

TGC TIMES



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF TAMIL GOSPEL
CHURCH

Why say Thanks?

WRITTEN BY PASTOR SOLOMON
KARUNAKARAN

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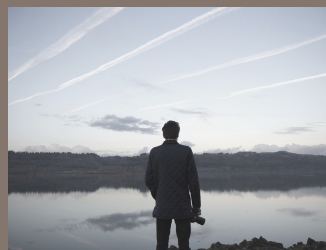
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In the West, November is a month for thanksgiving and this virtue is emphasized more during this time. Saying, Thank you, is normative. In the Indian culture, it is more hidden. The verbal expression of thanks is generally not expected (an acknowledgement is accepted) and sometimes taken as an insult when close friends and family say – Thank you. But, the expression of thanks is accepted as one with a reciprocal act in the future. We have all changed with the times and our context. We teach our children gratitude and always to say thanks. I would in fact get upset with my kids, if I did not hear the other person say, 'you are welcome'. My reasoning was that they were not audible enough or did not say it because that response is sure whenever we say thanks in the culture that we live in.

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What does the scripture teach us? First, it commands us. The chronicler records the ceremony performed when the ark of God was brought into the tent in I Chronicles Ch 16. In fact, two people, Heman and Jeduthun are designated for the purpose of giving thanks. Why? When we say thanks we are conveying that we have received something. Also, that we are needy people and a need has been fulfilled. Secondly, it needs to be continuous. We never stop giving thanks (Heb 13:15). All we have and are is because of the goodness and love of God the Father, whether we understand it or not. Thirdly, it needs to be done in all circumstances (I Thess 5:18). This is challenging. How do we give thanks when we are waiting for legitimate situations to be resolved, when we endure a terrible and irreversible loss, during a debilitating sickness? It is not easy. As Christ followers, the answer lies in the act of God in saving and restoring humanity unto Himself. He suffered a terrible loss when Jesus died for our sins but with His power He reversed the irreversible curse of death on mankind and gave us the gift of eternal life.

Therefore, we can all sing,

We Give thanks with a grateful heart
Give thanks to the Holy One
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ,
His Son

And now...
let the weak say, "I am strong"
Let the poor say, "I am rich
Because of what the Lord has done
for us"

PS

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

The objective of this section is to drive engagement among the people of God to get different perspectives on some of the areas such as Bible verses, Gospel lyrics and contemporary events that a Believer comes across in his/her day-to-day life.

Please share your thoughts and responses to editor@tamilgospelchurch.org. Pastor Solomon would review your responses and share his perspective in the following month's edition of the newsletter. Your responses and Pastor's thoughts on this subject every month would serve to edify the Body of Christ, uphold our faith, and gain a deeper understanding of the Word of God

This month's Food for Thought

1 Thessalonians 5:2 states that the Day of the Lord is like a thief in the night and that we are expected to be awake and sober. Amos 5:18 however, states "Woe to the ones who desire the Day of the Lord ..."

Question - Why is it woe to those who desire the Day of the Lord?

Last month's Food for Thought

Number 22: 20 states "That night God came to Balaam and said, "Since these men have come to summon you, go with them, but do only what I tell you." In the same chapter verse 22 states: "But God was very angry when he went, and the angel of the Lord stood in the road to oppose him"

Question: Why did God ask Balaam to go with the men (verse 20) but was angry when he went (verse 22)?

Response 1:

Sometimes God allows things when we insist; though that is against God's will. We will have to face the consequences of these things that happen against God's will. Just like Balak ends up making God angry here. Another example is when God allowed a King for Israel when people insisted, though it was not God's will & people had to face the consequences.

Response 2:

In 2 Peter 2:15-16 it is mentioned "he loved gain from wrong doing" and "he was rebuked for his own transgression"

As God knows everyone's heart, He knew Balaam's heart as well and got angry for his wicked ways:

- he loved gain from wrong doing (2 Peter 2:15)
- He also taught Balak to put a stumbling block before Israel that they eat the food sacrificed to the idols and practice sexual immorality (Rev 2:14)

"would not God discover this? For he knows the secrets of the heart." Psalm 44:21

Response received from

Mrs. Kamatchi Bilson & Mrs. Swarna Jebastine

Thanks to both, who have faithfully responded correctly to the question.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Abron Wins	November 04
Shalin Manoj	November 05
Sharon Samuel	November 06
Raja George	November 06
Isai Nirmal	November 06
Susan Charles	November 07
Andrea Raj	November 07
Steve Jesukanth	November 08
Samuel Jebaraj	November 09
Ham Jeen Franklin	November 12
Rajesh Jebaraj	November 16
Charles Jeyasingh	November 19
Benita Sharon Samuel	November 20
Ryan Noah Manoj	November 20
Kemuel Santhosh	November 22
Richy Gerard	November 26
Jagan	November 27

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Geopher Stephy & Becca Geopher
November 24

Benneaser John & Sasirekha Benneaser
November 30

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday Service

Every Sunday @ 5:00 PM

Fasting Prayer

Nov 12th @ 11:00 AM

Weekly Prayer

Every Wednesday @ 8:30 PM

AICC Sports Outreach

Nov 12th at Timothy Christian School
(Gymnasium), Piscataway, NJ starting
at 7:30 AM.

Thanksgiving Service & Auction

Guest Speaker - Pastor Daniel Moses

Nov 20th @ 5:00 PM

Celebrating

THE LIFE OF



Cyril Raj

February 15th, 1998 - October 27th, 2022

Viewing

James J. Dougherty Funeral Home, Inc.
2200 Trenton Road, Levittown, PA 19056

Friday, November 4th, 2022 at 6PM

Service

Calvary Full Gospel Church
676 Lincoln Highway, Fairless Hills, PA 19030

Saturday, November 5th, 2022, at 9AM

Burial

Beechwood Cemetery
2026 Bensalem Boulevard, Bensalem, PA 19020

Promptly After Service
Saturday, November 5th, 2022 at 12PM

