

# ECHO OF HIS CALL



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Editor : S. SAM SELVA RAJ

16 Languages

Associate Editor : DR. A. RICHARD SAMUEL

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No. 01



## THE HOLY BIBLE

Please memorize this portion

Matthew 5:11-18

11. Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.
12. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.
13. Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.
14. Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.
15. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.
16. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.
17. Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfil.
18. For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.

## BLESSED NEW YEAR . . .

2023

“Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.” Ephesians 4:31,32.

*Dr. A. Richard Samuel*

Whenever we enter into a New Year we think of New Year resolutions. But sadly, we do not even try to recollect what resolutions we made the previous year and how much we realised them. Someone jokingly said, “New Year resolutions are made to be broken.”

Keeping the New Year resolutions alive should be a team work. Disciples, trained by Jesus, deserted Jesus the moment HE was crucified. After His resurrection, Jesus directed the disciples to assemble on the mountain of the Galilee. Matthew 28:16. They

obeyed but when there was a delay, the disciples returned to their original job – fishing. John 21:1-4. We read in Acts Chapter 2 that on the day of the Pentecost, God the Holy Spirit visited the disciples in the Upper Room. The disciples were empowered and there was a phenomenal change in them. They became bold preachers of the Gospel. As we contemplate New Year resolutions we must understand that we can do nothing including keeping the New Year resolutions without the help of

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**Echo of His Call**

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**Tamil & Telugu**

Monday to Saturday – 5.00 A.M.  
Tamil Sunday Service – 8.30 A.M.

**You will get an opportunity to pray with Pr. S. Sam Selva Raj!**

Malayalam messages are under proposal & prayer!! Please pray.

## ECHO OF HIS CALL - (1969-2019 GOLDEN JUBILEE YEAR)



from your dearly beloved brother...



**... Thine expectation shall not be cut off**

Proverbs 23:18



### OUR MISSION POLICY

We should expound and teach the contemporary generation the undiluted teachings of the ancient and early Apostles. It is the need of the hour.

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Echo of His Call

Dearly beloved in the Lord,

We wish you a very happy New Year 2023 in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. We give all glory and honour to our Lord God Who has been leading us all these years!

How are you? With a real burden in our heart, we pray for you and your needs. We maintain individual files and registers for all who are personally in touch with us, and for every Prayer Partner, Faith Partner, Subscribing Partner, Life Partner and Great Commission Partner. We have taken it as our responsibility to pray for you and your circumstances putting in our heart and soul in the prayers. I have set aside a special place called 'Pencil Prayer Mat' in my personal room and this 'Pencil Prayer Mat' is ready for prayer all the 24 hours of the day. Our Lord God will accept our prayers and bless you all. Do not fear for anything. God is with us. We know very well about the troubles and hardships, the children of God face. So, be of good courage. The Lord will do great things to you in this New Year. **Fear not, O land; be glad and rejoice, for the LORD has done marvelous things!** Joel 2:21.

We have received some information regarding independent Churches and Ministries. We understand that difficult situations may arise to such ministries in India in the future. So such servants of God must be careful and do what is necessary in these times.

If you are serving the Lord independently, and not under any organization, do associate your ministry with some recognized spiritual organization officially. If you were already in some organization, but now functioning independently, because of some difference of opinion with the leaders, kindly forget all the misunderstandings and set right your relationships. Submit and co-operate with your leaders and affirm your position in the organization. Further, please maintain good relationship with your neighbours irrespective of religion. You may meet them in person with a gift like a cake or fruits during Christmas season and show your love to your neighbours. Please take this advice and do not be careless in this matter.

In future, your ministry needs God's guidance and favour of men. **Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves.** Matthew 10:16. We have certain efficient Lawyers, Accountants and Bible Scholars who are willing to help you with a mind to serve you.

If you are a full time God's servant without a theological degree but are serving the Lord in faith, because the Lord has called you to do His Ministry, you must register yourself with some Bible College as a regular student or in a Distance Educational System or at least learn Theology

**Our Ministries:** ❖ ECHO OF HIS CALL Monthly Magazines (16 languages) ❖ BIBLECOR - Postal Courses (3 languages)

❖ Online Courses ❖ Theological Correspondence Courses (2 languages) ❖ Church Planting ❖ Nehemiah Bible Colleges

❖ Gospel Printing Press ❖ Great Commission Partners ❖ St. Paul's Matriculation School ❖ Crusades ❖ Community Development

through On-line system and possess a certificate. If you don't have any Theological or Ministerial Ordination Certificate, please try to get that immediately. Ministerial Ordination Certificate will help you a lot. For this purpose you need not spend money. We will all join and work together. **Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.** Psalm 133:1.

If you need any help in this matter, you can contact us through letters or E.mail. We will help you as much as we can. Let us come together! Let us be victorious!!

God willing, we wish to travel to different places and strengthen the servants of God in the New Year through Evangelism, Baptism and Ministerial Ordinations. Please start praying from now onwards for us to have good health, favourable family situation and sound financial conditions.

We are at present broadcasting **Hindi** and **English** messages for 5 minutes on our YouTube Channel **Echo of His Call** every day at 4.00 A.M. More over we are broadcasting our **Tamil** messages for 5 minutes every day at



5.00 A.M. and all Sunday services at 8.30 A.M. You may watch them and subscribe to receive the notifications.

Our ministry does not have a permanent financial support. Our Lord Jesus is our provider. You may also come forward to support our ministry as the Lord leads.

The Lord who has been holding our hands and leading us through the last 54 years will bless you also abundantly! Amen.

*Your servants in Christ Jesus,*  
**Pr. S. Sam Selva Raj & Alex Samson Sam.**  
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God. John 15:5 says: **"I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in Me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing."** (NIV). So let us enter the New Year, 2023, with the assuring truth that we can do nothing without partnering with God but with God everything is possible.

Many of us would have seen the signboard "less luggage, more comfort, makes travel pleasant" in Railway Stations and in Major Bus Stands. Not only in our worldly travel, but also in our life journey, this statement makes sense. Many times the extra luggage we carry makes our lives miserable not only to us but also to others. Many people walk around carrying heavy baggage from years of mistakes, hurt, pain, bad choices, anger, bitterness, frustration, failure and the like. These can spill over into our current and future relationships and create collateral

damage. In Jesus, there is no condemnation for our past mistakes because we are covered by eternal grace. It's time we unpacked all the worthless weight we're carrying around and learned to live free. This unnecessary load makes our life journey cumbersome and burdensome.

Our Lord God has a plan for every one of us. His plans are to prosper us and not to harm us, plans to give us hope and a future. (NIV) Jeremiah 29:11. We begin our spiritual journey understanding the will of God and His plans for us. This gives direction to our journey and helps us to stay focused.

Apostle Paul has detailed vividly in his letter to the Church at Ephesus the unwanted luggage that hinders our travel. **"Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."**

Ephesians 4:31, 32. Besides, Paul suggests that we carry only necessary luggage for our travel and it will make our travel comfortable and pleasant to us as well as to our co-travellers.

Paul lists 6 unwanted luggage that we carry:

1. Bitterness
2. Rage
3. Anger
4. Brawling
5. Slander
6. Malice

And the supportive, useful and necessary luggage that we ought to carry are:

1. Kindness
2. Compassion
3. Forgiving nature

## 1. BITTERNESS

Bitterness is an emotion which is difficult to get rid of. This spirit doesn't allow us to reconcile with those who have hurt us. We

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liberally feed this emotion and always keep it warm, by brooding over the insults and injuries we have received. It is a cancer that spreads and kills our joy and peace of mind. This extra luggage makes our travel very cumbersome.

## 2. RAGE

Barkley in his commentary says that it is a kind of anger that burns like straw, the flame very quickly rises up. We come across the idiom “in a fit of rage” quite often. This bad temper is displayed often by screaming a lot. It is an outburst when one feels that one has been wronged.

Christian believers are no exception to rage. It seems once John was driving to church on a Sunday morning. The traffic on the road was a bit heavy. At that time another car that followed John's car was constantly honking loudly wanting space to overtake. John couldn't oblige since there was scarcely any space to let the follower overtake. Somehow the follower managed to overtake and while doing so slowed down a bit and poured abusive words on John. John was hurt but withheld his temper. On entering the church John found the same car parked in the church compound. He was all the more shocked when he found the person who drove the car was none other than the new Pastor who was to take charge of that congregation. Imagine the predicament of the new Pastor as he met John after the church service. Such road rage should be completely got rid of by Christians to uphold their Christian witnesses.

## 3. ANGER

Anger can be divided into two – a) Righteous Anger and b) Unrighteous Anger. Jesus vents His anger when He saw His Father's Temple converted into a “den of

robbers” Matthew 21:13. He took a whip and drove all the traders out. On the contrary it is difficult for us human beings to practice righteous anger because our emotions are tainted by sin. According to the Bible we must show our anger against 'sin' – “**Let those who love the Lord hate evil**”. Psalm. 97:10. “**In your anger do not sin**” Psalm 4:4. Paul verbatim quotes the same words in Ephesians 4:26. Along with that Paul adds an admonition – “**Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry and do not give the devil a foothold**” Ephesians 4:26, 27.

If we are wise, we shall be slow to anger, remembering James 1:19, 20, “**for man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires**”. So Paul puts forth three suggestions to get rid of this unwanted and heavy baggage. First 'do not sin'. How to show righteous anger and still not sin is a question that rises in our minds? John Stott in his BST series *The Message of Ephesians* gives the answer “We have to make sure that our anger is free from injured pride,

spite, malice, animosity and the spirit of revenge”. Secondly, we have to get rid of our anger before sunset. This means that we should not nurse our anger and keep it alive for days together. Thirdly, we should give no room for the devil to gain a foothold in our lives. We should never allow the devil to take advantage of our anger by provoking it into hatred or violence or a breach of fellowship. Yet another suggestion to get rid of this heavy luggage is given by Solomon the wise king: “**A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger**”, Proverb 15:1. So we must pull out the heavy weight, anger for our smooth journey.

## 4. BRAWLING

Brawling is a fight or quarrel in a rough, noisy and uncontrolled way. Many a time we see, especially the Pastorate Committee members bring disrepute to the church by brawling inside the church. Haven't we heard of police intervention to stop

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# NEHEMIAH BIBLE, Chennai

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# GREAT COMMISSION PARTNERS

TO SHARE (Galatians 6:2)

SUPPORT (Romans 12:13)

SPEED UP (II Timothy 1:6)

**PRAISE & PRAYER POINTS - From 2023 January 19 To February 18**

(Please take this sheet out, fold it and keep it in your Bible and pray continuously)



## ✠ PRAISE GOD FOR...

- January 19** ⇒ Enabling us to conduct Christmas and New Year celebrations in a great way in our Main Church and branch Churches.
- January 20** ⇒ All the activities of our **St. Paul's Matriculation School, Nehemiah Bible College** and **Theological Correspondence Courses**.
- January 21** ⇒ His blessings for the Men's Meeting in our Main Church.
- January 22** ⇒ His blessings for our publications in 16 languages which are printed in our Printing Press and sent to mission fields.
- January 23** ⇒ For meeting all our financial and spiritual needs of last month.
- January 24** ⇒ The abundant blessings for our Pr. S. Sam Selva Raj and family.
- January 25** ⇒ Enabling us to conduct Theological Seminars regularly.
- January 26** ⇒ His mercy towards our Prayer Partners, Subscribing Partners, Faith Partners, Life Partners and Great Commission Partners and their families.
- January 27** ⇒ Providing Music classes for our Residential **Nehemiah Bible College** students.
- January 28** ⇒ Having blessed our Church with new believers..
- January 29** ⇒ Blessing our organization with new employees.
- January 30** ⇒ Conducting Music Classes (Keyboard & Guitar) for our Village High School (**St. Paul's Matriculation School**) poor students.
- January 31** ⇒ Our Associate Editors and their co-operation.
- February 01** ⇒ Enabling us to buy Carrom Boards and Chess Boards for our Residential **Nehemiah Bible**

**College** students to play in the evenings.

- February 02** ⇒ Our Main Church and Branch Churches and their believers.
- February 03** ⇒ The miracles of God in our Hospital Ministry.

## ✠ PLEASE PRAY FOR ...

- February 04** ⇒ The blessing and protection upon all Christian Organisations and Churches.
- February 05** ⇒ Peace all over the world.
- February 06** ⇒ God's protection from the violence against women and children.
- February 07** ⇒ Providing necessary funds for **Echo of His Call Ministries** this month.
- February 08** ⇒ All the staff of **Echo of His Call Ministries** to have good health.
- February 09** ⇒ The unity and progress of our nation in all aspects .
- February 10** ⇒ Our Associate Editors and their family members.
- February 11** ⇒ His magnanimity in allowing and leading our Senior Pastor's writing of his Autobiography.
- February 12** ⇒ Meeting all our needs in this month.
- February 13** ⇒ Giving us the focused visions to build His Kingdom on the earth.
- February 14** ⇒ Enabling us to reach the unreached groups of India.
- February 15** ⇒ The blessings of our organization, all staff and their families.
- February 16** ⇒ The youth and outreach ministries of **Echo of His Call**.
- February 17** ⇒ The sound health of our Senior Pastor S. Sam Selva Raj and his family.
- February 18** ⇒ Meeting every alcoholic and evil doer to come to repentance.

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this brawling during the Pastorate Committee elections? One of the qualities of an Overseer listed in Paul's first letter to Timothy is that an Overseer should be: **“. . . no brawler, no striker; but gentle, not contentious, no lover of money”** (American Standard Version). The wise king Solomon prefers **“to dwell in a corner of the housetop, than with a brawling woman in a wide house”**. Proverb 21:9 (KJV)

## 5. SLANDER

Slander is speaking ill of others, especially behind their backs. This talk destroys not only their reputation but also ours. Numbers 12:1 tells the story of Miriam and Aaron slandering Moses for marrying a Cushite woman. **“And the Lord heard this.”** Numbers 12:2. The Lord was angry and told Miriam and Aaron, **“Why then were you not afraid to speak against my servant Moses?”** Numbers 12:8. Immediately God's wrath fell on them and Miriam and Aaron were struck with leprosy. We are accountable to every word that comes out of our mouths. **“What you have said in the dark will be heard in the daylight, and what you have whispered in the ear in the inner rooms will be proclaimed from the roof,”** warns our Lord Jesus Christ. Luke 12:3. That is the reason, James delivers a long sermon on taming one's tongue in James Chapter 3. Slander is a dangerous unwanted weight. Throw it off.

## 6. MALICE

Malice is ill-will, wishing and probably plotting evil against people. The most appropriate example in the Bible for malice is found in Genesis Chapter 37. Joseph's brothers plot evil against Joseph. **“Come now, let's kill him**

**and throw him into one of these cisterns and say that a ferocious animal devoured him.”** Genesis 37:20. But God willed differently and Joseph's life was saved by Reuben. Later God elevated Joseph to the highest official level in Egypt and made his brothers come and bow down before Joseph. In the same manner, Haman plotted evil against Mordecai and built a seventy-five feet high gallows. Esther. 5:14. But, ironically, it turned against the plotter, Haman, he was hanged to death on the same gallows. Esther.7:9.

**Having understood the six unwanted luggage we carry that hinder our smooth journey, we have to find out how to throw away these hindering baggage.**

**The first and foremost step** we have to take is an honest soul searching and find out what extra luggage we carry along – bitterness, rage, anger, brawling, slander, or malice. Then we have to bring the process to the Lord in prayer and ask Him to help us remove the extra weight. Besides we can also take this to our mentor or to a praying-partner, whom we can trust. The mentor or the trusted friend can help us identify any obvious areas of trouble or blind spots that we had missed.

**The second step** is to get rid of it ... To let it go. These emotions are very difficult to get rid of; we cannot use our strength and efforts, because two opposing forces are acting within us always. One is 'good' and the other is 'evil'. In this situation Paul cries out: **“What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death?”** Romans 7:24. And Paul finds that the answer is in God, in great relief, he says: **“Thanks be to God – through Jesus Christ our Lord.”** Romans 7:25. We need the power of God Almighty to get rid of the extra luggage. Our Lord has given us a

Counsellor and Comforter to help us. Jesus, God the Son intercedes for us, God the Holy Spirit puts appropriate words in our mouths when we struggle for words and God the Father listens and answers our prayers. With this confidence we can approach the throne of grace and He will deliver us. Jesus Christ has taught us to pray: “deliver us from evil”. We have to ask God to help us get rid of these extra loads from our lives.

**The third step** is to feed our souls with antidotes. For any poison there is an antidote. Paul suggests in the same context, Ephesians 4:32, three antidotes for the six deadly emotions that make our travel wearisome and cumbersome. Paul says: **“Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as Christ God forgave you.”**

The supportive useful and necessary luggages that we ought to carry are:

## 1. KINDNESS

Kindness is a virtue and is one of the essential virtues we should possess. It shows people that we care for others and as a result it takes away the pain others undergo. Being “kind” means being benevolent or good-willed to someone who needs our help. Kindness is the attitude of a person in a position of strength who does something good for somebody in a position of relative weakness. Kindness is an attitude to give, and we deliberately choose to give and we have so much to give! Through Christ's death and resurrection, we have abundant life, salvation, freedom and 'Gods grace in abundance. While we might feel weak in ourselves, we are strong in Christ. This enables us to be kind to others. And that means we can forgive them. Forgiveness isn't a display of weakness. It's a display of kindness and strength.

## 2. COMPASSION

Compassion literally means 'suffering together'. It is defined as the feeling that arises when we are confronted with another's suffering and feel motivated to relieve that suffering and wishing a speedy recovery for that person. Compassion is when we relate to someone's situation, and we want to help him. We see someone in trouble and we feel like pitching in. For example, when we are travelling in a bus, we see a pregnant woman. Immediately we get up and offer a seat to her. That is compassion. Every minor act we choose in a day can help balance out negative emotions. This is one of the best antidotes for the earlier luggage which weigh heavily on us and put a speed breaker to our life journey.

Jesus sees the crowd without a shepherd. Mark 6:34. Compassion overwhelms the heart of Jesus. He not only fulfils their spiritual hunger but also their physical hunger. Mark 6:37-44. When Abraham comes to know that God is about to destroy Sodom, he is filled with compassion for the righteous people of Sodom and starts pleading with God. Abraham begins asking for the city to be spared, if there are but 50 righteous are in Sodom. God agrees that He would not destroy if there are 50 righteous people in Sodom. But Abraham continues his pleadings with God. Abraham knows that 50 righteous people are not in Sodom. So the number goes down and down – 45, 40, 35, 30 up to 10. This is compassion.

## 3. FORGIVING SPIRIT

Kindness and Compassion naturally lead us to forgive others. Forgiveness is the bedrock of all our relationships. The spirit of forgiveness should be an indispensable aspect of a Christian

believer, because believers are forgiven people. We should forgive as God has forgiven us. Bitterness, rage, anger, quarrel, slander and malice are the ways we react when people hurt us. Our reactions to these come out in as destructive behaviour or destructive speech. At that moment we do not realise that these instant reactions destroy our relationships. Forgiving the people who have hurt us is the only way we can restore our broken or strained relationships. So the whole passage we are studying can be summed up in one word – **Forgiveness.**

Paul says that we should forgive as God forgave us of our sins. He has redeemed us and forgiven us. Ephesians 1:7. This forgiveness is centre of our relationship with God. God has erased our sins, removed his wrath from us, and raised us from death to life. He has been incredibly kind and compassionate to us. And we now face a secure and glorious future through Christ. Because God has forgiven us, we have a reason—and the strength—to forgive others. As God has erased our sins and sees us as holy and blameless through Christ, we too should seek to do the same to others: to erase the sins of others from our ledger of wrongs. Paul urges us to “be imitators of God” and “to live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave Himself as a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God”. Ephesians 5:1,2 In order to

imitate God in our lives we have to imbibe the spirit of forgiveness.

Unforgiving nature makes our journey very cumbersome. It pulls us down and seldom allows us to move forward. Forgiveness is one of the fundamental Christian virtues. Having received forgiveness for our sins and relief from sin's natural consequences; we are obliged to forgive other's sins and misgivings against us. If we do not forgive we have no right to proclaim ourselves as *believers*. Jesus Christ has taught us forgiveness in Matthew 6:14, 15: “**For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins**”. “**And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive him, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins**” Mark 11:25. At the same time we should also bear in mind that God does not forgive us because we forgive others, but solely because of His great mercy. The unforgiving spirit leads to the six unwanted luggage we had discussed earlier. Learning how to forgive and forget is one of the secrets of happy Christian life.

**The fourth step** is to stay focussed fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith and continue our life's journey. The King James Version of the Holy

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## TAX EXEMPTION

### to donations received for Educational and Medical Aid for under-privileged

Donations by any individual or organization from India to **Echo of His Call Educational Trust** are eligible for Income Tax exemption under Section 80G of the Income Tax Act. Official receipts will be issued for this purpose. Please make your Demand Drafts / Cheques / M.O. for such donations in favour of **Echo of His Call Educational Trust** and send to us, along with your Aadhar Number and PAN for getting Income Tax Exemption.

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# PIT TO PALACE

(Life experiences of Pastor S. Sam Selva Raj)

*“Whoever reads, let him understand” (Matthew 24:15)*



## HE CHANGES MY LIFE!



**He raises the poor out of the dust, and lifts the needy out of the ash heap. - Psalm 113:7.**

During the time I had, apart from my regular job hours, I was distributing free tracts, doing personal evangelism and conducting gospel meetings in a small way but God helped me to do that effectively.

My dear friends, Bro. D.W. Devakanthan and Bro. R.E. Jeyaraj who worked with me once came to me in 1971 and asked me, “You seem to be a unique person in this office! I see something very special in you!! What is the reason? Are you a Christi-an?” I replied, “Yes! I am a child of God who is saved by the Almighty Lord Jesus Christ who created the heaven and the earth”. They again said, “You are a smart boy! Are you still in the experience of salvation?” I said, “Yes”. They hugged me and asked me if I could go with Bro. D.W. Devakanthan to meet his Pastor that Sunday morning. I accepted to go with him. So Bro. D.W. Devakanthan made me sit at the back of his bicycle and took me in the month of December 1971 to the Honourable Chief Pastor of Apostolic Christian Assembly, Pastor G. Sundaram and also to the Assistant Pastor M.K. Sam Sundaram.

The conversation I had with the Chief Pastor G. Sundaram can never be forgotten. His handsome appearance, smile and his words of concern and responsibility reminded me of my relationship with

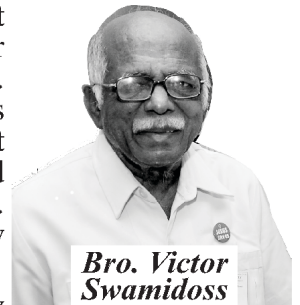


*Bro. D.W. Devakanthan*

my own father. So I told him, “I too want to be transformed like you!”. He also hugged me and kissed me and said “You may have to pay a big price and undergo a tough life to achieve that goal.” I replied, “I will do whole-heartedly”. From that day onwards I became a strong member in his Church and I was also inducted into the Service Team. The messages he gave in the Church and his activities attracted me very much.

I was also with the Assistant Pastor M.K. Sam Sundaram and was used in the ministry in simple ways. He also taught me and sustained me.

I got introduced to the servants of God of that Church like Bro. Victor Swamidoss (Railways), Bro. A. Selvaraj (Public Works Department), Evangelist Jeyamohan (Teacher) and Evangelist N. Jeevanandam. They helped me grow spiritually.

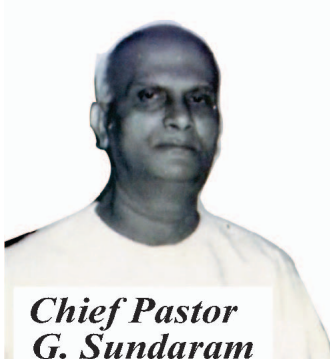


*Bro. Victor Swamidoss*

I was baptised by Pastor G. Sundaram in the year 1972 and ordained as a Minister by him on 26<sup>th</sup> December 1977 in the presence of Pastor M. K. Sundaram and Pastor Reuben Timothy, South Africa.

Pastor G. Sundaram connected me to work with Pastor Anand to take care of the shoes and chappals of the people who attended the Church Services.

Generally the people who attended the Church Services used to leave their shoes and chappals outside the Church in a wooden stand and get back



*Chief Pastor G. Sundaram*



*Assistant Pastor M.K. Sam Sundaram*



*Pr. Sam Selva Raj Ordination - 1977*

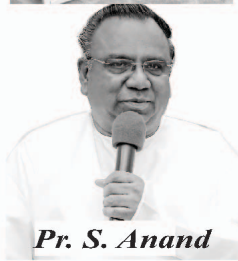


them after the services. We both were held responsible for the safety and return of the chappals to the members.



Pastor Anand is a great spiritual leader and the senior Pastor of a big Church called Apostolic Church Assembly, Karunanidhi

Kalaingnar Nagar Ministry in Chennai now. They used to preach in my Church, offer their services as Lecturers and guest speakers in my Churches and Nehemiah Bible College. They have helped me in the ministry in various ways. It is important to note that I was a Pastor of a small



Pr. S. Anand

Church and the Lord has raised me to run a Bible College where I had the privilege to get the services of these great men.

As it is stated already the Lord helped me to run a Christian monthly magazine entitled, *Echo of His Call* in various languages. As soon as I was ordained for God's ministry, the Lord enabled me to help a few local Churches and to start a Church in a small way in Chepauk, which was supposed to be an unreachable area in the city of Chennai. Presently our main Church is functioning in that area.

Though I worked hard and prayed fervently, I was not able to get new souls. I was very firm in not

luring other Church members and making them members of my Church. I am always against 'sheep stealing'. So, my wife and daughter were my Church members for the first five years. I used to preach to them and they listened to my messages every Sunday morning and evening in the Church located in the Streets called Akbar Sahib Street, Big street and C.N. Krishnaswamy Road etc. Chepauk, Chennai. Also we were involved in Street preaching and visiting sick people in hospitals and poor people in the streets. We as family spent our earnings in God's ministry and due to that had to undergo starvation on a few occasions.



Since I was in the habit of playing Accordion (music instrument), the building owners did not like us saying that whenever I play my instrument and sing glory to the Lord Jesus Christ, their gods were not able to be active. So landlords forced me to change my residence and Church location quite often to different streets in that particular non-Christian area. \*\*\*



## WANTED

We need the following staff having good vision and dedication for ministry:

- \* Office Staff with Computer Knowledge
- \* Assistants for Printing Press and Office
- \* Matriculation School Head Master
- \* Matriculation School Teachers
- \* Assistant Pastors
- \* Evangelists
- \* Bible College Principal (Academics)
- \* Security Personnel
- \* Drivers

Please Contact : ECHO OF HIS CALL  
Cell : 98410 71858

....Contd. from page 7

Bible gives us encouragement. In the book of Hebrews 12:1, we read: "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us and let us run with patience the race that is set before us". (King James Version). I have deliberately chosen the Kings James Version because only in this version the word "weight" is used. If we stay focussed on Jesus we can run and finish the race with ease. An athlete who runs a race will wear minimum dress. We just cannot see an athlete running wearing a full suit. Such a dress will hinder his speed and he will never reach the finish line. So also the author of the book of Hebrews advises

us to lay aside every **weight and sin** — bitterness, rage, anger, quarrel, slander and malice, but run carrying kindness, compassion and a forgiving attitude. Besides the Old Testament heroes we also have modern heroes for us to emulate – Sadhu Sunder Singh, Ziegenbalg, Pandita Ramabai, William Carey, Bishop V.S. Azariah and Graham Staines who ran the race well, ministered in our motherland and died for us, Indians.

We started with 2023 New Year resolutions. Let us consider shedding away these crippling weights and triumphantly complete the Christian journey and at the end boldly proclaim along with Paul: "I have finished the race" and will

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receive "the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day . . . not only to me, but also to all who have longed for His appearing" (NIV) 2 Timothy 4:7, 8.

**Ponder over these New Year resolutions, pray, adopt them in your lives and march on with less luggage. Wish you all a blessed New Year 2023. God bless.**

\*\*\*\*\*

### OUR BANK DETAILS:

#### 1. Bank : State Bank of India

Branch : Triplicane, Chennai-5  
Name : S. Sam Selva Raj  
A/C No. : 1023 2934 679  
IFSC : SBIN 00 00 249  
SWIFT CODE : SBI NIN BB 455

#### 2. Bank : ICICI Bank

Branch : Anna Salai, Chennai-6  
Name : Echo of His Call  
A/C No. : 6038 0502 2319  
IFSC : ICIC 000 6038

#### 3. Bank : State Bank of India

(This Account is for Tax Exemption for Indians only)

Branch : Triplicane, Chennai-5  
Name : Echo of His Call Educational Trust  
A/C No. : 1023 2923 805  
IFSC : SBIN 00 00 249

Google Pay : 98410 71858  
PayPal : SAM SELVA RAJ

\*\*\*\*\*

E.mail : [sam@echoofhiscall.org](mailto:sam@echoofhiscall.org)

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**Echo of His Call** is available in 16 languages in our website also. You can read them by going into the site as well as downloading them and get blessed.

Your letters, prayer requests and your financial helps (**Money Orders, Cheques or Demand Drafts, NEFT, PayPal (Sam Selva Raj, sam@echoofhiscall.org) PhonePe (98410 71858), Gpay (98410 71858), Western Union, MoneyGram, etc.**) to **ECHO OF HIS CALL** may please be sent to the address below.

Please send your **Land Phone / Mobile Phone Numbers and E.mail addresses** for updation.

Our address :

### ECHO OF HIS CALL

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## JESUS LOVES YOU!

To

GOD BLESS YOU!