued the dying man and saved him. Why the rescuer waited so long? The answer is very simple yet very vital. Till the 3rd sink, the drowning man will have his own strength - the struggle. If you try to save him, there is a subtle danger that the rescuer also may be drowned. When he is totally deprived of all his strength and gives up the struggle after the 3rd sink, that is the most appropriate time to help him. Yes! God gives his help mostly to them who are most helpless. When we are at our wit's end - when we reach our extremity, God uses our extremity as his opportunity to help us.

Maybe, as you are reading this article, you are finding your going very hard. You are becoming desperate. All around you are falling apart; you are really groping in darkness; in certain matters in your life you too have exhausted all the avenues, and you have reached the end of the Tunnel; yet

there is no trace of light; every thing is pitch dark. Yes! you are really at the dead-end. That is the situation when God would spring into action. God wants you to simply 'Stand still and know that I am the Lord!' You have to stand still - without doing any thing - complete inaction. That is what happened when the people of Israel crossed the red sea; passed over the swelling river Jordan; witnessed the Jericho walls falling from inside towards outside.

In this message, we are going to meditate upon the theme, 'Man's extremity is God's opportunity', from the lives of various men and women of God as revealed in the Holy Bible. They are our forerunners; our examples to follow; our models to emulate. It is gratifying and encouraging to know that these men of God had trudged through the same weary path we are called upon to tread on, even to-day.

1. Widow of Zarepath (1 Ki. 17:12)
2. Samson (Jud. 16:28)
3. David at Ziglaga (I Sam. 30)

1. WIDOW OF ZAREPATH

It is one of the most mysterious ways of Divine's Direction to send Elijah to meet the poor widow at Zarepath. It is interesting to note that Elijah and the widow, both had reached the dead-ends of their life - the river Cherith that was providing sustenance for Elijah and the cruse of oil of the widow, both had literally reached the rock bottom of their supplies. When there were hundreds of widows in that city, why God directed the prophet to that particular widow, is a divine mystery of God's providence. Elijah prophesied to king Ahab that there will be no

rain nor dew for a period of three and a half years. After giving this prophecy, he did not go to a foreign country; instead, he stayed back in the same country whose doom he had predicted and he was one of those thousands of people who bore the brunt of the severe famine that brought drought and devastation to the whole country. The whole nation was reeling under shortage of essential commodities. In this background, he goes to meet the widow. The story of that widow is equally poignant. She talks to the prophet with a spirit of despondency and resignation as follows; "I am picking a few sticks to cook my last meal, with the last straw of bread in the barrel and the last spoon of oil in the cruse, so that myself and my son will have enough physical strength to breathe our last and die".

Yes! God has waited for the widow to reach her last handful of meal and oil before He could send Elijah. God's clock is always running on time. He comes to our rescue neither one minute before, nor one second after the Divine's schedule. Dear child of God, you are going to experience God's miracle in your own life; your supplies may be dwindling day by day. Don't be nervous; God knows your plight more than any one else. Take heart: if it is too dark in the night, then dawn is not far off.

Ofcourse, if God is to perform a miracle, we have to obey Him in certain areas of our life. Miracle always follows implicit obedience and total submission to God. The widow obeyed the words of the prophet - "go and make one little cake for me first and bring it unto me, and then make for thee and for thy son" (I Ki. 17:13). The Bible tells us that she went and did according to the words of Elijah

and no doubt, she and her house (probably the other members of her family) ate for many days!

Here the lesson is very obvious. We must be willing to give to God what little we possess - may be the last drop of oil in our cruse, 5 loaves and 2 fishes - just a few coins in your pocket. It may be a small talent - talent of singing, playing an instrument, soul-winning talent, communication skill. Remember that Jesus, after watching many rich people putting a lot of money as offering to God, said that of all the people, the widow gave the most because others gave out of plenty, but this widow gave out of poverty. As you read this, examine your own life. Are you willing to surrender to God and for His use all that you possess - like the widow of Zarepath? Do you consider God, merely as a constitutional head, but you yourself are acting as the executive head like the Prime Minister in your personal life? Is God having absolute and sovereign power in your life?

A young man was struggling hard to allow the Lord to have His way in his life. He knelt down and uttered a prayer, "I want to let God have His way in my life and simply I can't do that".

The next day he had cut out a paste - board with the letter "LET GOD" and tacked them on the wall, He rose from his knees with a feeling of defeat and despair. Then quickly he left the room and slammed the door with a bang saying, "I simply can't LET GOD". When he returned, he was stunned to find that the big bang of the door had caused the falling of the last letter 'D' from the Board and now it was reading 'LET GO'. When he saw this, he threw himself on his knees at the side of his bed and cried with tears, "Yes!

Lord! I will, I will - I will certainly "Let Go" and "Let God" in my life" and now he meant what he said with a total surrender.

May the Lord help us to break our 'self' and cast it as dust at the feet of the Great Potter. Let our 'self' and 'pride' be broken, trampled, trodden and rolled into God's mould. Let them be burned away by the fires of the furnace and let there be a marvellous change of vile being transformed into gold.

Moses surrendered his little rod to God (Ex. 4:2) and many miracles followed; Samson took the weak jawbone lying uncared. The Spirit of God descended upon Samson and he slayed 1000 Philistines with that jawbone (Jud. 15:15). The young and boyish-looking David took just 5 stones and put them in his pocket; he took the sling and the tiny pebble travelled in the air to silence the arrogance of the mighty Goliath (I Sam 17:40); the 5 loaves and 2 fishes given into the hands of Jesus, were used to feed 5000 people (Jn. 6:9).

What do you have in your hand and heart? Surrender them to God. Then just sit back and wait for a miracle from God as the widow of Zarepath.

"Remember that the Lord your God has blessed you in everything you have done. He knows about your walking through this great desert. The Lord your God has been with you these 40 years. You have always everything you needed". (Deut. 2:7) ERV.

"My God is very rich with the glory of Christ Jesus. God will use his riches in Christ Jesus to give you everything you need" (Phil. 4:19) ERV.

2. SAMSON

Samson, the strong-weak man - a strange combination indeed - is another example of those who reached their dead-ends in their lives, but with a slight difference - for Samson it was literally his dead-end - a tragic yet glorious end, that was worth mentioning in the list of heroes of faith in Hebrews Chapter 11. Samson was a peculiar and strange combination of strong and weak characteristics - a self-contradiction as far as his life with God and his life with the world were concerned. His married life was not only an utter failure, but an open mockery of the spiritual ideals and precepts. Yet, God anointed him with the power of the Holy Spirit whenever situation demanded - be it slaying 1000 Philistines with the jawbone or uprooting the mighty gate of the city and carrying it on his hand as though was a ladder made of plastic. He lived his life like a spoiled child. His weakness was women - like some preachers of to-day. As long as he kept his Nazarene vow of keeping his hair unshaved, God was using him as a mighty instrument. But when Samson was bent upon sinning against God with no respite and respect, God decided to punish him. His repeated recourse to sin and his willful disclosure of his secret and seat of power to Delilah, led to his downfall. He lost not only his anointing and power but also his eyes. Ironically, this shock treatment and eye operation, proved to be an eye-opener for Samson, who now became a converted and transformed person. His spiritual eyes were opened and he became very sober. I am sure, he must have spent many hours and days in the reflection of his past 'meritorious' and 'illustrious' life during those eventful and painful days of imprisonment. He had so

much of talents and potentials, that he could have easily become a mighty national hero, in fact, he was cut out for that role. But his life was one of missed opportunities.

Now it was too late to realize all the past failures. As the Philistines were playing sport on him, Samson was carving out his own plan in his mind. It came as a flash! He had a deep conviction in his heart that God has forgiven all his sins of the past. Deep down in his heart he had the joy of salvation and in one sense, he was happy that he was afflicted by God through Philistines, because he has now learnt His statutes (Ps. 119:71). Truly he has passed through a nightmare of affliction and shame through his arch-enemies. Now he is ready to die. But before that, he wants to taste the last sip of the cup of revenge upon his enemies. Every dream has a nightmare. He is happy that the Philistines had not noticed the growing of the hair on his head, probably because they were too much overjoyed over the 'prize-catch' of their arch-enemy. What the Philistines failed to realize was the fact they have scored a stunning victory, only over God's Samson and **not over Samson's God!** When the Philistines praised their own Gods for having delivered Samson, God's anger was kindled against them. Now Samson prays to God; "Remember me for the last time" - God heard his prayer and brings down the big auditorium crashing to the ground. The Bible says, ***"the number of Philistines who died at the time of Samson's death is more than they whom he slew in his life"*** (Jud. 16:30).

As you read this article, you need not wait to repent of your sins till the last moment of your life, like Samson. Dear young man, are you going to some questionable places

where sin abounds? Are you visiting some places where a Christian is not supposed to go? God can help only those who want to help themselves. Are you practising some presumptuous sins in your life? Will you allow God to turn his search light on every minute details of your private, family, social and religious life? Another danger is that when a man makes the same mistake over and over again, he becomes vain in his Imaginations; his heart becomes darkened, he begins to think that wrong is right and white is black. This is true in the life of the French philosopher Rousseau. This man has advocated adultery and suicide in his writings; for more than 20 years he lived in adultery and licentiousness. Most of his children were born out of wedlock. He was mean, treacherous, hypocritical and blasphemous. Yet, this man declared, "No man can come to the throne of God and say "I am better than Rousseau". He never repented of his sinful life till his death. But praise God, that though Samson lived a backslidden life during most part of his earthly life, yet he repented of his sins and died as a forgiven transformed martyr for God. In a running race, one gets the prize not for a good start, but for a better finish.

"Be careful! Don't make any agreement with the people who live in the land where you are going. If you make an agreement with those people, then it will bring you trouble". (Ex. 34:12) ERV.

"You are not the same as those people who don't believe. So don't join yourselves to them. Good and bad don't belong together. Light and darkness cannot have fellowship (sharing). (II Cor. 6:14). ERV.

3. DAVID AT ZIGLAG

David and his men came to the city and beheld it was burned with fire; and their wives and their children were taken captives. Then David and his men lifted up their voice and wept until they had no more power to weep (I Sam. 30:3,4).

It was a typical scene of the modern-day violence and terrorism being witnessed in our country almost every day in Punjab, Kashmir or in Assam. A culture of violence is being spread in our country, threatening its very unity and integrity. David and his men had gone with the Philistine King to fight against army of Israel. (In modern terms, David, the erstwhile champion of Israel and hailed as the conqueror of Goliath, has really crossed the floor of the House to join the rank and file of God's opposition party and arch-enemies of Israel). When all the men were away, the Amalakites came and looted the camp of David - I mean the city of Ziglag where David and his men were settled as a sort of refugees camp granted by the Philistine king to David. When the princes of the Philistines strongly opposed to David and his men accompanying them in their war against Israel, David and his men were asked to return back to their base. It is incredible to know that God used the Philistine princes to prevent David from fighting against the people of Israel - the gravest mistake of his lifetime. When they returned with bitterness and disappointment, they were greeted with and welcomed by the smoke, ashes and remains of their erstwhile dwelling places still burning with fire. When they saw their houses being razed to the ground and burning with fire, they were stunned and could not believe their eyes. All of them except David, were

completely broken and they started weeping till they had no more physical strength to weep. They became so insane and frenzy, that they were planning to stone their own leader David. Such was there plight and despondency.

David, too, was distressed and felt crushed in his heart. The situation was beyond anybody's control. His mind simply refused to think. Let us pause for a moment and come to reality. Dear reader, have you ever been in such a tight situation? How will you respond? Shall we indulge in abusing God for having brought us to such an awful situation? Will you be desperate under such a situation or will you rise above such a situation like David? Look at David! Let us learn from this great man of God. Defeat and despondency are the true acid test of a great man. A true General is not the one who rides on the easy wave of victory to emerge triumphant, but the one who, when crushed to the earth, rises up confidently and turns the brink of defeat into a glorious triumph. I just love the way the Holy Spirit vividly portrays and describes the situation. **"David was greatly distressed, but David encouraged himself in the Lord of his God" (1 Sam. 30:6)**. Then he kneels down and prays to God and enquires God as to what he should do as the next possible step. He himself floats the idea - "Oh Lord, shall I pursue the enemy?" Then God gives his green signal, "You shall not only pursue the enemy and over take them, but also recover all - whatever you have lost". Then he goes out with full speed; picks up the thread and the way of the enemy's route with the help of a way-ward and forlorn youth of the Amalakite's gang; pursues them; 200 soldiers are totally exhausted and fainted; But David takes the

remaining 400 soldiers; sights the enemy and strikes them at the appropriate time and wins back all women, children and materials lost, What a glorious recovery from the brink of despondency and defeat! It is like a Tennis player trailing 2 sets down and 0-5 in the 3rd set, but goes on to win the match! If the test of true leadership is to turn the hopeless defeat into a glorious win, then David has passed the test with distinction!!

What do we learn from this? When we are confronted with such a despondent situation, we should not lose our balance of thinking. Like David, we must learn to encourage ourselves in the Lord. Instead of looking at the burning and stormy situation around us, we must turn our attention to our God. David, in this tense atmosphere, says 'bring the Ephod and let me enquire God'. Yes! we must bend our knees and pray to God. Then another lesson is David's perseverance. Yes! David had nerves of steel to manage the situation. "When you are face to face with the an impossible situation, gentlemen, be it known unto you, you are about to stumble on a new discovery" - said Lord Kelvin in whose name stands the temperatures in scientific studies as Kelvin degrees of temperature. "There are many starters but very few finishers" - wailed a pastor looking at his congregation. God does not want just flashers - showing spiritual brilliancy once in a while, but God wants plodders like that of William Carey. Read the following real - life incident if you want to know what perseverance means.

A young man was converted and he loved to read the Word of God. But he met with an explosion while blasting a stone. His face became disfigured; In spite of the excellent efforts of the surgeons, he lost his

eye sight. He lost both the hands. He was filled with the distress of not being able to read the Bible either with his eyes, nor with his hands, the Braille type. Some one told him that one lady in England is able to read the Braille type with her lips. So he ordered the Braille types of some portion of the Bible. He tried to read them with his lips. Alas! The explosion had completely destroyed the nerves of his lips and hence there was no feeling of touch felt in his lips. When he realized that he will never be able to read God's Word which he loves so much, he wept aloud and stooped down to give a final farewell to the Bible. In doing so, his tongue accidentally touched the Braille type of the Bible. He realized that he could read the Bible through his tongue. "I have read the whole Bible through four times, and many of the books of the Bible over and over again" - he testified a year later. Yes! what a perseverance!

"I will pary to the Lord. And He will answer me from His holy mountain! I can lie down and rest, and know I will wake up. How do I know this? Because the Lord covers me and protects me! Thousands of soldiers might surround me. But I won't be afraid of those enemies!" (Ps. 3:4,5&6) ERV.

"A little brown cork fell in the path of a whale who lashed it down with his angry tail. But inspite of its blows, the cork quickly camp up and floated serenely before the very nose of the whale. The cork turned to the mighty whale and said triumphantly, "you may flap and sputter and frown; But you can never, never keep me down: For I'm made of

different stuff that is buoyant enough to always float instead of drowning".

Dear reader, are you at the dead-end of your life like the widow of Zarephath with all resources and supplies dried up? Give to God what little you have. The miracle will happen. The oil in the cruse and the meal in the barrel will not fail. May be you are standing between the two pillars of your life like that of Samson with the count-down to your death, with a cry from the bottom of your heart, "Remember me oh Lord". Dear child of God, God heard your cry. The 'old Samson' - Your old sinful life, will come to an end and you will live a new life of a resurrected Samson. Do not put off your day of salvation and transformation. To-day is the day of slvation and now is the accepted time to receive Christ as your personal saviour and live a new life as a new creation in Jesus Christ. May be you are in a despondent situation like that of David at Ziglag. Don't give way to self-pity. Encourage yourself in the Lord. Call for Ephod. Kneel down in the presence of God and enquire Him for His guidance and counsel. If you do this, you will not only get what you have lost, but much more than that. Are you at the extremity of your life and all your resources? **Lift up your eyes unto the mountain from whence cometh your help** (Ps. 121:1). Do not give way to self-pity. Like David and Paul, you can say, "**With God, I shall run into a troop and leap over a wall**" and "**I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me**". If you do this, then you will be not merely a conqueror, but more than a conqueror through Chrsist Jesus.

- Rev. Prof. S. PANNEER SELVAM

NEWS LETTER

Dear beloved brothers and sisters in Christ, greetings to you in the sweet name of our Lord Jesus Christ who has Risen from the Dead! Let us grow in the grace of Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, and today, and for ever.

"Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil". (Ephesians 6:11)

The devil brings several trials and temptations in our life. We must first be in a position to identify what type of trial it is. Then we should try to fight against that. As we are called to lead a victorious life and not for accepting defeat, we must put on the whole armour of God to fight and win against the devil.

The devil wanted to bring our Lord Jesus Christ under him, by tempting him; Jesus won against him by quoting the Scriptures. When the devil who was defeated that day, comes to-day to tempt us, we have to resist him by keeping the Word of God in our mind. By putting on the whole armour of God - having our loins girt about with truth, and having on the breast-plate of righteousness, our feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace, taking the shield of faith and wearing the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God - we must wrestle against the devil and defeat him, to lead a victorious life that is pleasing to Christ Jesus.

Our Saura language translators, Bro. Susthira Singh and Bro. Gada Mandal from Odisha, had come to IBT Office at Coimbatore to key-in and store in Computer, all the translated

portions. Please pray for the early release of a Gospel Book in this Saura language.

On 7th April 2018, there was a meeting of the Governing Council of IBT at Coimbatore, in which important activities of IBT were discussed and new decisions were taken. A One-Day Family Meet of IBT supporters was held on 14th April 2018 at Perundurai. Testimonies of IBT Missionaries and Field News were prominently presented in this Meeting. Bro. E. Xavier shared the Word of God.

There were some Promotional Meetings on behalf of IBT. On 15th April 2018, IBT's Tamil Nadu Co-ordinator, Bro. D. Vasu gave God's message in the CSI Church at Panaiyadipatti. On the same day, Bro. Varamaniraj gave God's message in the CSI Church at Velampatti; Bro. E.Ravi gave God's message in the CSI Church at Manjalodai Patti and Bro. Rajasekaran gave God's message in the CSI Church at Kalpakkam.

On 22nd April 2018, Bro. D. Vasu gave God's message and explained about IBT Ministries in the TELC Church at Thurangudi of Sattur Pastorate. On the same day, Bro. Simon shared the word of God with the TELC Church at Kalpakkam. On 29th April 2018, Bro. Varamaniraj gave God's message at CSI Chinna Yezhayiram Pannai (branch of Yezhayiram Pannai Church) and also explained about IBT Ministries and Bro. D. Vasu gave God's message and explained about IBT Ministries in the CSI Church at Thippipparai near Koilpatti. On the same day, Dr. Santha Prabhu Raj gave God's message in CSI Holy Redeemer Church at Pichampalayam Pudur and at CSI Church,

Kanchampalayam. Prof. Vanaraj gave God's message at CSI Immanuel Church at Pichampalayam. IBT is very grateful to all the Pastors/Presbyters who gave permission to IBT to hold all the above promotional meetings.

A Prayer Meeting will be held in the evening of Saturday, the 2nd June 2018 at the Office of the IBT at Coimbatore, to commemorate the fifth Anniversary of IBT founder Rev. Prof.

S. Panneer Selvam. All are cordially invited to participate in that meeting.

Please pray for the early release of Full Bible, New Testament, and Gospel Books translated into various languages. Pray also for IBT Missionary work and Office work. May the peace of our Lord be with us all!

In the service of Christ,
Sister D. SUDHANDIRA DEVI

FIELD NEWS

Translator : Bro. R.Thambidurai
Mission Field : Gudalur (Tamil Nadu)
Language : Paniya

Greetings in the sweet name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

By the abundant grace of the Lord, last month I could complete language checking and key- in Computer, translated portions of Old Testament - Books of Proverbs 1:1 to 15:33. For missionary work, I visited villages Ealumuram Vayal, Kother Vayal, Thoota moola, Kollimoola, Melam Balam, Naan Moola, Puraman Vayal, Netaji Nagar, Pudu Vayal etc. preaching the Gospel. I conducted a Cottage Prayer in Rajagopalapuram. I shared the message of God and gave tracts. For Promotional work, I went to many villages, prayed for the people whom I met and collected contributions for IBT Ministries. I am speeding up my work with an intention of bringing out Full Bible in Paniya language. Please pray for Pania-speaking people and for my translation work.

Translator : Bro. Sunil Kumar Chapadi
Mission Field : Kellaguda (Odisha)
Language ; Gadaba

I praise the Lord for enabling me to carry my work very well during the last month. I could do keying-in Computer, Old Testament portions Exodus 1:1 to 12:15. For missionary work, last month I visited villages Alasi, Doosura, Thema, Bugali and Kamara. In Alasi village, I prayed in the house of brother Kamulu, preached the Gospel to his family members and gave tracts. Similarly, I met Bro. Bittu and other believers in Thema village, preaching the Gospel and telling about the traits of Jesus Christ, I assured them that we can receive every blessing by Faith in Jesus Christ. I also prayed for another brother Rama who is willing to grow in the Lord. Please pray for my mother-tongue Gadaba, that key-in work, language checking etc. get completed soon, so that New Testament may be released and given to the people speaking Gadaba language.

Translator : Sister. Raveena
Mission Field : Hunsur (Karnataka)
Language : Yerawa

Greetings in the sweet name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

I could carry out my translation work, by the abundant grace of the Lord. Language checking could be completed in New Testament portions viz. epistles to Ephesians, Chapters 1 to 6; Philippians: Chapters 1 to 4; Colossians: Chapters 1 to 4. Besides this, I went to Siddhapura village and distributed copies of the Gospel of Luke translated into Yerawa language among the Yerawa-speaking people. Those who received it were very happy. Please pray that these people read the Gospel and grow in the Lord daily.

Missionary : Bro. Sampath Kumar
Mission Field : Mali Attigon (Odisha)

Greetings in the sweet name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

By the abundant grace of the Lord, last month I visited villages Kana Guda, Bother Gaon, Charli Buthar, Kondapuri, Bargaon, Duragaon, Kosaga Muda, Kidribhutti, Kodinga, Mukti, Changipal, Biripal Guda, Umargaon, Maganam and Kotnia Guda, meeting many people and preached the Gospel. I prayed for many, giving suggestions to grow in the Lord. Brothers Chakpati, Dileep, Sisters Thaimati, Kandy expressed their willingness to take Baptism. Sunday worship services. Fasting prayer and Cottage Prayers are conducted regularly. The Church here is in a very dilapidated condition. Even the land of the

Church is under dispute. Please pray for getting an alternate site and for building a new Church in it.

Translator : Bro. S.Vijayaraj
Mission Field : Kunjappanai (Tamil Nadu)
Language : Irula (Kunjappanai)

Glory be to the Holly name of the Lord! By the abundant grace of the Lord, last month I could carry out language checking in respect of New Testament portions - Gospel of Matthew Chapters 1 to 22. New words were added during the language checking. Besides, I also carried out Missionary work. Gospel books already translated into Irula (K) language were distributed. I prayed for the sick. Please pray for Brothers Sundaram, Joe, Anthony and Sisters Santhamani and Jayalakshmi to grow in the Lord.

Missionary : Bro. Megnad Mirgan
Mission Filed : Tunga Guda (Odisha)

May the Holy name of Jesus Christ be glorified! By the abundant grace of the Lord, I could visit 16 villages, met many people, preached the Gospel, distributed tracts and prayed for them. Brothers Balram, Basanto Harijan, Baapchand Gowda, Kodia Harijan, and Poorna Bhathra, received the Gospel very eagerly. Please pray for them to remain in the Lord and grow steadily. Sunday worship services, Friday Prayers, Second Saturday Fasting Prayer and literacy class in the evenings for adults as well as school drop-outs, are all conducted regularly. Please pray for my missionary work and for my family.

Promotional Staff : Bro. Ramalingam
Mission Field : Ooty (Tamil Nadu)

Praise the Lord! By the abundant grace of the Lord. I could visit many places and carry out my Promotional work without any hindrance. In the places I visited, I prayed for people who requested me to pray for them. Some years back, I had prayed for one sister. Recently she contacted me and shared this testimony. Testimony of Sister Amutha who hails from Nanja Nadu.

After her marriage, she received harsh treatment from her mother-in-law. Many a times, I had prayed for her with burden. In 1996, she delivered a son, but the child was born lame. Her husband forsook them and absconded with another woman. Due to poverty in her mother's

house, sister Amutha had to struggle all alone. I happened to visit her house and prayed for her. This Hindu lady, accepted Jesus Christ as her Saviour. She took refuge in a Charitable institution and served there and got shelter and food for herself and her son. The child joined a school. At present Sister Amutha is taking care of 26 children in that home and 8 others are working under her. Her son has grown up as a youth and is also working in that institution. He is earning Rs.5000/- per month and his mother Rs. 8000/- per month. Sister Amutha acknowledged that because I had prayed for her with burden, the Lord has lifted her up to this stage. Somehow she managed to get my phone number and contacted me and offered to support IBT ministries regularly. Please pray for Sister Amutha, her son, for that Home, Johnson Sir and for all those in that Home.

PRAY AND PRAISE

1. Praise the Lord for enabling us to conduct Promotional Meetings at Kalpakkam, Pichchampalayam, and Kanchampalayam as well as for the One-day Family Meet at Perundurai.
2. Praise the Lord for enabling us to conduct exegetical checking of New Testament in Sambalpuri language by the Bible Society of India at Bangalore. Also praise the Lord for the exegetical checking being carried out this month in respect of New Testament translated into Mundari language, Please pray for the early completion of these items of work and for the early release of New Testament and Full Bible in these languages.
3. For the translation work at present being carried out by IBT, we need translators for languages Marwari (Rajasthan), Kodavathak and Jenukurumba (Karnataka), Bodaporja, Sambalpuri and Mundari (Odisha). Please pray for getting Translators for these languages.
4. Please pray for getting proper Translators for those 16 languages which we have already chosen, but for which we do not have Translators.
5. Please Pray for the removal of all hindrances and delays in the language checking, exegetical checking by BSI etc. in connection with releasing Full Bible in Baduga, Sourashtra, Chhattisgarhi and

Bhojpuri languages. Please pray for the early release of full Bible in the above four languages.

6. Please pray for our IBT translators, that they carry out their translation work with dedication, Divine wisdom, proper thought process and with sincerity, by setting up a goal to complete their work in the time target given to them.
7. Language checking and Keying - in work is being carried on speedily in respect of

Gospel Books translated into Kuvi, Koya and Soura languages (Odisha). Pray that at least one book of Gospel is released in each of these languages in the month of June.

8. Language checking is being carried out in respect of New Testament translated into (Chhattisgarh) languages Kuduk and Halbi. Please pray for the early completion of all the work and for the release of New Testament in these two languages.

THE ANNUAL FASTING PRAYER MEETING OF IBT

Date : 11th and 12th May 2018 (Friday & Saturday)

Time : From 10.00 am on Friday, the 11th May to 2.00 pm on Saturday, the 12th May 2018

Place : Rev. Prof. S. Panneer Selvam Memorial Translation Training Centre, Coimbatore - 641 014.

Message : By IBT Preachers

Come and Join us to pray for the welfare of our country, missionary ministries and Bible Translation ministry. We cordially invite all to participate and pray.

For Contact : Mobile No. 9047057414

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