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MAY 2021

TGC TIMES

TAMIL GOSPEL CHURCH MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



COURAGE TO OBEY

BY PASTOR SOLOMON KARUNAKARAN

The word courage or courageous does not mean that we do not fear anything. It means moving past our fears and doing what we need to do. This word appears the most in the historical book of Joshua. It appears seven times – twice in the negative, meaning courage was lost and five times in the positive, commanded to be courageous. Joshua is fearful in the face of the challenging situation preparing to lead the Israelites into the promised land. God is encouraging him with His promises. The veracity or the truthfulness of the promises of God are experienced only when they are put through the tests and trials of life.

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PASTOR'S MESSAGE - CONT

The Lord is commanding and encouraging the new leader in Joshua 1:5-9, "5... As I was with Moses, so I will be with you; I will never leave you nor forsake you. 6 Be strong and courageous, because you will lead these people to inherit the land I swore to their ancestors to give them. 7 "Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the law my servant Moses gave you; do not turn from it to the right or to the left, that you may be successful wherever you go. 8 Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful. 9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." The promise of God's presence through life's challenges is tied with obedience to God's instructions. In verse 5, the Lord's presence is promised. In verse 6, Joshua is exhorted to be strong and courageous in the light of the huge assignment to lead the people into the promised land. In verses 7 and 8, Joshua is encouraged to be strong and courageous to obey God's word very carefully, even to the details guaranteeing success. We need courage to obey God's Word. In verse 9, Joshua is commanded not to be fearful or discouraged but to be courageous because the Lord will be with him. Do we have courage to obey God's Word in the light of the globally challenging situation we are facing in all areas of our lives?

PS

FASTING PRAYER

MAY 08 @ 11:00 AM

WEEKLY PRAYER

EVERY WEDNESDAY @ 08:30 PM

MOTHER'S DAY SERVICE

MAY 09 @ 05:00 PM

SUNDAY CLASS

EVERY SUNDAY FROM
2:30 PM TO 3:30 PM

YOUTH GROUP

EVERY SUNDAY FROM
3:00 PM TO 3:45 PM

IN PERSON REGISTRATION

[CLICK HERE](#)

OFFERING ONLINE

[CLICK HERE](#)

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We often talk about God's blessing. As children, many of us grew in India, where we received blessings from our parents or elders that made us happy. Over our lifetime, we gained insight unconsciously and understood that blessing refers to events that satisfy our expectations in life. We have become complacent to the thought that only events expected by us are good and those that happen to contradict our beliefs or expectations are harmful to us. I have seen many people who rejoice on an expectation coming true. I agree that it is emotionally satisfying for one's expectation to come true, but does this need to be considered as a blessing, or is there more about the blessing that Christ talked about?

When I was in my tenth grade, I wrote a public recruitment board exam taken by many thousands of applicants to get a railway job. When the Information Technology was not at its peak, a job in Railways was considered a dream job. The Recruitment board announced later that only the top 1000 applicants who cleared the exam would get a job. When the results were announced, I came up at 1001 missing the job by a single position. At that age, I was angry at myself for losing that opportunity. I later realized that my selected career path satisfied me 50 times more than what Railways would have given me.

Please note that, I am not talking merely about financial gain or trying to say if you miss an opportunity, you will get a more significant one, that is not my intention.

It is to say, God has His way and plans for His children. He knows the Bigger picture. Jeremiah 17 – 7, 8 says, "Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, and whose hope is the Lord. For he shall be like a tree planted by the waters, Which spreads out its roots by the river, and will not fear when heat comes; But its leaf will be green, And will not be anxious in the year of drought, Nor will cease from yielding fruit". When we read the above verses, it tells us that we can get into situations that we think are bad for us and can get into a drought that may affect us financially, psychologically, or emotionally. Still, we should not fear them but continue to strengthen our hope in our Lord. The reason is that our true blessing in this world is none other than our Lord Himself. If we gain everything in this world and lose God, we have lost everything.

As God's children, we should remember that all of us can have problems and burdens in our lives. Instead of eagerly looking for a solution (to escape from the situation), we should focus on our Lord. We should try our best to enjoy our life journey and make it happier for ourselves and everyone around us. Disregarding to what is hitting us hard in life. 1 Timothy 6: 6 – 8 tells us, "But godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content." All Glory to God.

BROTHER DAVID

PATRICK JOSHUA

COMPILED BY KAMATCHI BILSON

Birth & Early Days

Patrick Joshua was born in Idayankudi Tirunelveli in the year 1939. Born as the second of four kids of Mr. Masillamani & Mrs. Parimalam. Both of them were teachers. He was such a prayer warrior since he was in his elementary school that he started a prayer cell at that age. In high school he used to encourage his friends, especially non believers to pray. During the prayers he used to pray spirit filled & reveal what sins his friends committed that week & point out who forgot to repent to God for their sins. His friends at that age used to tremble to sit with him in prayer.

He studied in St. John's college and did his MA Philosophy at Madras Christian college. Even as a college student he used to collect money and send it to support missionaries. At that young age, he collected money to support his professor who quit his job to become a missionary. He served at the LIC (Life Insurance Corporation of India) for 17 years. He won many gold medals while working at LIC.

Family

His wife Sushila was a mission minded person too. She stood strong with her husband in faith. When there was a need of money for FMPB he gave away all his savings from work and his wife's jewelry, in spite of the fact that their kids were studying at that time.

In their family prayers, they used to fast and pray along with their four kids for almost 6-7 hrs. They dedicated their first son Shalom to God's work. He and his wife are working as bible translators in UP. .

Patrick Joshua's wife Sushila passed away in 1994 due to cancer. In the same year their second son Elliot died at the age of 27 due to Malaria in a remote village in Jharkand. Their third son is working with "World Vision of India" in West Bengal and their last daughter Sabine took care of him in his last days.

Mission

He travelled to Jharkand and stayed for 5 years patiently. After 5 years; a village head's grand daughter who was suffering from a disease was let down by all the doctors. Brother Patrick fasted and prayed for her and she was healed by God's touch. After this incident the entire village accepted Christ. He travelled to the remote villages of North India and worked among the tribal people like Maltos to spread the gospel. He travelled to more than 300 cities, towns and villages in India and 20 nations to initiate and mobilize prayer movements.

He served FMPB and various other mission organizations for more than 50 years. He served as the FMPB Treasurer and General Secretary for almost 25 years. He is known for his humbleness and simplicity and he played a major role in raising five million intercessors for the 2004 National Election in India.

Later part of his life from 2001-2020 he started a ministry called "National Prayer Network". He spent his life building a prayer network for God's kingdom and planned nothing for himself.

He continued to pray all his life and finished his run successfully at the age of 82 and went to be with God in the year 2020.

Reflection

Missionaries like Brother Patrick Joshua who lived and died in our own times only remind us that missionaries are not super heroes or fictional characters. Following their foot steps, having their faith and prayers would nurture a missionary in each one of us, where ever we are.



**“REJOICE ALWAYS,
PRAY WITHOUT
CEASING, GIVE
THANKS IN ALL
CIRCUMSTANCES;
FOR THIS IS THE
WILL OF GOD IN
CHRIST JESUS FOR
YOU”**

1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18

WE WELCOME ARTICLES FOR
NEWSLETTER. KINDLY SEND
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[@TAMILGOSPELCHURCH.ORG](mailto:MEMBERSHIP@TAMILGOSPELCHURCH.ORG)

MAY

BIRTHDAYS

ANNIVERSARIES

MAY 02

INIYA PREMKUMAR
EMMANUEL JEBARAJ

MAY 03

SHAKINAH ANAND

MAY 06

AMI(PRIYA)
ARAVIN

MAY 03

SIVA KUMAR &
KAVITHA

MAY 05

DHINAHAR RAJ &
BHUVANA DHINAHAR

MAY 10

SURESH GAUTHAM

SHOBANA GIRI
ABRAHAM

MAY 12

ELLIANA FREDRICK

MAY 13

ELDA WILLIAMS

MAY 09

GIFTSON SAMRAJ &
SADHANA GIFTSON

MAY 11

CHRISTOPHER NEWTON
JOB & SHANTHI
NEWTON

MAY 14

DAVID LIVINGSTON

SASI

MAY 15

NIRMAL

MAY 16

BRIAN SAMUEL RICHY

ANITHA JOE

MAY 13

IMMANUEL ANAND &
CHRISTILDA IMMANUEL

JEFFERSON & ANU
JEFFERSON

MAY 14

RAJASINGH FREDRICK
NAGARATHINAM &
JERRINA JAYAPPAUL

MAY 17

JOHNATHAN PAUL

CHELSIA ANGELINE

MAY 18

CHRISTY AARATHANA
DAVID

BILSON

SAMYPILLAI JAYARA

MAY 22

DAVID NARAYANAN

MAY 16

VIJAY KUMAR & SHEELA
CHRISTY

MAY 22

RAJ PREMKUMAR &
YOGAPRIYA
PREMKUMAR

MAY 23

JOSHUA RAJ

MAY 24

PERCY SENTHIL

MAY 26

SADHANA GIFTSON

PREETHA DAVID

GIRITHARAN ABRAHAM & SHOBANA
GIRI ABRAHAM

PRAVEEN KUMAR DEVAKADATCHAM &
ESTHER GNANADEEPAM
DEVAKADATCHAM

RICHY GERARD & ANGEL RICHY

MAY 27

JOHN
DEVAKADATCHAM

STEPHEN KIRUBAKARAN

JASMINE SHAMINE ANDREW

DANESHIA BILSON

JANSI MADURAIVEERAN

MAY 29

MOHAN GOPAL

SHARON ROSE SAMUEL

MAY 25

JEBASTINE VETHARAJ &
ALICE SWARNA
RATHNAKUMAR

MAY 26

VIGESH SOLOMON &
JEYASHREE VIJESH

ANDREW YESURAJ &
JASMINE SHAMINE
ANDREW

MAY 30

JILNA JERRICKS

RANJITH JAYAPANDIAN JOTHIMANI

MAY 31

REBECCA JOHNSON

MAY 28

KRISHNAMOORTHY
CHINNATHAMBU &
JAGATHA SEENIVASAN
MOORTHY

MAY 29

MR & MRS PRAVEEN
RAJKUMAR