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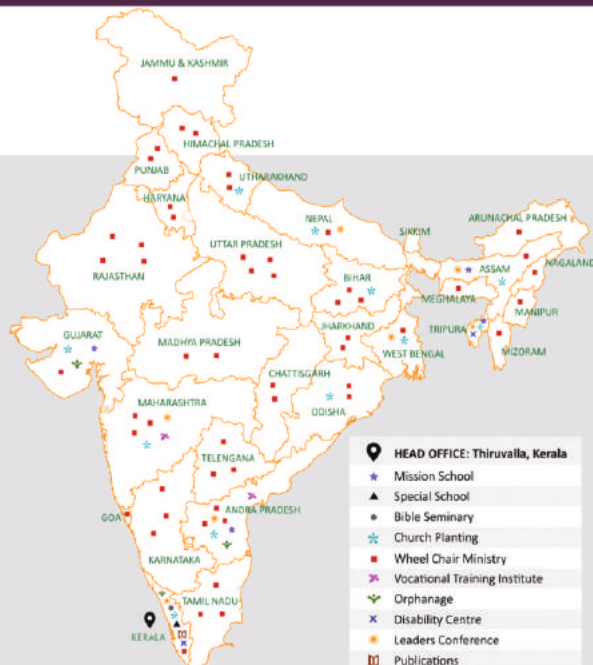
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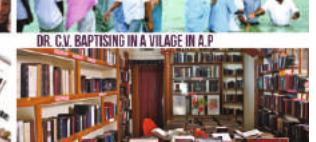
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“Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you”

Ephesians 4:32

Editorial

**Dear precious brothers and sisters in Christ,
Greetings to you in the precious name of our Lord
and Saviour Jesus Christ!**



In today's world the word “FORGIVENESS” is a rarity and vengeance seem to be glorified. Right from a young age a child is influenced through video games and variety of media sources on ways to fight. Even the most popular superhero characters are known as Avengers. Avenging for the any wrong done in the immediate is highlighted. But Jesus had a whole new take on the wrongs done to us.

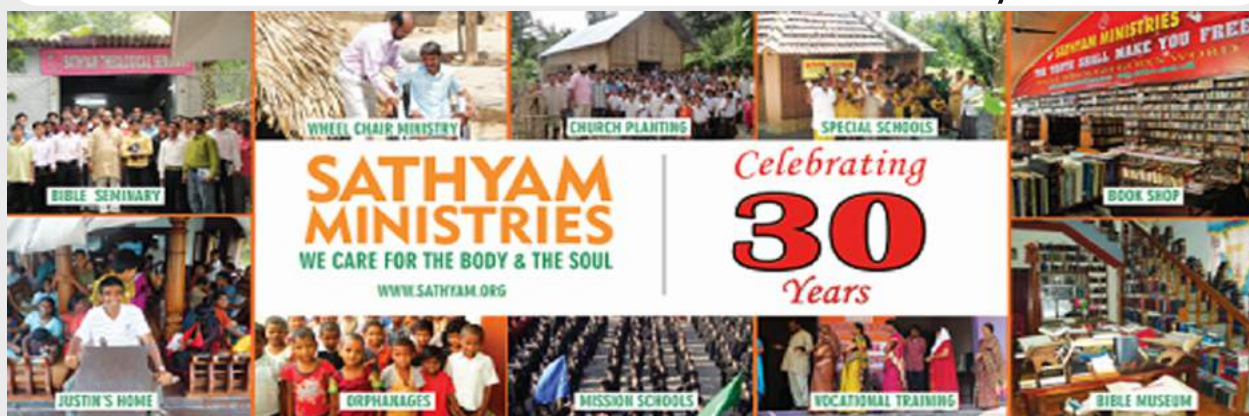
Forgiveness is a powerful act. It takes a strong person to say sorry and an even stronger person to forgive. Jesus with clarity taught that we must forgive just as God has forgiven us. Even if it means multiple times that we can be wronged. When we forgive, we release the other person from judgements and allow healing to start within us. Forgiveness is not always about the other person. When we forgive we move towards wholeness.

A quote says “Forgiveness is giving up the hope that the past could have been any different”. We make peace with incidents that happened, knowing that God who knows our future, has the power to take any mess and turn it into a message. When we give our hurts and pain to God and pray for those who hurt us, then we are also affirming our faith “The plans that God has for us are never to harm us but to give us a hope and future” Jeremiah 29:11

I urge you dear brothers and sisters that we would walk in love and experience this power of forgiveness. I encourage you to move away from all the hate, anger, bitterness, rage and move into the healing power of forgiveness, love, mercy and grace.

God bless you all!

Dr. C. V. Vadavana
Founder & Chairman,
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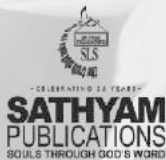
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FORGIVING GRACE

Brother Noble George



Mysterious joy:

However, the world has a particular destructive character. Matt 27:36 “And sitting down they watched him there”. These 7 words have been the subject of endless meditations among believers. The Roman soldiers along with the Jews watched Jesus die on the cross. They all knew who was on the cross and for what reason. It was Jesus, the Messiah, he was there because of the Jews. (For he knew that because of envy they had handed Him over, Matt. 27:18). The man on the cross was not a convicted criminal but a good man. He healed many, raised the dead, and opened the eyes of the blind. And they knew that once he is dead, they lose any possibility of benefitting from the miracles and wonders, but still the feeling in side them was that of ecstasy. They enjoyed the sight when they finally got Jesus up on the cross. It seems that they did feel the joy of killing.

Do believers too enjoy this kind of satisfaction in seeing the destruction of someone else? This is mere human nature; envy is a part of man. Most often envy originates from very trivial reasons; sometimes silly and inconsequential. A preacher can't stand another preacher, an elder can't stand another elder, and a deacon can't stand another deacon and so on. Instead of building up, envy causes us to attempt to destroy each other for some mysterious joy.

Often, we fight and struggle to conquer envy and keep it suppressed so that it does not become obvious. But even then, when the opportunity comes, the serpent raises its head. Inconspicuous may be the action, a suggestion or a remark, a reaction, but it is the dormant envy that makes men do that. The same dormant envy takes the form of hatred, and we become unforgiving in the course of time. If we do not

have the kind of love and hence the forgiving grace in us, it will be the envy and hatred that is going to govern most of our attitudes and actions. In the story of Cain and Abel, they were not strangers or enemies, but were brothers by blood. Envy became anger, then hatred and culminated in the first murder of human history (Gen. 4:8).

Fellowship in suffering:

“Rejoice with them that rejoice and weep with them that weep”, Romans 12:15. In other words, cry with those who cry and celebrate their joy with those who are joyful. It is not easy. Some feel the joy only when they see their near neighbor or friend, or brother suffer or falter in their steps. They do not feel the joy until their heads are inclined or stooping. It is almost impossible to rejoice with those who are rejoicing and to cry with those who are crying.

Americans are prudent in avoiding contact with people when they are infected with some communicable disease such as common flu. We are often very self-centered, cruel, and selfish. But in Zechariah 13:6 we read about the wounds, our savior received from the house of his friends. “And one will say to him, what are these wounds between your arms? Then he will say those with which I was wounded in the house of my friends.” He did not hesitate to come near us and we belong to the one who gave himself for many.

Many a times, people are not only unforgiving, but they try to hurt others knowingly by doing some thing or making some derogatory remarks deliberately. It is comparable to the behavior of the honey bee. It stings with all its might and what it inflicts is a small prick but the honey bee falls down and dies. The person who hurt others gets more deeply hurt, sometimes even fatally.

(To be continued.....)



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get out of
it
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you play.*



Tom Lehrer



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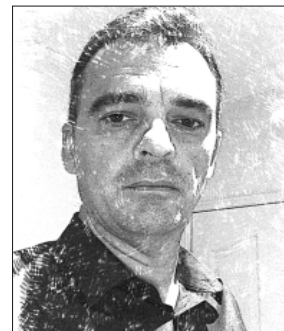


**Join us, and make good
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LESSON 2

UNITY : SO WHAT IS THE BIG IDEA?

Daniel Walker



KEY CONCEPT: *An effective sermon will have one BIG idea that holds the entire sermon together. The BIG idea of the sermon should always come from the biblical text. The BIG idea is a clear simple sentence that expresses what the sermon is about.*

WHAT IS THE BIG IDEA OF A SERMON?

By now, it should be clear that a sermon will be effective when it has **one BIG idea**. Remember a sermon is not about 2 or 3 things loosely joined together.

An effective sermon will have **one BIG idea** that holds the entire sermon together.

RULE 1 – The **BIG idea** of the sermon should come from the biblical text.

We can now give two simple rules to help us with the **BIG idea**.

Donald G. Miller says:

“Every sermon should have a theme, and that theme should be **the theme of the portion of Scripture on which it is based.**”¹³

Gary Miller and Phil Campbell say:

“**Expository** preaching happens when the message of the text = the message of the sermon.”¹⁴

The word **expository** means – intended to explain or describe something. **Expository** preaching seeks to **explain** or **describe** the biblical text to the listeners can understand and obey it. Expository preaching starts by studying the text to discover the message of the biblical text which then becomes the **BIG idea** of the sermon. Good preaching is always **expository**.

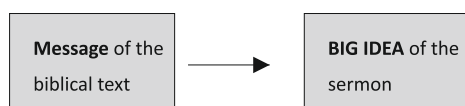


Figure 2: Expository preaching

In the Old Testament we have a clear example of **expository** preaching when Nehemiah gathered God's people to hear God's Word.

“They [the priests] read from the Book of the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that

the people understood what was being read.” (Nehemiah 8:8)

Notice the **expository** work of the priests:

1. They read the Bible to the people.
2. Then they made it **clear** and **gave the meaning**. In other words, they helped people understand what they were reading.
3. The outcome is powerful. “Then all the people went away to eat and drink, to send portions of food and to celebrate with great joy, **because they now understood** the words that had been made know to them.” (Nehemiah 8:12)

Good preaching will always attempt to expose, explain, clarify and **give the meaning of the biblical text** to the listeners so that they can understand the words and know how to obey.

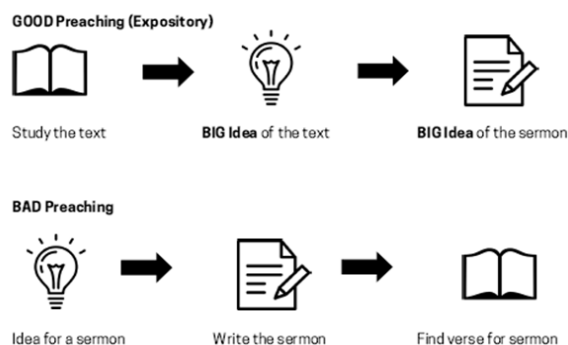


Figure 3: The path of an expository sermon

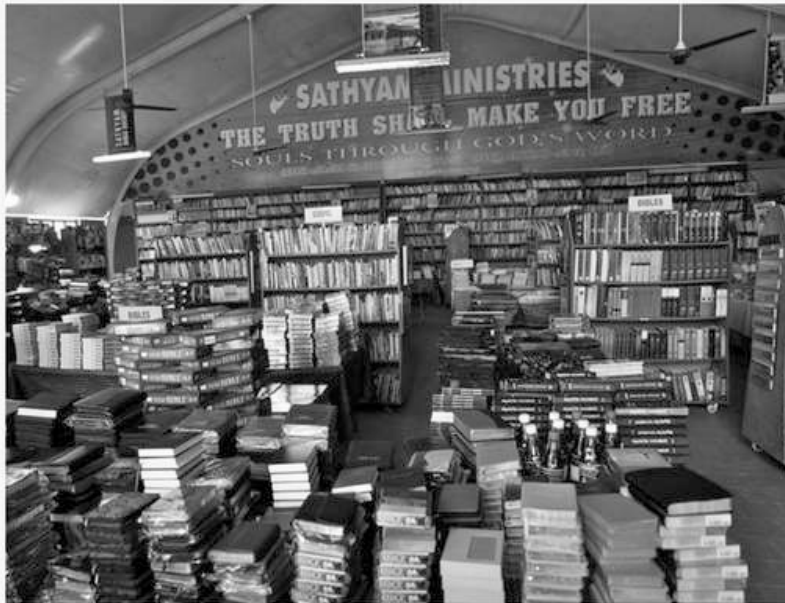
¹³ Donald G. Miller. The Way to Biblical Preaching, P.55

¹⁴ Gary Millar and Phil Campbell. Saving Eutychus: How to preach God's word and keep people awake. P.31

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BOOK REVIEW



Help! Disability Pressures our Marriage

Disability enters families in many different ways. Perhaps a genetic abnormality results in a child being born with a disability. Or perhaps a work injury renders a husband or wife unemployable or in need of 24/7 care. The possibilities are endless. Regardless of the cause, however, disability adds pressure to the marriage relationship. This mini-book is a gift to couples who are looking for biblical help to learn how to respond to their “new normal.”

Contents

- Introduction
- 1 The unexpected and intense pressure
- 2 The source of the pressure and some initial help
- 3 There is good news
- 4 Relationship with Christ turns human relationships Christlike
- Conclusion
- Personal Application Projects
- Where Can I Get Further Help?

At a Glance...

Help! Disability Pressures our Marriage

Ernie Baker

Mini-book, 64pp, 6 x4 inches

ISBN: 978-1-63342-155-4

Suggested retail price: \$4.99

Trade inquiries: atripp@shepherdpress.com

Availability date: April 15, 2019

Help! My Grandchild Has a Disability

Kings and queens wear crowns, but the Bible says grandkids are crowns to their grandparents (Prov. 17:6). But what if your crown is not what you expected? What if your grandchild has a disability? This mini-book offers grandparents their rightful place as kings and queens to their families. If the Lord has blessed you with a grandchild that has a disability, then roll up your sleeves and get ready to polish that precious and beautiful crown!

Contents

- Introduction
- 1. What Is a Biblical Grandparent?
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At a Glance...

Help! My Grandchild Has a Disability

Dave Deuel

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Beyond the Boundaries of Science

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr. Latha Christie has been a scientist in Defence R&D, Ministry of Defence, India, for over 30 years and is Associate Director, MITRDC. She holds a Ph.D. and MS in Aerospace Engineering (IISc, Bangalore), MDiv (SABC), and MA (Christian Studies, Madras University). She received the Prof. Satish Dhawan Award, 2014, for engineering sciences. She is a speaker, counselor, and has over 60 international publications.

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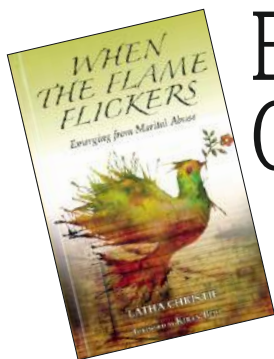
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LATHA CHRISTIE



BREAK THE SILENCE OF DOMESTIC ABUSE



Dr Latha Christie

No community, no society, and no country are immune to domestic violence. This family violence continues despite passing various Domestic Violence Acts and laws and setting up shelter homes and medical facilities. How can we stop this? Whose responsibility is it to stop this? The community should wake up to the terrific effects of abuse, and support groups like parents, pastors, church elders and so on, should respond in the right way to the horrors of domestic violence. The Church should not be silent but respond compassionately to the cries of the victims and provide help and shelter. The history of domestic violence has been a history of silence because many do not realize the seriousness of this issue and also feel uncomfortable to discuss intimate partner violence as they feel it is a personal problem and hence it is better to ignore it than to deal with it. There are also many misconceptions like who is at fault? Why did the victim stay so long? Who triggered it and so on. It is better to start with the right definition of domestic violence as many confuse it with marital conflict. A systematic pattern of control through violence is the hallmark of an abusive relationship and it typically follows a three-stage cycle. The first is the '*Tension building stage*' where the communication between the partners drastically reduces as the abusive partner stockpiles every little grievance and every disappointment, and the victim develops an awful fear of triggering any angry outbursts. This stage can last for a few hours to a few months. The next is the '*The battering stage*' where the abuser, often over a trivial issue bursts out with screaming, hurtful and frightening aggression, dominating and controlling his partner through a number of violent and abusive incidents. Then comes the '*The honeymoon stage*': where the abuser cries, feel very sorry that the violence had happened and promises that it will never happen again. This cycle makes the victim stay for long and the abuser to abuse again making the cycle to continue.

A special report by the US Department of Justice says that 1 in 4 women and 1 in 9 men experience severe intimate partner violence. A global study by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime says that in the year 2017 alone, 50,000 women worldwide were killed by intimate partners or family members—a figure that translates to 1.3 out of every 100,000 women. Men do face domestic abuse and the dynamics of that abuse is similar, but men may also suffer from shame, embarrassment and social stigma that they are not able to protect themselves. There is also, a fear that they may be falsely arrested and

removed from their homes because of the assumption they must be the perpetrator and not a victim because they are male and strong. Nevertheless, abuse by men against women is the most common form of intimate partner violence because of the patriarchal society that considers men as superior to the fairer sex. One of my colleagues was married to a volatile man, who tried his best to destroy her: her health, her self-esteem, values and her very reason to live. The amazing part is that he could do this so convincingly that she really believed that it was all her fault that her husband was always angry with her and that she deserved the beating. Because of ignorance, many victims of domestic violence leave the abuser only after they have been permanently disfigured, emotionally and physically. And leaving the abuser is the most dangerous phase in an abusive relationship as it is during this phase many victims are killed or maimed for life.

It seems impossible for such victims who stand out there in stark pain, trapped in hopelessness and despair to forgive their offenders. Brennan Manning says "... forces greater than ourselves can empower us to forgive the wounds inflicted by others." Yes, forgiveness finds its full meaning only on the Cross of Jesus Christ as Jesus alone can empower a victim to forgive. Forgiveness is not about the abuser but it is about the well-being of the victim. Lewis Smedes writes, "To forgive is to set a prisoner free and discover that the prisoner was you." Forgiveness is a wise choice because it sets the mind free from the torment of the past. Since forgiveness, trust, and reconciliation are all different issues, forgiveness should never be forced on a victim. Forgiveness is not about tolerating everything and returning back to the abuser but it is about letting go of the past and the bitterness so that one can immerse in the Presence of God.

My book, "When the Flame Flickers: Emerging from marital Abuse," gives the horrific details of this type of abuse, how the children struggle within closed walls, how the support groups have to respond to an abused person and how an abused person can emerge victorious from the horrible pit that she was living in. It is the duty of every Christian to know in-depth about this issue that breaks families and instills violence in the mind of children and break the silence that surrounds it.

Dr. Latha Christie is a senior scientist from Bangalore working with the DRDO, Min. of Defence for the past 31 years. She also completed her MDiv and working for the Lord.

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- Printing technology
- Tailoring unit

ADVOCACY

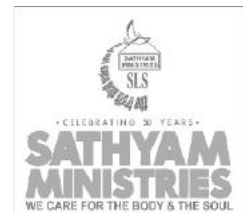
- Awareness of rights
- Facilitating and awaiting social benefit
- Facilitating the formation of self-help groups
- Parent training program



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Sathya Research Institute and Disability Center



SATHYA RESEARCH INSTITUTE AN DISABILITY CENTER A Ministry of Sathya Service Trust, India

The Sathya Research Institute and Disability Center, is the result of an immense need to uplift the disabled population in the Indian society. Sathya Service Trust, a charitable society based in Kerala, India has been working in the field of Social Welfare and Charity for the past 25 years by shedding light to the downtrodden in society. Through its outreach programs it has mainly focused its activities in the area of disability preparing thousands of individuals to become independent.

The Director, Mrs. Marykutty Vadavana, of SRDC was initially burdened to do something for mentally challenged children because her second son Justin was born with a learning disability. After reading Rick Warren's book, The Purpose Driven Life, she began to pray to God for opportunities to serve mentally challenged children. God answered her prayer and we were able to open Sathya Nikethan- a disability center for mentally challenged children.

Justin's Home A school & home for differently-abled

It is an organisation working for the rehabilitation of mentally handicapped children. This centre provides services to children who are suffering from mental retardation, autism, down syndrome, cerebra palsy and learning disabilities.

OUR VISION

To empower the disabled population with the help of society

OUR MISSION

- To expose and develop the hidden skills and abilities in persons with disabilities
- To train and develop individual life skills
- To promote and direct employment opportunities for people with disabilities
- To remove social, cultural, and economic barriers that are associated with disabilities
- To implement a comprehensive, integrated program of research and training
- To develop rural community infrastructure in order to enhance opportunities for people with disabilities



FUTURE PLANS

Provide services to overcome physical barriers

Offer prosthetics (artificial limbs) and orthotics (devices to support and supplement weakened or abnormal joints) to remove barriers associated with physical disabilities.

Begin courses in community rehabilitation

Gain approval from RCI for conducting foundation courses in care-giving (6 month course) and DVR (MR)

Gain approval from MG University for conducting rehabilitation courses.

Develop vocational rehabilitation programs

Such as:

- Artificial limb manufacturing workshop
- Printing technology
- Umbrella making
- File making
- Envelope making



"Dead still speaks" – Four Things Allen Chau tells us

Brother Nelson Thomas



1. He was conscious of the uncertainty of the present world.

Allen Chau wrote, "None of you love anything in this world more than Jesus Christ". This is the true New Testament demand for a child of God. The Lord Jesus said, "He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me." Matthew 10:37. He demands absolute loyalty and consecration. That does not mean to forsake dear ones, but more than anything else to have a love and affection for Christ. To Peter the Lord asked after His resurrection, "do you love Me more than these?" John 21:15. Such faithful devotion Christ expects from His followers. Allen truly followed this demands of Christ; he loved the Lord more than anything else in this world, even his own life.

Unseen are eternal

As Paul mentions in 2Corinthians 4:18, Chau looked at things that are unseen, for the things that are seen are temporary and the things that are unseen are eternal. Apostle John too states the same, "the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever. 1John 2:17. Allen completely followed the scriptural instructions

and looked forward to the day when myriads of saints from every corner will praise and worship in eternity.

It was in this hope he wrote, "I'll see you again when you pass through veil...". He writes further, "Please live your lives in obedience to where He has called you to..." Yes, that is the most essential thing; fulfill God's will in this short span of life. That he has accomplished and reached the very presence of Christ whom he served so fervently.

Conclusion

John Allen Chau, though dead, silently challenges all of us to consider these truths seriously before it's too late. The martyrdom of the five missionaries in the jungles of Ecuador, sixty four years ago inspired many generations all over the world for vigorous mission work. Similarly, may the Lord use the sacrifice of this young brother to revive the people of God around the globe. And let's too prayerfully make sure that the blood shed on the Shore of North Sentinel Island on this November 17 does not go waste.



SATHYANIKETHAN SENIOR LIVING

A Sathyam Service Trust Undertaking Providing Christian and Personalized Senior Care Services

OUR MISSION

To provide a Christcentered care that enables our senior citizens to have the highest quality of life.

OUR VISION

We care for body and soul

Isaiah 46:4

"Even to your old age and gray hairs I am He, I am He who will sustain you. I have made you and I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you."

OBJECTIVE

SathyaNikethan Senior Living's aim is to offer senior citizens a spiritual and caring opportunity to lead an active life, spiritually, mentally and physically. It aims to provide social support to facilitate people to lead productive lives.

To daily practice the words of Galatians 5:13..... To serve one another humbly in love.

PERSONALIZED, COMPASSIONATE CARE

SathyaNikethan Senior Living is registered under Sathyam Service Trust, Thiruvalla.

Our aim is to put a great deal of thought into the activities and social opportunities that we plan, from 30 years of experience and our small community setting allows us to personalize both activities and their schedules to the daily routine and preferences of our residents. Smaller communities mean that each individual resident receives personal attention and care. The small number of residents that we can house enables our staff to become familiar with each guest personally, and to learn their needs and preference.

PRIMARY SERVICES

- Safe and protected environment
- Chaplaincy
- Regular prayer meeting and Sunday worship
- Christian library
- Three well balanced, home cooked, and nutritious meals
- Special dietary requests
- Feeding as needed
- Personal assistance with daily needs like bathing, dressing and general grooming
- Daily tidying and bed making
- Weekly housekeeping and daily trash removal
- Weekly personal laundry and linens
- Scheduled transportation for medical appointments
- Common recreation room and facilities
- Guest accommodation available
- Beautiful garden

ABOVE ALL WE AIM TO PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING SECURITY FACILITIES

- 24x7 security personnel.
- Safety lockers.
- Emergency alarm bell.
- Availability of basic health care monitoring on a daily basis.
- CCTV

ADMISSION

Admission is based on medical evaluation by in house staff and medical consultants and on completion of financial procedures. The assessment is designed to provide us with the following information about the resident:

- Mental Health
- Physical Health
- Emotional Health
- Existing Medical Conditions
- Currently Prescribed Medication

The information gathered during the pre-admission assessment determines the precise type of care that our residents require in order to live as independently as possible. It also allows us to tailor a care program that will address each resident's particular needs.

DAY-TO-DAY CARE

Our Day-to-Day care is designed to ensure that residents are as happy and comfortable as possible. Each resident is provided:

- Private En-Suite Bedroom
- At Least One Shared Bathroom
- Housekeeping Services
- Laundry Services
- Provisions & Services for every aspect of personal care
- Custom Routines
- Activities to support Mental & Physical Health
- Transportation to and from medical appointments
- Medical Administration & Medication Distribution

MEDICAL CARE

SathyaNikethan Senior Living seeks to provide comprehensive assistance for the medical needs of our residents as a tie-up with two of the prominent hospitals in Thiruvalla. Our long term care facility provides access to:

- On-Call Nurses 24/7
- House-Call Ready Doctors
- Physical Therapy
- Occupational Therapy
- Hospice Treatments
- Incontinence Care (Rate Adjustment)
- Dementia: Forgetfulness

PRICING

Pricing for residing in one of our assisted living homes varies depending on single occupancy or double occupancy, a short term stay or long term stay. Prices also vary depending on the level of care your elderly loved one needs. The pricing includes round the clock care, ADL support, nutrition, activities and housekeeping.

Below is the basic pricing structure. Actual pricing would be decided only after the medical assessment is done by the nursing team.

Single Occupancy

Long Term: INR 35,000/- + 18% GST per month

Double Occupancy

Long Term: INR 25,000/- + 18% GST per month (Each)

Twin Sharing

Long Term: INR 20,000 + 18% GST per month (Each)

ADMISSION PROCESS

Document collection:

Prepare all important documents including government identification, legal waiver, medical authorization, and financial records/bank statement.

Medical assessment:

Our Facility Manager will visit the elderly or do a Skype assessment to understand if we are equipped to provide the level of care that is needed. We may also need additional tests and all the latest medical records.

Service agreement:

Once approved, you will need to complete and sign our service agreement - this will include an agreement of the move-in date.

Security deposit and Advance Payment

Finally, you will need to pay your one time refundable security deposit of INR 200,000 (as this is the only way to guarantee a spot in our facilities).

Logistics + preparation:

Once it's time to move in, we will help prepare your room and assist in the transition including booking and arranging accommodation for visiting family.

Moving + settling in:

Our Facility Manager will be there to greet you and ensure the move is smooth. We request high involvement from the family during this time.

COMMITMENT OF SERVICE

We believe in providing personal care and attention to the elderly.

"My health may fail, and my spirit may grow weak, but God remains the strength of my heart; he is mine forever." Psalm 73:26

SPECIAL ATTRACTION- READY TO OCCUPY UNITS

For more information, please contact us: Sathyam Ministries, Thottabhogom P.O., Thiruvalla-689 541, Kerala, India

Mobile: +91 9446513555 Email: director@sathyam.org

TIME MANAGEMENT

Thomas Kulanjiyil, PhD



Human beings have a limited life span and are time-bound. All of us have equal amount of time, but we use it differently; some maximize its usefulness, and some don't. Learning to manage our time wisely and efficiently enables us to live life more productively and wittingly.

We can roughly break down a typical 24-hours day into the following categories: 8 hrs. for sleep, 8 hrs. for work, 3 hrs. for eating, 1 hr. for personal hygiene, 2 hrs. to commute to work, and 2 hours for household errands. But within this time limit we must also find time to pursue other interests and responsibilities such as family, social life, spiritual life, health, and mental development. How people allocate their time depends on their priorities in life, personal philosophy, values and attitudes. There are those with a sturdy sense of time, and there are those without. Every minute and hour spent carelessly and inefficiently will be losing of valued time. Here are nine analogies and categories of people who have trouble with time-management:

1. **The Rabbit:** Chronically late (speeding up last minute)
2. **The Pack Rat:** Hates to throw anything and wastes time
3. **The Ostrich:** Sticks head in the sand, hoping that the problem will disappear
4. **The Dog:** Overeager and Hyper (I'll do it! Let me do it!)
5. **The Snake:** A scorekeeper of others (can't close eyes), but cannot see its own tail (a time waster)
6. **Road Runner:** Gets things in hurry. Often runs into crisis
7. **Race Horse:** Gets things in a hurry and asks others to help.

8. **New Pup:** Pleasing people is the first order of business, not spending time on tasks
9. **Tom Cat:** Likes to be left alone and set one's own timeframes for getting jobs finished. Is independent, and has little awareness of time.

You must have found yourself in one of the above categories, I suppose. If you have a problem with time-management, here are some practical guidelines:

1. Make a list of everything you need to do on a given day or a week. Create a day-by-day and hour-by-hour list
2. Prioritize your list based on deadlines. Follow the principle, "first things first."
3. Divide your priorities into manageable parts
4. Tackle difficult tasks when you are most alert
5. Delegate as many chores as you can to others appropriately, such as family members
6. Stay away from procrastination
7. Develop a routine
8. Eliminate possible distractions such as ringing of telephones
9. Save time whenever, and whichever way possible (online payment, planning ahead for grocery shopping, and multitasking)
10. Schedule breaks in between tasks and take adequate time for rest and sleep.

Time-management is a skill learned. Practice the skill daily to make it a creative habit, and you will be able to accomplish much in life that matters most.



COURSE FEE

The course, food and accommodation is completely free.

DORMITORY

Spacious dormitory facility is provided. Menu will be changed every day.

DONATION

Sathyam Theological Seminary is financed solely by the free will offerings God's people from around the world. Your donations may be sent to SLS Trust.

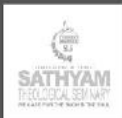
WORK SCHOLARSHIP

All students must do the manual work to which they are assigned.

Chairman: Dr C. V. Vadavana

Principal: Sunilimon Lukose B.Th(BCC, chathanoor),
M.Div(BBC&S, Bangalore), M.Th(HBI, Chennai), P.HD in
Missions Ith IATA

Administrator: Br. Matthew P. John



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CELEBRATING 38 YEARS

SATHYAM
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
WE CARE FOR THE BODY & THE SOUL

SATHYAM MINISTRIES

A Christian Institution to train faithful men
to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ and
establish local assemblies according to the
New Testament Pattern.

**Developing Christians of
influence in India**



OUR AIM

- Teach Systematic Theology and Biblical Theology
- Teach the students to rightly decide the Word of Truth (2 Tim. 2:15)
- Prepare students to fulfill the Great Commission of our Lord.
- Equip the men to establish local assemblies in the New Testament Pattern.
- Train men to preach the Gospel in various parts of India.
- Teach the laymen in the local assemblies to fulfil their duties in their respective assemblies.
- Give basic training in personal evangelism and homiletics.

WHY STUDY AT SATHYAM THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY?

- Ministry orientated training
- Leadership training
- Encouraging successful graduates for future ministry.
- Sports and games.
- Opportunity for research studies.

LOCATION

Sathyam Theological Seminary is situated at Kaviyoor, Thiruvalla, Pathanamthitta (Dt.), Kerala. We preferred this location with the aim of focusing church planting in different villages of South and North India.

COURSES OFFERED

Bachelor of Theology

It is a three year program in English. The minimum qualification is SSLC/Plus Two.

Graduation of Theology

It is a two year program in English and minimum qualification is 10th passed and above.

Certificate in Theology

It is a one year program in English and minimum qualification is 10th failed of passed.

Basic computer awareness course



CHAPEL SERVICE

We give prime priority to the Chapel Service. It is a must for every student to participate in the Morning and Evening Chapel Service. Primarily students are given the experience in preaching from this service. Students will have the opportunity to lead a service and preach the Word of God.

LIBRARY

Seminary has gargantuan library having more than 50,000 books and almost all periodicals. Each year we plan to add more volumes. Books including commentaries of renowned authors, Basic Theology, Church History, Hermeneutics, Homiletics, Preaching Aids, Devotional Books, etc. with computer and internet facilities.

PRACTICAL TRAINING

There are various ministry opportunities to help students to develop their individual ministerial skills. Every weekend students go for outreach Ministries in the nearby village and cities.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

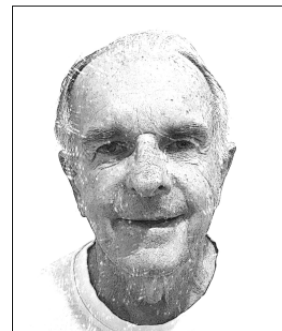
One year is divided into three trimesters. Examinations are conducted at the end of each trimester. For a minimum pass, one has to obtain 60% aggregate marks in each subject.



TALKING TRUTH

HOW TO PREPARE & PRESENT GOSPEL TALKS

Alan Bartlem



SUB- HEADINGS

1. Sub headings serve two basic functions. (a) They support the main heading above them in the same way the main heading support the proposition. (b) They carry all the supporting material for the speech e.g. Testimony Facts and figures Illustrations Comparisons and contrasts

2. The following points should be noted: (a) Follow all rules as above for main headings except that sub headings support main headings and not the proposition. (b) They should contain the speaker's personal language. Echo the words of the speech in the sub-headings, and other parts of the outline. (c) There must be at least two sub-headings but do not have too many as they become hard to follow.

CONCLUSION

1. This serves two purposes: (a) To bring the speech to a well crafted close. (b) To crystallize or set the desired response in the hearer's mind.

2. The following points should be noted: (a) Use sufficient sentences to achieve the purposes. One sentence for each point as for the introduction (b) Do not stop abruptly – round off your speech (c) Close with a quote, illustration, summary or exhortation (d) Never leave the lectern without making the audience realize that there is something for them to do, say or feel

PROPOSITIONAL PREACHING Constructing the Sermon

SESSION 1

Preaching is an intensely personal art. Every man with a soul on fire, and a message to deliver, will have his own way of presenting the truth. Preaching should be the enthusiastic and joyous utterance of a living experience. To the extent that it is so difficult to confine it within rules.

TECHNIQUE Like every other art, however, preaching has a technique, the knowledge of which helps to clarify expression and correct faults of workmanship. The musician studies the rules of expression and harmony; the painter studies the mechanism of his art--the composition of paints, the making of brushes and the forms he is to portray. So, too, does the preacher need to study the art of sermon construction, the psychology of an audience and the principles of delivery.

We have emphasized the value of an outline, and

have studied the place and value of the theme. We are now going to study more definitively the construction of sermon divisions.

An outline consists of main headings, subheadings, and perhaps further which we may identify as sub-subheadings.

VALUE OF OUTLINE So, you have chosen your subject - what then? How do you best present it to the congregation? It is important to have an outline, to keep your thoughts in order. It is a pity when a sermon lacks coherence or plan. Good ideas can be lost by the hearer, interesting illustrations may fail to admit the light, and good vocabulary may seem pointless, all because the sermon followed no principle of construction. A good outline gives order and sequence to the thoughts presented.

The outline of the sermon is what the skeleton is to the body. A skeleton is not of much value by itself, but when it is covered by living tissue it is of tremendous importance.

A sermon outline does two things at least: 1. It is of great help to the preacher in thinking through his subject. 2. It helps the people to understand and remember the message.

The arrangement of our thoughts in an outline is one of the best means of accomplishing that end. An outline not only helps the preacher to clarify his thought; it helps him to develop thinking. It is a creative process.

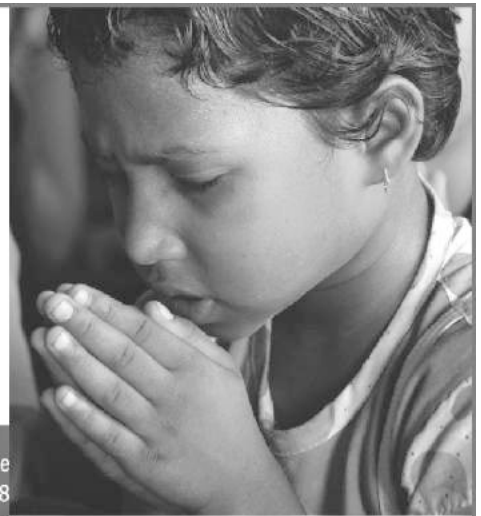
QUESTION THE TEXT You have been attracted by a text. You sense its value and truth. But how can you amplify its statement, illustrate its truth, and discover enough material to occupy the time for a sermon? One of the first lessons I ever learned was to question the text. Ask: "Who? What? Why? Where? When? How?" Remember in our session on Introduction to structure this question is call the interrogative.

Take, for instance, a text like Rom. 4:3b: "Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned unto him for righteousness." To answer those questions about this text you will be obliged to go both to the context in Rom. 4, and to the story of Abraham in Genesis. When you have read those passages carefully and thoughtfully, and have answered the questions, you will have quite a lot of information concerning a man's history, and an important doctrine.

(To be continued.....)



• CELEBRATING 30 YEARS •
**SATHYAM
 MINISTRIES**
 WE CARE FOR THE BODY & THE SOUL



Sathyam Ministries is an organisation dedicated to transforming the lives of the people and communities by showing love and care for individuals for the past 28 years. We are engaged mainly in charitable activities such as running orphanages, special schools for the mentally challenged children, mission schools, vocational training centers for women, providing free wheelchairs for the physically challenged (approx. ~ 100,000 wheelchairs already provided), relief works, sending our gospel team to various parts of India to spread the good news about Jesus and to serve the poor and organizing church leaders conferences all over India. Moreover, we carry out evangelical programmes and provide services to the people even in the outskirts of India. We, through Christ, continue our steadfast labor of love in proclaiming the gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus, and our personal ministry to the saints and the unsaved. We strive to restore dignity and self-worth to the down-trodden of society, irrespective of their religion, caste, creed, race or gender.

JOIN US.

BE A PART OF OUR MINISTRY. Every good deed needs constant support. We need your good wishes. You can help in the following ways and contribution at any level will be greatly appreciated.

- By remembering us in your prayers.
- By sponsoring a child.
- Be part of a mission team in our mission fields.
- By providing ideas that can be executed to enhance our work and activity.
- By providing for donations, funds and other financial aid for the organization.
- By visiting our schools and orphanages to encourage our children.
- By helping spread awareness about the cause among family members, peer groups, colleagues and other social networks.
- By volunteering your time at Sathyam Ministries.
- By contributing in any ways possible.



• CELEBRATING 28 YEARS •
**SATHYAM
 MINISTRIES**
 WE CARE FOR THE BODY AND THE SOUL

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India's Christian Auto Raja

Rising from street crime to feeding 700 people daily, Bengaluru's Auto Raja is redefining humanity

From a petty thief to a good Samaritan – T. Raja's life underwent a transformation when he realised that true happiness comes from helping others. He started the Home of Hope 20 years ago to rescue, shelter and feed the destitute.

Every time we step out of our comfortable homes, we see children and adults begging to make ends meet. Many turn their heads away, some spare a little change but only a few actually try to spend some time to listen to them and lend a hand. One of them is T. Raja, 49, who strongly believes, "We should not wait for another Mother Teresa to come from a foreign country; we should help each other in times of need."

From rogue to saviour

Raja began stealing, drinking and gambling from an early age. When he stole from his family, they disowned him and kicked him out. He lived on the streets for two years like a beggar, sleeping on the pavement, among garbage bins and rabid dogs that constantly whined around him. He moved from Bengaluru

to Chennai and continued his old ways. He got caught for his crimes, and was sent to jail. It was during this time that he began seeking the purpose of his life.

After leaving prison, Raja came back to Bengaluru and asked his family to help him build a new life. He began driving autorickshaws and taxis to support himself. He even worked as a bodyguard to the autorickshaw union leader.

He had found his purpose and this realisation led to the formation of the New Ark Mission of India (NAMI) with the aim of helping the dying and destitute.

Lending a helping hand

Raja started NAMI in 1997. His first rescue was a lady from SP road, half naked, covered in fleas with maggots chewing on two of her toes. He got her home in his auto and from there began his journey. He would pick up the destitute from the streets and bring them home in his auto. He would then shave, bathe and clean their wounds, provide them with new clothes and a filling meal. Thus, NAMI began functioning in a 5' x 6ft passageway outside Raja's single room house.

"It's not easy approaching the destitute. Passers-by suspect me of luring these people into hospitals and stealing their organs. The destitute are taken aback because they have never been approached by anyone before. In fact, they are only used to people throwing stones at them, and abusing them," says Raja.

"Some are so weak that they can barely move. Those who manage to, have to compete with street dogs over leftovers in the trash. Most of them, rejected by their families, are living the most inhumane lives. When I come across such people, I bring them to the Home of Hope, a hospice under NAMI."

Born out of compassion and empathy, this home now feeds 700 people, three meals a day. It provides medical care, shelter and education to homeless and destitute children. It survives on donations from the public and gets no support from the government.

Water woes

The biggest problem faced by Raja right now is the unavailability of water at the Home of Hope. He spends approximately Rs. 40,000 to Rs. 50,000 a month to buy water.

“While reading a newspaper article a few weeks ago, I learnt about the water woes faced by the Home of Hope; and the exorbitant amounts spent on procuring water. I wanted to try and help, and met Raja to discuss this issue. At the meeting, he told me that the borewell at the home was drying up and he had been buying water from tankers by paying a huge sum every month. I realised that the need of the hour was to resolve the water issue”, says Reji Koshy, 45, Consultant for Real Estate and Photography.

Reji started a donation drive called 'The Water Project' hoping to raise money through crowdfunding to help solve the water problem by helping HOH dig a new borewell in a property near a lake.

Once the water problem gets resolved, NAMI plans on expanding its reach to ensure that there are no more destitute on the streets of India. “It gives me immense purpose and joy to help the needy and see them happy. Their happiness gives me the strength to face the obstacles in the journey ahead”, says Raja.

Source: www.yourstory.com

Popular Indian actress Nagma talks about her faith and mission

Popular South Indian actress Nagma embraces Christianity; wants to spread gospel

Popular South Indian actress Nagma has publicly confirmed her conversion to Christianity.

The actress who ruled over the Tamil, Telugu and Hindi films from 1993 to 1997, revealed about her Christian faith at a prayer meeting for film artistes in Chennai.

The meeting, which was organised by the 'Jesus Redeems Ministries', founder Pastor Bro. Mohan C. Lazarus invited several film

personalities including Prabhu Solomon, actors Chinni Jayanth and Junior Balaiah.

Nagma has reportedly explained that she embraced Christianity after her stint in politics that led to extreme depression in her life.

At the meeting, she was quoted as saying, Jesus Christ was the only super star in her life and that she wanted to preach and spread the Gospel to every town and city the Lord takes her to.

The actress astonished the crowd with her testimony and her knowledge of the Bible.

She said in her speech that her stint in politics led to depression, which went to the extent of attempting suicide. These instances apparently gave her a chance to read the Bible, which brought about change in her life.

All her problems, she said, started fading away one by one after she accepted Jesus Christ as her personal Savior.

Nagma Interview, About Her Faith And Mission on Christianity

Actress Nagma is a Christian now.

She ruled the roost in Tamil, Telugu and Hindi films from 1993 to 1997.

She is now almost in retirement. While her younger sister Jyothika is happily married with Actor Surya with a kid, Nagma has so far not entered into matrimony.

I was born on Christmas to a Muslim mother and a Hindu father. I went to a convent school from childhood. I was exposed to Christianity from a young age. I went to Mount Mary Convent School in Bandra, Mumbai. There, Mass was a routine feature. I always thought I am very special to God because I was born on Dec 25th – perhaps because the world celebrated the day.

While reading the New Testament, I realized the importance of baptism and also of joining a church. Therefore, I immediately joined Pastor Shekhar Kalyanpur's New Life Fellowship in Juhu, Mumbai. I took baptism on Jan 4. Since 2007 was a year of rest I decided to take a break from films and continued my Bible study fervently.



INDIA NEWS

The Easter egg represents the “new life,” or the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Here's more...

Easter, also called Pascha (Greek, Latin) or Resurrection Sunday, is a celebration and occasion praising the resurrection of Jesus from the dead, portrayed in the New Testament as having happened on the third day after his burial following His torturous crucifixion by the Romans at Calvary in 30 AD.

Here is some interesting trivia about this Holy day.

1. The feast day of Easter was originally a pagan celebration of renewal and rebirth. It was celebrated in early spring and it honored the pagan Saxon goddess Eastre. When the early missionaries converted the Saxons (early British, Germans and Dutch) to Christianity, the holiday, since it fell around the same time as the traditional memorial of Christ's resurrection from the dead, was merged with the pagan celebration, and this became known as Easter.
2. After Halloween, Easter is the top-selling candy holiday after Halloween.
3. The Easter egg represents the “new life,” or the resurrection of Jesus Christ.
4. Easter eggs were first colored red, in memory of the blood Jesus shed during his crucifixion.
5. So how did the rabbit or Easter Bunny come into the picture? Again this has to do with the Goddess Eastre. Legend has it that following a long winter, the goddess of spring, Eastre, turned a frozen bird into a snow hare that could lay colorful eggs.

Reflection:

The foundation of the Christianity rests on the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. If there was no resurrection, Christianity could be called a hoax, and we are wasting our time. But the truth



is, the event of Jesus' resurrection cannot be denied. The world-famous historian, Professor Thomas Arnold of Rugby, once said that Christ's resurrection from the dead is the “best-attested fact in human history”.

DriveU, a startup with Christian backing helping drivers in India

Across India, millions of people face the challenges of overpopulation, high unemployment rates and poverty. Today, thanks to new technologies and innovative business models, these challenges are becoming exciting opportunities.

DriveU, a Christian Super impact investment (through Unitus Seed Fund), is an Indian business creating new opportunities for many people. DriveU employs over 1,100 private drivers to service the growing demands of Indian car owners looking for affordable, reliable, on-demand private drivers.

Launched in July 2015, the Bengaluru-based business targets Indian vehicle owners, who are largely ignored in the rapidly expanding share economy, offering a technology-driven private driver service accessible via a simple smartphone App.

The DriveU Difference

India is the fifth largest passenger-car market in the world. While competitors focus on driver-owner car ride services, DriveU targets customers who own their own car, but want to hire an on-demand private driver.

Today, in India, there are over 25 million private cars and this number is expected to double by 2023. In Bengaluru alone, there are over 15 million private cars and at least 30 per cent of car owners are seeking reliable private drivers.

With the booming urban population and worsening infrastructure capabilities (current average car speed is 9 km/hr), driver service for privately owned vehicles is becoming a necessity for urban workers. This is a large, unaddressed market, which DriveU, India's first and fastest growing on-demand driver service is tapping in to.

Within just two years of launching, DriveU has served 30,000+ people, with 150,000+ safe drives in 6 cities; Bangalore, Chennai, Delhi NCR, Hyderabad, Mumbai & Pune. Most customers are retained as repeat customers.

DriveU has been growing at 20 per cent month-on-month and plan to expand services to 10 cities by end of 2017. From humble beginnings of 34 drivers in July 2015, DriveU is now planning to increase its driver network to 10,000.

Providing Decent Work and Sustainable Economic Growth

DriveU's business model aligns with U.N. Sustainable Development Goal 8: Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all. This makes the business not only a profitable investment, but one that improves the livelihoods of its employees.

Once verified and approved as DriveU employees, all drivers have access to health insurance and their earnings are paid bi-weekly.

Mohammed, a Bengaluru-based driver, had previously worked with multiple local cab aggregators, which deducted as much as 40 per

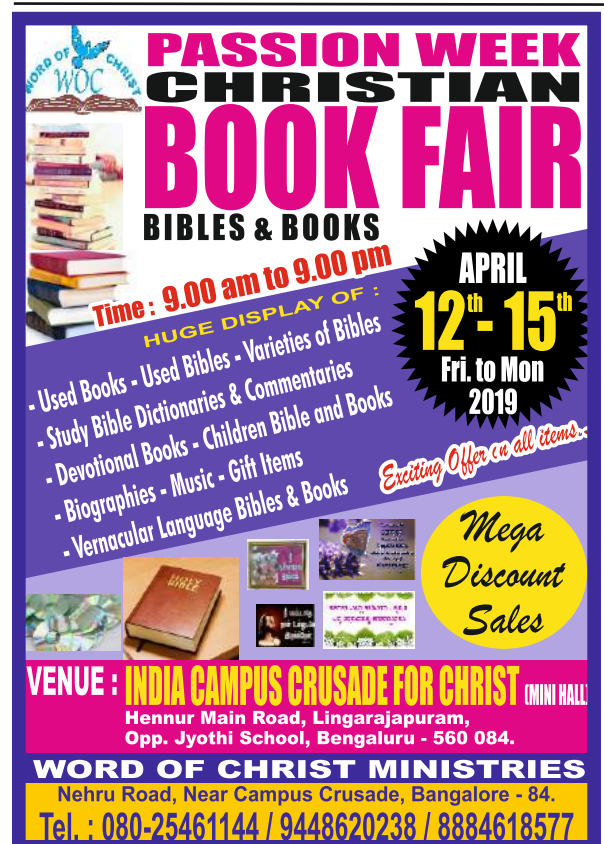
cent of his earnings. A lack of fixed working hours also led to erratic income.

H says, "At DriveU, the first few duties are assigned the previous night and the subsequent ones take less than half hour once the previous ride is over. We have uniforms, are well-trained and have a manual that helps us understand how to deal with customers in different situations."

Impact investment into "labour as a service" models transitions Indian workers from chaotic, disorganized sectors to more formal employment, increasing financial and other benefits to low-income workers.

DriveU helps drivers become micro-entrepreneurs and increases their income significantly; up to 50-100% or higher in some cases. In addition to higher incomes, driver aggregation platforms such as DriveU have the potential to improve quality of life through training in etiquette, hygiene, service quality and more.

Drive U is just one of the many Christian Super Impact Investments that are changing the world!



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WORLD NEWS

Jim Caviezel who played 'Jesus' adopted 3 Chinese children, two with brain tumors. Read more...

Jim Caviezel is best known for his portrayal of Jesus in *Passion of the Christ*. He is a popular Actor who has been voted Sexiest Man Alive and who is recognized for his intense preparations for his roles. He has many movies and TV appearances to his credit. He is also a Producer, and Philanthropist.

As one of five siblings from what he calls a 'close-knit' family, Caviezel was raised a devout catholic and continues to practice the faith. His desire to talk about his beliefs are what initially influenced Mel Gibson to cast him as Jesus. Jim has inspired thousands of believers and fans alike with his roles in religious films and talks on religion.

Here are some things you may not know about J.C or Jim Caviezel.

1. His surname is pronounced as ka-VEE-zel.
2. His father is of Swiss and Slovak descent and his mother is of Irish ancestry.
3. After accepting the role of Jesus in the Mel Gibson film, *The Passion of the Christ* (2004), Jim realized who was 33 years old at the time, realized his initials were the same as that of Jesus (J.C.) and that he was the same age most historians and religious scholars claim Jesus was when he was killed (33).
4. Met his wife, Kerri, on a blind date in 1993 set up by Caviezel's sister Amy. They have



adopted 3 Chinese children, two of whom had brain tumors.

5. He writes left-handed, but is ambidextrous ie. can use both hands as effectively.
6. He played basketball in college, but took up acting after injuring his foot.
7. He has worked as a waiter and did some modeling for The Gap early in his career.
8. Was seriously considered for the lead role in *Superman Returns* (2006). The part went to Brandon Routh because the director felt he was too popular after playing Jesus.



Reflection:

In Jim's words regarding adopting two disabled children: "That is what faith is to me; it's action. It's the Samaritan. It's not the one who says he is; it's the one who does – and does without bringing attention to himself. I'm saying this because I want to encourage other people."

Welterweight world champion Manny Pacquiao: 'I changed when I heard the voice of God'

The welterweight world champion has left his womanising ways behind him and he has refocused on boxing and religion.

It is disconcerting to stand a foot away from Manny Pacquiao's soft brown eyes – which are no more than a couple of feet from his hard brown fists – and hear him say, without any apparent duplicity, that God has spoken to him personally, how he has seen "the end of time". It would be unsettling coming from anyone. From Manny, who has boxed for a living for nearly two decades, it is tempting to wonder if he has taken one punch too many. He is, after all, not a dreamer, does not claim to be a charismatic or a prophet, and it would be a major shock

had he ingested any hallucinogenic substance. He lives a particularly corporeal existence.

Nor does he claim, as some fighters have, that God is on his side. God is just, well, not as far away as he once imagined, certainly not when he was cutting loose in any nightspot that would let him in, from Manila to Los Angeles. "I have a lot of dreams and visions," the world welterweight champion says in a voice as unthreatening as a mother's whisper. "I even heard the voice of God. When I heard the voice of God, I am trembling and melting. I feel I have died. It was an amazing, amazing experience.

"I'm happy because I found the right way, salvation, born again. We are required to be born again, all of us. Christ said unless we are born again we cannot enter the kingdom of God. So it's very important to me. Jesus Christ said: 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.' There is no other way. The only way is through Jesus."



Pacquiao once was not so righteous. He once was an all-night hound dog, taking his pleasure where he pleased, ignoring all advice to respect the sanctity of his marriage vows and determined to squeeze as much fun from life as was available to someone who was born into grinding poverty. Those were his hardcore inclinations until only a few years ago.

Here is a snapshot of that life, from the opening of Gary Andrew Poole's excellent biography on him. "As Manny 'Pacman' Pacquiao saunters out of the locker room at the Wild Card Boxing Club in Hollywood, California, he holds out his hand, and a member of his entourage slaps a comb in it. Looking in one of the gym's many grimy mirrors, Pacquiao combs his jet-black hair, brushes off his goatee and nods his head in self-approval. Someone slips on his watch – a gold Rolex Yacht Master – and then gives him his diamond stud earring, which he puts in his left ear." Dressed to kill the ladies – long before he had that conversation with God.

The hair is still black. The goatee and the diamond stud are in place, too. The eyes are just as knowing, but he is profoundly a different man, more content, less restless. He is a congressman now, too, serving his people while dealing out pain in his other job. "People are surprised by the way I have changed my life," he says. "All the running around. In that time and age, I knew I could do whatever I wanted. But I changed when I heard the voice of God, and I

can testify that there is a God. I saw two angels, white, long, big wings. I saw Paradise. God showed me about the end of time. This all happened within the last three years. That's how I changed my life."

I do not have the feeling I am in the presence of a man who could put me in hospital with a practised flick of his fist, who did exactly that inside two rounds in 2009 to Ricky Hatton, another fighter who did not stint on life's pleasures, and is again struggling with those temptations. Pacquiao's trainer of 13 years, Freddie Roach, is standing a few feet away. He has heard Manny's story of redemption many times. "It's more vital to him now than ever before," Roach says. "He was born a Catholic, now he's a born-again Christian. His mother [Dionesia] hates it. She's always trying to force the Rosary on him. The only worry about it is that maybe it could hurt his political career, because 90% of the Philippines is Catholic and he's a born-again Christian."



Pacquiao trains at Pedro Antonio Acharon Sports Complex in the Philippines. Photograph: Jeoffrey Maitem/Getty Images

Roach continues: "There is this other side to him, though. He's very different to a lot of boxers. He always is keeping busy, like playing basketball in the village and so forth, but he discusses the Bible when we're flying somewhere, asking what does this really mean, what does that really mean. I listen. Sometimes it's quite funny. Sometimes it makes sense. But sometimes it can be a long trip. There's good and bad. Religion means a lot to him, but he has done stuff that's not so religious, so ...

"Some fighters turn to religion, because it's a tough business. I'm not a religious person so it's not a factor for me. I grew up a Catholic until the second grade. I got to my first Holy Communion, but I didn't make it to Confirmation. They'd lost me by then. But it's a tough life, boxing. Fighters are often looking for something they can hold on to. Maybe that's why he's done it – and more now than ever he needs it.

"He and his wife [Jinkee] are happier than ever. He doesn't party any more, doesn't drink anymore. He's a clean liver, doesn't fuck around with girls no more. And his wife is very happy about that. He's a better family man. So there's a lot of good that goes with it. He was a pretty wild guy, had the world by the balls. Everything was available."



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