

EDITORIAL

When the team first got together, we had some pretty great ideas to share and a lot of commitments to make to create this issue. The trouble that we were facing though, was selecting a theme that would somehow pull all of the contributions together and present them in the most meaningful way. The camp theme, however, had been decided and as the

discussions for camp were pertaining between the various people in charge, we were given the suggestion of having this same theme for our issue as well. As we sat and pondered over it we found it easy to place the ideas that we already had with this particular theme and interestingly everything else seemed to click too. 'Living Free' can mean a lot of things to a lot of people. Hence we could not stop our articles from expressing unique personalities and experiences in different ways. To be honest, in the

beginning the issue was looking more like a jumbled up collage of ideas but as each article is read you will soon discover the freedom with which everyone of them was written. The beauty of love that is present for God's people, His works and His purposes is what keeps people going and strengthens their hearts. We hope this issue will encourage everyone to find freedom in Christ and exhibit His love by loving the brotherhood of believers as well as honouring Him in every second of our lives. And so we live free.

SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING

Being Free and being able to Live Free are two different things. You can be free but unable to live free. Like a bird kept in captivity for long, it gets so used to staying in the tiny cage that either it has lost the desire to fly or no longer understands the concept of freedom. It has been conditioned to years of confinement in a small cage that even after being freed, the natural inclination to fly away has disappeared.

French Philosopher Jean-Jacques Rousseau said in his treatise *The Social Contract*: "Man is born free but everywhere he is in chains." What Rousseau meant was that in their natural state man has a great deal of freedom and choice about what they can do until social structures take over and ensnare them. This of course is open to debate as to whether man is really born free as we will see later.

However it is observable that being free and living as one who is free are



"Live as free men, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as servants of God. Show proper respect to everyone: Love the brotherhood of believers, fear God, honour the King." 1 Peter 2:16-17

two entirely different concepts. Sociologists have observed that even people who have been incarcerated for extended periods have difficulty adjusting to life outside of prison walls even when they are set free. They have been so long in confinement and been conditioned to obey that they have difficulty making decisions on their own.

Throughout the period of imprisonment, they were told what to do, when to do it, how to do it—essentially, they had no freedom to make decisions for themselves. Thus habituated, they discover that freedom is an intimidating concept. It is frightening to be responsible for one's own decisions.

In the movie *Patch Adams* Robin Williams made a similar comment: "We start out so open and spontaneous. We're real individuals. Then somewhere along the way we're drawn to conform. It's as if we're conditioned by programmed responses."

Unlike Rousseau, Patch Adams is a bit more optimistic when he says "But sometimes you can alter the programmed response... just by changing some of the conditions, altering the parameters." He goes on to say that this can be done by breaking through programmed responses by changing normal parameters and getting a new emotional response from the person/s. This however, is also open to debate, whether merely changing the condition or altering parameters will help as demonstrated above by the caged bird and the person kept in long detention.

On the contrary, the Bible says that mankind is born with the tendency to sin, to think and act selfishly: "for all have sinned and fall short of the Glory of God." Romans 3:23. There is the inherent bent to sin, and it is this sin factor that prevents us from being Free. This sin nature is present within every person until he or she becomes born again and supernaturally receives a new heart from God. Thus in the Old Testament the Prophet Ezekiel says "And I will give them singleness of heart and put a new spirit within them. I will take away their hearts

SPIRITUALLY SPEAKING

of stone and give them tender hearts instead, so they will obey my laws and regulations. Then they will truly be my people, and I will be their God.” Ezekiel 11:19-20 NLT

Human beings by nature have stony hearts until they become Born Again and receive the promise of God: “And I will give you a new heart with new and right desires, and I will put a new spirit in you. I will take out your stony heart of sin and give you a new, obedient heart.” Ezekiel 36:26 NLT.

Thus as the Bible says only when one is Born Again is the agape love of God deposited within his heart and new changes take place. And it is as a Believer that one develops in love, that is, when power also becomes available. But walking in love is a process that requires commitment, consistency, and consecration. *“As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving.”* Colossians 2:6-7

Our world is changing at a dizzying pace. Accepted social structures are

being transformed, moral standards are being rewritten, and even language is being revised. Attitudes that were considered good only a few years past are being recast as wicked; that which was previously thought to be evil is now exalted.

Faith in God is being marginalised both by the constant assault against Christians and even through legal actions. Increasingly, the preaching of the Word is being censured by people who are offended at the thought of a fixed standard of righteousness.

Under such conditions, how shall the worshipper of the Christ live? How shall we who belong to the Son of God respond? Peter has given us the answer we require *“Live as free men, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as servants of God. Show proper respect to everyone: Love the brotherhood of believers, fear God, honour the King.”* We must live as servants of God if we are to live free! We must discover the will of God by constantly trying to study and understand the Word of God and boldly obeying the will of God. This decision will set you at

variance with society as it sets its face against Believers. But this is the way to truly be free and to discover that true freedom is in Christ.

To live free in the Lord, invest time familiarising yourself with the Word and do not neglect meeting together. Cultivate the practise of prayer, spending time speaking with the Master. Reveal the love of God through living freely and consistently in obedience to His Word and point others to life in Christ Jesus our Lord. We are all responsible to honour God, living as free people. As our culture is revamped, we are still citizens of Heaven.

Let us determine to live free. Living as free people, we honour our Master. Don't misuse or abuse your freedom. Instead live as free men and women, live as Servants of God and use the freedom we have received in Christ the Lord. Though wickedness abounds, through Christ our Lord, may grace abound all the more in us. May God give us wisdom. May God be glorified in our lives.

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

PARENTS' PAGE



– Dr. Thinosekho Chucha

In Celebration of Life:

“The Ultimate Goal of Christian Faith is Eternal Life”

The story of my life did not start with me knowing Christ nor did I have the slightest inclination to know him. I was born in a family that followed traditional pagan religion. However, God works in mysterious ways – the pursuit of knowledge landed me in Government High School, Medziphema, where I first encountered Christianity and 2nd September, 1979 found me heading to Church. Being human, even as I came to understand life with Christ, my life was dotted with ups and downs.

Having experienced both sides let me draw a comparison between animistic faith and Christian faith. In the past, a person approaches a *Shaman* for help when he gets sick; the usual belief was that the person had incurred the wrath of the spirits and the purest animal has to be sacrificed. Likewise, many other negative events are believed to have occurred through the provocation of angry spirits and people lived in constant fear. As of now, the ancient faith has almost been replaced by the gospel which advocates living according to the decrees of God. However, people take it for

granted that God will, in His unconditional love, forgive them which have led to a nonchalant attitude toward sin. The person who does not resort to lie and steal in justifiable but crooked ways is seen as a fool. The bible clearly states in James 4:17 that though you may not lie or steal, you are a sinner if you do not carry out your duties and roles as you ought to; it means strict adherence to God's laws alone is not enough to gain salvation because we miss the standard God sets for us. And being finitely human as we are with free will as our gift from God, we have to battle with the choice between good and evil everyday

as seen in Romans 7:14-25. The key is to put God's Will before our will. Not to say that the ancient faith is a better alternative to Christian faith in keeping morality in check but what mine eyes have seen, I cannot ignore. If we lived in accordance with the Bible, ungodly living would not be a concern for us. We have all fallen short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23) but the Lord doesn't want anybody to perish. So He provides in Ezekiel 18: 21-32 the way to eternal life.

If we look closely at the world now, people even Christians, have differences with one another. Everybody wants credit for everything and run after wealth instead of preparing for eternal life. The Bible also talks about such disagreements in Acts 15:36-41. I would like to reflect on the story of the rich man and Lazarus in Luke 16: 19-31 and lament, "oh to gain everything but lose my soul."

Not unlike the case of people of other faiths, we see so many Christians failing to uphold the vows we make to ourselves, the people around us and God. We frequently present our wants and wishes in the form of needs to our father with a lot of assurances that we would diligently follow God's rules and decrees; that we would use our blessings to help others in need when the bible clearly tells us not to test the Lord in Matthew 4:7; we think that having a lot of resources would help us do more. More often than not, we fail to follow up on our promises when He blesses us or, we get depressed and angry at God if He doesn't accede to our requests. A

common example of this is evident in students who vow to study diligently but fail to uphold it; they start bargaining with God in the face of examinations promising to use the talents and abilities that he bestows upon them to do good things. In Matthew 21: 18-19, we find that Jesus curses a fig tree for not bearing fruit. Just like the fig tree, how sad would it be if our Father finds us wanting because we were working for the world instead of the life that God has already prepared for us. Most people misconstrue that all blessings come from God and would instead credit them to hard work, labour and luck. However, in Acts 3:1-10, Paul and John credited the healing of the lame beggar on the steps of the temple in the name of the Lord and glorified God's name, not theirs. Daniel and his friends braved fire and lions for their faith and God rescued them. Like the instances in the bible, if we lived our faith in the face of all adversities, then God will truly bless us with eternal life.

God has blessed me in ways that I could not have imagined or expected. I see God's love in every aspect of my life. He has even rescued me from false allegations in the face of eminent suspension at my workplace. My ignorance of the legal ramifications landed me in a mess brought about by false allegations of molestation by a woman reporter in an altercation with media personnel when I was on duty in September 2006. But God knew my innocence and as I turned it over to God, the lady eventually retracted her statements. However, she still tried to

claim compensation for the amount she had spent in the duration of the summons at court through her lawyer which I refused; it may be noted that the court summons totalled to 44 times from 2007 to 2014. The high court judge, who quashed the matter in September 2014 and settled it in December 2014, continuously rebuked her and asked her to apologize to me. I recount this experience to tell you that the many clever ways and machinations employed by Satan to bring about the downfall of a person who loves God will not triumph if you lived according to God's decrees.

I am amazed at the way God's faithfulness continues in my life. Today, with every breath I can say with absolute clarity that God never gave me more than I could bear; even when I was diagnosed with cancer. He gave me resources in the form of my wife, my children and loved ones and saw to my every need. I never saw more clearly than at this time of need that God is in control of everything. After years of examining myself, I know God loves me and He constantly holds me in His bosom whenever I am weak reminding me that He will never leave me nor forsake me. As I spend the rest of my days in this temporary home, I pray that God will strengthen my faith because the journey is fraught with trials and temptations. I beseech God every day that He would show me mercy and forgive me for my shortcomings and that I may dwell in His house forever. Are we preparing ourselves to take hold of the eternal life that God our father has already prepared for us?

Parents' Say...

Q. One thing which you wished you knew during your younger days

A. During my younger days, I wish had known that along with happiness and success also comes failures, disappointments and anxieties and that these were God's ways of making me stronger, mature and wiser to face the world ahead. As I look back now, I am glad for all the ups and downs that God has given me which have made me into what I am today. Now as a family man, I am thankful for all those experiences which God has given to guide me and my family in our good as well as bad times. – *Mr. Metenol Valeo*

Q. Has your way of worship changed after you became a parent?

A. Yes, it definitely has. My responsibilities have increased for it is my duty to make sure that my children know God. Sacrifices have also grown because I have to be a good role model to my children and be certain that my actions do not hamper their growth with the Lord. Becoming a parent has made me more careful and patient and it has also taught me to really understand the many ways through which Christ blesses us and allows us to serve Him. – *Mrs. Atula Jamir*



– *Ruokuovilie Sachu,*
Assistant Pastor, Naga
Christian Fellowship Delhi

Living Free

The perception of “Freedom” can be prorated into two schools of thoughts- the Secular understanding of freedom and the Christian understanding of freedom. The secular understanding of freedom often sees it perversely as a license for doing whatever one pleases even if it is evil. So the popular understanding of freedom in the secular milieu is to do whatever one feels is right; regardless of the consequences. It advocates the philosophy of doing what intuition permits them to do without any reasonable boundaries. The concept of freedom is largely romanticized. In the secular understanding of freedom; it also sees man as the measure of everything.

Some centuries ago, a few restless theologians formed a theology called “Come of age.” They exaggerated that the Christian faith has matured in the Lord Jesus. They stated that, man has grown up and for so long has been under the guidance of the Holy Spirit that they have attained the state of prominence, respectability, recognition and maturity. It was time for him to become independent and be free. The quest of freedom according to this philosophy is rebellious and rejects the authority and the lordship of God. At the price of denying God, they frame their freedom. One of the analogies they propounded to support this concept is from the natural system of a child growing up from infancy to adulthood.

Biblically speaking, the Christian understanding of freedom is not doing what one wants to do or feels right to do. It has its boundaries. In the Christian view of freedom, the measure is God, God is the moral law giver and the authentic freedom is found in the yardstick of the given laws. Paul says in 2 Corinthians 3:17, “...where the Spirit of the Lord is there is freedom.” The Christian understanding of freedom does not authorize rebellion against constituted authority but urge the believers to freely submit to God and to earthly authorities. In the NIV Study Bible, the commentators expounded the concept of freedom in 2 Peter 2:16 as, “Genuine freedom is the freedom to serve God, a freedom exercised under the law and liberty is not license to do as one pleases to do.”

According to the quoted verse, authentic freedom can only be found in the arena of God given laws. Once the boundaries are dislodged it is no longer true freedom. The luxury of real freedom is the absence of guilt, condemnation, accusation and rebellion.

God sent His Son so that we may be free from this condemnation and guilt, yet there are so many children of God who live under much condemnation and guilt. We should take His gift of freedom and make it our own. All our sins were condemned in the flesh by Jesus’ death on the cross. God’s ultimate desire is to let His children live in freedom. Throughout the Israelites’ history in the Bible, God had been continually delivering the Israelites from their bondage (physical as well as spiritual). The narrative of the Exodus rings loud as one of the most crucial sections in the scripture where God rescued and redeemed His people from the incarceration of the Egyptians. This redemption is the depiction of God’s divine plan to free His children from the bondage of sin. This divine plan of God redeeming and freeing His people from the bondage of sin continues in the New Testament in the ministry of Jesus. Through the finished work of Jesus Christ on the cross (death and resurrection), God pours out the unlimited grace, love and mercy to the people, cleansing them from all their sins which ultimately resulted in freeing them from the physical bondage. This is the greatest freedom that has ever been given so that we may

“live free” in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Since the authentic freedom is living a life within the frame work of God’s given law, how can a Christian live as a free man in this world?

1. By believing in God’s word.

Romans 8:1-4 “There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus...”

2. By believing that you are justified by God.

Romans 8:31 “What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us who can be against us?”

3. By believing that the Holy Spirit bears witness with us.

Romans 8:16-18 “The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children...”

4. By believing that it is not God accusing us.

Revelation 12:10 “Then I heard a loud voice in heaven says: Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God, and the authority of his Christ. For the accuser of our brothers, who accuses them before our God day and night has been hurled down”.

A person is really free only when he comes to realize the need of God- Jesus and His provision. Real freedom is not lawlessness but submission to the law of God and the authority (earthly government) that is instituted above us through faith in Jesus.

Freshers' Say...



Why did you choose Delhi as the place of learning?

I chose Delhi as the place of learning, as Delhi has a better education system and better opportunities comparing to other places. It has significantly higher number of top academic institutions like JNU, engineering, medical, architecture, etc. and Delhi being the capital of India enjoys some privileges compared to other places.

– **Libemo Shitiri**, (a student of Political Science, Zakir Hussain College)

Happiness to me is to wake up and realize that God

has provided me another beautiful day to be blessed immensely and giving me the power and authority to control over life challenges, to choose right from wrong. Happiness to me is finding joy and satisfaction from doing the humblest job or work. It is to be positive and get rid of the negative, a person is always beautiful and happy when one knows God is in control.

– **Mhiesilhousie Meyase**, (a student of Fashion, JD Institute of Fashion Technology.)

What is happiness to you?



Do you think children should be sheltered from unhappiness?



I feel children should be partially sheltered from unhappiness, “partially”, because a child should grow under certain kind of environment where there is a provision and channeling of a combination of both happiness and unhappiness as life is not all uphill. As a child grows he/she should tune in with both good and bad, sweet and bitter, bright and dull to be able, to be a responsible and independent person in future. Thus, making the child more prepared and reliable to face the challenge of tomorrow when parents will be no more to guide them through out.

– **Payia Grace Rajina**, (a student of Political Science, Gargi College)

What is your greatest strength?



Faith is the most important thing to me. Faith forges strength of character available to me in times of great challenge and temptation. It's the greatest strength I have had.

– **Kethosinuo Tepa**, (a student of English, Janki Devi Memorial College)

To Love the Brotherhood of Believers



– **Pemtha Longvah**, a student of Mass Communication Amity University

The fellowship that one has with the Church is foundational and stays with them for the rest of their

lives. To be far away from home, for a Christian, the Church instantly becomes the second family – a family who goes out of their way to help you. When you seem to have fallen down and can't get up, the Church helps, guides and nurtures you to walk with the Lord no matter what and not lose faith. Many people have asked me this question, 'You live so far away yet, you always make it to Church. How do you do it?' To be as simple as I can be, Sundays are what I look forward to the most. Since I miss



out on the weekly Bible studies, I miss the bonding and the sharing of God's word. Hebrews 10:25 says 'not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the Day approaching,' so yes Sundays are what I look forward to the most because that is when I can bond and connect with the Lord and the Church. The First day I attended the service of

NCF Delhi I thought it would be different but no, it felt like home. I got acquainted to wonderful people who till this day have never left my side and the bond that we have created with the Church is something which is strong and can never be broken. Through the hardships of life we walk with the Lord for we know there is no greater love but the love of God. Sure there have been times when I have doubted myself, when I lost complete hope but, God has always been there for me and has stood by my side through the barriers of life. Baptism was a bond I made with the Lord to follow Him in my walk of life and till this day never has my faith in the Lord been shaken nor have I ever doubted Him. The brotherhood shared between me and my Church involves fellowship, a fellowship that is glued together by faith.

'I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by Faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.'

Galatians 2:20



Freshers' Day

– Imlisenla Ozukum

It's always a pleasure to see young minds with dreams and aspirations and their creative ideas. The NCF Delhi has yet again successfully brought together the new members of the family of Christ on 11th September 2016,

by devoting a Sunday service for the freshers.

The service started with praise and worship and one could already sense the energy of these promising youths. The atmosphere was lightened by the ever efficient Tyrannus boys and the NCF youth through songs and a skit while heartwarming speeches were given by Mr. Kusasing and Mr. Kuputo.

But the encounter to this new journey was brought about by the Almighty, and one should remember the Creator while he is young as the nearest helper when in need. Our blessed Rev. Dr. Ricky Medom



explained how a young Christian soldier should walk based on the scripture Mark 4:13-20 recited by Miss Alice Jamir. The house build upon the rock could not be shaken by the storm and the NCF, Delhi is ever ready to guide them towards the right way.

It was nothing better than an informal session to break the ice. Warm smiles and laughter and excitement of the new adventure could be seen as the games commenced. Satisfaction of the senior members could be felt as the young members gave their eloquent introduction.

Indeed a beautiful day with God fearing people coming together as one in worship. May we continue to grow and stay blessed.



Fête Day

– Vezoto Tetseo,
(A Student of History,
Kirori Mal College)

The annual fete day held on 18th September was a wonderful day filled with much laughter, fun and communal spirit building activities. The fête Committee, worked tirelessly to prepare for the day and make it a day to remember.

The event started at noon and went on till late afternoon. There were a lot of food stalls selling varieties of foodstuff, from pork ribs to glass noodles to laphing; you couldn't tell if one was better than the other because all were equally delicious.

There were also a lot of interesting books on sale, ranging from educational/leisure to spiritual books sold at a cheaper price. The atmosphere was amazing; music could be dedicated to a loved one for all to hear and many did so. The games were also fun to play and look at; people tried their luck to knock over the cups while others decided to put their skills to the test by throwing darts or shooting hoops. There was also a photo booth where people could choose from a range of different backgrounds for the perfect picture, the props and equipments used made each picture special. A very interesting and funny thing about the fête day was the presence of a jail, where people could jail anyone. Mr. Ache with his megaphone was quite a frightening and funny sight. Besides stalls and games, it was a day where friends and



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 on how the kids feel about their time in Sunday School.

Hello, Friends

My name is Kevipunuo Mere. I'm studying in Mount Carmel School in class V. When Sunday comes I look forward to go to Sunday School. I am in Senior class along with five more children. Our teacher's are Thabit and Viharo. Every Sunday they take turns to teach us the word of God from the Bible. We learn memory verses, we learn to pray individually, we play team games which are a lot of fun, we celebrate Birthdays, we enjoy picnics, we sing on special occasions and lots more. That's why I love to go to Sunday School and bless all.

Kevipunuo Mere, Age 10,
Class V, Mt. Carmel School

What is the best thing about Sunday school and why?

The best thing about Sunday school is we can learn God's word. We sing songs and recite Bible verses. We also play games and have fun. In Sunday school we learn new songs and God's words. Our teacher tells us stories from the Bible. We also learn to eat and drink in the Sunday school. We learn how to pray to God. I like Sunday school because it is fun. We learn God's word. We have much fun in Sunday school. I love Sunday school very much.

Eva Mijing Narjinary

Eva Narjinary,
class II, age 6
St Thomas School

YOUTH PAGE



family could get together and have fun, whilst meeting new people and making new friends.

The fête day was organized to fund the NCF camp to Dehradun and it ended in great success. If you haven't been to the fête day, make sure you pull up your sock and attend the next time because it will be an experience you will not forget.



JULLEY! JULLEY! THE MISSION'S TRIP OF THE TYRANNUS HALL IS ALWAYS A BLESSING TO THE BOYS AND THE BELIEVERS THERE. THIS TIME AGAIN AT LEH, LADAKH WITH SOME YOUTHS AND THE BAND OF BROTHERS LED BY PASTOR RICKY, AUNTY VIRING AND ASST. PASTOR RUOKUO, THE TRIP WAS A SUCCESS BOTH SPIRITUALLY AND PHYSICALLY. HERE IS MR. "I WILL NEVER LET YOU GO" SHARING HIS STORY...

A Trip to Ladakh

MY MISSIONAL TESTIMONY

My last outreach mission has come to pass along with it not just memories, but revealing experiences too. Ladakh, if it were a person then it has succeeded in impressing her guest over and over again. Although my second trip was comparatively less dramatic than the previous one, it was consistent this time, consistent in keeping a traveller or sojourner in its own respect; in suspense all the more fueled my desire to look forward to the next day. As it is not my first time I will forgo mentioning the beautiful mountains or at the least will write only briefly about it.

Beyond high passes and low valleys; this time I captured not one but many essences of the people; not just them but amongst the group as well. Our evening devotions rejuvenated the weary soul, reminded one of his/her purpose up here on these mountains and like other trips, in Nepal and the same place (Ladakh), we somehow always managed to touch a soul or two – a tired Christian, a nominal one – from another part of the globe. I can proudly yet humbly say we refueled them with encouragement and steadiness.

Behind us and in front of us is God, of course. After all, it's His mission that takes the priority and I couldn't be happier this time when provided with

responsibilities. I could sense growth that was more important than having a new perspective; for me. Our hostess, who runs a guest house, was a wonderful woman; her hands were full because it was the tourist season. We had trekking, biking and devotions which freshened up our minds. But what I would like to fix my gaze this time, is on how God has worked this time, on what was achieved. Was God's mission accomplished or was it just a pleasurable trip?

The trip was a pleasure, I agree to the fullest, but it's the first point I want to dwell on, the crux of our missions. It inadvertently gives us exposure and there's so much we learn too. Perhaps, I can narrow down my most precious moments up there, to four experiences.

Going to Saspotche, an isolated village quite far from where we stayed, was a humbling experience, I learned humility, leadership, responsibility and most importantly, caring for one another. Maybe we are the first Christians who actually, at the least, displayed to the local population that we are of God – "A seed planted," perhaps.

I could not have been any more nervous and excited about the testimony I was to share. But at one point of time; at the Moravian Church in Leh, confusion and disappointment set in because I thought I won't be able to share. Well it

turned out that their way of conducting service may lead an NCF member into thinking a program is over when actually it is not. Eventually, I got to share my testimony, if I had not been given the opportunity to share I convinced myself, this small testimony of mine will be shared on these high grounds after all; I spent sleepless nights preparing it. It's only fair.

My third experience can be directed to evening devotions, never have I looked forward to it as much as I had in all my three and a half years as a Tyrannian. As mentioned earlier in these devotions, we meet few weary souls, us included too. It reminded me of old Naga folk tales, the entire village gathering to take in the day's account. It is a powerful weapon of God to reach out to others as well.

Now the last experience is the most profound one because it's not just a moment or a day but it's been every day. Waking up early was a part of the trip but there was a purpose to it; it was done with regard to other people's welfare and it was not just me. Taking care of breakfast, for example – the beauty in it was giving my 100% to produce the best outcome and receiving a thank you at the end, the same goes for lunch and dinner. Assigning both Tyrannus boys and praise and worship members their respective works is another instance – I

had no problem directing the former group as I am used to it but the latter required me to be mindful of their convenience too. It made me consider the Tyrannus boys' problems too. It's all invaluable; the experiences I went through, the patience I practiced, responsibilities I shouldered and an open heart to look for God in all things. With confidence I can say it all made me a better man, to lead by example and to actually practice it, face it's outcomes – good and bad. I am ever grateful and not a day do I wish to change because of moments like these, a testimony shared to encourage but at the same time it challenged me to live up to the words I have shared. A responsibility given out of which I received growth; I dedicated a small thing to the Lord only to be rewarded with wisdom and insight – these are what I will take with me as life lessons learned from the trip and as I soon close the chapters of being a Tyrannian, it makes me ever grateful to God for the wonderful people of God I have met. An overflowing reward of blessings for being obedient and chastening in a loving manner when I'm wrong – I'm ever grateful to have acquired so many needful tools in life. It will be shared with anyone who walks in my life; this is my prayer and for being able to participate and rediscover newness in this trip leaves me with a quest and yearning to learn, to explore and reach out to the unreachable.



Always with an open mind and heart, to come back with a sense of accomplishment, a feeling of satisfaction of the love of God shared with anyone anywhere is what I wish to be true for all future travels. I know God blessed the people we met and was able to achieve many plans which I believe was set for us. So, in reply to my previous question about God's work, I am pleased it was a success. I wish to return there someday with more undertakings perhaps. Ladakh has left us with the best of memories and experiences to cherish for a life time.

– **Kekung Haralu,**
(A graduate from Hindu College)



NCF Delhi Annual Camp

– Akum Panger,
Asst. Camp Director

With the theme “Living Free” based on 1Peter 2:16-17, the NCF Delhi Annual Camp was held at the Christian Retreat Centre, Dehradun, from 30th September-3rd October. There were 69 of us altogether; 63 campers and six resource persons – Pastor Ricky, Auntie Viring, Cindy Peace, David Peace, Jay Orvis and Atsen Murry.

Few people had to withdraw from the camp but even more joined us just in time for the journey on the night of 29th September. Some time after our arrival around 7 the next morning, the campers were divided into six groups – No Worry, No Pain, No Shame, No Guilt, No Death and No Fear.

The prepared games and group activities set up a warm and energetic atmosphere among campers. But since there were a few glitches in the travel schedule of the camp counselors, the group competitions were held earlier which actually worked to everyone's advantage as it brought people closer faster than we expected. Observing how the evening Gospel Service was led by the seniors; Pastor Ricky pointed to how the desire for freedom works differently



in each of us and introduced us to the one person, the main reason, behind the whole camp, Jesus Christ, as the Truth and the way to freedom.

We had an enthusiastic start to the second day, with our timekeeper, Imlong, waking the campers up by 6:30am. Devotion time every morning taught us how to begin our day with Christ and this was also a way to learn how to study and apply God's Word in our lives. With the emphasis on being a new creation in Christ, Atsen, shared the importance of being honest and real with ourselves and God, as a start.

The third day brought us to the trek up to Mussoorie. As exciting as it may sound, it was a challenge to most of us, both physically and mentally. This also served a new challenge to the camp leaders as we had to deal with unforeseen detours

and delay. It was probably the most stressful day for both Bobo and I as we had to find ways to make up for lost time. We learned an important lesson through the session that followed that day. Cindy Peace spoke of “Freedom in Communication” – the fact that God's family plays a crucial role in enabling one to discern His will through the exercise of love and respect for one another became quite clear.

In relation to this, the last day introduced campers to the Prayer (Faith) walk, where campers had to go off in pairs and learn what it is like to listen to and pray for one another. David Peace, in one of his sessions, highlighted the role of asking questions as a Life skill in the Body of Christ. Certain kinds of questions have an opening to God's purpose, and this was, I believe, reflected in the Question and Answer Round, where a lot of questions were brought forward by the campers.

The final group competitions were held





with a cheerful spirit and we witnessed a lot of talent and newly discovered confidence amongst the campers. The Camp fire served as a meaningful closure to our eventful weekend. It was emotional for many and made us realize how much we actually bonded over only four days. Looking back, this moment can only be a glimpse into God's grand purpose – the fact that Mark, Kumman, Ben John and Keviser joined us late after our arrival, made me realize the way God has a plan in each of us. When Mark and Atsen spoke, it

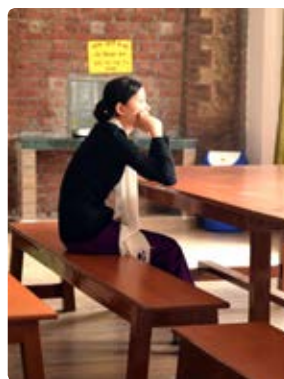
brought into perspective the way God takes time to work in people. I believe the old timers of NCF are an encouragement to the new ones to look forward to living an adventure with God. Just being there with so many old and new faces, meant living an answered prayer.

In the final service just before the camp fire, Jay Orvis spoke of the necessity of dying to self in order to serve the Lord. According to Jay, what made this weekend different was the Love of God. This camp enabled us to experience God's love through His family. In conclusion, the camp was not just a shared experience or a beautiful memory, but a personal invitation, a challenge to all of us to,

Live as free men but not to use our freedom as a cover up for evil, to live as servants of God. To show proper respect to everyone: to Love the brotherhood of believers; to fear God, and to

Honour the King.

(1 Peter 2:16-17)



Growing Together

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



sparkncf@gmail.com



91 (11) 470 65767

Send us your feedback on Whatsapp



+91 9582017652

Prayer Focus

1. Thank the Lord for His guidance and smooth turn-over of our mission school Ebenezer Community School to Metro Delhi International School last August 2016. Let's continue to remember the teachers, pupils and management, that God's favour be upon them.
2. We thank the Lord for touching 69 precious lives who participated in Living Free Annual NCF camp. Pray for freedom to live the way we ought to live for Him.
3. Together with the Praise and Worship Team, may we all worship Him with our lips and lives not only on Sundays but all days.
4. Pray for God's enabling and joyful hearts as Youth committee members faithfully serve, to visit members, operate sound system, clean and store equipment, serve refreshments, contribute and collate written articles for Spark Magazine.
5. Pray for strength, availability and manpower to plan, prepare various cooked and baked food, juices, tea, coffee, cards, souvenirs, potted plants etc. for our Nov. 20 Food Festival Sale.
6. Pray, thank and praise God with the families of NCF Pastor Ricky Medom and Rev. Zhabu Terhuja as they prepare and look forward to the marriage of their children Mark and Awheno on January 4, 2017.
7. Pray for all our students to have successful and disciplined preparations for semestral exams from November to December 2016. Pray that they will all be healthy in body, mind, and spirit.
8. 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.

Happy to hear from you!

You guys have done a fabulous job on the new *Spark*!!! Many blessing to the entire team!!! – **Inatoli Sema**

It's uplifting to see the *Spark* team coordinating so well. I see improvements with each new issue and it's a matter of pride for me as a former editor that the baton has been passed to such capable hands.
– **Chunthailiu Gonmei**

Information

- For birthdays, thanksgiving, special songs and occasions, contribution for refreshments and floral offerings.
- To avail our library facility, membership and other information, kindly contact, **Mrs. Viring Medom**
+91 9818849539

Thank You!

Payia Grace, Mark Medom, Sang Vaiphei and Recho Benjamin for sharing your photos.

MINISTRY Opportunities & Activities

Sunday Bible Study	10:00 AM
Saturday Men's Bible Study	11:00 AM
Friday Bible Study (co-ed)	5:30 PM
1 st Saturday Executive Meeting	12:00 Noon
Ladies Bible Study (North)	4:00 PM
Thursday - Friday - Saturday	7:30 PM
Ladies Bible Study (South) Friday	
Tyrannus Boys' Bible Study/Devotions	09:00 PM
(Monday - Tuesday - Wednesday - Thursday)	

SPARK EDITORIAL TEAM: Thejalkhoukho Casavi, Visieno Kiso, Akum Panger, Biambi B. Sangma, Nibizo Nagi, Kethozhavi Liegise, Kateni Rajina
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