
Upcoming Events

PYCD Inaugural Meeting, March 13-14 (Fri-Sat), 7 PM @ IPC Tabernacle
Blood Donation with Carter Blood Care, April 11th (10AM)
Church Picnic at Mesquite Park, April 18th
Church Retreat at Tulsa, OK, June 26-28

Weekly Schedule

Fri, Mar 6th (Mesquite) Fasting Prayer @ Parsonage (10 AM)
Fri, Mar 6th (Metro) Impact @ Metro (7 PM)
Sat, Mar 7th (Metro) FTH (Family Training Hour) @ Metro (6:00 PM)
Bible Quiz
Adults (Esther 1-10) & Kids (Acts 1-7)

Prayer for the Nations: Chad (Africa)*

- With 200 people groups and 120 languages, Chad is one of the most unreached countries in Africa and presents a challenge to the gospel
- Chad is one of 10 poorest countries in the world. It lies in the heart of the African continent and suffers from low rainfall and severe droughts.
- In 2005 new rebel groups emerged in western Sudan and have made probing attacks into eastern Chad.
- The harsh natural environment and extreme poverty of Chadians has reduced their life expectancy to just 47 years. The nation is plagued by waterborne diseases, malaria and meningitis.
- Infant mortality is high: 91.45 deaths out of 1,000 live births.
- 80% of population is below the poverty line which has huge effects on children and young people.
- There are 250 000 refugees in Chad from the Sudanese (Darfur) crisis and Congolese violence.
- Many Chadian Muslims have been recruited as mercenaries to attack and kill Christians in Nigeria.
- 35% of the population are traditionally Christian; this provides a great opportunity for sharing the gospel.
- People from a Muslim background are starting to respond to the gospel!
- Pray that the churches in Chad would grow and mature in their faith and discipleship. Many congregations mix Christianity up with other ideas and beliefs and can be legalistic. Pray that the Holy Spirit would be working to bring true freedom in their lives.
- There are more unreached peoples in Chad than anywhere else in Africa. Pray for ongoing support and protection for missionaries already working here. Pray also that God would call many to dedicate years to learning the languages and building the Kingdom in Chad.

* http://operationworld.24-7prayer.com/country.php?country_id=6

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*Celebrating the Presence of God
Demonstrating the Love of God
Communicating the Word of God
Educating the People of God*

March 1, 2009

Blessed be the LORD God, the God of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things. And blessed be his glorious name for ever: and let the whole earth be filled with his glory; Amen, and Amen. (Ps 72:18-19)

Welcome

ARE YOU ON ALERT WITH THE 24TH HOUR CALL OF 2009?

“EACH ONE – REACH ONE”

Dear METRO brothers & sisters in Christ,

The above headlines became very familiar to us as a slogan. Since we stand at the doorstep of 3rd month of 2009, we should evaluate our spiritual exercises of the past weeks. Let us ask ourselves some questions in a priority mode and find out what would be the answer of it.

1. Did we rightly do the job as a “sower” during the past weeks?
2. Could you meet with someone who was really in need of “the light” as Philippian Jailor asked?
3. Could you stimulate the idea of “eternal life” with any one during your talks?
4. Did you share your experience of “salvation in Christ” with anyone else?
5. Could you convince any of your friends or classmates that “life never ends” with funeral home & cemetery ?
6. Did anyone of your friends hear from you, “Death is certain but the time is uncertain”?
7. From the mid-night of Dec 31, 2008, did you skip anyone who really wanted to “escape from Hell”?

Christ often spoke honorably of John the Baptist. His duty was to enlighten the dark world with notices of the Messiah's approach. He was a burning light. His activity, zeal, voice of doctrine, affection for Christ and souls of men; and his sounds against sins are praiseworthy.

When John the Baptist first appeared amongst the Jews, they were proud of him, they gloried in him, they were glad of him, in hopes to make a tool of him, to have shaken off the Roman yoke, and recover their civil liberty. However, upon hearing his messages they grew sick of him, and said he had a devil, and rejected the counsel of God - his baptism.

We should compare ourselves with John the Baptist and be enlightened from his characters that –

(1) As John the Baptist was a forerunner of the Messiah, we are here as the ambassadors of Christ to represent Him and his Kingdom of Heaven. At this dark period, we are the proclaimers of 2nd coming of Christ, the preachers of Gospel, Repentance, Baptism, etc., etc.

The first centurion believers who were ordained from Jesus (Matt 28: 18-20)) never sat inside the tents with program sheet and promotional program. They kept on preaching and giving testimony to others with no rest. Hence, within a short span of time the power of gospel shook the imperial palace and thrones, from where the crucifixion order was given. The Chief Priests, Scribes, Sanhedrim councils, Royal Court of Roman Govt all trembled before the power of the gospel.

They honestly carried out their mission with true divine Love and power of Holy Spirit. They all gave great importance to preaching CHRIST CRUCIFIED and to prove that Jesus is the SON OF LIVING GOD - the Messiah. Most of them were martyred, some of them were stoned to death, and some were thrown to the wild animals. As they were zealous for eternity; they never gave up. “Zeal without knowledge is continual blundering; and knowledge without zeal makes no converts to Christ.”

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Today, the bride seems to be idle and sleeping. Due to prosperity, she never cares doing the work of an honest sower. She holds the lamp in hand, but she has neither filled it with heavenly oil nor does tarry for the groom. She claims she is waiting for her groom but is caught up in deep sleep. She feels she is rich, but does not know that she is blind.

Moreover, her new babes are running after the junk materials that once their ancestors threw away. She loses her value of humility, uniformity and purity. She is mixed up with pagan world. Her children's safes and pockets are full of mortal treasures. Her children are arguing to hold on to it. The devil has started polluting the bridegroom's purity again.

(2) John introduced Jesus. He preached the justice and repentance to the public and to the rulers. He did not compromise on sins. He wanted the Military personnel; the Priesthoods all to be cleansed. Therefore, he was beheaded. He gave a very big price for His ministry ... that is his life. Here we should compare ourselves to John the Baptist. We should prepare to pay a price for gospel. Sometimes with our life. We should not be ignorant of HIS great commission. We should utilize all the available mass medias, our savings, our talents, our influences, our chats, our get-together meetings etc., etc for the propagation of the heavenly kingdom.

(3) John the Baptist had a mission with a vision. John was in the wilderness for a long time as being prepared for the ministry. When his preparation was completed, he came out with big shout together with sweet voice of introduction – “behold the lamb of Lord – Ye must hear HIM.” Though he ministered only for 6 months, it was with full of dynamic power and authority from heaven. No matter how many gatherings we convene and what programs we make; but we need to make sure all our missions are with a vision. When the first century believers prayed, the angels appeared, gates of prisons were opened, the bounded chains of saints were loosened. When they started to pray, the foundation of prison were shaken. The flame of Holy Spirit and new covenant spiritual worships spread like forest-fire throughout churches like Antioch, Alexandria, Rome, even unto the palace of Roman Governors and Emperors. The seats of imperial thrones started to shake day by day. The reason being that the “Holy Spirit started to build the Church and the gates of hell could not prevail against it.” These saints never lost their vision. They did not have silver nor gold in their possession. However, their prayer cells/units were the power batteries with full of heavenly power.

(4). Each one should give priority to reach one. Just for one eunuch of Ethiopia, the apostle Philip ran through the wilderness. He never looked back for his children or his households. Neither the language and culture of eunuch pulled him back from the priority to reach one. His priority was to obey the Holy Spirit's direction. Therefore, Philip baptized the eunuch and later the whole of Ethiopia became a Christian country.

In every age and time, the value of personal evangelism and the outcome of it is very great. Will church members of this age give priority for “each one – reach one”? The church members should be ready to testify the gospel to everyone. No matter the color or creed. Our teachings, activities, works, everything ought to be people oriented. The Father of heaven sent his only begotten Son to the world because; He loved the world so much... Each of us should equip him/herself like John and Philip.

Remember, there is a day fixed for us; and we are all accountable to Him only. On that day, our name shall be called up and we will be rewarded. If you ashamed of HIM here in this world; then the Lord will also be ashamed of you in heaven, and hence, ultimately you will be a loser!! Therefore be alert always. Therefore, let us be careful about our Mission which has a Vision for 2009 and that is – **“EACH ONE – REACH ONE”**

In Christ,
Pr. K.M. Mathew