











The Character of a Teacher - HEART



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FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY'S DESK

Dear Readers,

Warm greetings from Evangelical Teachers' Fellowship. I praise God for His faithfulness and guidance which enabled ETF to launch its website this year, February 2020. I am sure that through this website many teachers can be enriched and encouraged through the ETF ministry. Your reflections on Chalk and Chai magazine and the Website will be of great encouragement in this ministry. Your support, involvement and prayer is precious, valued and much appreciated. The flight of time is very fast this New Year as all the children march towards preparation for examinations in the month of March facing the challenges of board exams and university examinations at different levels as they aspire to secure admission into a desired course and a job opportunity in the second quarter of this year 2020.

In the present educational system of our country, to become a professional (doctors, engineers, entrepreneurs, lawyers and other job opportunities), intelligence is paramount. There is a lot of pressure on the students to improve by both their

teachers as well as their parents and their intelligence and the Head level knowledge of the subjects to face the exams is considered to be a priority. Less importance is given to teach the students that emotions play a vital role in shaping their lives for future. While famine, injustice, terrorism and suicides bombard us constantly, we are challenged to help the students to live in as humane way as possible.

While the previous issue of Chalk and Chai focussed on “The Knowledge of a Teacher - The Head”, this issue emphasises on the Character of a Teacher - The Heart has to be integrated into the teaching profession to help guide the younger generation towards holistic growth.

Mr. L. T. Jeyachandran in his article “The Trees of Life and of the Knowledge of Good and Evil” writes knowledge in itself is necessary, functionally good and morally neutral and cannot be evil but in the hands of fallen humans, it can be deadly.

Rev. Paul Francis in his article, “Serving with the Heart of the Master Teacher”, emphasises on the inevitable characteristics that every

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Christian teacher has to possess as modelled after Jesus, the Greatest Teacher.

The article, "Zooming into Gen Z: Game Plan for Gen Y Teachers" by Mrs. Christy Isaac gives pointers to Christian teachers on facing challenges and how best they could impact the lives of the present generation.

Mr. Kubera in his article "The Character of a Teacher – The Heart" considers the role model of our Master Teacher Jesus Christ to encourage the teachers to teach with love.

I am reminded of an article in Chalk and Chai published exactly a year ago about Heart and Brain. Though the Heart is always considered to be a vital organ in our body, scientific research on heart has proved that about 40,000 neurons could be found in the heart and a whole network of neurotransmitters with very specific functions make the

heart responsible for thinking as a perfect extension of the Brain.

For those who want to live according to the worldly view, brain is the master and the heart is the slave. But for those who want to live according to the Biblical view, Heart is the Master (Jesus Christ) and the brain is the slave. When we are made right with God in our hearts, we begin to think right in our hearts, we begin to talk right and we begin to act right and eventually help and show others the right way to walk.

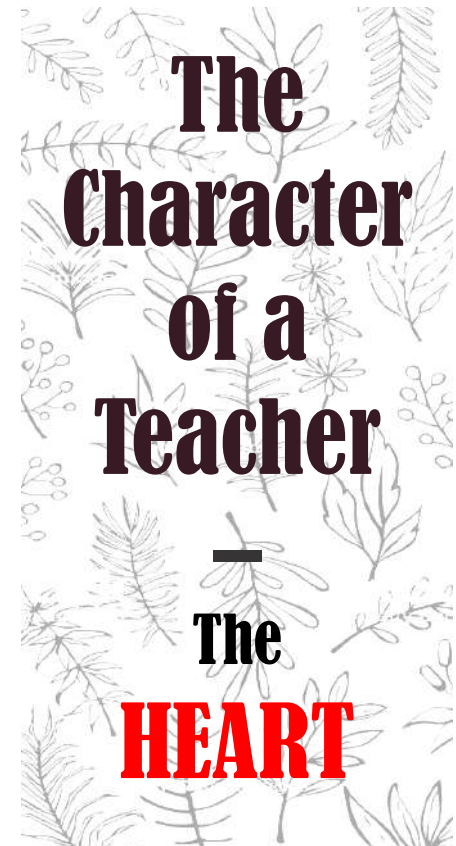
May our good Lord help us to plant the seed of love for people and His creation in the hearts of the younger generation by teaching them with the love of God in our hearts.



At Capernaum, Jesus had entered the synagogue and had begun to **teach**. The people realized that He was no ordinary teacher. There was an undeniable power connected with His words, unlike scribes who taught mechanically. His sentences were arrows from the Almighty. His lessons were arresting, convicting, challenging. There was no unreality in the teaching of the Lord Jesus.

Jesus taught about Salt and Light. Jesus taught about the law. Jesus taught about anger. Jesus taught about divorce. Jesus taught about vows. Jesus taught about revenge. Jesus taught about loving enemies. He taught about heaven. He taught about giving to the needy. All the four gospels describe His teaching.

Jesus felt the need for teaching the people. He felt the need for



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people to be taught. These characteristics of Jesus say that the need to teach others is to build up their lives. Jesus has THE HEART to teach the people.

Often parents are asked what their children would be in future? Often students also are asked what they would want to be in future? The answers from parents as well as students are the same. They want to be a doctor, an engineer, a Scientist, an IAS officer or an IPS officer. Neither parents nor students say that they want to be a TEACHER.

The teacher teaches students. It does not matter where he works; either at school or at college, either Govt. or private schools. He is capable of training a child to be a doctor, an engineer, a scientist or whatever he/she wants to be. The teacher has the heart to influence the hearts of students to accomplish their dreams. Following the example of the Master Potter, Our Lord Jesus Christ, a teacher can instill in students, good moral values besides academics and mould them to be good citizens of the society with the character of service mindedness.

Every teacher wants to be good, but what exactly are the qualities that make a good teacher? What are the skills, talents and characteristics?

Teaching can be quite satisfying for people who do it well. I know this because I am a teacher. Although I do not think that I am always the best teacher, but this I know, that the majority of my students love me and I

guess, this is because of the good things that happen in my classroom.

A teacher wants to do more than just inspire students to love academics. He also wants to make a real and lasting impact in their hearts and lives. He wants to go beyond just teaching academics and make a significant impact on students' lives. He strives to help them grow in character and wisdom and experience the greatest joy. He certainly uses an extra dose in his teaching but cannot cultivate them on his own. He gets close to God and prays for the students to make them the best. He not only inspires the students but also reaches their hearts as well. It is believed that when God calls a person to teach, He promises the strength to do it well. He just needs to keep learning, growing, and depending on Him.

No matter how worse a situation may come up in the classroom, the students are to be led in the right direction. A teacher has to start to resolve the issues within a Biblical perspective. Teaching is pretty stressful. There is a lot of fear, a lot of stress, a lot of worry. But the teacher is determined and confident to teach the students in all kinds of situations. He is encouraged to encourage students to do the best through his teaching, through prayer and through relationship with God. He is more concerned for the student's heart than their outward behavior. Such a character of the teacher provides an amazing opportunity to mould the student's character.

Love is the most powerful weapon for a teacher to get close to the students' heart. It is hard to demonstrate true genuine love sometimes but it is true that it makes the biggest difference in students' life.

He develops excellent communication skills. It may be considered that the most important quality for teaching is knowledge, since that's what the job is all about but sharing knowledge is equally important. No matter how knowledgeable a person is, if he cannot convey what he knows to others in a way that is not understandable, it is useless.

A teacher's communication skills like verbal, nonverbal and visual which evolves speaking, writing, imagery, and body language are highly essential. Such skills help to convey knowledge in a better way to the students. It brings better results in students' lives. He often takes extra care whether his communication has fallen flat or has not reached or connected to the entire class.

He notices even one student among many who does not understand and makes an effort to communicate individually when necessary. Communication also involves explaining exactly what the assignments and expectations are. His communication skill makes students understand the content well.

In addition to being a good communicator, the teacher is also an excellent listener. Therefore, it is said that "If the speaking is silver then listening is gold"

The teacher has to have a deep knowledge and passion for the subject matter. He meditates on each lesson of the subject. He is the master of the subject. He should be able to clarify any kind of doubts.

Jesus began His ministry to teach people to repent for the Kingdom of Heaven. This is written in Matthew 4:17. He remained, meditated with fasting in God's word for forty days and forty nights before starting to teach people. Therefore, He was able to answer all the questions of the devil. The devil was defeated. The teaching of Jesus impacted people.

Jesus is the role model for everyone to be a teacher. His character is to be followed to become a good teacher.

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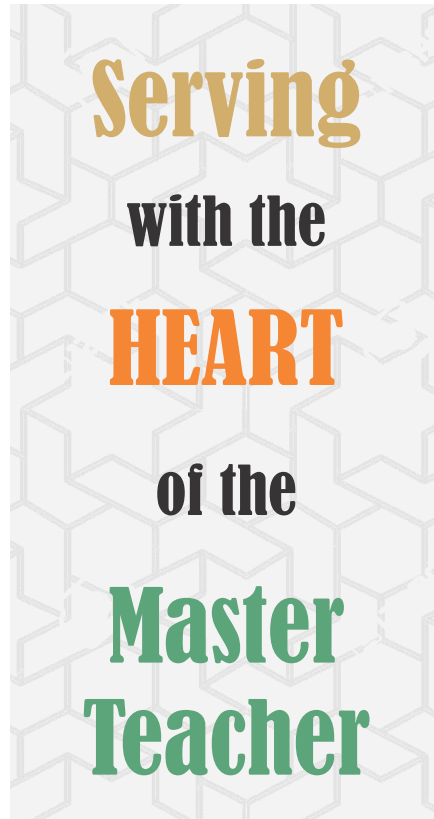
Mr. Kubera Parichha
Principal - Sinai Public School, Laxmipur, Odisha



Introduction:

Greetings to all the readers in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ the greatest teacher!

The ministry of Jesus Christ can be bifurcated as the 'Ministry of Teaching' and 'Ministry of Preaching'. The Teachers and the Preachers sail in the same Boat. The teachings of Jesus Christ were exemplary as he used various methodologies to drive home His point into the hearts of the multitudes. His Parables, Metaphors, Examples, Stories, Illustrations, Allegories drew crowds as His audience. He took the audience very seriously though they hail from Kuppams of Galilee, the rejects from Samaria, so called gentiles from Tyre and Sidon, literate Jews, and others. He taught them with authority asking them to consider the birds of the air, fish in the sea, pearls under the sea, the net, light, salt, leavened bread,



mustard seed, etc. He simplified a very confusing theme such as "Kingdom of God", "Faith", and "Deeds". The heart of a teacher must be like that of Jesus Christ respecting the audience and teaching with compassion and commitment.

Character the Kardia:

The word "**Kardia**" in Greek is **Heart**. The Heart is the central or innermost part of a human body. One's innermost Character, feelings or inclinations emerge from the Heart. A proverb says, '**Character is lost, everything is lost**' and hence the character of a teacher is the central point in his or her way of life. When Jesus saw the multitudes who came to listen to him, he saw them like sheep without a shepherd and 'His heart moved with compassion'. It is mandatory that a teacher in secular or sacred arena must inculcate the values of the Kingdom of God. At this pivotal point, usually a conflict emerges within a teacher between the Flesh and the Spirit. A teacher must imbibe the way of Christ and filled with the spirit of God. The Flesh will drag a teacher in the way of the world which would pressurize to reflect the values of the world which would be an 'Anti' to the values of the Spirit. All emerges from the heart. In Psalms 24 we read about a 'clean heart', which cannot be corrupted at any point of time.

When will this happen? Only if a teacher believes and affirms the following;

a) Being a teacher is not a Privilege but a Calling.

b) Being a teacher is not to wear the crown but to carry the Cross.

c) Being a teacher is not to be masters but to be servants.

If the above affirmations are strong in heart and mind, the Character automatically will be designed and shaped by God. The Call of God to carry out the Mission and Ministry of teaching in the World is a call for us to be facilitators. The character of a teacher is reflected in his or her holistic formation as a teacher. The character starting from the dress code, ethical behavior, morality, planned teaching, time management, focus on the subject, treating the audience unbiased, etc. everything comes in a nutshell as the 'Character of a Teacher'. If any one of these goes wrong, then a teacher will become a tool of mockery. The values that we read in the Beatitudes usually captioned as the sermon on the



mount emphatically Jesus teaches about being meek, thirst for righteousness, being merciful, pure in heart, being peacemakers, persecuted for righteousness, etc. In this greatest blessing tag attached in Mt 5:8 "Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God". The heart of the teacher must be pure because everything that is good and bad emerges from the heart. Thought become words, and words become actions.

As we read in Philippians 2:3ff, the Character of the teacher must express strongly the following:

- a) A teacher must count others more significant than oneself.
- b) Let a teacher look not only to his own interests but also to the interests of others.
- c) Let a teacher have the mind of Jesus Christ.

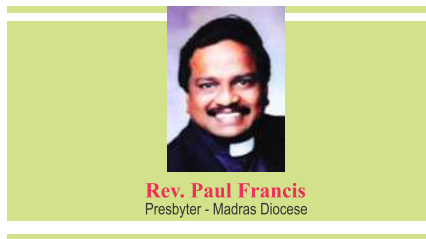
All the above verses conclude with a few statements, I would say as faith statements for a teacher are as follows:

- a) Self emptying (I am nothing)
- b) I am a servant,
- c) Reflect Humility,
- d) Be obedient to the point of death (Verses 5b-8).

These significant values in a teacher would definitely enable, equip, enrich and empower in all perspectives.

Conclusion:

The noblest vocation is being a teacher as one should remember always that the teachers are carrying the baton handed over to us by the great teacher, **Jesus Christ**. We have to be truthful to our calling as the teachers have no retirement. Till we die, we are called as teachers and after we die, we are remembered as teachers. The responsibility of creating a New Society is a difficult task for us, but despite all hurdles we have to run the race with Discipline and Character as Paul the Apostle says. May the Lord give all the Teachers strength and wisdom in all their endeavours and in all walks of life. Let us follow the footsteps of Jesus Christ and reflect, represent and resemble the great teacher in all our walk and talk. In our living situations, let our character in our ministry of teaching strongly express the values and virtues which Jesus had taught us. The one who has called is holy and let us be truthful to this calling to be different in our own standing. Let us imitate Christ and His character as a teacher.



I am a survivor of a concentration camp. My eyes saw what no person should witness. Gas chambers built by learned engineers. Children poisoned by educated physicians. Infants killed by trained nurses. Women and babies shot and killed by high school and college graduates. My request is: help your students to be human. Your efforts should never produce learned monsters, skilled psycho paths, or educated maniacs. Reading and writing and spelling and history and arithmetic are only important if they serve to make our students more human.

- From a school principal who survived the Nazi Camp:

It has been a long time that an article from me has appeared in *Chalk & Chai* and so I find myself saying a few words about myself in this article [for which I trust I will be pardoned] which I am sure will be relevant to the subject as well. I had the privilege of being a first batch (1963-65) M. Tech. student from IIT, Madras. Our convocation speaker on July 1966 was Sir C V Raman. Here is an extract from his convocation speech: "Science has become the



hand maiden of the War Machine..... If you were in one of these countries [which manufactured destructive weapons of war], you would have to use its [knowledge of science] for unworthy ends, or you would lose your job. There are sensitive consciences in those countries, which revolt from this sort of misuse of science. Yet, the prostitution of science goes on.”

I had been President of Madras EU when I was in IIT, but this statement of C V Raman went above my head. Although the statement impressed me at the time, I could not fathom its theological insights then. I was also the first Professional Associates Coordinator of the UESI and so was part of the team in the early 70's which wrote the constitutions of the Evangelical Medical Fellowship of India (EMFI) and the Evangelical Teachers' Fellowship of India (now ETF). Putting two and two together many years later, I arrived at certain conclusions as to how the tree

of the knowledge of good and evil (Gen.2:9,17) could be understood, particularly in the context of the Christian Teachers' community and the two quotations above.

I want to make three main points in this article and I trust that they will help you in your professional teachers.

Firstly, God's prohibition to eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil (Gen.2:17) should not be taken to mean that God is against knowledge in itself. Over the centuries, some Christians have held this view, but they have never been the majority. The two facts - God made us in His creative image (Gen.1:26), and that He wanted us to be stewards of His creation on His behalf (Gen.1:26,28) – should make clear to us that knowledge in itself is necessary and good and cannot be evil. We needed knowledge in order to carry out this creation commandment – please note that this is the first command-

ment in Scripture - from God. A section of Scripture that I have often shared with Christian teachers is Prov.8:22-31. Jewish scholars have held the view that this section of Scripture is Messianic where He is personified as Wisdom. Christians can see in these verses a reflection of what we read in the New Testament in John 1:1-3, Col.1:15-17 and Heb.1:3. Wisdom is the master-craftsman in the hands of God and delights in human kind because we will be given the responsibility of caring for creation.

We Christians tend to have a strong theology of redemption but rather a weak theology of creation limited to fighting the errors of evolutionism. But our entire academic pursuit, knowingly or unknowingly, is a response to the creation mandate of God in Gen.1:28. For the Christian student, it must result in considering her/his studies as part of God's calling; no Christian student should say about her/his subject, “This subject is boring, because the subject of study is God's creation; the teacher may be boring but that is a different problem!” Similarly, teachers should teach their subjects with such passion that their students will remember those subjects till the end of their lives. It goes without saying that such a commitment to teaching will provide ample opportunities for Christian teachers to share Christ casually and naturally in the staff rooms with their colleagues.

Teachers have to be learners as well. Both the Hebrew and Greek languages bear this out. The Hebrew words for teaching and learn have the

same root consonants L M D used in two different verb forms of the language. (Both these forms occur in Deut.4:10). The Greek word for disciple –mathetes – comes from the root verb manthano which means 'to learn'; a disciple is one who attaches oneself to a teacher in order to be a continuous learner. If you stop learning, you start fossilizing and students do not want to listen to fossils!

Secondly, Genesis 3 introduces the tragedy that we call The Fall. We tend to think of the fall only in terms of original sin resulting from our personal acts of disobedience. While this is true in terms of our personal repentance and salvation, the tragedy that our first parents let loose is much larger than that. The sin of Adam and Eve was not one of simple disobedience; they did not apparently realize that their status in the garden of Eden was that of vice-regents representing God in His creation, not very different from that of the Viceroy in New Delhi before 15th August 1947, who represented the King /Queen who ruled from London. By listening to the serpent's suggestion in Genesis 3:5, they arrogate to themselves the autonomy to set standards of good and evil of their own independent of God; in other words, their disobedience sets them off as rebels from God at the head of a cosmic rebellion. In so doing, they drag the whole of creation down with them. This bigger picture is what Paul paints in Romans 8:19-22, where creation is groaning as in the pains of childbirth, the scene borrowed from what God tells the woman in Genesis 3:16a. What God tells the man in



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Genesis 3:17-19 is equally important: he will put in 100 units of work, but he will reap only 50 units of fruit and the rest is wasted energy in toil and sweat, thorns and thistles. [Please remember that work is part of the pre-Fall commandment of God in Genesis 2:15; this is important because some Christians find their work so exhausting that they draw the conclusion that it is part of the curse of God!] This wastage of energy is what we call in physics and engineering as entropy, resulting from the second law of thermodynamics that our disobedience sets off.

Now, I can make the connection with the quotation from the concentration camp survivor at the beginning of the article. Knowledge is functionally good and morally neutral, but in the hands of fallen humans, it can be deadly. Every forward step in knowledge offers a moral choice to us as to whether we will use it for good or for ill. Nuclear energy can be used for nuclear medicine or nuclear weapons. Whether we will always use the knowledge for good apart from the help of Almighty God is the big question that most of our human race does not even think about. What Sir C V Raman told us at our convocation was also part of the same issue; he diagnosed the problem correctly but did not provide the answer!

What can Christian teachers do? I have always wanted to be a teacher, but never managed to be one! My professors at IIT, wanted me to complete my PhD and join the staff, but God had different ideas for my life. My suggestion in this section will

therefore have to be only theoretical; I will be grateful for practical inputs. One of the lessons I have learned after many years in Apologetics is NOT to rush ahead with the answer [in Christ] till the question is fully appreciated. We can probably give examples how gadgets like smart phones can be very useful, but prove a great danger as people get enslaved to them. Every subject under the sun that God created has these upsides and down sides because of human rebellion and it will be a great idea to let students come up with their own diagnoses and treatments.

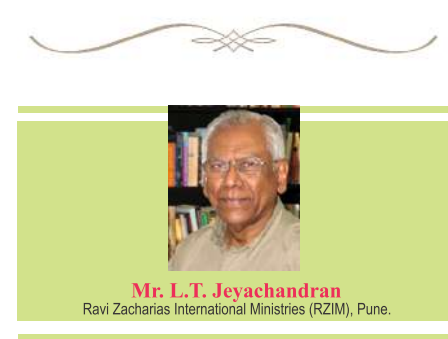
Thirdly, we shall look at the motivation for us to pursue this approach. While our friends from other faiths would generally agree with our findings so far, they may not agree with the cause that the Bible identifies as the root of the problem. God also provides the only sure motivation why we need to persist with these struggles, so exhausting they are at times. We normally look at precious promises that God gives to us from His Word. But what I have seen rarely is the promise that is held out to us in the last two chapters of the Bible. I have wondered why so much of our theology begins only with the Fall (Genesis 3) and ends prematurely, with the final judgment in the lake of fire (Revelation 20). Without the first two and last two chapters of the Bible, what we have to offer is unconnected with the reality that we deal with and the subjects that we teach. Why does the Bible end with the new heavens and the new earth (Rev.21:1)? God is making all things new (Rev.21:5).

In the new creation, we shall continue the reign (Rev.22:5) that we began in Genesis 1:26,28. This obviously means that we shall continue to study in the new creation which will obviously have a new technology (Rev.21:16-21), a new meteorology (Rev.21:23), a new botany (Rev.22:2) and a new zoology (Is.11:6-9; 65:17,25)!

The physicality of the new creation is completely lost on most of us only because we have not seriously studied the physical resurrection of Jesus. We will readily agree that Jesus, after His resurrection, was not a ghost. But what was the physical reality to which His resurrected body belonged to which our bodies will be raised as well at His coming again (Phil.3:20, 21)? If we are good detectives examining and comparing the resurrections of Lazarus and of the Lord Jesus, we will come to some striking physical conclusions. Before Lazarus is called out, Jesus has to have the stone at the mouth of the grave rolled away (John 11:39); after Lazarus comes out, Jesus asks the people to remove the grave clothes so that he could move about (John 11:44). On the other hand, the stone at the mouth of the grave of Jesus is rolled away not to let Him out because the angel tells the women that He has already risen (Matt.28:2-5)! Peter and John, who go to the tomb of Jesus, find the grave-clothes lying undisturbed – keimai in Greek - in the same position as the body, but the body seems to have evaporated without disturbing the clothes; the cloth around His head that was placed on a stone is seen rolled up – entulisso in Greek -, still

retaining the shape of the head so that John believes (John 20:5-8)! Theoretical physics can easily demonstrate that bodies of higher physical dimensions than our own 3 dimensions will not be obstructed by bodies of lower dimensions. All miracles in the Bible are reversible miracles and are subject to the second law of thermodynamics; the resurrection of Jesus is the only irreversible miracle that violates this law inside of the present universe! Lazarus comes back to this life and would have died again; Jesus, by His resurrection, inaugurates the new creation where there will be no more death. The resurrected physical body of Jesus as well as the new heavens and the new earth will belong to those dimensions where all the realities that I have mentioned in the previous paragraph will exist and which we will have the privilege of working on and studying about! Is this not enough of a motivation to struggle through our present life of teaching, invigilating and marking papers?

May the Lord give us grace to persevere in this life so that in the new creation, we will be only taking part of the tree of life whose leaves are for the healing of the nations (Rev.22:2)!



Zooming into GEN Z



Game Plan for Gen Y Teachers

It was a super sunny summer morning. Like most days, Steffi had to scurry through her morning chores at home – cooking, cleaning, getting the kids ready for school and then dash to work. Only when she felt dizzy while kick-starting her bike, did she realize she had forgotten to have her breakfast. But she couldn't go back, as she had to be in her class within the next 20 minutes. She had to make sure her worksheets are ready to be handed over to the students before class.

As always, Steffi was in class to welcome her students with a smile and a warm greeting. A few of them were cheerful, but many looked worried or disturbed. Once her students settled down, Steffi gathered all her might and started her lesson, a notoriously difficult one. In a couple of minutes, she heard the girl in the last

bench sobbing uncontrollably. Steffi had no option but to step aside from the class before things go out of hand, and ask her what happened. The girl told her about how she was going through severe emotional harassment and cyber bullying. Only two days ago, Steffi had counselled a boy who was down with anxiety, depression and eating disorders caused by excessive online interactions with “friends”. As she was contemplating over these issues that were plaguing her students, she was jolted by another teacher who said some of her students had been caught shooting a video on school campus. When encountered, they revealed that they wanted to post it online on a video platform in a bid to become “popular”.

Just like Steffi, scores of teachers today are battling with these kind of

21st century challenges that are impacting their students. Apart from the ill effects of technology addiction, widespread sexual harassment, economic instability, drug abuse, violence, bullying, drug abuse and global warming are other burning issues faced by this generation of students known as Gen Z or iGen. Due to these new found difficulties, as teachers, we find ourselves disturbed, disheartened or burnt out quite often.

This article is intended to explore a few crucial questions and seek answers based on the enlightening Word of God.

- What makes Gen Z so different from the previous generations?
- How can Gen Y teachers use their potential to shape the lives of Gen Z students?
- As teachers who are followers of Christ, how can we rise above the present day challenges? And how can we help students to love and fear God, and depart from evil?

Decoding Gen Z

The rise of Gen Z (born between the mid-1990s and the mid-2000s) has created massive ripples that the world is still grappling with. It has impacted every field in the world, including education. It would be helpful to explore the key characteristics of Gen Z and what makes them different from the previous generations.

- The Gen Z cohort is highly tech savvy and cannot imagine the world without mobile devices,

internet or social media. These “digital natives” have grown up with the knowledge that they can connect with anyone around the world at a moment's notice, and through assorted social media networks. For them, electronics, a luxury of their parents, has always been a necessity for living in the modern world.

- They seek validation and acceptance through social media and many of their important conversations in life take place there. Over use of the internet, access to inappropriate information and connections with strangers are some of the critical areas of concern for parents and teachers.
- They are witnessing drastic changes in family structures. “Untraditional” or diverse family structures and gender fluidity are becoming the norm of the day.
- They never feel safe in the world they were born into. The horror of 9/11 and the frequent events of terrorism and violence, including incidents of shooting in schools, has created a deep seated fear and trauma in the young minds.
- They are said to be the loneliest generation so far, in spite of the countless ways of “connecting” with people.
- They absorb tons of new information every day and spend several hours a day on social media or searching the internet for information. According to recent statistics, 44% of teenagers use computers to do their homework. Furthermore, 48% of them watch how-to videos that relate to schooling.
- They have a short attention span

of 8-seconds and tend to multi-task most of the time.

- They do not revere or submit to authority, with respect to superiority in age or position. They seek to have their own space and freedom to make their own decisions.
- They are independent, innovative, collaborative and globally aware.

Dealing with Gen Z – Game Planer Strategies for Gen Y Teachers

An inevitable generational shift is seen in the schools of today, across the globe. As most of the Baby Boom teachers (between 55 to 76 years of age) are retired, the teaching community of today comprises those who are Gen X (between 40 to 55 years) or Gen Y also known as Millennials (26 to 40 years). We know that each generation has their own DNA that is shaped by the beliefs, values and circumstances of their time. In this section, I would like to discuss some strategies for Gen Y teachers in dealing with Gen Z students!

Recent studies reveal that Gen Y teachers are creative, tech savvy and are keen to make a difference in the lives of their students and society. Like Baby Boomers and Gen X, Gen Y teachers also give importance to moral values and are closely connected to family and the community. They possess capabilities to equip students with the 21st century skills that are needed to excel in the global marketplace and foster peace and harmony in today's chaotic world.

On the other hand, we also see that Gen Y teachers are not immune to workplace issues. Anger, frustration and worry become constant companions when students disregard the teacher and go in the wrong direction. When this happens, the teacher also has to bear the brunt of academic non-performance along with emotional, behavioural and mental health problems.

The following are some of the strategies that will help us in finding fulfilment at work while dealing with Gen Z.

#1

Be Assured of our Calling to Teach

As Millennials, we are known to be more career oriented than our preceding generations. Most of the time, the work we do, overshadows our whole identity. We crave to find happiness and fulfilment in our work place, and seek recognition from superiors and peers for our personal gratification. Unfortunately, young professionals today are highly vulnerable to get swayed by self-worth, rewards and accomplishments.

It is only when we have the conviction that we have been “called” to teach, and when we place God at the centre of our lives, teaching becomes much more than a profession or much more than a job. Teaching as a calling transcends these immediate objectives; it is based on the assurance that God has commissioned us to fulfil His purpose of serving young people and minister-

ing to them, through teaching. It makes us aware that children are made in the image of God and that He cares for every tiny detail of every child.

1 Thessalonians 2:4 says, “Do you work heartily as for the Lord rather than for men?”. When we engrain this deep in our hearts, we begin to love unconditionally, serve joyfully, overcome others' short comings with patience, and reflect the attributes of Christ in our thoughts, deeds and words. This is crucial for us, as we face innumerable situations which tempt us to yell at students or make rash decisions when we find our patience being tested every passing minute! It is amazing that we can call upon God whenever we face trouble and that the One who called us is faithful to help us!

Action Points

- Remind ourselves every day of God's calling to shape the lives of young people.
- Avoid getting burnt out by nourishing our physical, mental, emotional and spiritual selves.

#2

Be an Imitable Role Model

The world around us is brimming with temptations and addictions that enslave people. Walking in the ways of the world is seen as prudent, while leading a godly life is often ridiculed. However, we as teachers, need to always remember that our lives are on display before highly impressionable and susceptible young people.

We may be able to dash out eloquent lectures or provide solid advice, but if we don't practise what we profess, we are doomed! In other words, we need to walk the talk, not just talk the talk! Apostle Paul in his letter to the Corinthians, beautifully puts it, “Follow my example, as I follow the example of Christ” (1 Corinthians 11:1).

As those who have been called according to God's plan, we have the responsibility to set the best example of godly living, we possibly can. This does not mean we are responsible for the behaviour of others; but, if we do not serve as the role model we should, we will be held accountable to God for our failure to be a good example.

Action Points

- Spend time every day in self-examining our thoughts, words and actions and their impact on our students and others.
- Seek genuine feedback about the characteristics we reflect and use it to work towards self-improvement, with God's help.

#3

Be Reliant on Jesus, the Master Teacher

Millennials have the reputation of being a “self-reliant generation” with an inherent desire for freedom and liberalization. Very often, we are tempted to trust our own skills and abilities in order to attain success. However, as those who serve God, we need to transition from being self-reliant to God-reliant.

When God calls us to fulfil His purpose through our work, He gives us the grace and strength to excel in it. What we need to do is to completely and constantly rely on Jesus, who is our Master Teacher, our ultimate provider. As the religious leader Thomas S. Monson explicates, "In the home, the school, or the house of God, there is one teacher whose life overshadows all others. He taught of life and death, of duty and destiny. He lived not to be served, but to serve; not to receive, but to give; not to save his life, but to sacrifice it for others...I speak of the Master Teacher, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the Saviour and Redeemer of all mankind."

Action Points

- Ensure a close relationship with God, through prayer and reading

of God's Word.

- Learn to be led by the Spirit of God in all situations, and allow Him to rule over our lives by denying ourselves.

When we make it our utmost priority to honour God through our work, He uses us to transform the lives of not only our students, but also the people around us far more than we can ever imagine!



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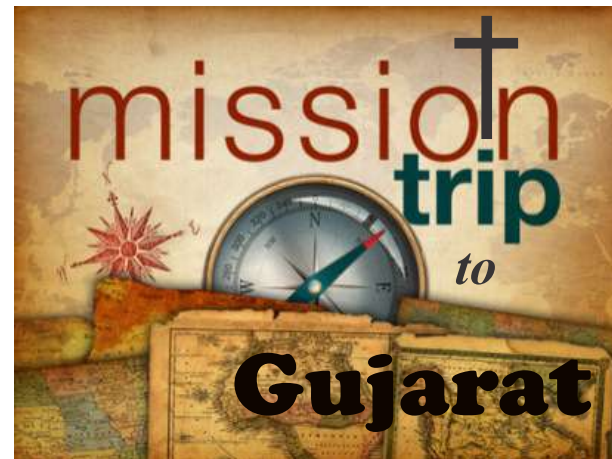
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(Report by Dr. Caroline Michael)

Praise God for Rev. Franklin, Director of St. Stephen's English Medium School of Nav Jeevan Seva Mandal, Selamba Gujarat under whose leadership the Joy of Teaching – Learning workshop was organised from 9th to 11th January 2020. Indeed it was such a wonderful time of blessing to train about 25 teachers of the school, It's quite challenging to witness the leadership of Mrs. Mary

Pauline Paul, the principal of the school leading the school in the remote area. Dr. Adalyn George from Nagercoil and myself were the facilitators. Our sincere thanks to the teachers Ms. Punita Gomit, Ms. Esther Florence, Rev. Asirvatham the warden and Mr. Abraham the accountant for all their timely help and care. We had an enjoyable time of prayer and fellowship.





Local unit - Mizoram

The Local unit at Aizawl met at the residence of Dr. Tluanga on the afternoon of Jan 31st, 2020. 17 members attended the Prayer meeting. The 17th member left before taking the photo. It was very encouraging and they had a good discussion after prayer.



Local unit Meetings

The ETF Local Unit had an intercessory prayer on 30th January 2020 followed by an ETF monthly meet on 29th February, 2020. We praise and thank God for the ETF monthly meeting conducted at Ms. Vaishali Sable's residence. The Annual plan was chalked out and responsibilities distributed. Deliberations on ETF promotional work and programs at the district and state level and organizing the Maharashtra State Conference were carried out. The local unit meeting on 7th March 2020 is scheduled to be held in the residence of Ms. Ruth Bhandare from 4.30 to 6.30 p.m. Praise be to God.

ETF Local unit inaugurated at

Tadepalligudem – Andhra Pradesh

On 26th January 2020, about 40 teachers of Tadepalli-gudem in West Godavari District gathered at the premises of Lutheran Church at Tadepalligudem. Praise God for the encouragement rendered by the Pastor. 10 teachers became the members of ETF. The Local unit committee was formed with Mr. Samuel Raj as the President and Mr. K. Nageswar Rao as the Secretary. Fellowship dinner was served at the end of the program.

Local Unit – Hyderabad

The Local Unit meetings were held at the residence of Mrs. Catherine Paul on 25th January 2020 and at the residence of Dr. Spurgeon Anandaraj on 9th February 2020 and at the residence of Dr. Saroj Cherian on 5th March 2020.

Local Unit – Solapur

Christmas Program December 2019

Praise and thank God for the wonderful program held on 14th December, 2019 at H. C. C. School from 4 pm to 6.30 pm. More than 80 teachers participated and gave

positive feedback. Dr. John Zechariah was the guest speaker. He spoke on Restoration on the Commitment of Teachers. Pastor Suhas Bawadekar was the Guest of Honour. He brought to light the true reason for Christmas. Not only did the Non - Christian but also the Christian teachers realised the true meaning of Christmas through a new perspective. The Non-Christian teachers have applauded and have approached us to invite them henceforth for such gatherings. They have also asked us to visit their schools. Praise God for the new openings. A big thanks to our Gen. Secretary for her continuous encouragement and guidance.

Jharkhand

Mr. Saibaba visited Shalom School, Madhupur, Jharkhand. A one day retreat was conducted for about 60 teachers of the school under the leadership of Mr. Joseph Ponraj and Mrs. Sheila Ponraj. One day retreat for about 1300 students was also organised.



Mizoram ETF Executive Committee MOM

'Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,' says the Lord Almighty (Zech 4:6)

The Mizoram ETF Executive Committee Meeting was convened on March 6, 2020 Friday from 11.00 am at the residence of Dr.Varparhi Kiangte, retired Principal, College of Teacher Education, Mizoram, where ETF Mizoram was started in 1988. It was also with Dr.Varparhi's assistance that Dr.Tluanga started MEF (Mizoram Educational Foundation) in 1999 for which he served as first President. MEF is still going strong, leadership taken over now by new generation.

The following members attended the ETF Executive Committee meeting:

1. Dr. L. N. Tluanga
2. Dr Hmingthanzuala(President)
3. Mr P C Lianhmingthanga(Vice President)
4. Dr.Lalzarmawii(Secretary)
5. Dr.Varparhi Kiangte(Treasurer)
6. Dr.Lalsangliani(Prayer Secretary)
7. Dr.Samuel Vanlalhlanga
8. Mr. P.C. Liansiama
9. Mr. Mrs.C.Zanuari
10. Mrs.H.Lalzari(not in the picture)

The meeting began with the reading& consideration of the strategy paper by Dr. L. N. Tluanga, former Staff Consultant, ETF.

The main thrust is that Jesus was teacher par excellence and known mostly as teacher by people, and so present-day teachers are professional heirs of Jesus, the Master Teacher. On this basis, Dr.Tluanga introduced ETF's motto of calling, life style and mission.

The paper was well received and the meeting proceeded with a discussion on various details of proposed actions for this year 2020.



Themes for the 4 issues of

Chalk & Chai

for the year **2020**

The Knowledge
of a Teacher -
HEAD Jan-Mar

The Character
of a Teacher -
HEART Apr-Jun

The Skills
of a Teacher -
HANDS Jul-Sep

The Reward
for a Teacher -
HEAVEN Oct-Dec

PRAYSE and



Head Quarters

Day 1

Pray for the EC meeting to be held at Guntur on 5th May 2020. Praise and thank God for the ETF EC officebearers- Mr. Theophilus Anandam (President), Dr. AbhiSethia (Vice President), Dr. Caroline Michael (General Secretary), Prof. V.D.S. Chandrasekar (Treasurer), Dr. SanthaPrabhuraj (Joint Secretary - South Region), Mr. Andriyas Singh (Joint Secretary – North Region) for their involvement, prayer and support and pray for their families, ministries and health. Praise God for all the ETF EC members, for God's guidance helping them to carry out their responsibilities with commitment fulfilling the vision and mission of ETF.

Day 2

Praise God for the donors of ETF who support the ministry financially and pray for God's blessings on them. Praise God for the individual life members and institutional life members. Pray for many teachers to become the members of ETF to support and pray. Pray for programs of ETF and Joy of Teaching – Learning (JTL) workshops to be organized in different places of India. Praise God for the new members who have been introduced to the ETF ministry. Pray that all the local

units and state units will be able to submit their financial statements regularly every month. Pray for His grace and guidance to enable the national Treasurer Prof. V.D.S. Chandrasekar to streamline all the matters related to ETF and ETFPT account.

ETF Publication Trust

Day 3

Pray that the ETPF Trust meeting is held periodically for useful deliberations. Praise God for the members of the Editorial Board of *Chalk and Chai* responsible for the publishing and the team at Chennai responsible for the dispatch of CC without delay. Continue to pray for updating the mailing list of *Chalk and Chai*. Pray for the magazine to reach the addressees without getting missed. Praise God for the people who are blessed by the magazine, people who contribute articles and advertisements. Pray that more institutions will become Life Members for *Chalk and Chai*. Praise God for the ETF office at the new location in Hyderabad and the resources available in the ETF study centre and books published by ETF Publication Trust.

Day 4

Conferences / seminars / Joy of Teaching–Learning workshops / integrated program with Educational institutions and churches

Pray for auxiliary Staff Partner Training Conference/ Principals and Administrators' Conference / Prayer conference to be planned periodically in different parts of the country. Pray especially that ETF State level conferences may be planned to reach the unreached Christian teachers.

Day 5

National Conference at Pune

Praise God for the 21st Biennial National Conference at Pune in October 2019 and all the blessings showered by the Almighty God. Pray for the follow up work that is carried out so that every delegate will be able to be involved in extending the vision and mission of ETF at their work places. Pray for the planning of the next Biennial National Conference to be held in 2021.

Day 6 Andhra Pradesh

Praise God and pray for the A.P. State Council members. Pray for the upcoming A.P. 5th State conference from 6th to 9th May 2020 at Guntur - Safe Travel and health for the delegates and resource persons, good weather and comfortable stay and good food, financial needs and every session to be a blessing.

Praise God for the leadership of Mr. David Vijaya Kumar at **Narsapur**. Praise God for the Christmas program held in December 2019 and the follow up. Praise God for the leadership of Mr. Saibaba at **Anakapalli** and pray that ETF local units may be started at **Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram and Srikakulam**. Pray for the local unit at **Ongole** to be strengthened under the leadership of

Prof. Janakiram and Prof. Vijay Chandragala. Praise God for the leadership of Mrs. Jessy Paul and the ETF local unit at Good Shepherd English Medium School in **Nandyal**. Pray for the local unit at Tuni under the leadership of Mr. Simon. Pray for the JTL workshops to be held at Narasapur, Nandyal, Ongole and Tuni. Pray for Mr. Arun at **Anantapur** to start an ETF local unit. Praise God for the ETF ministry getting inaugurated at **Tadepalligudem**.

Day 7 Bihar

Praise God for Mrs. Kavitha Juliana, Principal, Bethel Mission School, **Kishangaj**, for her involvement in the ETF. Pray for the JTL workshop phase II to be conducted on 13th and 14th April 2020. Pray for the need of Christian PGT teachers for Science and English, 100% result for the students who appear for the board exams. Pray for the teachers of the school to know the Truth and excel in their work. Pray for the financial needs of the school to be met. Praise God for the upcoming JTL workshop from 15th to 17th April 2020 in **Purnea** under the leadership of Mr. Nikesh, Mount Sinai Mission School. Pray for the directors of other schools in **Katihar and Araria** and other places who are coordinating the program. Pray for the JTL workshop to be organized at Nav Bharat Mission School, Shipai **Tola**, under the leadership of Mrs. Laly Philip, Principal and at GEMS Polytechnic College, **Aurangabad** under the leadership of Mr. Ashish Daniel, Secretary and Director. Pray for the visit and follow up programs in GEMS Mission schools under the leadership of Mr. Anand CEO and Mr. Arputharaj, Principal GEMS English School, **Sitamarhi**.

Day 8 Chhattisgarh

Pray for Mr. Thomas Joseph and the teachers of Blaze Academy at **Ganjpara**.

Praise God for the progress of the school building construction. Pray that God may provide them mission minded, efficient Christian teachers to work in their school. Pray for Mr. Samson Ninan and the campus community of Life Academy at **Awaspara**. Pray for the ETF prayer cell to start in Life Academy. Pray for special healing for Priney Samson and safe delivery of Mrs. Julia Daniel. Pray for the JTL workshop to be conducted in St. Thomas School, **Dhondi** under the leadership of Rev. ShibuKoruth.

Day 9 Delhi

Praise God for the service rendered by Dr. AbhiSethia and pray for the ETF meetings to be organized periodically under his leadership. Praise God for the prayer, support and encouragement rendered by Dr. V. K. Williams, Mt. Carmel Schools. Pray for an opening for the ETF ministry in Faith Academy, Samaritan School and other schools in Delhi.

Gujarat

Praise God for the involvement of Mr. Christopher Thomas, Western Zone, FMPB. Pray for Mr. Sridhar and for the health issues of Mrs. Bidhu Sridhar from Thomas English School, **Jawda**. Praise God for the JTL workshop conducted in St. Stephen's English Medium School, **Selemba**, Gujarat under the leadership of Rev. Franklin, Director, NavJeevanSeva Mandal and Mrs. Mary Pauline Paul, the Principal. Pray God for the contact of a few Chalk and Chai readers and Mrs. Selvi, YWAM in **Ahmedabad, Baroda, Surat** and other places in Gujarat. Pray for the open doors in these places.

Day 10 Haryana

Pray for open doors for the ETF ministry through Mr. Aditya working with Organization Planning and Evaluation Cell of UESI in Haryana.

Himachal Pradesh

Pray for the Day Star School at **Manali** and Mr. Vijayakumar, Principal of the School. Pray for open doors for the JTL workshop to be organized in Rainbow School in Manali and other educational institutions in Himachal Pradesh in the Diocese of Amritsar. Pray for Mr. Deep Dhiman who is interested in getting involved in the ETF ministry. Pray for the JTL workshop to be conducted in C.N.I. St. Thomas School, **Shimla**.

Jharkhand

Pray for God's special grace and guidance to be with Mr. Joseph Ponraj and his team at Shalom School, **Madhupur** as they pioneer programs for ETF possibly in other educational institutions in Jharkhand. Praise God for Prof. Himadri Sinha, President UESI for his encouragement and support for ETF ministry. Pray for JTL workshops to be organized in many educational institutions in Jharkhand under their leadership.

Day 11 Karnataka

Praise God for the ETF local unit meetings conducted regularly in Indira Nagar, **Bangalore** under the leadership of Mrs. Vinnie Thomas and her team. Praise God for the encouragement rendered by Mrs. ShantaSusheela, Principal, St. Johns' School to conduct the ETF local unit in the school under the leadership of Mrs. Mary Deevena and Mrs. Margaret and pray that these local units will function regularly and many teachers will participate. Praise God for the local unit meet planned at Lingarajpuram on 14th March 2020 at the residence of Mrs. Preeti. Praise God for Mrs. Margret Stanly for her interest in getting involved in the ETF ministry. Pray for ETF to have open doors in **Hubli** and **Coorg**. Pray for the State Conference of Karnataka to start this year and more JTL workshops to be organized in the state.

Day 12 Kerala

Pray for ETF ministry to be restarted in **Kerala**.

Madhya Pradesh

Praise God for Dr. Ram Chand at **Indore** who has been introduced into ETF and for his support and encouragement. Pray for the JTL workshop to be organized in Pothen School in Indore under the leadership of Mrs. SosammaPothen. Praise God for the JTL workshop planned to be organized in Ideal School, **Bhopal** God willing from 28th to 30th May 2020 under the leadership of Mr. Binu Jacob, Principal.

Day 13 Maharashtra

Praise God for the concerns of Dr. Kulothungan, Director, Maharashtra Village Ministries, Nagpur, Mrs. Flora Bawadekar Solapur, Dr. Ganesapandy, Amaravathy and Rev. John Stephen, Pune to introduce ETF ministry in many regions of Maharashtra. Praise God for the local unit meet at Solapur and pray for the local unit to start at Pune.

Day 14

Praise God for the encouragement and support rendered by Dr. Girish, YCLT English Medium School at **Yavatmal** and pray for mission minded efficient teachers to be appointed in the school. Praise God for Dr. Sam, Mrs. Lalitha and Mr. Devaraj, at Yardley English School in **Umri** for their support and encouragement for the ETF ministry. Pray for ETF workshops to be organized in different districts of Maharashtra and for the State Conference of Maharashtra to start.

Day 15 North East Assam

Praise God for the ETF prayer cell at Mt. Calvary School, **Diphu, KarbiAnglong Dt., Assam** under the leadership of

Mrs. Nirupama and Mr. David Bhengara. Pray for an ETF prayer cell to start in Makunda Christian High School in **Bazaricherra**.

Tripura

Pray for the ETF programs to be organized in Tripura under the leadership of Dr. John Zachariah and coordinated by Rev. Bijily, Tripura Mission leader and Mr. Ajendra, Principal, Thomas English School, **Purbahanpara**.

Day 16 Manipur

Pray for many institutions in **Mao** to become life members of ETF. Pray for the JTL workshop to be organized in **Imphal** under the leadership of Rev. Boipu Serto at Manipur. Pray for Mr. Wahengpam Lokendro Singh, Director, St. John's English School at **Nambal** and Mrs. Hat Hon Buansing, Bethany Christian College Manipur to organize JTL workshops in their institutions.

Nagaland and in Arunachal Pradesh

Pray for ETF programs to be organized in Nagaland and in Arunachal Pradesh under the leadership of UESI leader Mr. Mignaya Kadu at Itta Nagar.

Day 17 Mizoram

Praise God for Dr. L. N. Tluanga, **Aizawl**, for his prayer, encouragement and involvement in ETF. Praise God for reviving the ETF activities in Mizoram and for Secretary. Praise God for the local unit functioning at Aizawl under the leadership of Dr. Lalzarmawii and Dr. Lalanthanga. Pray for the newly formed Prayer Cells in the Colleges and for ETF Mizoram EC as it aims to visit all the HS/ HSS and Colleges in Aizawl city within this year.

Meghalaya

Praise God for the local unit at Anderson Hr. Sec. School, **Nongstoin** under the leadership of Mrs. WellorichSohkhlet, Ms. Cornelia and Ms. Elimersha in **Nongstoin** and in **Shillong** God willing in March. Pray for an ETF local unit to be formed in Shillong.

Day 18 Odisha

Praise God for the leadership of Mr. KuberaParicha, Sinai Public School, Laxmipur, **Koraput** District and for his involvement in ETF, to introduce ETF in **many parts of Odisha** and conduct JTL workshop for teachers of his school, God willing in the last week of June 2020. Pray for the Adoni Public School and Mrs. Sandhiya, the Principal, in **Daspur, Kalahandi Dt.** Pray for Mr. Joy Kutty, Founder, El Nissi Mission School and Mr. and Mrs. John Manohar founders of Elmachsi Mission School, Kalahandi Dt. Pray for AnandNiketan School in **Lamtaput, Koraput Dt.** and pray for the needs of the school. Pray for the JTL program to be planned for the teachers of village school under Asha Kiran in Lamptaput and also in IMS English School, **Malkangiri**. Pray for the JTL workshop to be conducted in **Chandpur, Nayagarh district** under the leadership of Mr. M. Martin.

Day 19 Punjab

Praise God for Mr. Seenivasan for his leadership in the ETF ministry in **Moga District**. Pray for his Good Shepherd English School. Pray for JTL workshop to be conducted for the teachers of St. Mary's CBSE School under the leadership of the Principal, Mr. Pandian and Jesus Saviour's School under the leadership of the Principal, Mr. Merlin. Both the schools fall in the **Rupnagar district**. Pray that all the schools under the CNI diocese of Amritsar be influenced by the ETF ministry.

Rajasthan

Pray for open doors for the ETF ministry in Jaipur and Udaipur under the leadership of Mrs. Phoebe Immanuel and Mrs. Shalini Andrews.

Day 20 Tamil Nadu

Praise God for the support, encouragement and partnership rendered by all the life member institutions, local leaders and other institutions and pray for their involvement, leadership and prayer support in building up the ETF ministry in various places of Tamil Nadu. Pray for the local units to function regularly in different places in Tamil Nadu. Pray for the upcoming 18th Christian Teachers' Conference in Kodaikanal from 14th to 17th May 2020 – Safe Travel and health for the delegates and resource persons, good weather and comfortable stay and good food, financial needs and every session to be a blessing.

Day 21

Pray for the JTL workshop to be conducted in Shalom Matriculation School, **Pavoorchatram**, under the leadership of Dr. C. K. Rajasingh. Pray for JTL workshop to be conducted in Kings and Queens Residential School in **Arakkonam** under the leadership of Mr. King Solomon and at Santhosh Vidhyalaya, **Donavur** under the leadership of Mr. Ponraj Stephen. Pray for the local units at **Tambaram and Chennai** to function regularly and for many members to attend. Pray for the upcoming ETF special meeting organized on 19th June 2020 evening in Chennai. Praise God for the support and encouragement rendered by Lady Doak College, **Madurai**. Pray for the delegates from Lady Doak College to carry on their vision and involvement in the ETF ministry.

Day 22

Praise God for the local units in and around **Coimbatore** under the leadership of Dr. Santha Prabhuraj and Mr. Benjamin, Principal and other faculty of Stanes School. Pray for ETF programs to be organized in the Nilgiris district. Pray for **Vellore** local unit to be strengthened under the leadership of Prof. Noah Eastman and the unit at Bishop Heber College **Trichy** under the leadership of Prof. Joseph Paramasivam and **Dharma-puri** under the leadership of Rev. Premkumar and Mrs. Lilian Premkumar. Pray for local units to be formed at **Thiruthani** under the leadership of Mr. Emmanuel Premkumar and at **Thiruvallur** under the leadership of Mr. Jeyakumar Jesudas and Mrs. Rosaline.

Day 23 Telangana

Praise God for the local unit at **Hyderabad**. Pray for the local unit at **Karimnagar** to get strengthened under the leadership of Mrs. Apoleena Wesley and Mrs. Swamalatha. Pray for the ETF local unit at Vijayalaksmi School in **Siddipet Dt** to meet and pray for the ETF ministry. Praise God for Mr. Ramachandran in **Khammam** who is interested in being involved in the ETF ministry. Pray for the ETF ministry to extend in other places in Telangana.

Day 24 Uttarakhand

Praise God for the ETF local unit at Grace Academy and for the encouragement and support of Mr. Benjamin Newton, Principal and Mr. Andriyas Singh. Pray for his leadership in coordinating ETF programs in **Dehradun** and other districts of Uttarakhand. Pray for the JTL workshop to be organized for the schools Bharat Susamachar Samiti functioning in different districts of Uttarakhand under the leadership of Mr. Santhosh George. Pray for Mr. and Mrs. Santhosh George for God's comfort and peace to abide with them during their days of grief following the loss

of their daughter. Pray for the JTL workshop to be organized at Shishya Public School, Dehradun under the leadership of Mr. Emmanuel Rathnaraj, Principal.

Day 25 Uttar Pradesh

Praise God for St. Thomas School, **Varanasi** and pray for all the needs of the school and for special grace for Mr. Sam Abraham and Mrs. Brinda Sam. Pray for the True Light English School and the Principal, Mrs. Pearly Esther. Pray for the JTL workshop to be conducted in David Memorial School under the leadership of and Mr. Sudeep Mahapatra. Praise God for all the prayer, support and encouragement by Mr. Robert Lal, **Gorakhpur** and the followup of ETF ministry under the leadership of Dr. Sharma, HOD of Chemistry and Vice Principal St. Andrew's College, and UESI, Eastern Region of UP. Praise God for Mr. Shivdan Singh and Mr. Vipul John and family for their desire to be involved in the ETF ministry. Pray for ETF programs to be organized at Christ Church College, **Kanpur**, under the leadership of Dr. Samuel Dayal, Principal, at St. Thomas School, **Ballia** under the leadership of Mr. Samuel John, and at Emmanuel Church School, **Utraula** under the leadership of Mr. Ashish Victor, Principal. Continue to pray that for Rev. Daniel, Mizpah Christian School in **Orai**, Mr. Vikram Benjamin Bhatt, Jamuna Christian College and School, **Allahabad**, Mr. Immanuel Premkumar and Genita who are UESI tent makers, Allahabad and Mr. Yesu Rathnam at **Kachhawa** Christian School, **Mirzapur** to organize ETF programs in future.

Day 26 West Bengal

Pray for JTL workshops to be held in Wheaton International School, Siliguri under the leadership of Mr. Mark Taylor and at A. G. Niwas in **Jaigaon** under the leadership of Rev. John Sathyamoorthy and in A. G. Schools in **Calcutta** under the

leadership of Mr. Lionel Chellappa. Pray for Ms. Deki O. Panlook at Dr.Graham's Homes to start an ETF Local unit in **Kalimpong.**

Day 27

Pray for God's protection and provision for all the educational institutions under C.S.I. and C.N.I. dioceses, Baptist Mission Schools, Methodist Mission Schools, ECI Church Schools, Schools under missions such as IMS, FMPB, and Vishwaniand other Christian NGOs. Pray that God will provide trained teachers and more students for these schools. Pray for moral values to be cultivated in children through teachers and teachers to be good role models so that the students will experience a holistic growth.

Day 28

Pray for the qualified and trained Christian teachers to get good job opportunities in schools and colleges. Pray for the teachers who are involved in higher education and research work. Pray for God's wisdom and guidance to be with them to do their research work with integrity. Pray for the health and family needs of the teaching community and pray for God's help in their lives to serve Him faithfully.

Day 29

Pray for the students who appear for the board exams in all schools all over the country. Pray for their good health, strength, wisdom, memory power, mind-set to study, free from anxiety, fear and complex and depression. Pray for the teachers and Principals especially in the Christian schools to be witnesses and face the challenges to maintain discipline, integrity committing the examination period completely into God's hands. Pray for the Christian parents to accept God's will and purpose in their family with respect to the future and career of their children and

students to get the right guidance, support and encouragement from the teachers and parents. Pray for a good environment for students - weather conditions , family be more dependent on God's strength and wisdom. Pray for the protection of God to parents, teachers and the students who may undergo stress during the exam period at all levels of education.

Day 30

Pray for many teachers to get into the fellowship of local ETF so that unity among the Christian teachers gets strengthened regardless of denominations. Pray for many local units to get started in different places in India. Pray for more training programs to be conducted in different states of India and many teachers to get trained to be effective and efficient in their profession as teachers. Pray that ETF develops an access to reach unreached schools in villages and remote parts of India and many teachers to get mobilized to make mission trips to these unreached places.

Day31

Pray that all Christian teachers teach their students with the love of Christ which will shape them into responsible citizens of India. Pray that the Christian educational institutions are well equipped with all the resources to meet the demands of present day needs. Pray for the present Educational policy in India. Pray for God's grace to abound in the education system to protect the younger generation from learning facts that are not true and correct. Pray that the government at the centre and state levels favour the Christian schools and colleges as granted in the constitution of India. Pray that the conduction and valuation of examination scripts at all levels will be done with integrity and God should be honoured and glorified with the results of Christian educational institutions and grades and marks achieved by Christian students.

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