

APRIL 2020



Pastor Edward Paul is a cherished brother in Christ and has a powerful testimony that we pray blesses you in your faith. Among full time pastoral ministry, he works on the Mission Voice Network team in India in finance and accounting. He has many passions and responsibilities that he juggles well, but as you can see in his smile, he radiates the love and joy of Jesus as his first passion and is a great encouragement to others in difficult times.

Pastor Edward Paul's testimony continued:

My father had spent much money on my studies and if I accepted this position as a pastor, who would take care of my father's ministry? After I said no, I lost my peace. So Pastor Vijayan asked me again and this time I said I would try, but it still was not a concrete answer. He asked me for a third time and plainly, I said, "Okay!". The next Sunday we went there but no one was there. We cleaned the church and prayed. A while later two grandmothers came, but they fell asleep! This continued for 6 months. For 1.5 years, I had 4 people in the church. One Friday, a grandma brought a young lady, Jasmine, to church for fasting and prayer. She had much debt because of her business that was broken and needed prayer. I kept praying for God to bring Jasmine back each week, and He did! I was so happy; I encouraged her and kept praying. The grandma that brought Jasmine died the very next Monday which brought me much sadness and confusion. I was thinking

my choice to be at this church was wrong and I was asking God to show me if I should go back to my father's church. This grandma was very helpful to me in my ministry. I had to ride the bus back and forth from where I lived to the church and it was 16 miles away. Sometimes the bus was very late and when it was, this grandmother would start the services in prayer and worship. She had a lovely voice. Jasmine was going on a trip to visit her daughter and she asked me not to be mad because she wouldn't be back for one month. We held funeral services for the grandma, and Jasmine attended, but decided because her grandma was no longer there, she would stop coming. I was broken! Yet, I continued encouraging her and sharing the Gospel, and we said that God would take care of her debt. The next Sunday she came back to church and within 1 month, all of her debt was cleared! She was given a huge sum of money to pay back everything! Jasmine accepted Christ, received baptism, and every Sunday before church, she would go knocking on doors, inviting others to church. Praise the Lord! God told me that I needed to fast and pray each month, on the 2nd Saturday, so I obeyed. He also told me I needed to print service times on a notice to pass out: 100 this month, 200 next, and 300 the following. People said this was a waste of money because only 6 people came, yet I knew I needed to obey and eventually God brought the people. There were 120 who came for fasting and prayer and 70 attended services regularly. God continues to grow His church. Today, I am a Pastor, I take care of accounts for MVN, and have an administrative team to help me. I still drive a motorcycle 63 miles each way from my home to church, and back again. Though I'm unfit and unworthy, God has been so gracious and faithful to me.



Our team from Arizona had the pleasure of serving our Brothers and Sisters in January. We are humbled through our experience and overjoyed at the work that the Lord is doing in India and through our Missionary friends of MVN.

"I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers".

Ephesians 1:16

India provided a lifelong and life altering experience of personal growth, growth as a team member and as part of the body of Christ. The pastors and their strength is awe-inspiring.

I felt humbled and blessed by all the Indian pastors and their service to us. I'm encouraged to see God working through them. One highlight was water baptisms; feeling humble and joyful that I could play a small part in their public profession of Jesus Christ as Lord.

Humbled, encouraged, grateful!

Excited for next time!

A perfect time to reconnect with wives and couples I previously met and grow in friendship. I enjoyed learning more about MVN headquarters as it was helpful in understanding needs and how to pray.



My dear Gospel Partner, Greetings!

It is indeed my great joy and privilege to meet you once again through this newsletter. God is so good all the time.

Do you know that this is not our permanent place? (Phil 3:20). Yes, we are here for a short period of time. The Lord who knew us even before we were formed in our mother's womb has allowed us to be here for His greater purposes. Even corona can not touch us before His appointed time in our lives.

One of the important reasons for us to be here is to love others. So that others can see Jesus through us.

Jesus said, "But I say unto you that hear, Love your enemies, do good to them that hate you". Luke 6:27

Love is a powerful weapon, which will diffuse the bomb of hatred in the heart of a person. **"Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good". Romans 12:21** Reveal Jesus to your enemies by loving them and praying for them. Let the spirit of love linger in your heart today and transform the lives of others. Loving your enemies does not mean that you agree with them in everything. Instead, it means that when they hate you, you love them in return, thereby halting the cycle of hatred and retaliation. God expects us to have love and affection towards all. We see how Jesus asked Judas Iscariot with love, "Friend, why have you come?" even while Judas was about to betray Him. This shows the love of Jesus. Yes, in this society, we need a witness like this. We are living in a wicked world. But, we should love those who slander and do evil against us. The Bible says: **"Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you". Luke 6:27** As you begin to do good for your enemies, divine love will birth in your heart for them and in turn, you can show Christ to others. **"When the Lord takes pleasure in anyone's way, he causes their enemies to make peace with them". Proverbs 16:7** Do you have an enemy? Love them. Do good for them.

May the dear Lord Bless you;
Your Missionary Brother, Vee

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