

Leading To Christ

A Publication of the International Church, Inc.

January, 2010

New-year Resolutions

My dear international Church family Greetings! May you have the gift of faith the blessing of hope and also wish you a joyful and pleasant new-year.

The new year resolutions are taken from 2nd King chapter 13: 15-19 And Elisha said to him, "Take a bow and some arrows." So he took himself a bow and some arrows. Then he said to the king of Israel, "Put your hand on the bow." So he put his hand on it, and Elisha put his hands on the king's hands. And he said, "Open the east window"; and he opened it. Then Elisha said, "Shoot"; and he shot. And he said, "The arrow of the Lord's deliverance and the arrow of deliverance from Syria; for you must strike the Syrians at Aphek till you have destroyed them." Then he said, "Take the arrows"; so he took them. And he said to the king of Israel, "Strike the ground"; so he struck three times, and stopped. And the man of God was angry with him, and said, "You should have struck five or six times; then you would have struck Syria till you had destroyed it! But now you will strike Syria only three times."

When Jehoash was told to strike the ground with the arrows, the king did it only halfheartedly. As a result, Elisha told the king that his victory over Syria would not be complete. Receiving the full benefits of God's plan for our lives requires us to receive and obey God's commands fully.

If we don't follow God's complete instructions, we should not be surprised that his full benefits and blessings are not present. Satan is an oppressor. Deliverance is available to you and yet the Lord won't do it apart from your partnering with Him.

God will place His hands upon ours but we must grab the arrow, open the window, and get into action. After the first arrow was launched, Elisha told king Joash to take the rest of the arrows out of the quiver and beat them on the ground. So Joash took the rest of the arrows out of the quiver and beat them three times and then he stopped. "Why have you stopped after three times?" Elisha asked. "You should have smitten the arrows five or six times. But because you only hit them three times, you'll only have a partial victory over Syria." What do those arrows speak? They speak of the arsenal we have been given by the Lord to bring about the deliverance and victory He intends for us to experience in our daily life. The Arrow of the Word of God, The Arrow of our Prayer Life, The Arrow of Faith in God and to His Word, The Arrow of Praise and Worship, The Arrow of Communion and Fellowship.

—Alexander Thomas

Praise report & Prayer requests

- Thank the Lord for His faithfulness through out the last year.
- Praise God for our youth and the wonderful Sunday School Anniversary we had.
- Thank the Lord for the touching us during the watch night service on December 31.
- Thank the Lord for Shilpa's Baptism. Please continue to pray for our young people that have recently been baptized.
- Please pray for God's guidance to Bro. Kalyan and family as they plan for his wedding.
- Please pray for good health for Bro. Harold and his mother—Sis. Sumathi.
- Please continue to pray Bro. Emmanuel Eadeh.
- Please pray for salvation to Bro. Prakash and family, Sis. Keertan and family, Sis. Sukhpal and family.
- Please pray for the Lord's favor and guidance to those with immigration issues and those looking for jobs.

International Church Weekly Schedule

Sunday Worship Service 11:00 am
 Sunday School 10:15 am
 Bible Study Tuesday (Tucker) 7:30 pm
 Bible Study Wednesday (Church) 7:30 pm
 Bible Study Thursday (Dunwoody) 8:00 pm
 Healing Service Friday 7:30 pm
 Woman's ministry 7:30 pm, 2nd Friday of the Month
 Youth Ministry 4:00 pm, last Saturday of the Month

Abandoning God

But when Rehoboam was firmly established and strong, he abandoned the law of the Lord, and all Israel followed him in this sin. (2 Chron. 12:1)

Reasons why we abandon God. At the height of his popularity and power, the king abandoned the Lord. What happened? Often it is more difficult to be a believer in good times than in bad. Tough times push us toward God; but easy times can make us feel self-sufficient and self-satisfied. When everything is going right, guard your faith.

—Adapted

Kids Corner

The New Year is a great time to renew your relationship with the Lord. Reading the Bible and praying are two extremely important things to do in your Christian life. Many people think that reading the Bible is simply to learn about stories and events that happened in the past, but it is also essential in building your faith, and you need this very faith to have effective prayers. These are the foundations of a successful Christian life, and during this new year that the Lord has given us, make a conscious effort to strengthen these aspects of your life. Spend more time reading His word and talking to Him in prayer, and you will see blessings shower your life throughout 2010.

—Eden Thomas

Recent Events / Reports

Sunday school anniversary and Christmas Eve service was celebrated on December 24th. We remembered the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ during this service. And we honored Sunday school children for their continued devotion to the Lord. Sunday school children along with two of our Sunday school teachers participated in a play called "In the Beginning". This play is directed by Sister Kanchi. International church Families came and performed group songs. Brother Guru sang a Hindi song as sister Joastna did a lively Gujarati dance for the song for the glory of God. And Telugu members of the church sang a beautiful Telugu song to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.

At the end of the service each child and each Sunday school teacher received a special gift to honor their faithfulness. This event was put together by sister Kanchi, sister Sheeba and brother Vincent who worked hard and put in many hours to make sure the program ran smoothly and successfully. The church appreciates their work and the Lord will reward their efforts. December 31st was the watch night service in which we entered the new year with worship and prayer. The meeting began at 9.00 PM and went on till early hours of 2010. The Lord's presence was with us as we called on his name. The new year message talked about whenever you need help, you must look unto Jesus. The five strikes that we need use in our life are Word of God, Prayer, Faith, Praise and Holy Communion.

—Naveen Pavoov

Advice

The words of the godly are like sterling silver; the heart of a fool is worthless. (Proverbs 10:20)

Is the adviser trustworthy? A lot of poor advice is worth less than a little good advice. It is easy to get opinions from people who will tell us only what they think will please us, but such advice is not helpful. Instead we should look for those who will speak the truth, even when it hurts. Think about the people to whom you go for advice. What do you expect to hear from them?

—Adapted