

SUVISESHA DHWANI

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Spiritual Gifts

The omniscient God will not do anything without proper aim and purpose. The Lord accepted cross by having the vision of joy and he submitted himself for the deliverance of mankind as a whole. Likewise the spiritual edification and growth of the assembly or the local church is also very important and this too is included in His perfect aim. That is why He paid a big price

His own blood to buy the church (Eph 4:15,16). We can infer the same idea from the statement that gifts are given for the edification of all. We can see it in 1Corinthians 12:7.

We say that something is a body when the different organs are united together and when the work and shape goes in a uniformed harmonious manner. This reasonable combination of different organs have taken place during the baptism of the spirit. There is no

need for any more addition. But for the proper development of spiritual growth there should be the participation of each and every individual of the body of whose head is Jesus Christ. Then only there will be proper growth and spiritual edification in the assembly which is the body of Christ. How is it possible?

1. Say thanks to the Head for making me an individual of His body. 2. We should know what

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CHINA: Bibles in Great Demand

The Bible Society has reported a growing demand for copies of the Bible in China where an estimated 500000 people converted to Christianity in 2009 alone. Although some four million Bibles were printed and distributed across China last year the rapid growth of the church means that the demand for Bibles is now out stripping supply. The official number of Christians in China stands at 28.6 million, but it is believed the true figure could be as high as 90 million if the estimated number of worshippers at unofficial house churches is included.

Bro. PAUL THOMAS - A FRUITFUL TREE (A Remembrance)

When I remember Bro Paul Thomas who is in glory today a poem comes to my mind. The meaning of the poem is like this, when we walk in this deserted world with fear and diseases, many will fall down. For them the fruitful trees on the roadside will give comfort. Bro Paul Thomas was a tree like that.

He was like Mordechai among the Brethren. He was a true child of God loved by everybody. He was a well wisher of the Lord's ministry. He was born as the son of K.K.Thomas of Velloor Kaithathusseriyil and Mariamma Thomas in 1936. After the education he worked in Bahrain and Saudi Arabia. Lord used him as a weapon to start an assembly in Al Khobar. After coming back to Kerala he was responsible for the KEM Fund and

Kottayam Assembly. He sincerely worked as the Vice President of SBS and as the Chairman of the Vazhoor TMM hospital.

From 1983 onwards he was the secretary of the KEM Fund. He was very service minded and introduced many good procedures for the wellbeing of the fund. He introduced all India fellowship for the gospel workers at different places. He was very eager to encourage the evangelists by traveling to many places with his physical weakness. He sincerely worked for the KEM Fund for 20 years. He had full details of the evangelists and their families around India.

At the Brethren centenary it was a great

surprise for everybody when he introduced each and every worker to the audience. He cared for every worker as a father cares for his children.

He was very strict in doctrinal subjects and corrected others without hurting them. His ability to attain blessings through fervent prayers was admirable. Same time he shared the heavenly messages with others in special talent and purity. He had a special talent to encourage and comfort the weak brothers. Even at his busy life he used to call evangelist and encourage them. His heart was aching for the North Indian ministry. Therefore even at his physical weakness he traveled across North India and personally involved in the work over

there. He has completed the work of many people as a single man within these 73 years.

At the time of the funeral service of Bro V.T.Mathai he said like this, dear brothers let us not quarrel anymore because we do not have a man like him to solve the problem. But today it has come to the truth. Bro Paul Thomas was a gifted man to solve the problems of Assemblies and families. He listened every ones complaints carefully and suggested solutions in the light of scripture with love. Therefore nobody was able to deny his opinions. I knew him as my father's friend. But within no time his love conquered me. The gospel work and workers, these were the two words which were always in his mind. His physical body was buried on 17th of April

in presence of many believers. New brothers have to come forward with dedication to fill the gap.

If he was able to do great work for Lord after coming back from a foreign country with much physical weakness, anybody with the same dedication can do such work for the Lord. Let Lord help each of us to work like him. Let us remember Sr. Marrykutty Thomas, the family members and all that are in the sorrow of his separation. Let us praise God for giving a brother like Paul Thomas who lived like a fruitful tree and gave shade and fruits to many children of God.

George Koshy

UNWORTHY BELIEVERS AND WORKERS

A strict warning was given about this subject by the Holy Spirit through Apostle Paul at the beginning of the Church era itself. Even though there were such unworthy people present in the Churches in those days, today it is more than those days. Some years ago there was a fasting strike and 'kheravo' in front of the house of a believer who was in-charge of an institution. Recently a man threatened for a fasting strike for publishing an article forwarded by a local Church. Even Suvisesha Dhvani had also been trapped in such cases. Recently a warning was given on telephone for publishing a news.

These are the reason behind writing this editorial. Why these things happen? It is a clear fact that there is no natural man in the Universal Church. But the increases of the natural and carnal people in the local Churches are creating this problem. The word evangelist is misunderstood by many people. The evangelists are the blessed gifts given by our God for the well being of the Assemblies. If we are respecting the giver of the gift we have to respect the evangelist also. At the same time the evangelist should be aware of his work and responsibilities. Since the evangelists are the given gifts of God to the local Churches, each and every evangelist should have a specific local Church. The work of the evangelist and every believer should be based on that local Church. The 3000 people who were baptized on

the day of Pentecost were based on the Church of Jerusalem. But today the things are moving against this principle. It is doubtful in the case of some people whether they have a local assembly. They are not responsible in their assembly. In a month they may come once for the word ministry or Bible class. And rest of the days they will arrange ministry in other Churches by personal influence. Some people are acting as the elder of different assemblies. I know personally some evangelist they worked sincerely and more than one assembly had started. Let us praise God for such people. On the contrary, the practices which are going on among us are against the Scripture. This is the reason behind this type of court cases, fasting strikes and threatening. This is the result of surrendering to the flesh instead of Holy Spirit.

Dear children of God there should be a change. We should have spiritual knowledge to respect the respectful and ignore the unworthy. Apart from wealth, relation and obligation we should act like Nathan who told to King David with boldness that "You are that man". Then the Church and believers will be saved from such unworthy workers. Not only that we will be redeemed from Demas and Humanaos who spend God's wealth for their own fame. Let us examine ourselves and correct ourselves from this disaster. Let us surrender ourselves for a change according to the will of the Spirit. Let God help us for that.

V.S.Mathew

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individual am I in that body. (understand the gift and utilize it). 3. Do not think that the whole body is one organ. 4. Never tell another individual I am not in need of you. 5. Do not engage in factionalism or groupism which will harm the body. 6. Become a partaker or participant of the suffering of another organ or individual. 7. When an individual is honoured let us rejoice with him. When each and every individual submits themselves for the service of each other the body church will have a harmonious and natural growth.

Another purpose of giving the gifts is for the building of the church which even the tower of hades or hell can never defeat it. The church should be built in a strong foundation. We can see this purpose even in the first statement that Jesus Christ has made about Church (Matt 16:18). We can understand the importance of the gifts only when we learn what the Lord has done for the building of church on a strong foundation. The foundation was laid on the precious gifts of prophets and apostles. (Eph 2:20). We have to use scripture as the

plumbline to find out the method and means of the building of the church above that strong foundation. If it is not so then we will not be the builder. We will be the people who demolish the construction. We should try our level best to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace.

Another purpose for giving the gift is the glorification of Jesus Christ who is the corner stone and the Head of the church and the groom. (1Tim 3:15). We do have to praise and raise the one who is the real truth the

witness of truth and the true light. As the four walls and pillars of a building keep the roof of a building when the gifts are utilized properly God the father will be glorified through Christ the Son (1Peter 4:10). The bride-the church- is to be ruled and administered by the gifts. We have to understand it very clearly that all the other adjustment which may appear good superficially our Lord does not desire it. (1Tim 3:5). According to Apostle John who has a respectful

position in the administration of the assembly tells that a church is like a family which has young youth and elderly (1John 2:12-14). The division cannot be on the basis of the age of the believers nor it can be on the basis of the day of salvation of each believer. But it will be on the basis of their spiritual maturity. The saints who minister each other realizing their gifts should know it and they should be faithful stewards who work for the spiritual edification of the assembly. Then it will be beneficial to each and every believer.

YMEF (ND)

Rajasthan Campaign

The gospel campaign concentrating the Ganganagar is going ahead as per the schedule. Because of the scorching sun and the harvesting season the schedule of the outreach is arranged to take place from 6.30am to 2pm. In the evenings we usually go to the houses of the believers and attend the prayer meetings. From 29.3.10 to 4.4.10 we were able to conduct gospel meetings in 36 places. We visited Akkavally and gave messages in four places. We also visited some houses as a follow up work. We went to villages like Lathuwala, Jogewala, Boniawala and the village called 2G. There the houses of Raju is now famous. Once he was a notorious criminal. But by the grace of the Lord he was saved and through his testimony many are attracted to Christ. Generally we can say that there is no objection against gospel in this area. But need people to work in this field. After a months work brother P V Johny, Davis P A, P B Paulose and P S Abraham retured to Kerala. Brother M C George, John T A, Jose T A and Jaimon K R joined the team. Kindly continue to pray for this ministry here.

P V Johny

Y M E F News

General Camp

If it be the will of the Lord the general camp of the general Y M E F which takes place in every two years will be held from August 24, 2010 evening to 27th evening at the Logos Pastoral Centre Neyyanttinkkara. Walk in the newness of life is the theme of the camp. Brother Kosahy Mathew, V P Poullose and Mathew Thomas are the main speakers. Kindly pray for the spiritual blessings of this camp.

Sabu Mathew General Secretary

Pathanamthitta: God willing the Pathanamthitta centre YMEF wish to conduct a one day outreach in the hilly region of Puthukada on May 1, 2010 from 9am. Kindly pray for the salvastion of the lost souls.

M S Babu

Kallisserry: If it be the will of the Lord the Kallisserry centre Y M E F wishes to conduct a one day out reach on 15.5.10 in association with the Pallickal Brethren Assembly from 9 in the morning to 5.30 evening. We have planned house visiting and open air meetings. Kindly pray for the spiritual blessings of this ministry.

John Thomas 9446918942

Gospel Meetings

Pathanamthitta:If it be the will of the Lord a gospel meeing in the name of Music Fest will be held in the Pathanamthitta District Stadium on January 28, 29,30 of 2011. **Brother Chandapilla Philip, Jose Mankudy and P G James** are the main speakers. Kindly pray for this ministry.

Thomas John General Convenor 0468 2327038

Veliyanadu (Alleppey): Venue: Veliyanadu Date: April 30, 2010 to May 2. Every Meetings from 6pm to 8.30. Main speakers Jose Mankudy and P G James. Kindly pray for the spiritual blessings.

Saji Joseph

Mallasserry: If it be the will of the Lord gospel meetings will be held at Thengumcavu under the auspices of the Mallasserry Brethren Assembly from April 29 to May 1. Brother K C Johnson, P G James and Chandapilla Philip are the main speakers. Kindly pray for the spiritual blessings.

George Mathew

BAD YEAR FOR PAKISTHAN CHRISTIANS

Islamabad, Pakistan: Last year was the worst period of persecution aganist christians in pakisthan in the last decade with attacks arrests, arrests and detentions that repectedly killed some 130 christians accross the Islamic country, an advocacy group has said "The wave of blasphemy hysteria in the last year has been levelled at christians more than any other minority community. The government says however it is cracking down on extremism and has banned militant groups such as Siphai-sahaba and Lashkiri-Jhavangi

Believer and Discipline

We have reached an age where discipline has no stand and it is gradually disappearing. We can see this indiscipline in the educational institutions, in the business fields and also among government employees. What is the situation of our assemblies now? Once a pastor was disciplined in an evangelical church in the capital city a few years before. It was heard that he had committed adultery. But later on a Sunday police was called to disperse the fighting group of believers. Then the hall was under lock and key for

a few days. The Lords name was "The locusts have no king yet go they forth all of them by bands (Proverbs 30:27). I in them and thou in me that they may be made perfect in one and that the world may know that thou has sent me and hast loved them as thou hast me John 17:23. All these statements are given by our Lord Jesus Christ and the God the father in relation to the saints. The words and phrases and the similies used to show the relation between the saints are better and it is beyond our imagina-

tion. It depicts such beautiful love. The believers are compared to the individuals of the body and Christ's is compared to the head of that body. Because of this relation no individual organ can deny another nor any individual can boast on another. All are inter related and inter linked. There cannot be any faction or schisms in it. Like the porcupine Groupism has become a curse in

the protestant group. When we have a caution study on it, the main reason for it can be seen as the lack of discipline among the assemblies and the believers. What great tragedy has come among us in the past because of divisions and groups. We may have to face certain difficulties when we bring into practice the divine truths in the scripture. Some may be victorious some others may fail in it. If one is asked about their failures many are like the porcupine. It is very sad. The children of God have to go together and should be harmonious. When someone is notified of their mistake it is not to discard them, but to correct and bring them along with us. But there may Diotroplus among us even today. We have to know and understand them. The aim of each and every individual should be the unity of the church the body- and also its healthy development.



We Should not be Late to Understand Ourselves

Today the reason for the failure of many people is that they are not able to understand themselves. Their development and growth to higher level is impossible in them as they are reluctant to utilize their hidden talents in useful manner which are gifted by God. Since each individual is surrounded by a pathetic condition of misunderstanding and wrong feeling, his inferiority complex makes him weaker and manifests him as bad person in the society.

God wants to do certain specific things through us. When he selects a person, He wants him to use the talents which are inane in him by birth in a useful manner. When God anointed Saul as the king, he elected him for certain purposes. He elected Apostle Paul as a vessel for three different matters. Even if we know all these things, we may not

able to fulfill the will of God. Still if we know who we are and why we are kept alive in this world, we will be able to reach at least to the minimum end of the God's desire. Many times the barrier that keeps us away from this responsibility is the inferiority complex. This affects our spiritual growth. Not only that, it will create a lacking feeling in our minds.

The famous Benjamin Disraeli stood up to give his first speech in the English parliament. All created some sounds and teased him. Finally they made him to sit. Disraeli said like this, "Now I am sitting. But once you will be made to hear me". The same thing happened very shortly. He became the Prime Minister of England. He overcame the inferiority complex in him.

Napoleon was searching for a book in a library in Paris. He was not able to take the book that

was on the top of the shelf. Then a tall person came and took that book and gave it to him. The tall man teased Napoleon by saying **I am taller than you**. Suddenly Napoleon replied that **but I am higher**. The short Napoleon was able to conquer many things in his life because he had a clear picture about himself. Even if that person teased him, Napoleon knew about himself. He understood that he is not smaller than him. Therefore he was able to conquer great things.

Therefore let us found out the hidden talents in us and surrender them before God. He will raise us. Just like that the Paul said to Timothy, let us try to enlighten the talents that God has given us. Then we will be able to understand ourselves. Enlighten the talents. Glorify the name of the Lord. **TVS**

In TV Channels

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People channel of Kairali's News Channel
All Fridays (Malayalam) 5.30-6.00 p.m.
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Jeevamritham Television Program

Every Saturday 9 p.m. - 9.30 p.m. in Power vision channel by Evg Chandapilla Philip

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