

Lamp Lighters World Ministries

July 2022

Greetings to you in the Name above all Names our Lord Jesus,

Our year is half over and I'm looking back at what has been accomplished and looking ahead to how God will enable us to do the task of reaching out to the lost, whether in Sri Lanka or here in the States.

Growing up on the farm there was always work to do. Seldom were there days to just kick back. Some days you wouldn't get everything done you needed to but there was always the hope for tomorrow.

Ministry is much the same it seems there are never enough hours in a day or days in a month to get everything done we want to or need to.

All we can do is pray that we have another tomorrow to carry on the work.

But what keeps us going is knowing our Lord strengthens us for the task, He will provide everything we need for life and godliness, as Peter wrote in 2 Peter.

There will come a day when all our labors and trials are over. Until that time we must be found faithful, with time, effort, reaching out. Not being guilty of burying our "talent" in the ground, but utilizing it to Gods glory and the building of his kingdom.

You are faithful in your prayers for this ministry and in your financial support of it.

For this we give God thanks for you and your partnering with us in ministry.

We pray God will continue to bless you as we labor together for his kingdom.

Because of Christ,

Steve, Niranjan and Sona

PRAY FOR SRI LANKA

Our beautiful country has been struggling with economic crisis for few months, everyone is standing in queues for purchasing things but the shortages of goods brings even more issues in the lives of people of Sri Lanka.

Lack of essential food items, medicines, fuel and more have brought higher prices of them. So, many people use fire wood instead of Gas, using bicycles because of fuel shortage and stopped surgeries due to non-availability of medicines.

Even though people have some money but things are simply not available at the moment in Sri Lanka. Last month an old man died without food in Batticaloa area.

NEWS FROM NIRANJAN AND SONA

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

When the church was first formed through the Apostles, they kept them strong by telling the congregation; "We must enter into the kingdom of God through many tribulations" (Acts 14:22).

Yes, a person who desires to enter the kingdom of heaven under the New Covenant will enter it through tribulations.

Paul categorically told Timothy, "Everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted" (2 Timothy 3:12). Jesus said, "Blessed are you when people hate you, when they exclude you and insult you and reject your name as evil, because of the Son of Man.... (Luke 6:22, 23).

In the life of suffering, we must suffer only for the sake of righteousness. As followers of Christ, we walk in righteousness and uprightness wherever we are. We cannot do unrighteous things.

For example, working as a doctor in a hospital, you will refuse to do an abortion, because you know clearly and firmly that this act is against God's love. This may cause you to suffer or you may lose the job. Because of this, you are certain that you will suffer in some way.

Further, for the sake of the gospel of Jesus, we may even suffer! But Jesus is happy to call us "blessed" at such times.

God bless you all.

TWO NEW YOUNG COUPLES COMMIT TO

FULL TIME MINISTRY

A young couple from Periya Neelavanai Christian church expressed their desire to serve God in full time ministry.

Brother Selvakumar and his wife Sister Suganya committed to the full time ministry from our Periya Neelavanai church. Pastor Liyaskar is using them in the ministry activities. Earlier Brother Kethees and Sister Dilukshiya from the Mahiloor church committed to the ministry and attended one year diploma in Bible College via online studies.

Therefore, we wish to send both couples to the Bible college which is close to their residence. Please pray for both of these young couples.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT GIVEN TO NEEDY BELEIVERS

By the grace of God, we have helped financially some of the needy in each of our churches in Sri Lanka.

A certain amount of money was handed over to the pastors to identify the truly needy in each church and support them to survive in the critical situation of the country.

We are doing this because of the lack of job opportunities which are increasing daily. Many private sectors have closed themselves and lack of materials has led to this condition in our country.

PREACHER LEAVES KODDAI KALLAR CHURCH

Our preacher, Sydney Simon has left the Koddai Kallar church after serving with us for many years.

Without going into every detail I'll simply say these things to shed some light.

First our desire was not for him to leave our ministry, but there had to be some changes made. He was given three months to effect the changes in his attitude and ministry.

He refused to accept Niranjana as the director of Lamp Lighters in Sri Lanka, he felt he should have been appointed, based solely on he had been with Lamp Lighters longer.

He continually was working behind the scenes attempting to discourage Niranjana and the other preachers. This was partly the reason our preacher in Periya Kallar left the ministry a few months earlier.

The Koddai Kallar church had not grown since Shanthi and I left Sri Lanka six years ago and even before that it was struggling. The church was actually failing and many believers have left the church.

We had given Sydney every opportunity to change and get reengaged in the work of ministry to no avail.

In the end it was his decision to leave, but that now leaves us being short of preachers in two churches. Steve

YOUTH PROGRAMS HELD

At least two churches held youth programs this past month. I received videos of both and it looked like there was good turnout for both programs.

The young people looked to be enjoying a day of study, fellowship, and fun.

PRAYER CONCERNS

1. For new preachers to take the ministry in the Mahiloor and Koddai Kallar churches.
2. Strength and faithfulness of our coworkers especially Niranjana and Sona.
3. Faithfulness of the believers during their trials and God's provision for them
4. The nation of Sri Lanka that soon the government will bring about change that will benefit the people and not themselves.