
Upcoming Events

Special Meeting Dec 25th at Metro (6 PM)

Week of Fasting Dec 26 - 31 at Metro

Weekly Schedule

Fri, Dec 4th (Mesquite) Fasting Prayer @ Parsonage (10 AM)

Fri, Dec 4th (Metro) Impact Meeting (7 PM)

Sat, Dec 5th (Carrollton) Kuriachen and Neena's residence (6:30 PM)

Prayer for the Nations: Somalia (Africa)*

- Somalia, on the 'horn' of Africa, disintegrated into a number of autonomous regions in 1991. The north is relatively stable whilst the south has a high degree of conflict, corruption and war-lording.
- Warlords fight for control of pockets of land, selling drugs and weapons .
- A two-year UN humanitarian effort was able to alleviate famine conditions, but when the UN withdrew in 1995, having suffered significant casualties, order still had not been restored and aid could not be continued.
- Nearly a million people in the countries are displaced: either internal refugees, or refugees from Ethiopia.
- The country has an entirely Muslim population and in some areas Shari'a law is implemented. Church properties were nationalized and missionaries expelled in the 1970s. Existing churches are permitted by the government so long as do not evangelize Muslims.
- Somalia has a young population; over 3.4 million of its 7.2 million people are under the age of 15. Life expectancy is 49 years. All Muslim children, by law have to attend Islam classes in school, even if in private Christian missionary schools.
- Somalia has a high infant mortality at 114.89 deaths for 1,000 live births.
- Somaliland in the north-west has been able to stabilise the region and restore order.
- As Christians immigrate out, Christianity is projected to slide from 2% of the population in mid-1995 to 0.7% of the population in 2025.
- Somalis are desperate for peace, please pray that peace would come and that God would be glorified in it.
- Although the majority of the population are Muslim, the greed and fighting between Islamic groups has contributed to the civil war. Some people are turning to more radical Islamic groups but many are totally disillusioned with Islam. Pray that they would find Jesus and find a real, dynamic and consistent faith.
- Pray for the protection and safety of those delivering vital food aid and medical care.
- The Somali church has been driven totally underground; some leaders have been named on a hit list for execution. Pray that God would protect them and that they would remain strong in their faith.

* http://operationworld.24-7prayer.com/country.php?country_id=109

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metro
Church of God



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

November 29, 2009

"Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God."

(Ps 90:1,2)

Welcome

Sermon Notes

“Your sorrow will be turned into joy” (John 16:20)

Praise the Lord. Welcome to the house of the Lord for a time of rejoicing in his presence. The reason for us to be here is the fact of ‘resurrection’ of our Savior. He is not in the empty tomb anymore. He is present in the midst of his believers in his power and might to heal, comfort and move the mountain that cannot be moved by us.

Jesus spoke these encouraging words to his disciples before his ‘passion’ They were indeed saddened by the fact of his impending death. They could not fathom how they will ever survive the cruelty of the world. If their master was treated like this how much more could they expect and endure. More than anything else it was going to be a time of deep hurt and pain. What they needed the most at that time was the heavenly remedy.

Jesus provided them that remedy by saying that their sorrow will be turned into joy. In the words of Jesus the disciples could find comfort and healing. They will not have to endure pain and rejection and ostracism all the time. Their sorrows will indeed be turned into joy. That happened with his resurrection. They were indeed afraid but Jesus came and spoke words of comfort by saying ‘peace’. If their sorrow was alienation from their master now it has been changed to joy because of a never ending presence of Christ in the sacraments and presence through the Holy Spirit.

Today the church can rejoice because Christ has changed our sorrows into pure joy. As we celebrate his presence in our midst especially through the reading and preaching of the eternal word, participating in the holy sacraments and experiencing the anointing of the Holy Spirit, we are really experiencing the joy. Our songs of praise and worship are our gift of celebrating this joy in the Lord. Sorrow has no place in the life of a true believer even though we may undergo situation of intense pain and hurt. We need not be sorrowful because our Savior is risen and living with us in all His glory and power. Let’s continue on in the promise of the Lord. He shall never leave us nor forsake us and is always mindful of us.

In Christ Alone

Rev Satish Kumar