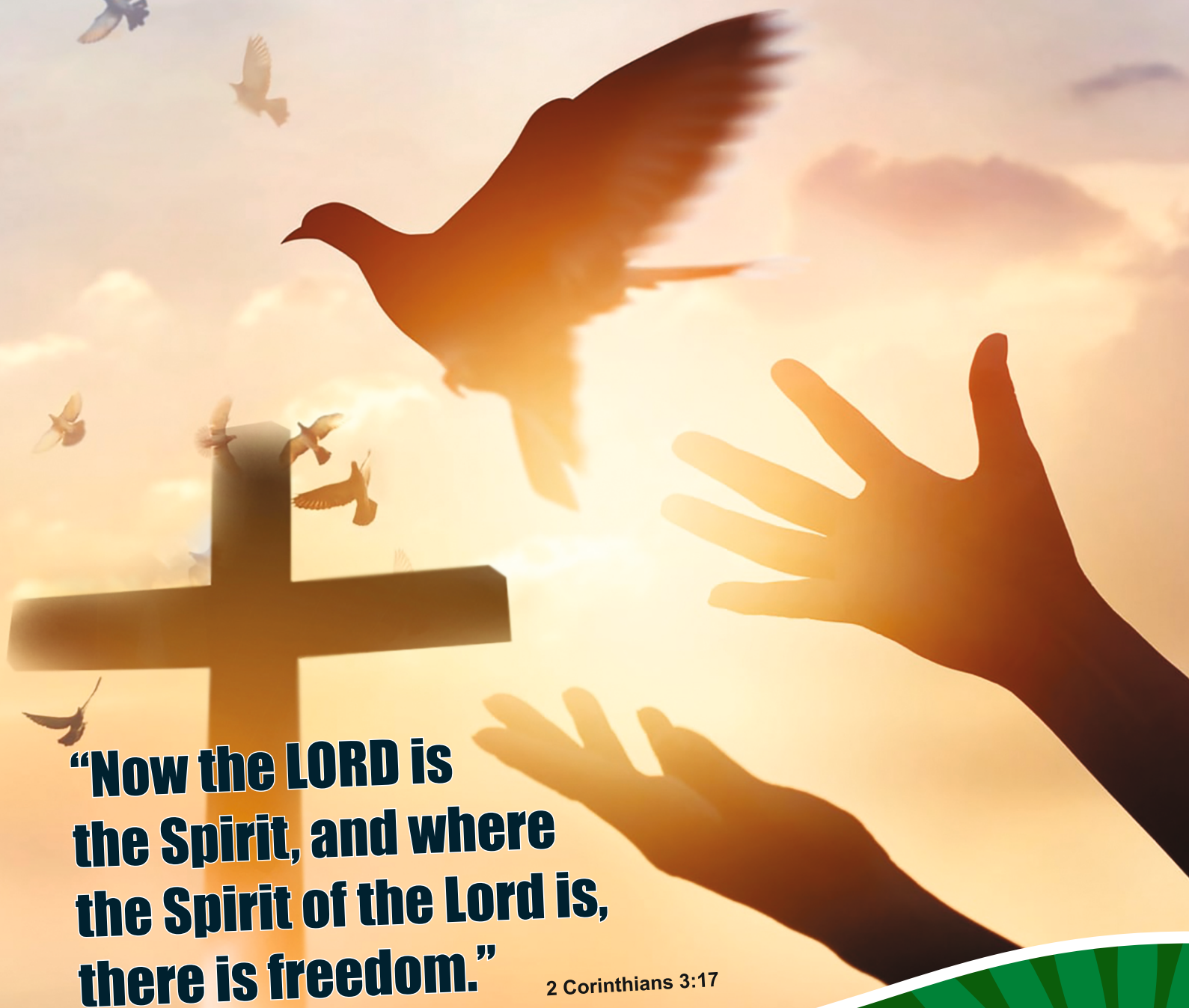




The **WAR CRY**

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**“Now the LORD is
the Spirit, and where
the Spirit of the Lord is,
there is freedom.”**

2 Corinthians 3:17



THE TRUTH WILL SET YOU FREE

Christian freedom does not mean being free to do as we like, it means being free to do as we ought" — William Barclay

Independence Day — it reminds of all the sacrifices the freedom fighters have made to secure the country's future. This day is celebrated to pay tribute and to remember the sacrifice and struggle of our brave heroes in the fight for freedom of India, the largest democratic country in the world.

While celebrating Independence Day, do we really enjoy and experience the true freedom in our life? According to dictionary, freedom is defined as the power or right to act, speak, or think without hindrance or restraint. If the fear, hatred, bitterness, insecurity, and despair prevailing among us, if people are dying of starvation and disease, if our children are sexually abused, assaulted, raped and murdered, if casteism and religionism dominating over humanity, if the economic resources and political powers accumulating and distributing unequally, if there are persecution, mob attacks and communal riots...can we say that we really enjoy the freedom?

Once Jesus made one of the most amazing, explosive, transformational claims in history that "then you will know the truth and the truth will set you free". The freedom that Jesus offers is a release from the chains that enslaves one's soul. Always people are under some ungodly chains such as immoral addictions, fear, greed, worldliness, ignorance, arrogance etc. Jesus was not setting us free to do whatever we wanted. He was freeing us to do what we ought to do. He was liberating us to do walk in relationship with God and to be the kind of people He created us to be. The spiritual freedom means the ability to obey God and choose His will for our lives.

This is significant that Jesus can free you wherever you are now! Paul was on the road to persecute Christians, the prodigal son was in the pig pen, Peter was in a fishing boat, Samaritan lady was about to draw water, another lady was in front of men holding stone in their hands...a thief was on the cross of execution when Jesus set his soul free!! Yes, "if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed" — John 8: 36. It means free — not a slave or not under restraint. He is the only Way — Truth - and Life!

How do we find freedom from penalty and power of sin? That comes only through accepting Jesus Christ's death on Cross as the payment for our sins. As we submit more sin loses its power.

The greatest freedom we have is the freedom to come to God at any time. So, we no longer have to worry about what will happen when we fall short of God's expectations. We just have to believe, do our best to live a life worthy of Jesus, and know that a better tomorrow is waiting us. What a freedom that is!!



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Freedom is a Gift

India is celebrating 75 years of Independence. We admire and deeply appreciate our heroes, who fought for our independence. Many of them laid down their lives so that we may have freedom to live in harmony with one another. We celebrate this freedom! And as followers of Jesus Christ, we thank God for such a gift of freedom.

Freedom has multiple applications in our day-to-day life. More importantly, it is a gift that God gave us when he created Adam and Eve. By this, He gave humankind the power of choice. God said to Adam that he can eat fruit of any tree in the garden, except the tree that gives knowledge of what is good and what is bad (Genesis 2:16-17). They used the power of choice to disobey God. As a consequence, it brought a curse on the whole creation. They chose what was not intended by their Creator. It really matters how we use this gift of freedom of choice.

Sadly, the error of misusing freedom of choice has remained an ongoing issue from generation to generation. A classic example after Adam and Eve is of their son, Cain, who misused the power of choice to destroy his innocent and God-fearing younger brother, Abel, as we read in Genesis 4:1-16. Cain murdered his brother because his own offering of some of the fruits of the field was not favoured by God, but Abel's offering of the first and best lambs from the sheep of his flocks had pleased God. There are several lessons we can take from what Cain did, and what he could have done, in exercising his freedom of choice.

A wasted sense of self-importance was Cain's problem. He was unable to see beyond himself to his brother. He was unable to absorb the goodness of his brother. According to him, it was he [Cain] who was the most deserving of God's favour. This caused him to lose his ability to think rightly. An exaggerated sense of self-importance always results in preoccupation with self. Having such a mind nullified Cain's ability to acknowledge the power of freedom. Instead, he was enslaved by self-pride. As a result, he murdered his brother. The Bible says, "Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall" (Proverbs 16:18).

A humble heart has no room for ego or pride or arrogance because it recognizes that all we have and all we are comes from God. As Paul reminded the Corinthians: "For who makes you different from anyone else? What do you have that you did not receive? And if you did receive it, why do you boast as though you did not?" (1 Corinthians 4:7).

Uncontrolled Emotions result in frustration, which made Cain enslaved to anger, that resulted in him taking undesired action. Emotions are good when they are used for right purposes at the right time. Otherwise, they become our weakness, causing damage to our own lives, as well as putting others at risk of destruction. That's what happened with Cain: he was so frustrated that he became so angry, which led him to murder his own brother.

The Bible teaches us to be mindful of our emotions and to control them. James 1:19-21 (ESV) says, "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls."

Not letting go of evil thoughts caused Cain to pre-plan evil action. The Bible tells us that Cain asked Abel to go out with him to the field (Genesis 4:8) – well intending to kill him. Jesus, when teaching the crowd, told them that "out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, theft, false witness, slanders. This what defiles a person..." (Matthew 15:19). Keeping hold of evil thoughts against another person will influence our freedom of choice, causing most of the evil to be born in action. Talking to the Pharisees, Jesus said, "You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies" (John 8:44).

True freedom of choice is to love and care for other people. We must see others beyond ourselves. We must always think good of others. If we love God, we love others. There will be no thought of harming others. We must stop encrypting thoughts of envy and evil against those around us. Let the love of God rule our hearts so that we choose to do what is good. Saint Paul, writing to the Galatians in 6:9-10 said, "Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we will reap if we do not grow weary. So then, while we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who are of the household of the faith".

No regard for God's word denied Cain the opportunity to reconsider the action he was about to take. Genesis 4:6-7 states, "The Lord said to Cain, 'Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? If you do what is right, will you




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not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must rule over it." Cain failed to respect God's instruction.

God gave him power to master sin and overcome it, but he continued dwelling in sin and this led to his downfall. This teaches us that God has given us the power to do and to choose the right thing. We, the children of God, must know that we have the power to do the right thing in the midst of all temptation.

We look around our world, in fact, our own communities, and realise how some people have misused the gift of freedom, damaging their own lives as well as those of others, our environment, and even the church. We must listen to the voice of God in his holy words and in prayers so that we become wise against Satan and his evil schemes. We must learn to look beyond our own lives and appreciate the good that we see in others. We must master our emotions and make them a source of compassion towards building up other people. We should get rid of all ill feelings towards those who need our appreciation and support, knowing that God is at work in others as well as he is in us. That is the way we will be able to use our God-given gift of freedom to please God and seek His favour.

Thank God we are not left on our own to struggle to live this way. Jesus is the way, the truth and life. His Holy Spirit is in us to enable us to live Jesus' way to please God.

What can I do to justify my living?
What can I be to make this life worthwhile?
I'll be a voice to call men to the Saviour
Just where I am, and win my Father's Smile. 

(Salvation Army Song Book #944)

NOT OURS' BUT HIS' WILL

Colossians 1:16

For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him:

'Life is a gift of God', is a widely used and recognized phrase, but do gifts ever come with sadness, discouragement or disappointment? Certainly not, then why life is full of these or is it just upon the way we take it? Most people keep on questioning this and struggle in their whole lives because of this battle of mind and heart. Well, as not every gift is proven to be useful, though some really become valuable, same is the case with this gift of Life, not every day ends with sufferings and not every morning starts with anxieties. If there are downfalls in life, only then, comfort and value of happy moments is noticed. Today, more than half of the population of the world is diagnosed with the severe issue of Depression, caused because of worries of future selves and most commonly affected one is the youth, considered to be the ones bringing revolution in the society. But seriously, those who are afraid of changes in life and are seen committing suicides, could really make the world a better place to live? Now the question arises, from where does, this much anxiety or worry comes, forcing people to let sin lead their lives?

The bitter truth is taking our lives in our own hands, is responsible for our sufferings because we start thinking that we are the ones creating it with a purpose that we dream of fulfilling. The biblical and indeed the only reality is that we are created by God, we did not choose to be born and live on this earth, but he chose us as written in the very beginning of the Holy bible, in fact, the whole journey being a Christian begins with this truth only that we are his creation, we were never a mistake, then why and how, we could hurt God by treating and considering ourselves as a mistake? Reason is, we grow up being ambitious and visionary, now the thing is, should we stop seeing dreams and aims for our lives and is that even possible? Not at all, we could not stop having dreams and goals for our lives, but keeping, always, one thing in mind, that we are created for God's great purpose to be fulfilled rather than our own selves, we learn acceptance and this quality is the first step towards positivity. This acceptance brings patience and understanding in life and thus, we stop complaining and start hoping for the greater purpose we are made. Proverbs 3:5-6 also declares, 'Trust in the LORD with all thine

heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.'

The point is, does acceptance come overnight and then stays forever leaving peace behind? Though the answer is no, it has to, it just requires a little faith in Jesus Christ. Nothing big God demands from us, only a faith as of a grain of mustard seed (Matthew: 17:20). The one who bore our sins, not even being born at that time and teaching us through that sacrifice, to differentiate between his and Satan's will, does he not deserve this much of faith in him? He is worthy of much more than this, but his love is not so demanding as of human beings. That is why, even if we are sinners, complaining, cheaters and fake, he accepts us the same time we go to him and show a little faith in him for our lives.

We have the best example of this in The Holy Bible, Paul, a person, whose, not only name changed, rather he became a completely new person in Christ because of his love and grace and then for the rest of his life, Paul had faith on God. Now this, brings one more message, that is in relation to faith. We, as a human being, think, faith is to have trust that whatever we ask or want, we get if we trust God. Is that really so? Isn't this an act of selfishness, demanding God to do what we say in the name of faith, even when we are not given this life for our personal pleasures or praises, instead his purposes through us? Well, this could be debatable, but the faith, Christ teaches us about, through his word, The Holy Bible is, trusting that whatever we are going through, whether good or bad, favorable or unfavorable, has a purpose to raise his name in the world, so people get saved.

I still remember the day; I came to know the meaning of being a true Christian. There was this girl in my school, I met, she had that charismatic look, smiley face and looked rich, attracting people towards her. By the time, we became friends, I knew, how disappointing and discouraging her life has been. She lost her mother, the day she born, lost her father, the day she achieved her goal of studying in that school, but was a responsibility of her uncle, who spent money on her studies and considered her a burden and curse for everyone. She was indeed heavy-hearted, but nobody could judge that and when I asked her how she managed to spread so much positivity, her reply was for her God, she



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didn't want people to doubt her God, rather praise and trust, I was too ashamed hearing this. I have seen the best kind of faith in her, she believed that faith is not to trust God with our purposes in life, but his purposes for our lives and it was her faith that these sufferings are in her life so she could never let anyone go through the same and thus, she spread so much positivity, so her God had made her for this greatest purpose, to be the messenger of God. How Blissful! Isn't it? And we, being Christians, in times of difficulties, sorrows, start complaining, comparing because we get too selfish for our purposes, but we have to keep ourselves reminding, not our will, but his alone, we are not here for ourselves, we are bought by his blood as The Bible says, then how could we live for ourselves, knowing that this isn't the life we are created for, this temporary life is a test, to achieve that eternal life. If we fail to know the purpose of this test, we fail to achieve that eternity in heaven with God.

We are fortunate enough to know the reality before those who are not in Christ yet, but this isn't going to last long, the day is near, we have to be wise, not just in our words, but in actions too and we know, the fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom. (Proverbs 1:7). Therefore, we need to be afraid, not of God, because he is full of love, but of the judgement we will have if we do not understand the life we are given, do not accept God's will for us, instead seek our own selfish purpose and get stressed, end our lives.

God is all about love, he even believes in keeping love above all, he wants all of us to be saved and not to settle for less ever. The plans and dreams we think for ourselves mean nothing in comparison of the wonders God wants to make happen through us, we just have to give ourselves into his hands because we are his creation and have faith in him that he will use us for the best.

May the whole world keep its hope alive and learns acceptance in the Lord Jesus Christ alone always.

Amen! 

THE POWER OF PRAYER

Bible reference - Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanks giving, present your request to God. Phil 4:6

After partial normalcy restored during Covid 19 wave of the year 2021, our corps was able to organized the holiness meeting on every Sunday morning. On one particular morning as we proceed the meeting, as called upon by the meeting leader, our Corps Sergeant Major announced the upcoming programs, conducting the offerings and its prayer as usual. But later, beyond his normal way of act, he included one important and heart touching subject which struck my heart that time and till date so far, and make me think the importance of my responsibility on pastoral care. The announcement was about an urgent prayer request from our member, who desperately craved for our comfort, prayer support and visitation. As the C.S.M conclude his words, he then turn to my side and gave me an eye contact for my approval before making the decision and further moves. I then reply him with bowing my head for showing my acceptance of the plea.

Soon the meeting was over; I, along with the local officers rushed to the house of the person concern and hold a meeting with them. As we went on, we carefully survey their needs and examine the situation they faced the day before that Sunday, and thus we came to know the main reason of their request of prayer support and pastoral visitation. Surprisingly, it was not about the money matter, nor about the pant for their Spiritual thirst. But it was an egg, a different tiny egg, smaller than most normal local egg that makes the family so terrified and numb, speechless and awe.

According to them, the egg they fear was found near the floor where they used to sleep and did not know where it come from; thinking it was of the mighty dragon who come to visit their family while they were falling asleep and leaved it to them for bringing mis-fortune. Other relatives believe that it was of the giant snake that came the night before and laid it as a sign of bad omen or oracle of woe. (The Brus, among whom I presently work believe in such myth and tales) Beyond our pre-

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occupied mind, the family took the case of that egg extremely serious. For us it was simply an egg, but for them it was like a nightmare that makes the entire family and relatives sleepless, restless and upset.

But then I stood up and lead a devotion, open the Bible portion of II Timothy 1:9b-11 where we read "This grace was given us in Christ before the beginning of time, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel." While giving a short sermon to the family, I wholeheartedly preach to them that there is nothing to fear because the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ compelled those fear of devil, power of darkness and death. Remind them that they are the Children of the almighty father God, he who protect and preserve his children from all sort of fear. As I conclude, I then started the pray for the family with deep compassion and eagerness to expel their fear state of mind.

At the end of prayer, we saw calm and happy face rather than sadness, which proved their fear and stress was relieved, their terrific, withered face was replaced with joyous behavior. We witnessed and testified the power of humble prayer with instant mighty answer right at that moment. With rejoicing on what the Lord's has done for us, we happily return to our respective places.

Dear friends, we often underestimate the power of Christian prayer, sometimes thinking it less powerful than money and power of men; Or assuming prayer as unnecessary act for today while we live in the world of easy-come and easy go. Nevertheless, the importance of prayer still remains the same, there is no alternative weapon to destroy the fear of death and all sort of adversities that happen around us as we just heard the story of fear upon the tiny egg and its way of relieved through prayer.

There is no other way but only through prayer to reach the heavenly father's heart and realm of his presence amidst chaos and uncertainty among us. It is the power of prayer the makes our heavenly Father come down on our level and help his children who are in need of him. The prayer makes the hand of almighty God to move the unmovable stone for his people.

Let us renew our mind that – It was Paul's and Silas's prayer that shaken the foundation of Philippian prison, open the doors of it, loosen the chains of prisoners and set the Jailer free from death row. It was through the power of prayer that the Gentile jailer could bow down and fell trembling before his own inmates, changing the prison environment and protocol upside down, make him served and nursed their wounds. Furthermore, most importantly; it was the power of prayer that turn the darkest prison into a mid-day light, setting the jailer and his family free from bondage of sin, and get baptized. (Acts 16:25-32)

The same is offer for us without losing its strength and power till today, as it still remains the same, avail it and make use of prayer in every situation. Present your request to God through prayer without hesitation. However, always remember that He will answer your prayers according to his will in one way or another for your own good as it once happen upon Jesus in the garden of Gethsemane. Also, remember that there is no un-answered prayer before God, for God hear every prayer that come out of his beloved children. He is ready and eager to answer the prayers for the welfare and good of his Children. As the Bible tells us "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." Romans 8:28 🕊

"COMPARISON DESTROYS THE PERSONALITY"

Major C. Dani Samuel Raju
Editor, India Central Territory



Bible Portion: 1 Samuel 18: 6 – 11

I was inspired by God to write this article, which is most relevant to everybody. We are human beings, God creates us to live in Holy, he wants to love each not to hate, he is expecting our hearts not our wealth, God created us for a special purpose on the earth, we are here to glorify God through our deeds, and there are many phobias which effected by people, I noticed many people are suffering with "COMPARISON PHOBIA" Which is very dangerous to everyone. I want to bring awareness about this disease. Through the above Bible portion, I want to give some spiritual insights and results of comparing with others.

COMPARISON IS A THIEF OF JOY:

The definition of Comparing means examining the similarities and differences of two or more things, ideas, or people. When we compare ourselves with others, it can be a form of Jealousy that result from not trusting in the Lord's Love and fairness. Comparison ourselves negatively with others leads to discontent, discouragement and Jealousy.

A) King Saul and David: Saul was very angry; this refrain displeased him greatly. "They have credited David with tens of thousands," he thought, "but me with only thousands. and he hurled it, saying to himself, "I'll pin David to the wall." But David eluded him twice. 1 Samuel 18:11. When David defeated Goliath he and Israel Army coming back to Jerusalem with great Victory, young women shouting joy and singing the songs like David ten thousand and king Saul one thousand. Whenever king Saul disturbed about this song and had jealousy against David, he is comparing with little David, King tried many times to kill David, but God protected from the dangerous

situations. King Saul had no peace with comparison, he wasted his time, inside he was burning and outside looks very calm, he was suffered with Comparison Phobia, God made common man Saul as a King, he had great reputation, wealth, family, obedient ministers and great mansion, but daily he is comparing with common man David, at last he died by his own sword "Saul said to his armour-bearer, "Draw your sword and run me through, or these uncircumcised fellows will come and run me through and abuse me."

But his armour-bearer was terrified and would not do it; so, Saul took his own sword and fell on it (1 Samuel 31:4)

B) AARON AND MIRIAM "Has the LORD spoken only through Moses?" they asked. "Hasn't he also spoken through us?" And the LORD heard this. (Numbers 12:2). Moses' siblings Aaron and Miriam both were talking and grumbling against Moses, because their own brother Moses had great reputation among the people of Israel, people are honouring Moses and saluting, Satan entered the heart of Miriam, an account of wicked heart Miriam started comparing with his brother Moses, she had no peace, inside she was displeased the leadership of Moses. She started the conversation with brother Aaron "Has the Lord spoken only through Moses" God Jehovah heard both conversation and cursed Miriam with leprosy, she was expelled from the community for seven days, it means she was socially boycotted, it was happened only because of comparing with her own brother, but Moses prayed to God to heal her. In some of the families' brothers and sisters they don't have good relationship with each other's, comparing each one wealth, job, education, Property matters etc. an account comparing they are making plots to kill, we can see many news every day. Dear friends we should not compare with your own sibling, if your

brother and sister are greater than you, give thanks and appreciate them, do not allow the thought of comparison, if you allow this satanic thought, you may throw into problems.

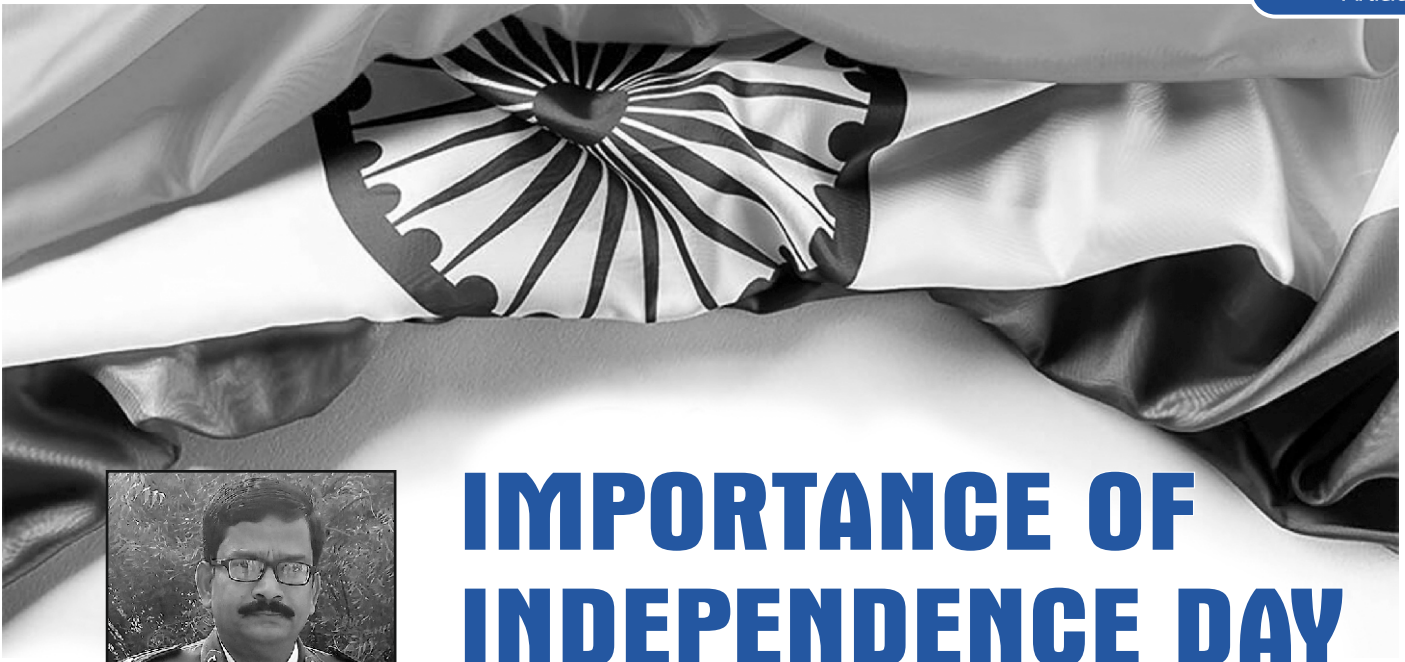
C) CAIN AND ABEL: "but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favour. So, Cain was very angry, and his face was downcast. (Genesis 4:5) Envy, Pride, Ingratitude competition (am I keeper to my brother? V 9). As we all know the first Harvest celebration upon this earth, Cain, and Abel they have given their offerings to God, both are first brothers and sons of Adam and Eve, God appreciated Abel the heart of Giving to God, so Cain displeased about his own brother, he was comparing with own brother this led to kill him. One day he killed his brother and acting as innocent person, but God questioned him where is your brother Abel, he replied rudely "Am I keeper to my brother? An account his big sin and comparison Cain was expelled from the God's presence, and he was cursed as a first vagabond upon this earth. My dear brothers see how Cain spoiled his life only because of comparison; he got two titles as first murder and vagabond. We should not compare with others.

Quit yourself for comparing with others.: My dear Friends the following bible verses helps us to quit comparing with others.

"We do not dare to classify or compare ourselves with some who commend themselves. When they measure themselves and compare, they are not wise". 2 Corinthians 10:12

Which the Lord gave us for edification and not for your destruction: Paul recognizes that Jesus grants authority in the church for one reason. He does it to build the body of believers up (edification), not to tear it down (destruction).

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IMPORTANCE OF INDEPENDENCE DAY

Major Joseph Khan

Education Secretary, India Northern Territory

If we recall our school days, how we used to treat Independence Day as a day of celebration, a special day, a day of joy. We participated in the parades, and cultural programs of the school. Eating sweet was a very special memory. We used to hear many patriotic speeches, which echoed the struggle, jailed experiences, and torture of our elders in the hands of the police for the sake of their effort to bring independence to the Country.

We do remember Leaders like Mahatma Gandhi, Jawahar Lal Nehru, Netaji Subash Ch. Bose, Lal Bahadur Shastri, Sardar Balav Bhai Patel and many more, for their contribution to the independence of India.

The main aim of our Independence was to send back the rulers turned merchants of Grate Britton to their homeland and to rule our country ourselves. There was a hope to rule our Independent nation and get the benefit of our fundamental rights and live peacefully with each other. People were expecting justice, honesty, and all kinds of good things from an Independent Country.


Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, leader of the Constitution drafting committee, incorporated all the rights that we were

going to enjoy in an independent India. And, the struggle bear fruits, we declared ourselves Independent from outside slavery. There was a spirit of newness, new hope, and Now we have almost completed 75 years of Independence and going to celebrate 76 years of Independence day. If we look at all these years, we could say, we have achieved much, as we could see most of our people going through a process of change, whether it is education, employment, industry, road, transportation, army, hospitals, schools, and so on.

Despite all these achievements, we are still lacking independence in various aspects of our lives. Gender equality still needs to be addressed. The Cast system is prevailing, especially in villages. Many superstitions are still prevailing. Corruption is rampant in every sphere of life. Education is still out of reach to many people. Unemployment is a matter of concern. The legal system needs some amendments to confer quick justice to underprivileged people. The present political system is in a corrupt form, and many undertrials and powerful people are holding portfolios of important ministries. Most of literate, wise people from diverse groups are unwilling to join politics due to the fear of dishonesty. The fear of Police is

still prevailing, as the police listen to only the powerful. The Independence was fought by the people of all religions, but some of religious frenzy groups have been trying their best to break the unity of our Country.

As we profess Christianity, proclaim our integrity in matters of our belief, can we say we are independent? Are we involved in any kinds of concerns that our country facing now? Are we corrupt? are we supporting the caste system in our community, or are we involved in immoral, illegal activities. If we have achieved true independence, are we praying for the concerns in our community, state, and country? Whatever we do, are they remain only in papers? That's a matter of concern as well.

It is the priority of all Christians and especially the soldiers of the Salvation Army, to teach and preach the true meaning of Independence to our people and people around us. For that, we need to practice ourselves to show our light to the world. We have the power to empower the community because that power is not the power money, but Jesus himself, who has entrusted us the work to pronounce truth, and the truth will give us true independence. 

FREEDOM

Saupriya Solanki

Pandoli Corps, Petlad Division, India Western Territory



God created this earth, and he made Adam and Eve. They both were completely independent. However, because of Satan's temptation, they sinned and became enslaved to sin. Then Lord Jesus Christ was born on this earth to set sinners free and set free sinners by shedding his blood.

Once upon a time, India was the land of gold and the most prosperous country. Mughals ruled India, followed by Britishers. William Carey is known as the Father of the Modern Missions. He came to India as a missionary and supported his manifesto of missions with the argument that the Bible is the seed that would produce civilized and free governments in the non-Christian world, as it had done in Europe. Many Englishmen disagreed with William Carey. However, in 1833, Lord Thomas Babington Macaulay won the moral argument in the British Parliament that Britain must rule India in such a way as to prepare Indians to govern themselves as a free nation. In addition, Lord Macaulay stated in the British Parliament that India's freedom is a mission because Jesus, the Messiah, came to the earth to break the chains of injustice, get rid of exploitation in the workplace, free the oppressed, and cancel debts (Isaiah 58:6). Lord Macaulay further speaks about the Lord Jesus said by quoting the prophet Isaiah, "God's Spirit is on me; he has chosen me to preach the Message of good news to the poor, sent me to announce pardon to prisoners and recovery of sight to the blind, to set the burdened and battered free." (Luke 4:18). Thus, William Carey and Lord Thomas Babington Macaulay sowed the seeds for India's Freedom by quoting the Bible.

On 15th August 1947, almost 200 years of British rule ended, and India gained freedom. This is a very proud day for all Indians because we remember the sacrifices made by millions of freedom fighters who sacrificed their lives in the freedom struggle. Their incredible restraint and patriotism eventually forced the British Empire to retreat. We celebrate Independence Day to enliven this moment and enjoy the feeling of freedom and independence.

Freedom is the thing we can claim and declare that we are free. Freedom is an important thing, but in each of his letters, Apostle Paul shows freedom differently. Almost always, liberation from sin, freedom from power or control over sin. Paul reminds us that we, too, have been set free in Christ. In Christ, we are

set free from sin for one purpose. This is how Apostle Paul begins the fifth chapter of his letter to the Galatians with the word freedom. "Christ sets us free." Here are some different wordings of this statement:

- It is for freedom that Christ has set us free.
- Christ has liberated us to be free.
- Christ has set us free to live a free life.
- So, Christ has truly set us free.

What is freedom? Freedom from oppressive persons or systems we get. Freedom from the power of sin we understand. But for what, exactly, does our freedom in Christ give us? Paul's ultimately getting at is: What will we do with our freedom? That Christ has given us true spiritual freedom is a given. Now, there is a choice to be made. What will each of us choose to do with it?

Paul tells his readers that our freedom is to serve others. Paul writes, "It is absolutely clear that God has called you to a free life. Just make sure that you don't use this freedom as an excuse to do whatever you want to do and destroy your freedom" (Galatians 5:13). Just because you have freedom does not mean you should limit yourself to using it to your advantage.

Paul raises the same issue in his letter to the Corinthians. "I have the freedom to do anything, but not everything is helpful. I have the freedom to do anything, but I won't be controlled by anything" (1 Corinthians 6:12). A contemporary parallel might be a motorcyclist saying, "I choose to ride without a helmet because it's lawful to do so." Many would probably say, "Sure, but your chances of survival are a lot better if you're thrown from the bike and hit your head on the pavement if you're wearing one."

All things are lawful but not always beneficial. This is why Paul says, "Don't let this freedom be an opportunity to indulge your selfish impulses but serve each other through love" (Galatians 5:13). The fight we are fighting is not a fight for freedom but a fight with ourselves. Day after day, we are told to think about ourselves, but the Spirit invites us to think first about who and how we can serve. Paul describes this battle as one between flesh and spirit. But he does not mean that we should mortify the flesh, that any attempt to find pleasure or satisfaction in our bodies or the world we live in is a negative thing.

This sort of interpretation of this battle between flesh and spirit led to the idea that Christians cannot have any fun, that there is no joy in our faith, and that it is all about the struggle of service that feels like slavery.

On the contrary, Paul shows that a self-centred life leads to harshness, loneliness, and breakdowns. Compare the lists that are presented here in our text: repetitive, loveless, cheap sex, a stinking accumulation of mental and emotional garbage; frenzied and joyless grabs for happiness; trinket gods; magic-show religion; paranoid loneliness; cutthroat competition; all-consuming-yet-never-satisfied wants; a brutal temper; an importance to love or be loved; divided homes and divided lives; small-minded and lopsided pursuits; the vicious habit of depersonalizing everyone into a rival; uncontrolled and uncontrollable addictions; ugly parodies of community. I could go on (Galatians 5:19-21). The meaning behind these words is selfishness. The essence of all words is to please ourselves at the expense of others. These actions, behaviours, and attitudes set people apart from other people or communities. They are words of individualism. It is all about me.

In contrast, the second list is about love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23). These words are about interdependence and caring, building up the community of faith and the wider world - including our so-called enemies. This way of life is full of all kinds of joy.

Paul tells us to celebrate freedom in this way through his letters. This may be the same freedom that we celebrate as Independence Day. This is the freedom to take care of others and serve all people as equals in the eyes of the law and God. This freedom is not about ourselves but an opportunity to serve others. If we look around us, we can see many opportunities to help others. When you help someone, the joy you get will be tremendous. We are soldiers of the Salvation Army, and the mission of the Salvation Army is to share the love of Jesus by caring for people and gaining happiness by providing care. And hence we sing, "Joy, joy, joy, there is joy in the Salvation Army." Let us resolve to serve others and rejoice on this Independence Day. Happy Independence Day everyone.



TRAINING COLLEGE TEACHING STAFF CONFERENCE 2022

All India Training College Staff Conference 2022 was held in Hill Forest Resort, Lonavala from 1-3 June 2022 under the leadership of Colonel S P Simon, National Executive Officer and Colonel Annamma Simon, Secretary for Women's Development India National Office, Kolkata supported by HRDI, Captain Asservadam Cheeli, Secretary for National Leadership and Captain Latha Cheeli, Secretary for Youth, Children and Education. The Training Principal, DSS, Education Officer/Librarian, Senior Training Officer/Field training Officer along with National Theological Faculty member total 29 participant attended the conference.

The theme for the conference was selected according to our General Brian Peddle's call to Mission with the theme Be Ready, Be Engaged and Take the Responsibility

The inauguration meeting was started on 1st June 2022 at 2:00 pm led by Colonel Vanlalfela Chawnglut, Territorial Commander and Colonel Ropari, TPWM. Major Samson Macwan, Secretary for HRDI welcomed the leaders and all the participants in the name of Jesus Christ.

Colonel S. P. Simon, National Executive Officer and Colonel Annamma Simon, Secretary for Women's Development India National Office, Kolkata, and Colonel Vanlalfela Chawnglut, Territorial Commander and Colonel Ropari, TPWM lightened up the candles and commence the seminar in the name of the Father, Son and The Holy Spirit. In response,



Colonel S. P. Simon, urged all the delegated to think about their Spiritual Ministries at training college and to lean on God for all wisdom and knowledge. The Territorial Commander brought challenging everyone to train the cadets for the spiritual leadership in the Army.

The following subjects dealt at the conference:

1. Spiritual Leadership: Demand and Delegation - Colonel S. P. Simon, NEO

2. Personal Development and Shared Ministry - Colonel Annamma Simon, SWD

3. Facilitating Self Study Method and Maintaining Relationship - Lt. Colonel John Williams, Chief Secretary, IWT

4. BTH Programme Orientation & BTH Curriculum Revision - Major Samson Macwan, Secretary for HRDI

5. The Financial Sustainability & New Initiatives in TSA - Captain Aseervadam Cheeli, Secretary to National


Leadership

The Relationship Building Activity in Khandala Hill Station followed by cultural programme was held on 2nd June 2022 supported by Major D. Latha and Major Alice Jose and every training college faculty participated gladly in this programme.

The Final spiritual meeting was conducted by Colonel S. P. Simon, National Executive Officer and Colonel Annamma Simon, Secretary for Women's Development. In this meeting Lt. Colonel John William, Chief Secretary and Lt. Colonel Ratnasundari, TSWM were especially present to bless the participant. Colonel S. P. Simon, National Executive Officer brought the final message on "REMAIN IN ME" from John 15:1-15 and challenged everyone to bear many fruits for the extension of God's Kingdom and for the advancement of The Salvation Army Ministry in India.

The conference was very much refreshing for all Indian Training College Teaching Staff and went with much burden to train the cadets efficiently and better for The Salvation Army Ministry in their respective territories.

I am thankful to Colonel S. P. Simon, National Executive Officer and Colonel Annamma Simon, Secretary for Women's Development India for their guidance and support in this conference.

Please, continue to pray for Training College Ministries in India! 



Major Samson Macwan
Secretary for HRDI
India National Office

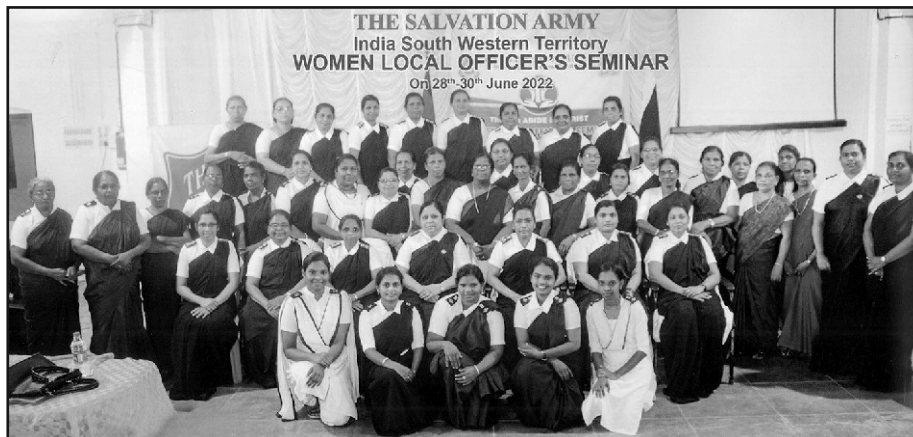
WOMEN LOCAL OFFICERS' SEMINAR, INDIA SOUTH-WESTERN TERRITORY

Under the Leadership of Colonel Indumati Christian, TPWM, the Territorial Women's Ministry Department conducted women local officers Seminar along with all DDWM'S from 28 to 30 June 2022 at HRD Centre Kowdiar ISWT, based on the theme "Abide in Christ." The Seminar focused on enhancing the leadership qualities of women local officers and how effective should be women's ministries in the modern age.

Lt. Colonel Mariyakutty Yohannan, THLS led the Welcome and praise and worship. Colonel Indumati Christian inaugurated the Seminar.

The prayer groups were formed and given name for each group from the Bible like Deborah, Ruth, Hannah, Rebecca, and Esther. were the speciality of this seminar. Lt. Colonel Sonia Jacob, Lt. Colonel. Snehadeepam Saju, Major Prema Jose, Major. Mercy Simon and Mrs. Bindu SHL Sec TVM Division were the Leaders of the groups. This helped the delegates to understand how women were leading the people and helping the community and power of prayer in unity.

Second day the session was started with the Morning devotion led by Maj. Flory Thampy, DDWM Adoor Division. The IHQ Woman's Bible studies "More Than Conquerors" was launched by Colonel Indumati Christian TPWM. Colonel had focused how important this bible study in our daily life and offered the prayer for WM around the world. Then after the first Bible study "Trusting in God" were



conducted by Lt. Colonel Rajam. Daniel. TSWM. With different quotes and discussion points.

"Women rights and Law" Subject taken by Miss Swethably Bennymon (Advocate) presented that valuable information that helps, and awareness about the fundamental rights of women of the state and country and how to face in case of violence against women in the community based on different issues.

"Women Development and Modern Challenges" This important subject was taken by TPWM. She pointed out that educational issues, gender prejudice, lack of unity, law confidence, and traditional barriers, ignorance that makes women feel inferior. So, TPWM pointed out that the take Challenges and develop us.

Mrs. Asha Justin Home league Secretary Trivandrum Central Corps led the evening, Prayer. The day was concluding with a colorful cultural program.

Delegates from various Division presented various cultural items.

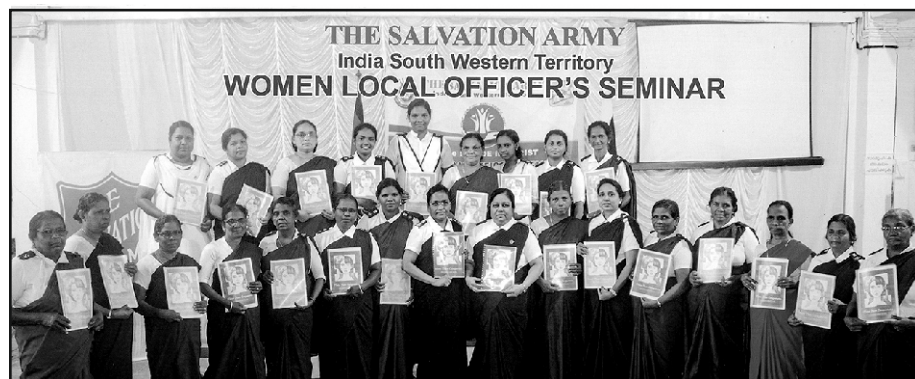
Major Susha Roy, DDWM, Malabar Division conducted final day morning devotion. Who also focused her thoughts on the theme "Abide in Christ"

"Responsibilities of local Officers and future plans" Lt. Colonel took Rajam. Daniel. TSWM took Subject describing how home league can stand strong with the support of three pillars - the corps officer, home league secretary, and the home league treasurer. If they work together prayerfully goals can be easily achieved.

The time was given to the delegates for discussion and feedback about the bible characters, Hanna, Mary mother of Jesus, Rahab, bleeding women, and Eve.

The seminar concluded with the spiritual meeting, conducted by Lt. Colonel Rajam Daniel TSWM. TSWM encouraged the delegates to do their duties what God has entrusted upon them.

We are grateful to our beloved leaders for arranging this special seminar. All glory to God. 🙏



Captain Beenarani Titto
Women's Ministry Department, THQ
India South-Western Territory

MONKEYPOX



Mercy Solanki
Pandoli Corps, Petlad Division
India Western Territory

Monkeypox is a rare viral infection usually associated with travel to Central and West Africa. It is usually spread by very close contact with someone with monkeypox and most people recover within a few weeks.

Since May 2022, there has been a global increase in monkeypox cases reported from multiple countries where monkeypox is not usually seen. Cases so far are mainly among people with no recent travel to Central or West Africa, meaning there is local community transmission.

What are the symptoms?

Symptoms usually begin 7-14 days after exposure. This can be as short as 5 days or as long as 21 days.

Monkeypox begins with:

- Fever
- Headache
- Muscle aches
- Backache
- Swollen lymph nodes
- Chills
- Exhaustion.

Within 1 to 3 days (sometimes longer) after the appearance of fever, the patient develops a rash, often beginning as sores in the mouth and on the face then spreading to other parts of the body.

Lesions start as a flat red rash that develops into pustules which crust and fall off.

A notable symptom of this international outbreak is that the rash may first appear in the genital area.

How does monkeypox spread?

Monkeypox spreads from one person to another through prolonged close contact (by inhaling the infected droplets), or direct contact with infected bodily fluids, lesions or scabs on the skin, or contaminated objects, such as bedding or clothes. It may also be passed on by direct contact during sex. It does not spread via casual contact.

Who is at risk of monkeypox?

Anyone who has been in close contact with someone with monkeypox is at risk. People could be exposed if they were in close prolonged contact with a person with the disease.

How is monkeypox prevented?

There are number of measures that can be taken to prevent infection with monkeypox virus:

- People who have monkeypox should self-isolate from others until the rash is fully resolved.
- Practise good hand hygiene after contact with people with monkeypox. For example, washing your hands with soap and water or using an alcohol-based hand sanitiser.
- Use personal protective equipment (PPE) around people infected including masks and gloves.
- Avoid contact with any materials, such as bedding, that have been in contact with an infected person.

Can people die with monkeypox?

In most cases, the symptoms of

monkeypox go away on their own within a few weeks, but in some individuals, they can lead to medical complications and even death. Newborns, children and people with underlying immune deficiencies may be at risk of more serious symptoms and death from monkeypox.

Complications from severe cases of monkeypox include skin infections, pneumonia, confusion and eye infections which can lead to loss of vision. As per World Health Organisations report, 3–6% cases have led to death in endemic countries in recent times, often in children or persons who may have other health conditions. It is important to note that this may be an overestimate because surveillance in endemic countries is limited. How is monkeypox diagnosed?

Diagnosis depends on the doctor suspecting monkeypox in a patient with suggestive symptoms. Infection can be confirmed by testing the blister fluid or scabs from the skin rash.

How is monkeypox treated?

The illness typically lasts for 2–4 weeks and is mild. Some patients may need simple pain medicines and oral fluids, with a health care professional monitoring their health. A few patients may need supportive management such as intravenous fluids and medicine to control fever or pain. There are some medications available that may assist in treatment of people with severe illness. Severe cases may need intensive care.

Further information

For further information, please talk with your family doctor. 

A TRIBUTE TO A VALIANT SOLDIER OF GOD & HIS ARMY.



Lt. Colonel Chintha Danaiah (80) S/O Late (Brigadiers Ch Sundara Das-Varadanamma) has been Promoted to Glory on Tuesday 10th May 2022, 3:00 pm at Bapatla. Commissioned in "UNDAUNTED 1969" Session. An era has come to an end. A void has been created in The Salvation Army World in particular the ICT. A true warrior of God's Army has been summoned home. Lt. Colonel Danaiah's zeal for The Army is unmatched, never compromising on the teachings & Doctrines, which were very close to his heart. He would clinch opportunity that comes his way to serve the Army God Almighty. The Colonel has been a great inspiration to many. His sense of humour combined with discipline is phenomenal. He had fought a good fight and now in humble obedience has given heed to the call of the Heavenly Father.

Having dedicated four of his five children to The Salvation Army work is no simple task. That shows how much Colonels truly believed in The Army & God's service.

The Colonel has been an embodiment of true service & carried it on until his last breath. Even during his last days, he was happy listening to the Brass Band tunes of The Salvation Army. I am confident that he would have been content with what he achieved for the Lord.

Along with his wife Lt. Colonel Ch Ratnavathi Devi held the following Appointments such as 9 years as Government Teacher cum Officer, Asst

to District Officer of Perali District (1-5-1969), Warden cum English Teacher SA High School Bapatla (15-6-1970), Correspondent Tissot Sunrise school Bapatla (1973), Assistant EB Hospital Nidubrolu (24-6-1976), Assistant EB Leprosy Hospital Bapatla (1-7-1979), Superintendent Girls Hostel Eluru (5-8-1980), Pioneer officers of the Salvation Army in Bengaluru (5-5-1981), Field training Officer OTC Nellore (7-5-1983), Villivakkam corps officer Chennai (3-2-1985), Chennai central corps officer cum Warden Haven Boys Home (16-8-1985), DYS of Gudivada Division (1-7-1987), Senior Training Officer OTC Nellore (1989), Property Inspector Bapala (1-10-1990), Trade, Music and Special Efforts Secretary THQ (1-6-1992), Secretary & Correspondent William Booth Junior College Bapatla ((1994), Editor THQ (1-5-1995), Divisional Commander of Gudivada Division (1-10-1998), HRD Secretary at Nidubrolu 15-5-2002 and finally he entered into retirement on 6-1-2004, Nearly 35 years he did faithful service in the Salvation Army. Went to SACO in 1882, Went to ICO London in 1987, attended many workshops and Seminars.

We praise & thank God for Uncle Lt. Colonel Danaiah as we fondly remember him and our assurance to his 5 children, 11 grandchildren, sons-in-law & daughters-in-law that we will continue to uphold them in our prayers for God to strengthen them during this very special time. May they continue the legacy left behind by their father in serving God. 🙏

Dr. Samuel R. C. S. Rao
Corps Secretary, Central Corps
Chennai Division
India Central Territory



THE WAR CRY

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Our Mission

"The Salvation Army is an international movement, a part of the Christian Church whose spiritual motivation has practical application in an evangelical, social, educational and health ministry.

It's goal is to help all people find fullness of life in a relationship with the living Christ discovered through the scriptures and demonstrated by holy living in peace and harmony with others."

'This is the Story...
This is the Song'

"STAND UP, STAND UP FOR JESUS..."

George Duffield Jr. D.D. (September 12, 1818 – July 6, 1888) was an American Presbyterian minister and hymnodist.

He was born on September 12, 1818, the fifth such George Duffield.

He graduated from Yale College in 1837 and the Union Theological Seminary in New York. He was a pastor from 1840 to 1869 at numerous cities. He married and had a son, minister Samuel Willoughby Duffield. He died on July 6, 1888 and was buried at Elmwood Cemetery in Detroit.

Duffield was known as a zealous advocate of abolition and Union causes during the U.S. Civil War. Upon the tragic death of another abolitionist and friend, he shared in a sermon, "I caught its inspiration from the dying words of that noble young clergyman, Rev. Dudley Atkins Tyng, rector of the Epiphany Church, Philadelphia, who died about 1854. His last words were, 'Tell them to stand up for Jesus: now let us sing a hymn.' As he had been much persecuted in those pro-slavery days for his persistent course in pleading the cause of the oppressed, it was thought that these words had a peculiar significance in his mind; as if he had said, 'Stand up for Jesus in the person of the downtrodden slave.' (Luke 4:18)"

His hymns include:

- "Blessed Saviour, Thee I love"
- "Parted for some anxious days"
- "Praise to our heavenly Father, God"
- "Slowly in sadness and in tears"
- "Stand up, stand up for Jesus"

George James Webb, born on June 24, 1803, near Salisbury in Wiltshire, England, died on October 7, 1887 in Orange, New



George Duffield Jr.

Stand up, stand up for Jesus (ESB 982)
Tune: Stand up for Jesus

George Duffield (1818 - 1888) Gorge James Webb (1803 - 1887)

Bb Eb Bb F Bb F Bb Eb

Stand up stand up for Je - sus, Ye sol-diers of the cross! Lift high his ro-yal ba - nner, It

8 Bb F7 Bb F F Bb6 F Bb Eb Bb Eb Cm Bb F

must not su-ffer loss. From vic-tory un-to victo-ry His Ar - my he shall Le - ad, Till

14 Bb Bb7 Eb Bb F7 Bb

eve - ry foe is van - guished, And Christ is Lord in - deed



George James Webb

He and Lowell Mason founded the Boston Academy of Music, as well as collaborating on their Musical Library.

Webb composed several choral and organ works, including Prelude in E♭ and Postlude in A. His best-known tune, Webb, came from his secular song Tis Dawn, the Lark is Singing; this song was performed at a musical show on a ship crossing the Atlantic Ocean.

PUBLICATIONS

- Songbook of the School Room, with Lowell Mason (Boston, Massachusetts: Wilkins, Carter, 1847)

Jersey was an English-American composer.

BIOGRAPHY

Webb began his career as an organist in Falmouth, England.

In 1830, he emigrated to Boston, Massachusetts, where he was played the organ at the Old South Church for almost 40 years. He also served as organist at and belonged to the Boston Church of the New Jerusalem.

Courtesy: Wikipedia, Hymntime.com, hymnary.org



Mr. Justin Benjamin
Senior Songster Brigade Leader
Trivandrum Central Corps
India South-Western Territory

SEXUALITY AND RELATIONSHIPS - ORIENTATION FOR DIVISIONAL COORDINATORS, ISET

Let's talk about Sexuality and Relationships Orientation' for Divisional Coordinators -2022 which was held on 11th May 2022 at VTC, Nagercoil. This meeting was conducted by Women's Ministries and Commissioner Mani Kumari Dasari, TPWM led the program. Totally 37 delegates attended this training. The morning devotion was conducted by Major Mettilda, from Pondicherry Area. Followed by TPWM gave the introduction about let's talk about Sexuality and Relationships and also explained about the Five steps of Kairos Experience and biblical meaning.

"Married Life" session conducted by Mrs. Antony Jemila, Associate Professor from TSA CBON. She described about marriage declaration, what is a marriage God's covenant do people decide to marry? Rules of faithful marriage in current era. Changes in trends of marriage, living together life, reasons for unsuccessful marriage and also, we had the discussion session for challenges and issues faced by the married couple. We have done some practical work by the chart paper. It's very easy and it was in a way that everyone could understand.


"Pornography" session conducted by Mr. Veeramony, PRO from CBH. He explained the history and origin of pornography. How it accessed? How it affects

the brain? Effects of Pornography; Impacts of children and teens; Who uses the pornography? and does the bible say anything about it? Also, he explained about our Salvation Army's statement of position on Pornography. This lesson created an awareness among everyone.

Dowry System in India session conducted by Wilson, coordinator of CHDP. He explained about the Definition for Dowry; Origin of Dowry; It's effects, Laws for women, Indian Penal Laws and Reflected evaluate. Along with Dowry, Divorce and Remarriage session conducted by Mr Wilson. We had group discussions about



Dowry, remarriage, and Divorce, using chart papers every group submitted the reports. Delegates prepared the action plan and submitted. All the participants said that this will be very useful for their Ministry.

Final session conducted by Lt. Colonel Arul Dhas, Secretary for Programme and our Commissioner Mani Kumari Dasari, TPWM gave the word of God. The orientation ends up with Prayer and Blessings. 

Captain Thaya Anusuro
TWDO, India South-Eastern Territory

Continued from page 6

I. This is true of every level of authority God has granted. In the church, in the home, in the workplace, and in government, God has established levels of authority and submission. He did this to build up, not to destroy.

ii. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from the above, coming down from the father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. (James 1 :7)

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Philippians 4:8.

5. WAYS TO STOP YOUR COMPARISON WITH OTHERS

1. Remember that you are fearfully and

wonderfully made.

Psalm 139:14 tells us that we are "fearfully and wonderfully made."

2. Realize we all have different strengths and weaknesses.


. So when we start feeling the need to compare, we must recognize our opportunity to practice humility. This, too, can come through a simple prayer: Thank You, Heavenly Father, that in my weakness, you are strong (2 Corinthians 12:9-10). Help me rely on You and Your strength, rather than seek out someone who appears weaker than me to make myself feel stronger.

3. Choose compliments over comparison.

4. Rely on God Opinion rather than the opinion of others

5. Compare yourself to Jesus.

CONCLUSION: My dear friends we just read the consequences of Comparing with

others, how comparison destroys the human life, remember God made you wonderfully, he had granted many talents, gifts, privileges, he had many plans about your future, he wants to do great things through your life, do not feel down by comparing others, remember you are great, you are not less, if you are feeling with comparison phobia please quit from it immediately, repent before God and ask him a help to overcome this problem, if you have any angry or jealousy with your colleague, neighbors, friends, relatives or anyone please renew the good relationship and live with peace and Joy. Our life is short, do not waste your time always comparing with other, and recognize God's gifts or talents. Be Positive. God Bless you. 



Life of Grace, Love & Action

I recently came across a brief criticism of The Salvation Army's views on the Sacrament and its observation on baptism. Is it possible to live a holy life and receive the grace of God without the use of physical Sacraments?

At the age of 7, we were allotted quarters inside the Salvation Army Catherine Booth Hospital, Nagercoil, as my mother was an Administrator secretary. My early childhood was remarkable and very memorable.

In 2004, two incidents changed my entire path to a different perspective of vision and goal.

A day after my 20th birthday, the morning brought news that shook me hearing my father's demise. That terrible incident broke our entire family and brought my mother new pressure to meet all the needs for her children, "No mother wants to see her kids go to bed hungry. No mother wants to have to tell her child that she can't provide the basic necessities."

Hope, faith and prayers are the only weapon she had. She did all she possibly could for us. But this critical situation led me to be a more responsible person as I realized it was time for me to take care of my mother too.

The next incident that marked my life was a great disaster that shook the whole world; I found myself fully involved with the rescue team from the day of the Tsunami of 2004.

When we arrived at Sotthavilai beach 3 days after the disaster, I found a big fish caught in a net, curled up under a coconut tree. As we came closer, the smell became so much worse than the smell of rotting fish. It was then we realized the fish inside the net was not a big dead fish, but instead the corpse of a small 12 year old boy. Nobody was around to help us. We took a palm tree stick, tied with sackcloth and carried him 2 miles from the coconut grove to the vehicle. That was the first time I carried the body of an unknown soul.

After this, I started to learn more and practice the way of faith in the Salvation Army and its vision. I spent many hours in thorough research and I can proudly say that the establishments of the salvation army in India and its services has played a vital role in Indian economy since the late 1900's. Seeing the work that our Army does for the people who suffered from the slavery, propelled me onto a career path that would have me doing

whatever I could to prevent human suffering. Many of our pioneers have sold their own properties to meet the human needs in India. The most significant examples of this selflessness to me, are Commissioner Booth Tucker and Colonel Arnolis Veerasooriya who sacrificed their lives for the people of India, bringing the work to India at the age of only 33. Many officers have laid a deep foundation for the betterment of our community in India.

Learning about these historical works, reforms and acts of faith have shaped me into what i am today. I feel fortunate, blessed and proud because the Salvation Army has shaped and produced many professional authors, literators, songwriters, who in turn have released many of the Indian historical books including the warcry publications. From these books and reports, I am producing documentary films for the Salvation Army for educational purposes to bring more awareness among Salvationists here in India, and worldwide.

Through many challenges, failings and difficulties in my life I have always felt a spiritual presence, which I know is the Holy Spirit. Jesus is my Saviour and I know He loves me because I feel it in my heart and the Bible tells me so. God has endless patience and I know he will never give up on me. Though I lost both my mom and dad, my faith remains strong and I believe that whatever problems we face God will not leave us to struggle alone. Still, God has another plan for me.

One day, I received a package from The Salvation Army International Head Quarters. That was an appreciation letter from our beloved General Andre Cox encouraging and challenging me to make use of the media technologies and social service skills to glorify God through The Salvation Army, along with a Memorable Medal, for my contributions in the global initiative The Whole World Mobilising. It was a precious blessing for me in my lifetime.

We know that The Salvation Army is an excellent avenue through which one can pursue this kind of desire, especially if they would like to do humanitarian work "in Jesus name" and "without Expectations." I consider the greatest blessing to my life as being given the chance to serve the Salvation Army as my part-time service.

I hope i don't need to become an awesome preacher, or an "anointed" messenger. I just want to share how Christ saved me in these years and giving strength to serve the poor



Mr. Winston B. Thambi
Vepery Tamil Corps, Chennai Division, ICT
and needy through the Salvation Army.

A lovely quote from our founder is: "Faith in action" William Booth had a passion for the poor and needy. As he was preaching, he realized that people would not listen to his message if they were cold and hungry. He believed that God wanted him to do something to help the people he was preaching to. So he decided to give a message on salvation only after providing food and shelters. From this comes the motto of Soup, Soap and Salvation that carry's on to this day.


Following the footsteps of our founder and the commandment given by the Son of God, I still believe and follow Two Bible verses, Deuteronomy 15:11 and John 15:12.

His word was very practical. He taught to help the poor. He said that when you gather the harvest; leave the corners of the field, the second picking, and also whatever falls on the ground for the poor to collect. He told them not to steal, lie, gossip or hold back money from an employee. He instructed them to treat the poor, the widow, the orphan and the immigrant with generosity and kindness.

These beautiful, powerful words are the core of my faith to live a blessed life in this world and in Heaven.

So, to my mind, the simple answer is: the Army believes that it is possible to live a holy life and receive the grace of God without the use of physical sacraments and that they should not be regarded as an essential part of becoming a Christian. It also important to remember that The Salvation Army does not say it is wrong to use sacraments, nor does it deny that Christians receive grace from God through using them.

The love doctrine is monumental with God, and it should be with us. Jesus commanded us to love one another, but not in doctrine alone. We are to do it as He has loved us. We are changing every day. We are learning to love as Jesus loved. This kind of love is possible if we give to the poor and live a consecrated life unto the Lord and have the power of the Holy Spirit in us.

Blessings 

NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS SEMINAR — “BE READY FOR THE NEXT STEP”



National Communications Seminar was held at the “Surrenden”, Coonoor, Tamil Nadu from 13th - 15th June 2022. It was based on the theme “Be Ready for the Next Step”. The seminar was conducted by India National Office, Kolkata. National Executive Officer Colonel S. P. Simon and Secretary for Women's Development – India National Office, Colonel Annamma Simon were present as Chief guests.

24 Delegates from 6 territories including Officers, Soldiers and youth members, participated in the seminar.

In the inaugural session Major Evama Shaijuraj, Editor welcomed all the participants and Colonel S. P. Simon presented the keynote address on “Significance of Literature/Writing in TSA Mission”.

The Resource person Mr. P. S. Jonathan-Principal Correspondent of The Hindu Newspaper – Andhra Pradesh took 2 sessions.



- 1) Effective Christian Journalism and the Divine Communication.
- 2) Sharpen Your Writing, Editing & Reporting Skills in Christian Context.

The session on “Sharpen Your Writing, Editing & Reporting Skills in Christian Context” emphasized on how writing plays important role in the ministry, how it can help to inspire people, y o u n g generation and to transform people's hearts.

The sessions were followed by the Practical and assignments.

The Resource person Mr. Winston B. Thambi- Executive Producer (Tamil Nadu Province Media Department and a delegate in BOSCONET, India) conducted the session on “Methods of Christian Stories Cartoons & Poem”

Mr. Winston Thambi explained about how the Salvation Army plays an important role in reaching out to the

people in the world through media. He also explained how to use the digital platform and the electronic media to reach out to the people in form of videos, short stories, books. He also gave demonstration of a short video prepared by him in zero budget. The session was followed by Practical.

Major Shaijuraj Lalas conducted the session “Knowledge- Power & Wealth” It was based on Colossians 3:10 “And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him”

Mr. Buddha Dev Bramhachary – IT Manager & Graphics Designer – India National Office conducted the session “Modern Communication – Technologies & Gospelisation” He explained how to use social media and technology effectively in the ministry.

Major Evama Shaijuraj conducted the session “How to overcome Writer's block”


In the final session Colonel S. P. Simon



shared the word of God from the book of John- 15 1-8. He motivated the delegates on how to engage in mission in faithfulness, self-realization, integration, plans and direction.

5) I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing.

Vote of thanks was given by Major Cornelius Christian – Editor (Gujrat, IWT)

The seminar was a great blessing to all the delegates and Territories. 

Prachi Kharat
Soldier, Hadapsar Corps
Pune, India Western Territory