

EDITORIAL

"You are worthy, O Lord and God to receive glory and honour and power, for You created all things and by Your will they were created and have their being." Revelation 4:11

This is only another sincere attempt to take you through the pages and find out together, the reasons as to why everyday of our lives should be *lived* with the spirit of EASTER

We, as a team are growing to be more aware of how our *work ethic* in this world is and has been directly influenced by the works and the life of Jesus Christ.

This issue of *Spark* will give you an idea of how the resurrection

of Christ has made everything under the sun more important. We were not aware that God had been leading us to interweave this issue altogether and form the idea of what we may now call '*Resurrection: shaping the Faith and Culture*'.

As you examine through this issue, may you realise the beauty of the cross which has changed many lives and cultures. We pray your life will be sustained through the knowledge of the resurrection of Christ and the promise of the gift of Salvation. Go and be blessings.

SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING

Hope of Easter: A Beautiful Hope!



– Rev. Dr. Noulezhalie Ricky Medom,
Pastor, Naga Christian Fellowship, Delhi

Not everyone thinks of the future with beautiful Hope! In fact, for some, it is seen as something dreary and depressing. Listen to what Bertrand Russell, an atheist, once said about life and future of man:

"The life of man is a long march through the night, surrounded by

invisible foes, tortured by weariness and pain, towards a goal that few can hope to reach and where none can tarry long... Brief and powerless is man's life, on his and all his race the slow, sure doom falls, pitiless and dark. Blind to good and evil, reckless of destruction, omnipotent matter rolls on its relentless way. For man, condemned today to lose his dearest, tomorrow himself to pass through the gates of darkness, it remains only to cherish, ere yet the blow falls, the lofty thoughts that ennoble his little day."

Now, that's fairly depressing. People like Bertrand Russell see their present and their future as being harsh, dark, frustrating... and hopeless. Others are more optimistic but unrealistic.

John Lennon had a Hope but a very unrealistic one. In his 1970's hit song "Imagine" he talks about his hopes. "Imagine there's no heaven... No hell below us... Imagine all the people living life in peace... Imagine no possessions... no need for greed

or hunger... You may say I'm a dreamer, but I'm not the only one, I hope someday you'll join us." If he were around today, he would be sorely disappointed, I'm sure.

After World War II, World Political leaders had a hope of ushering in World Peace by establishing the United Nations. They had a hope and took bold steps but nonetheless failed miserably as we can see the World spiraling down to war instead of World Peace. Today, all around us there are evidences that they have failed miserably in maintaining international peace and security.

Both of them were misplaced hopes because they were placing their hopes on things over which they had no control. Hope, in the world's phrase, at best refers only to an uncertain good. It generally expresses the idea of wishful thinking, the hope that something we are praying for will happen. But unfortunately, we know it does not happen that way.

On the other hand for Believers in God and in Jesus, we have a Hope, Beautiful Hope. Our hope is not in our own ability, or in our goodness, or in our physical strength. Our hope is instilled in us by the resurrection of Christ. It's the empty tomb of Jesus that gives us hope!

Christian Hope rests on something we are certain of, "an assurance of things hoped for." It is the hope that rests on the resurrected Christ. It is the empty tomb of Jesus that gives us Hope. As Peter says in I Peter 1:3 "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead." So, even as the

world today faces hopelessness and despair, we as followers of Jesus Christ do not lose Hope. We have hope that no matter how bad things appear and how many mistakes we make, our sins can be forgiven. There is hope that we can have joy, peace and security in the midst of the despair and turmoil of this age.

There is hope that Christ is coming soon—this is what is called in Scripture “the blessed hope.” There is hope that there will come someday a new heaven and a new earth, and that the Kingdom of God will triumph one day and we will reign with Him forever.

PARENTS' PAGE

Resurrection: The Basis of our Hope

– Dr. Imnawapang,
the Director of Field Ops. LDF



The way you are prepared to respond to death should determine whether or not you believe in something better beyond this side of reality. Abraham Miller said “*A man begins to die when he cease to expect anything from tomorrow*”. Take hope away

from a person and you can guess what he would do to himself for the rest of his life. Take hope away from your life and you will begin to see everything coming to a “dead end”.

The world offers a kind of hope that is short sighted and short lived. If you believe that humans are simply molecular machines that happened accidentally and would eventually run down and cease to exist one day, then this life is all you have. That kind of belief will lead you to live a very self-centered life because God, religion, objective morality, faith, hope of a future will not matter to you anymore. The only hope you have is that you don't die too soon so you can live long enough to enjoy this changed life as much as you want. But if you believe that God is the cause of everything then it is reason enough to believe in an existence beyond what is known to us.

Peter talks about a kind of hope that only Jesus can give. He calls it the “living hope” that is present in the lives of those who believe in Him. He said, “*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.*” 1 Peter 1:3 (ESV)

The Living Christ is the source of our new birth and of our living hope. A living hope is a hope that never dies. Look into the eyes of a dying man saved by grace and you will see this. The Christian's hope sustains in the midst of difficulties, for hope is born out of full confidence, belief, and trust in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The Christian's hope in Christ is as certain and sure as the fact that Christ is alive! Here “living” means that the believer's hope is sure, certain, and real, as opposed to the deceptive, empty, false hope the world offers.

This living hope is based on the solid evidence of Jesus' resurrection. The Bible tells us that over 500 people witnessed the resurrected Christ, including the disciples, and Paul. I could not see any reason why the disciples were willing to die for the cause of Christ unless they have actually come to belief in the resurrection themselves. They must have checked all evidences to be true and all testimonies to be authentic before they were willing to believe in what would later become the basis of their sacrifices, even unto death.

Ravi Zacharias says that there are three tests for truth that must be applied to any worldview: *logical consistency, empirical adequacy, and experiential relevance*. When the basis of an argument fails to coherently explain on the lines of these three tests everything built upon such an argument collapses. This must apply even to the question of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. He further stated, “*When submitted to these tests, the Christian message is utterly unique and meets the demand for truth.*” If Jesus is who He claims to be then He must have power over death. Therefore, the Resurrection must happen because it validated His claim that He was God Himself. The writers of these accounts not only report the Resurrection as a factual event but also provide a theological context and explanation of its overall significance to God's historical redemptive plan.

Jesus' resurrection was not merely a coming back from the dead (resuscitation, near-death experience, reincarnation) but a resurrection into a new type of human life – eternal life with a transformed, glorified physical body no longer subject to weakness, pain, sickness, and death. By His resurrection, Jesus Christ fully and completely conquered death.

Seeing the resurrection of Christ changed the lives of the disciples. It changed their perspective about Jesus that He was simply a teacher and a healer. He was now their Savior and God who conquered death and gave them a living hope.

You cannot but live differently if you truly believe in the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Mr. Lowang is the Chief of Pansumthong village under Khonsa, Arunachal Pradesh. He is also highly educated and a well-respected man who took early retirement from a top position in the government so he can serve his people in the village better. When I met him in 2013, he had just embraced Christianity after formally renouncing his former religion of which he was also among its chief promoters. I asked him once what made him change his religion and

openly declare himself as a follower of Christ fully knowing that his decision could mean trouble for him and his family and even threaten his position as the village chief. He told me that the undeniable fact of the resurrection of Jesus made him become a follower. He was moved by watching how Christianity dramatically transformed his own people before his very eyes and wanted to find out what there is in Christianity that made his own people give up many bad habits like drinking, stealing, adultery, etc. when as a responsible leader he had been trying to bring a lasting solution to the same increasing social problems for the past many years and failed miserably. He said, *"My people believed in the God who has power over death. No other religious leader has that kind of power. This is why I too believed!"*

Jim Elliott said *"He is no fool who gives up what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose."* This chief was willing to lose his earthly birthright in order to gain something greater he can never lose. I believe that the best way to live is to live with the kind of hope that there is a definite future much better than what we can ever experience here on earth. No one else has offered that hope except Jesus.

The apostle Paul explains: "If Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith" (1 Cor. 15:14). "If Christ



has not been raised, your faith is futile, you are still in your sins" (1 Cor. 15:17). We must also not forget that the purpose of Jesus' death and resurrection was to deal with the problem of sin once and for all. Because of this incident in history sin is no longer our problem and because sin which results in death have no "sting" we can now rest assured of a living hope in Christ.

John Wesley, the father of the Methodist movement, used to say, *"Our people die well."* It is true, Christians may not live a great earthly life but they do "die well." Hope becomes alive only in reference to the resurrection. Because Jesus arose from the grave we know that death is not the end. Because of Jesus' resurrection we have a certain hope that even if we die, we will live again. Jesus demonstrated on the cross that we can all die well. Jesus "died well" because He knew that death cannot overcome Him. And because He resurrected to life we too will be resurrected to life with Him. If you want to "die well" die with a "HOPE" that is different from what the world gave you. With that hope our fear of dying must go away. Have a blessed Easter season!

Vocātiō : the Christian's summon

"What is your calling?" in the Christian circle this may be a common query for the youths. The origination of the word vocational comes from the word vocātiō, which in Latin means 'calling'. The Church believes that each and every individual is made for a purpose. In as much as we exist, we are given a task to live out. This task is your calling. Your calling is therefore, 'how' you reach to the world to share the faith. Here are two professionals who have been faithful to their calling. Be blessed as they share their thoughts about their workplace and life.

What to you is an obstacle as a lawyer and how would you define 'Biblical Justice'?

I am not sure if I can pin point the obstacles lawyers face but it is definitely challenging to be a lawyer at many stages and levels. As a young lawyer fresh out of Law College, finding a good chamber or an office to work in is not easy. I was blessed to be able to join a very good chamber of Senior Advocates – Mr. Soli Sorabjee and Mr. Neeraj Kaul – under whom I received excellent training and gained vast knowledge and experience. Crucial requirements for this profession are being disciplined, hard working and consistently diligent; this, the senior's chamber helped instill to a great deal. Our work hours on any



– Amit Kumar Singh,
*an Advocate on Record at
Supreme Court of India*

average day started from 10 A.M. and ended at 10 P.M. or beyond. I decided to start my own independent practice after 4 years of working as a Junior Advocate, which again was not an easy decision, as I had to leave the security of monthly salary to try to earn that security on my own. Looking back there were hard and trying days for me but somehow by God's Grace I started getting work slowly and my practice steadily increased. I have many challenges ahead but God has been Faithful. He has always aided me intellectually, spiritually, physically, emotionally and financially.

I see 'Biblical justice' as surrendering to God, knowing that He is in control and that He will take care when any wrong has been done; it is for God to avenge. (Deuteronomy 32:35). To understand and grasp 'Biblical Justice' there is a requirement to see situations and circumstances from God's perspective, which is, from a spiritual perspective and not a worldly one. So, in a spiritual warfare-like situation as noted in Ephesians 6, if

our rights and privileges as God's children are being infringed, we need to fight back and grab what is *rightfully* ours. However, if you are being persecuted for belonging to Christ, then we are to endure it just as Christ did, knowing that our Father in Heaven will take care and also reward us for our suffering as He is a Just God and justice flows from His heart.



– Mercy Shimray,
iQor, VP, Global Billing Manager

Can you share how God has led you in little ways in your professional life?

When I was asked to share on how the Lord has worked in my professional life, honestly, I didn't know where to start. I will not be able to do

justice for all that He has done for me in a paragraph but here's a good start. I started getting to know the Lord only after I joined the NCF family and I am still in the pursuit of getting to know Jesus better. I am thankful to Pastor Ricky and Auntie Viring – they are an example and an inspiration for living a humble life in complete service to God. I started working at the age of eighteen since I did not have the academic brilliance to pursue higher studies. After working for fourteen years, I think I have accomplished professional success (given my poor

academic history) and as I look back now I realize that each phase has been for a specific purpose. Every time I encountered something, my responsibility grew as a daughter, a sister and a wife; things at my workplace happened just as the way it's supposed to be. The Lord synchronized my ups and downs in a way for me to learn and be more disciplined. I am assured that He is in control of everything; regardless of who I tend to be, the Lord has unlimited patience for me.

Recently, I came across a rough situation. Angst and tension resided within the team and the stakeholders who made my workplace stressful and unproductive. I could share this with my sister who assured to pray for me. As I was day dreaming at work one day, an idea popped up. The difficulty I was facing was solved by a simple act of "Copy & Paste". Yes, that's *ctrl+C* and *ctrl+V*. Beat That!!! In a finance sector, it can't get easier than that. Something inside told me that, nothing is too difficult when we cast our cares upon Him. As I learn to count my blessings every day, I am reminded of how blessed and fortunate I am. With this, I encourage everyone that if we put our faith in Him, He makes all things work for His children in His time, just like He did for me.

In retrospect

The Naga Christian Fellowship Delhi with its rich and blessed history has many former members who have gone out to different parts of the country to be witnesses of Christ's faithfulness. *In Retrospect* is a section of the newsletter to feature in brief some of these many people. We have this time, **Capt. Rena Ezung**, who was active in the NCFD during the 90s. Here are some of his thoughts! Ladies and gentleman, the captain has turned on the seat belt sign!

Capt. Rena Ezung, Pilot at Air India



Can you recall the experiences you have had at NCF Delhi and share how it has impacted your life so far?

First of all, I thank the *Spark* team for giving me this space to share my experiences with NCF Delhi.

Summer of 1990, I reached Delhi as a fresher. NCF was the only known fellowship for Naga families and students. It has been a place where I have grown mentally and spiritually, understood the greater need for Bible study fellowship and outreach ministry. Pastor Ricky, Auntie Viring, Auntie Meneü, Uncle N. Mozhui and Auntie Thungbeni have all been great mentors in my life. They helped me to realize my talent in ministry of helping (Ushering), I started to enjoy helping

around the fellowship. I sometimes accompanied Pastor to seminars and gained experiences from church leaders and elders. We took turns in driving the hard-top *Gypsy*. I learned about interactive Bible studies from the fellowship and had memorable times in the Delhi Tyrannus Hall. I remember going around waking up the boys in the morning along with brother Vizhoto Hibo, who was nicknamed "*Chowkidar*". We had a great time together, regularly played football, badminton and were part of the Saturday Bible study group. Almost every evening we had Bible quizzes and Hindi lessons after dinner (with the first batch).

Tell us about your career and how you made your choice. What would be your one piece of advice to the youth?

To be honest, I never seriously thought about what I wanted to do. But now, I realize the love and grace of God and how He is mindful of me even in the smallest details of life. When I was at a cross-road in my career, He helped me find the right career

path that I did not even deserve to earn on my own. And this is one of the testimonies I always share. I passed pre-university (science) in third division without mathematics but God was so gracious that I got my Commercial Pilot License (CPL) and was selected by *Air India* to serve as a pilot till date.

Advice I can give to the youth is from the scripture –

Psalm 119:105, “Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path”.

Matthew 6:33, “But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you”.

Romans 12:1-2 “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

² And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God”.

Reasonable young men and women want to know the ‘Will of God in their lives’. If we focus as well as guard ourselves and renew our hearts and minds then we will begin to understand the greater purpose of our lives. Understanding our calling and abiding in God is greater than striving and struggling in

choosing a career. Because His promise of blessing is already provided in –

Psalm 1:1-3, “Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful.

² But his delight is in the law of the Lord; and in His law doth he meditate day and night.

³ And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.”

This is where we can find satisfaction and meaning in our earthly career as well as in ministering and reaching out to people around us.

With your busy schedule, how do you balance and maintain your daily walk with the Lord?

Although I have a busy schedule, I always make it a point to have a healthy relationship with my Saviour Jesus Christ, through the realization of His promise that He will never leave me alone. Walking with Him every minute of my life gives me joy to share about Him at home, in my work place and He takes care of the rest.

MISSIONS' PAGE

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations baptising them in the name of the Father and the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.” **Matthew 28:20**

The NCF Delhi strives to give back the little it can to spread the good news of Jesus. With this commitment, NCF Delhi makes regular financial contributions to various missions.

Mission in Mongolia *(Aphrezo and Amos)*

The NCFD through Youth department and the Women department have been making monthly contributions for the mission work towards the Youth ministry in Ulaan Bataar, Mongolia since 2011. Under the leadership of Aphrezo Krose from Medziphema, Nagaland, we are currently helping a local young man Amos Erdenenyam. Aphrezo and Amos work together in sports and youth ministry as part of YWAM (Youth With A Mission) where they focus on building relationships with young boys and evangelizing through sports, particularly football. Aphrezo is also the Sports Coordinator in charge of various sports ministries and Amos also leads a DTS (Discipleship Training School) program which aims to equip university students with the word of God. Aphrezo lives with his



wife Sylvia and their three children Reuben, Rasivor and Ryan. Amos recently got married and lives with his wife Uka in Ulaan Bataar.

Newsight Family

(Solomon and Junita)

Solomon and Junita leads a thriving ministry called NEWSIGHT FAMILY, based in Delhi, for the visually handicapped. (Solomon is an itinerant evangelist and travels frequently on invitation to minister among the visually handicapped. Junita teaches English in Braille, at the Akhil Bharati Netrahin Sung). They organize prayer meetings regularly through which they share and spread the gospel.



MIQLAT (Shelter in God's Wings)

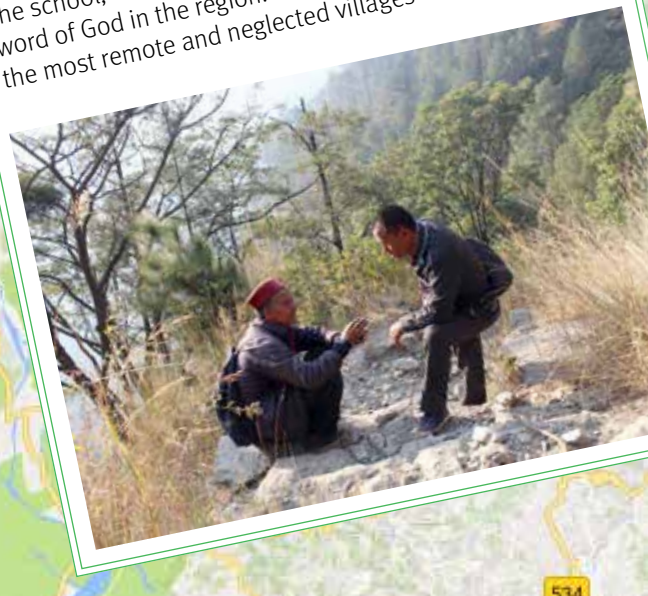
'Miqlat' is the Hebrew term for 'refuge' and the Miqlat Ministry is a social ministry under the Nagaland Baptist Church Council which was established to rehabilitate women in the sex trade and victims of trafficking. It aims to empower and restore the dignity of the women through the power of God. The Miqlat ministry provides these women with better and alternative occupations to earn their livelihood with dignity and honor. NCF made a commitment starting from 2017 to make regular monthly contributions to the cause of this rescue ministry.



The Wilderness Mission

(Alan Sangtam)

Alan Sangtam founded the Wilderness Mission based in Purolo district, Uttarkashi where he is the Headmaster of the Mission School as well as Pastor of the Wilderness Mission Church. Besides his duties and responsibilities at the school, Alan also dedicates his time in spreading the word of God in the region. He has reached out to some of the most remote and neglected villages of the district.



Bible Study Picnic

The joy of working together: Clean up!

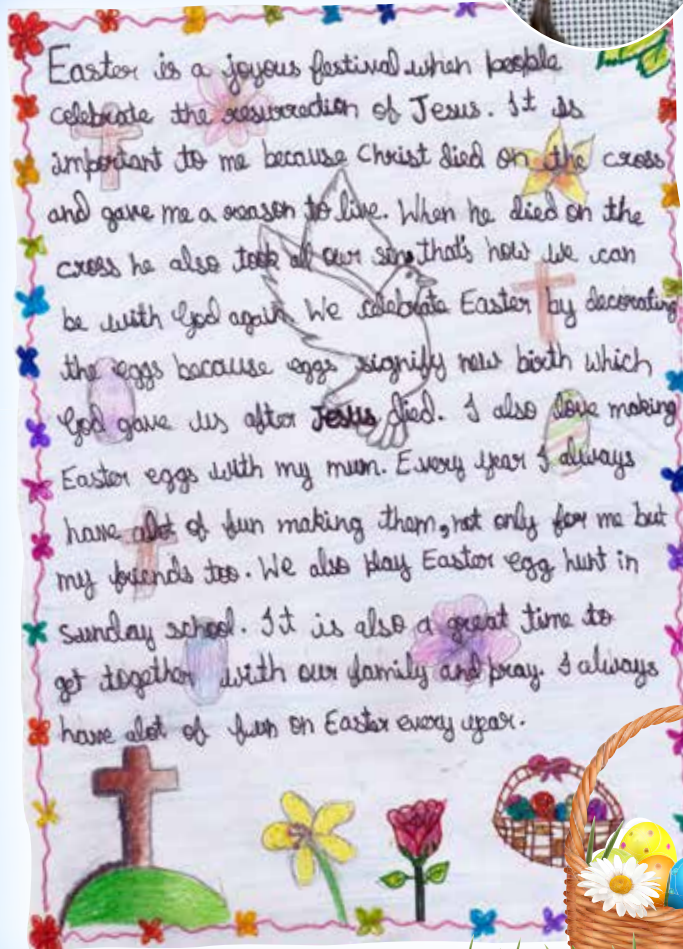
Christmas Day Feast



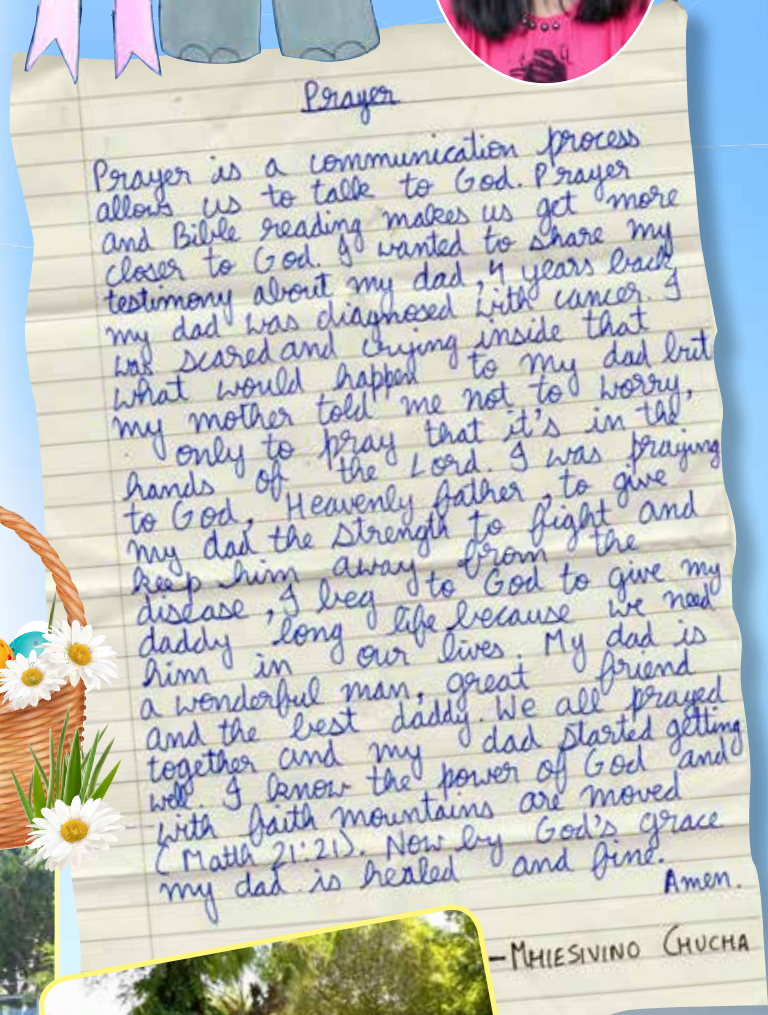
CHILDRENS' PAGE

The Sunday School is a part of the children's ministry of NCFD that creates an atmosphere of great fun and love among the kids. Stories and creative art and craft relating to the Bible keep the children excited and on their toes. Here are a couple of sweet insights from the kids.

Aalaya Chandola
Class VI, Age 10, Gyan Bharti
School, Saket



Mhieseveno Chiicha
Class IX, Age 13,
St. Xavier's School,
Civil Lines



So, what I think is...



Do you think we tend to forget the crucifixion while celebrating the resurrection?

Yes, we nominal Christians usually tend to forget the crucifixion while celebrating the resurrection. It would be good for all of us as believers to take a little time to remember what the Cross of Jesus Christ was really like. If we don't deliberately choose to meditate on what He went through,

we will never fully appreciate the price He paid for us. How tragic it would be if we lost sight of the pain and the price of redemption. In our society, the cross has become a fashion item, decorated with gems, rhinestones, gold, and silver. The reason this is so disturbing to me personally, is that in beautifying the Cross to make it pleasing to look upon, people have forgotten that it wasn't beautiful or lavishly decorated at all. In fact, the crucifixion of Jesus was so extraordinarily horrible simply because, of all the people who have walked on the earth, He alone was not guilty of criminal acts or sins of any kind. Jesus Christ died because of sin but not His own. Without the crucifixion of Jesus, all of us would still be convicted sinners and at enmity with God and without any hope for the future. Our godly sorrow and our thankfulness should motivate us to repent, to change and commit to living a life that is pleasing to God. The resurrection of our Lord means that the sacrifice for sinners has been paid, once and for all, and that this sacrifice has been accepted. The resurrection of Jesus proclaims that love is more powerful than hate, compassion triumphs over oppression, and vulnerability overcomes power. "For God so loved the world... John 3:16." Jesus invites us to put our trust in God, even in the face of horror, oppression, cruelty and death. And, what God does best is to bring Life out of Death.

– **Er. Thonchulo Magh, Jr. Engineer (Civil)**, Central Public Works Department, Ministry of Urban Development, Gol



How can we as believers be better witnesses of Christ?

A person need not have a theological background to spread the gospel.

Every individual on this earth is called for a different purpose. Individuals are called to be doctors, civil servants, cobblers, entrepreneurs, engineers, professors and so on. However, every believer should share the responsibility to spread the gospel to those who have no clue about Jesus Christ and also, to lost souls. We all know that living a righteous life is not as easy as we portray things in our mind. According to a survey, the gospel of Jesus Christ has not been heard by more than 2 million people in India itself. Consider how it could be someone who travels along with us in the same compartment at the metro or a person who buys vegetables next to you in a market or it could be a bureaucrat who you approached for help. In this case, we can always set a good example by showing a kind gesture and appreciation, a helping hand or it could be a simple smile which will add credit to our identity as Christians. "The Lord's bond-servant must not be quarrelsome, but be kind to all, able to teach, patient when wronged."

2 Timothy 2:24

– **Menosieno Nakhro**, a student at Khan Study Group, New Delhi



How reasonable is the idea of a personal relationship with an Omnipotent eternal God?

Being formed and fashioned in the image and likeness of God, being Human essentially, to the truest sense, is being in a state of perpetual communion with God. Knowing who I am in Christ alone gives the most profound treatment to my definition of relationship with God. The very fact that our identity is intrinsic; our worth and essence is endowed by God alone through the person of Jesus Christ relationally, obscures and obliterates all the inner aches, longings and struggles of human existence when we find ourselves in Him. The incontrovertible and indubitable reality and truth of the resurrected Christ is far

more superior to the errors of incoherence, of human inconsistencies and doubt. It is indeed this odyssey where we derive the very substance, essence and being from Christ which presents to us the very purpose of life's existence embodied in a relationship so divine yet utterly personal. – **Amulya Gurung**, a Post-Graduate student of Philosophy at the University of Delhi



Should we really forgive those who sin against us?

My first answer would be 'Yes, because as people of faith we should forgive just as Christ did and only if we forgive can we expect to be forgiven.' However, the act of forgiveness is never easy. It takes great effort to look beyond our pain and bitterness, and find in our hearts the desire to overlook and forgive. This may be the reason why we, very often, choose to keep holding

on to grudges not knowing that we are trapping ourselves in prisons of our own making, unable to move forward and incapable of growing. The burden of hate is a heavy one, forgiveness is the act that lifts this burden and sets us free. Over time the pain inflicted on us by someone else will slowly fade away. Forgiveness is not an act that benefits the other but blesses us. It is like the fragrance of a violet that lingers on the boots that crushed its bloom.

– *Daiyairi Muivah, a student of English at St. Stephen's College, New Delhi*



What difference did Jesus' resurrection make in your life?

Jesus' resurrection for me was a perfect example of God, the Father and Son working together as one to

save me from my sins. It reminds me that just as Jesus had resurrected from the dead, I too, will be raised up to be with Him and share His glory. It assured me that Jesus is always with me just as He had promised.

– *Vitholeto Nagi, a Post Graduate of Geology*

REPORT

Food Fest cum Musical Night

– *Mebet Saphi Nonglait, a student of Medicine at Lady Hardinge Medical College*



"Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favour of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved." (Acts 2: 46-47)

The NCFD Annual Food Fest cum Musical Evening exemplifies the aforementioned verse by providing a platform where people can come together in the name of our Lord to celebrate food

and music, to have fellowship with one another, to express their creativity and especially to glorify God with the talents He's showered upon them.

Last year the occasion was held on 20th November. The day commenced with the normal Church service at 11:00 AM followed by the Food Fest in the afternoon. A vast array of food items were available including Naga Thali, Galho, Shabaley, Chicken Roast, Pasta, Baked Goodies, Pancakes, Coffee, Cold Beverages, etc. There were even stalls that sold old donated books and potted plants. Everyone thoroughly had a wonderful time, with the delicious food and even better company, their contentment evident on their smiles and facial expressions.

The Musical concert ensued later in the evening. There were various heart warming performances including a piano

recital, solos, duets, medleys and group performances as well. The NCFD choir subsequently took to the stage with their musical "We All Need Christmas." The evening concluded with a joyous congregational singing of Christmas carols. The concert as a whole was beautifully orchestrated and incited a feeling of Christmas in our hearts, minds and also in the atmosphere.

The Musical was a gratifying success indeed. Having been a part of the choir myself, it felt triumphant to see all those weeks of rigorous practice paid off and I'd say a lot of the credit is due to Joylene Medom for having the patience to guide and teach the lot of us. It genuinely was an enlightening and amusing experience. Practice sessions were always filled with melodious singing, memorable events, laughter (when someone pulled a jest or two) and bonding.

The songs we sang made me reflect on how we all need Christmas and how it incites the Saviour's love to be born in us and unify us all.

It was a privilege and an honour to have been part of something so meaningful and significant. I can only hope that it was as much a blessing to everyone else as it was to me.





Bookstore Team



Program Team



Sound Engineering Team



Praise & Worship Music Team



Physical Arrangement & Steward Team



Most Dedicated Steward



Campus Ministry Team



Refreshment & Catering Team

Welcoming Team



Mission Team



Social Networking Team



Spark Editorial Team



Sunday School Teaching Team

Prayer Team



YOUTHS' PAGE

How did you realize that you met the person you wanted to spend the rest of your life with?

Mark: One never really knows. But when you see how the other gives their all to understand and care for you, and you in turn want to reciprocate unconditionally, things seem to just fall into place.

Awheno: As you grow up, you meet many beautiful and nice people with great qualities to admire but knowing God's best for you is a process of praying and seeking God's will. When God puts in your heart a desire to enrich someone else's life for whatever it takes, and you feel you can together enrich other people's life is when I feel things fall into place.

What were the biggest adjustments you made since you married?

Mark: The biggest adjustment is learning how to 'live' with each other. While courting, one never sees the other person's true self. Only after marriage we get to know and learn more about the other. Before getting married, you need to know that you have to give your all and not just give a little at a time.

Awheno: We still feel like we're playing 'house-house', trying

Mark and Awheno seem to have found something at the corridors of the church. On the 4th of January, 2017 they tied the knot and vowed to live as one. Here is a quick series of profound thoughts shared by them. Mark is a professional Sculptor and Awheno a clinical Psychologist in District Hospital, Dimapur. They have started a home in Dimapur and are guarded by Button the Pug, Son of Tofu.



Two as One

out different roles to see what works best for us both, while keeping our individual interests as well as common interests in mind. Some differences have been big, while some have been negligible, but to sum it all, the biggest adjustment would be being conscious of and making room for a second person in your life 24/7.

What special role has your faith in God played in your marriage?

Mark: One main cause of misunderstandings is selfishness. When you are single, everything is about you, and you put yourself first. After marriage, it cannot be about you alone. Because of our faith we know to put God first, likewise we need to put our spouse first. If both are in Christ then both are one in love and spirit.

Awheno: When you know God, you know love, forgiveness, and grace that have been freely given to you. Sometimes it becomes very difficult to freely give to someone but you strive to do it, knowing it is the right thing to do. Marriage without wisdom and strength from God will be really tough.

REPORT

Valentine's Day

Shomwang Konyak,
a graduate in Geochemistry and a Civil Service aspirant



The NCF youth, guided by senior members gathered at Tyrannus Hall on the evening of 14th February with the preferred aim to understand the true meaning of love, under the theme 'His Beloved.'

The service began with a prayer which was followed by speeches from various speakers. Aunty Zuve focused on building meaningful marriages by understanding the love of God. Dr. Angelynn shared how she patiently waited for God to help her find her true love. Her story of finding true love was inspiring and challenging. Rev. Pastor Ricky exhorted NCF youth to first of all cultivate friendships rather than rushing into relationships influenced by emotions and fantasies.



Most importantly, all the speakers came to the conclusion that, Agape love is the highest form of love, which originates from God. Agape embraces a universal, unconditional love that transcends and serves regardless of circumstances.

Presentation of music, songs, play, poem recitation, speeches and all the arrangement made by NCF youth were simply delightful.

In today's generation the youth are especially influenced by pseudo love and are attracted by physical beauty. In such times, true love becomes a doubting and testing term. Therefore, to guide Christian youths to a true and meaningful love, I'd like to think that such services are helpful which every church should uphold.

Ministry

OPPORTUNITIES & ACTIVITIES

Sunday Bible Study	10:00 A.M.
Saturday Men's Bible Study	11:00 A.M.
Friday Co-ed Bible Study	05:30 P.M.
First Saturday Exec. Meeting	12:00 noon
Ladies' Bible Study	
– North (Thurs – Fri – Sat)	04:00 P.M.
– South (Fri)	07:30 P.M.
Tyrannus Boys' Bible Study	
(Mon – Tues – Wed – Thurs)	09:00 P.M.

Growing Together

Prayer Focus

1. "1 Timothy 4:12" – That this verse will be a prayer for the youth of NCF so that they can be examples through their speech, life, love and purity. That they will continue to remain rooted and mature in their walk with Christ.
2. Pray for God's wisdom and grace upon the college students, the Civil service aspirants as they prepare for assignments, exams and also the Class 10 and 12 students for their on-going board exams.
3. Pray for God's guidance and wisdom for all the undergraduate and post-graduate students as they prepare to pursue careers in various fields.
4. Pray for the Sunday School teachers that they may impart wisdom that comes from God and teach them to grow in favour of God and men.
5. Pray for members who are sick and need God's healing touch upon them.
6. Pray for all the members looking for jobs that they may be guided and assisted by God to take the right path and find fulfilment – mentally, spiritually and financially.
7. For God's favour- that our much needed DFS Bible Study materials will be given priority by the Printer and completed soon without errors.
8. That those in the BS will share not only the benefits of it but also form and lead other small BS group. 2 Timothy 2:2.
9. The Sunday school has 7 faithful teachers but we are in need of more volunteers (about 7) to teach only once a week so that each teacher can attend worship services.
10. We are rejoicing with all NCF student candidates who are graduating this year, may God's guidance and love for Him be their portion.
11. Pray for God's rich blessings on Bible preaching, teaching, hearing, reading, studying, memorizing and meditating so that everyone will be nourished by its truths.
12. We thank the Lord for avenues to share prayer requests even by mobile, prayer boxes and prayers circles. Let's be praying people day in and day out.

Illustration by Sedevinuo Metha

Congratulations!!

God bless you on unfolding a new chapter: **Mark & Awheno** (4th Jan. 2017),

Daniel & Keto (5th April 2017)

Tina Vaiphei, Nimshim Kasomwo and Tina Y. Pongen on receiving Christ through Baptism. (17th April, 2017)

Thank You...

Sang Vaiphei and Payia Grace Rajina for sharing your photos

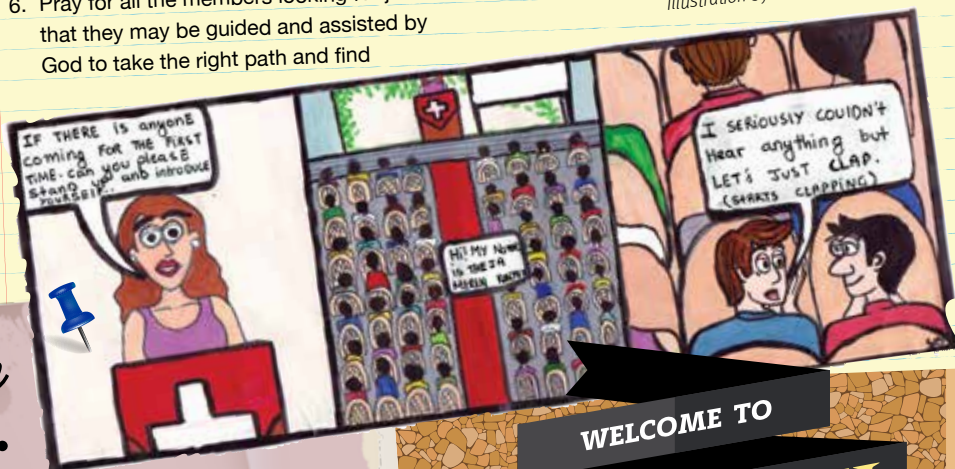
The Prayer Committee for putting together the Prayer Focus

News

Feb. 3 – 5, 2017: NBCC Annual Council Meeting, Peren. Pastor Ricky spoke on Spiritual Mentoring.

March 25, 2017: NBCC Women's Conference, Kohima. Theme: "Imagining the Future". Pastor Ricky Medom spoke on "Beautiful Hope" and the panel discussion was on "Women's Contribution toward a Better future".

Around 130 women were registered from all over Nagaland and from different walks of life. Representatives from city church and some churches in Kohima were present. There were about 150 participants in total.



WELCOME TO

NCF DELHI

SUNDAY SERVICE

SUNDAYS

11:00 AM

at

B.M. GANGE GIRLS Sr. Sec School, 21 Raj Niwas Marg, Delhi 11005

FOR MORE INFORMATION



ncfspark@gmail.com



+91(11)47065767

Send us your feedback on Whatsapp



+91 9582017652