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DIGEST ON CHRISTENDOM

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BREAKING THE BREAD

Isaac Vadavana

SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP

Lina Nithin

WHAT IS CHRISTIAN MODERATION

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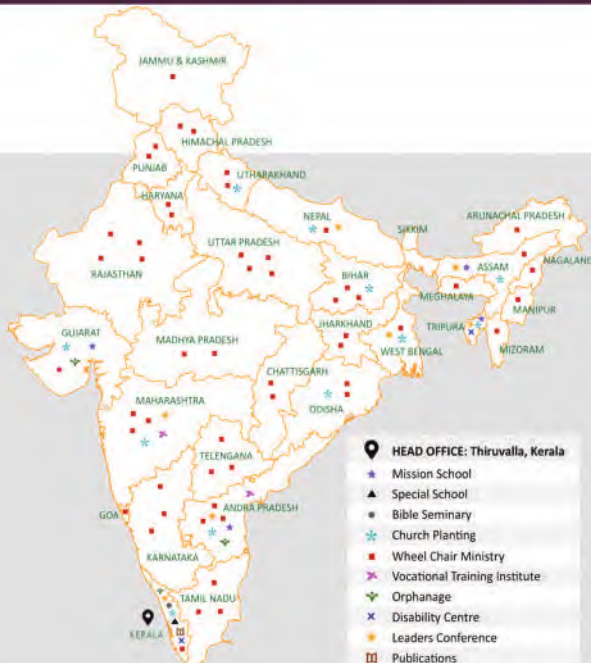
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Isaiah 61:7

Editorial

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



As our nation India has just completed the elections and the new government is taking charge for the second term, lot of anxious moments are being experienced by us as Christians. Many fear violence and persecution to the church. But when we rest in Christ and know our standing in Him, we can enjoy peace, joy and be calm with certainty that God has things under His control. Nothing happens without His knowledge and understanding. We as Christians must pray for those in authority and bless them for good governance.

In the time when Prophet Isaiah was speaking about restoration, no one understood the value of what he was speaking. But decades later when Israel was being restored, the beauty that God brought out through these exiled people was simply marvellous.

Life has its own course. There are both up's and down times as well. But it is this mixture of seasons in each of our lives that makes the journey interesting. Some of us may be facing challenges and difficulties, but the word of God promises us that for every trouble that we face we will receive double. It is the season of new beginnings. God is speaking of restoration and healing and He will certainly bring it to pass in each of our lives.

At Sathyam Ministries, I can testify to this wonderful grace of restoration. God is building His people and we are in awe of His marvellous leading. We see that God cares for the needy and those of a broken spirit. He will certainly come and heal and bless you and our land. God bless you... God bless India!

Dr. C. V. Vadavana
*Founder & Chairman,
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Breaking the Bread

Isaac Vadavana



One of the first stories we all learnt in Sunday school should be of the time when Jesus fed the five thousand plus people with five loaves of bread and two fish! That story from the Bible has always caught my eye! I always wondered what would have been the reaction of the people when they saw these five loaves of bread being given out to five thousand plus people!!

Something struck in my heart when I was reading through that portion of the story in the Bible a few weeks back!

Matthew 14:19 reads, “And He directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and two fish and looking up to heaven, He gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then He gave them to the disciples, and disciples gave them to the people.”

I started thinking about this and I replaced my life to the five loaves that was given to Jesus. I remember when I first submitted my life for God’s work after my high school, after I realised the need and urgency of the Gospel being reached out to the end of the world,

I didn’t know what to do next. I remember me and my family praying about this for me that one night and all I knew was I want to do God’s work in whatever ways He wants me to do!

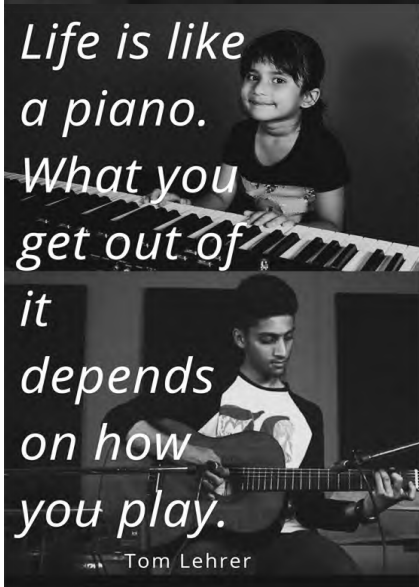
Here’s where the twist happens in the story of feeding the five thousand, when Jesus took the bread it reads, “He prayed over it and He **BROKE** it”. This struck me rock bottom when I read this! When I submitted my life for the Lord’s work, I knew I made the best decision I’ve ever made in my life! I knew God would lead my ways and have the best in store for me! But then, He **BROKE** me, just like he broke the five loaves of bread. He broke me and taught me some of the biggest lessons in life. He taught me that He was all I needed in this world.

Are you being broken where you are right now? God wants to speak to you and mould you to the person He wants you to be! Here’s what you need to know and something I learnt from that story of feeding the five thousand: Jesus had to break the bread before He gave it away to make that bread a blessing to feed five thousand plus people!! He wants to make you a blessing too! Stay strong in this “breaking” part and listen to what He has to say!

God bless you all!



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*Life is like
a piano.
What you
get out of
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you play.*

Tom Lehrer




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LESSON 3

PURPOSE : WHAT IS THE POINT?

Daniel Walker



KEY CONCEPT: An effective sermon will have a **PURPOSE** that explains how the **BIG** idea of the biblical text relates to the listener's life. Every biblical text has a **PURPOSE**. The tool we will use to discover the **PURPOSE** of the text is called the **Fallen Condition Focus (FCF)**. The **Fallen Condition Focus** reveals a text's and a sermon's purpose.¹⁸

INTRODUCTION

An effective sermon will have a purpose that explains how the **BIG** idea of the biblical text relates to the listeners' lives.

"Gentlemen, I do not care where you go as a preacher. I do not care how big the church. I do not care how well they say you have preached. Where ever you go in the world, whatever you preach, at the end of your sermon I want you to see me sitting on the back row. I have a frown on my face, my arms are crossed. And as you are leaving the sanctuary after your wonderful sermon, I have a question for you: 'So what? So what? Oh, so the Israelites went into the Promised Land. So what? So Paul was shipwrecked. So what?'" What was he driving at? What does this have to do with me? This was all true information, maybe even dealing with problems. But what does this have to do with me? When we preach, we are not merely giving information. We preach for transformation.¹⁹

The preacher must demonstrate to the audience why they should listen to God's truth. The audience must be given good reasons to that show how the truth of the biblical text is relevant to the lives of the listeners. As pastors, we are not just giving information. We preach for transformation.

Illustration: If you tell me that drinking water is healthy, I may drink. That's good information. But, if you show me that I am dehydrated and will get very sick if I don't drink quickly, I will urgently look for water. You have given me a reason to listen carefully to your information which may bring transformation.

Bryan Chapell talks about the importance of finding the purpose of the biblical text:

Determining a sermons subject is half done when a preacher has discerned what the biblical writer was saying. We do not fully understand the subject until we have also determined its purpose. It is too easy to

preach on a doctrinal topic or an exegetical insight without considering the spiritual burden of the text for real people in the daily struggles of life. In doing so, preachers relieve themselves of having to deal with the messiness and pain of human existence.

The greater intellectual and spiritual task is to discern the human concern that caused the Holy Spirit to inspire this aspect of Scripture so that God would be properly glorified by his people. Consideration of a passage's purpose ultimately forces us to ask, Why are these concerns addressed? What caused this account, these facts, or the recording of these ideas? What was the intent of the author? For what purpose did the Holy Spirit include these words in Scripture? Such questions force us to exegete the cause of a passage as well as its contents and to connect both to the lives of the people God calls us to shepherd with his truth.

Until we have determined a passage's purpose, we are not ready to preach its truths, even if we know many true facts about the text. Yet as obvious as this advice is, it is frequently neglected. Preachers often think they are ready to preach when they see a doctrinal subject reflected in a passage, though they have not yet determined the text's specific purpose. For example, simply recognizing that a passage contains features that support the doctrine of justification by faith alone does not adequately prepare a pastor to preach. A sermon is not just a systematics lesson. Why did the biblical writer bring up the subject of justification at this point? What were the struggles, concerns, or frailties of the persons to whom the text was originally addressed? Were the people claiming salvation based on their accomplishments, were they doubting the sufficiency of grace?"²⁰

¹⁸ Chapell Bryan, *Christ Centered Preaching*, p48.

¹⁹ Chapell Bryan

²⁰ Chapell, Bryan *Christ Centered Preaching*, p48-49

(To be continued.....)



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Spiritual Leadership

Lina Nithin, Houston, Texas



I was moved to share some thoughts from my morning quiet time which I decided to take from 1 Samuel 4:1-22. These not just encouraged me but it did prick my heart. The passage and story are very familiar to all of us.

My thoughts dived to find out the underlying cause behind the disaster in context of Israel's disastrous failure costing the lives of thirty thousand Israeli men including Hophni and Phinehas, the capture of the Ark of the covenant of the Lord by the Philistines and the death of Eli, the Judge of Israel after hearing these terrible news of loss in just one battle against Philistines.

When the defeated men of Israel came in to the camp, the elders of Israel themselves at first acknowledged that the Lord has allowed the defeat. Good Judgment from the elders of Israel!!!But, surprisingly, neither the elders of Israel nor Eli, the judge of Israel prayed or enquired of the Lord for direction, even though their acknowledgement behind the failure was true. Their decision to bring the ark of the Lord all the way from Shiloh was their action plan "leaning their own understanding" (Proverbs 3:5,6) because they just treated it like a good-luck charm. Very poor understanding on Lord's actual presence and His symbolic presence!!!

In contrast, we see in chapter 7 of 1 Samuel, the same picture of battle of Israel against Philistines, but this time Israel lined up under the strong and able spiritual leadership of Samuel. The Israel were so frightened to fight against the Philistines (1 Samuel 7: 7) that the LORD'S PRESENCE AS A GREAT THUNDER went ahead of the frightened Israel and routed the Philistines and the men of Israel went out to Mizpah, easily struck down the confused and misled Philistines and subdued them that the

Philistines would not even dare to come near to the border of Israel.

The faithful intercession of just one LEADER in Israel SAMUEL, THE PROPHET & THE GREAT JUDGE OF ISRAEL brought Israel the stunning victory over Philistines. "AND THE HAND OF THE LORD WAS AGAINST THE PHILISTINES ALL THE DAYS OF SAMUEL " My heart was enthralled for a moment comprehending the amazing power of the spiritual leadership.

"and Samuel cried to the Lord and the Lord answered him". 1 Samuel 7:9.

" Now Samuel was offering up the burnt offering, and the Philistines drew near to the battle against Israel" 1 Samuel 7:10

"The Samuel said,".....I will pray to the Lord for you", ...fasted on that day and said there," We have sinned against the Lord" 1 Samuel 7:5,6

These elements of true repentance, intercession, prayer and worship on behalf of Israel were missing from Eli, the judge of Israel, though his heart was trembling for the ark of the Covenant of the Lord. God used the failed leadership under Eli as means for judging Israel's sins.

Conclusion: Leaders in power with poor spiritual discernment are indirectly even more threatening than the enemies themselves.

Let this be our prayer that we will be blessed with strong spiritual leaders like Samuel in Christian homes and churches that no Philistine would even dare to come near and let not our generations have the fate of 'Ichabod-The glory has departed from Israel'.

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What Is Christian Moderation?

Victoria Johnson, Houston

Temperance and Denial

Some people may say they are using moderation because they only gamble a few times a year instead of every week, like so-and-so does. We can't compare ourselves to others to see if we are a good person; we compare ourselves to Jesus, because then we see ourselves how we really are.

Moderation is not an excuse for us to use so that we can occasionally do the wrong things. If we are moderate – if we have self-control – we do what is right and keep ourselves from doing wrong in the first place.

Other people might go to the other extreme of “moderation” and think that they must live like poor people. Some people in history, such as George Whitefield, gave up everything – food, happiness, money – because they thought it was what God wanted them to do to become closer to Him. That is not moderation, and neither is it what God asks of us. But the Lord does honor and appreciate it when a person denies himself or “goes the extra mile.”

Example of Rechabites

God doesn't command us not to drink alcohol, but He rewarded a certain group of His people, the Rechabites, who made the decision to give it up. The Rechabites belonged to the Kenites, who descended from Hammath (1 Chron. 2:55). Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, was a Kenite (Judges 1:16). Jehonadab (the son of Rechab) helped Jehu, the king of Israel, destroy the Baal worshipers (1 Kings 10:15-28).

Jeremiah 35:1-6, 17-19

¹ *The word which came to Jeremiah from the LORD in the days of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, saying,*

² *“Go to the house of the Rechabites, speak to them, and bring them into the house of the LORD, into one of the chambers, and give them wine to drink.”*

³ *Then I took Jaazaniah the son of Jeremiah, the son of Habazziniah, his brothers and all his sons, and the whole house of the Rechabites,*

⁴ *and I brought them into the house of the LORD, into the chamber of the sons of Hanan the son of*

Igdaliah, a man of God, which was by the chamber of the princes, above the chamber of Maaseiah the son of Shallum, the keeper of the door.

⁵ *Then I set before the sons of the house of the Rechabites bowls full of wine, and cups; and I said to them, “Drink wine.”*

⁶ *But they said, “We will drink no wine, for Jonadab the son of Rechab, our father, commanded us, saying, “You shall drink no wine, you nor your sons, forever....”*

¹⁷ *Therefore thus says the LORD God of hosts, the God of Israel: ‘Behold, I will bring on Judah and on all the inhabitants of Jerusalem all the doom that I have pronounced against them; because I have spoken to them but they have not heard, and I have called to them but they have not answered.’”*

¹⁸ *And Jeremiah said to the house of the Rechabites, “Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: ‘Because you have obeyed the commandment of Jonadab your father, and kept all his precepts and done according to all that he commanded you,*

¹⁹ *therefore thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: “Jonadab the son of Rechab shall not lack a man to stand before Me forever.”*

Proverbs on Drinking

It has been said that alcoholism has destroyed more lives on earth than the number of deaths recorded from all past plagues. The book of Proverbs has much to say on the subject of drinking.

“Wine is a mocker, strong drink is a brawler, and whoever is led astray by it is not wise (20:1).”

“Who has woe? Who has sorrow? Who has contentions? Who has wounds without cause? Who has redness of eyes? Those who linger long at the wine, those who go in search of mixed wine (23:29, 30).”

“It is not for kings, O Lemuel, it is not for kings to drink wine, nor for princes intoxicating drink; lest they drink and forget the law, and pervert the justice of all the afflicted. Give strong drink to him who is perishing, and wine to those who are bitter of heart (31:4-6).”

(To be continued.....)

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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 Sathyam Nikethan- a disability center for mentally challenged children.

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- 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



Our poverty challenges us to cling to God

Elise Miller



“To the churches of the United States: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I am writing to remind you that you are one body through Christ and are united through the Spirit. In saying this, you need to get over yourselves and talk to each other face-to-face (not on Facebook) about politics.”

Thomazeau, Haiti— I thought I knew exactly what poverty looked like.

I expected to see multitudes of hungry children running around with bald heads and large stomachs, graffiti scattered throughout abandoned buildings, animals lining unpaved streets.

I expected to meet people frustrated with their quality of life and eager to find opportunities elsewhere.

But from the moment I landed in this Caribbean nation of more than 10 million people, it became obvious that I had taken something out of the picture in my expectations — God.

That became more clear as we drove the streets of Port-au-Prince on our way to Thomazeau, a village just beyond the outskirts of Haiti's chaotic capital city.

Yes, I did see the images of poverty I had pictured in my mind: trash-lined streets, children desperate for food.

But this one-dimensional perception of Haiti does not account for the clear evidence of God working through every seemingly unfortunate situation.

I came here with members of my campus ministry. We're on a mission to love on the orphans at a facility sponsored by [‘Hope for Haitis Children, a nonprofit supported by Churches of Christ. We want to teach teenagers in the Thomazeau area about how God's love goes above and beyond the scope of our imagination.’](#)

But it has become obvious that each soul I encounter can teach me more about the nature of God than I can possibly teach them.

The people here have absolutely nothing, according to the materialistic standards we use in the United States.

But they hold to their faith as their most treasured possession.

Somehow, without air conditioning, running water or even clothes on their backs, they are sustained. And they fervently praise God for their blessings.

Each time I walk outside, the mountainside scenery of Thomazeau never fails to amaze me. But what amazes me more are the people of a remote village here, Pageste.

Getting there requires us to ride on handmade wooden boats across a river. As soon as we get off the boat, two children from the village greet us with hugs while the adults take our

belongings and guide us to what is, in my opinion, one of the greatest places on earth.

[TWEET THIS](#)

The Church of Christ in Pageste embodies what Luke writes about in Acts 2 when he paints a picture of a fellowship that “had all things in common.” The people in the village lead simple lives, but lives with meaning. Like us, they go to school, they work.

And they fellowship.

The church building is more than a house of worship. It functions as an elementary school, as the central hang-out spot for villagers and as our sleeping quarters during our visit.

God's presence is clear. He moves through the women who lovingly hand their babies to strangers from Oklahoma.

He moves through hymns sung in two languages — Creole and English. He is evidenced in the incredible communication that happens between people of different nationalities and cultures.

We seem to speak to each other without using words.

Americans — inside and outside the church — focus on insignificant aspects of life while God stares us in the face, waiting for us to notice him. In a place like Haiti, where materialism doesn't even seem like a possibility, people must rely on the giver of

all good things. And they receive the never-ending joy that can only come from God.

Life here is simple, and it causes us to love more, to worry less, to live one day at a time.

ELISE MILLER and her family worship with the [McDermott Road Church of Christ in Plano, Texas. This fall she begins her sophomore year at Oklahoma Christian University, where she will serve as an intern for *The Christian Chronicle*. She traveled to Haiti with members of the Memorial Road Church of Christ in Oklahoma City.](#)



Playing with Haitian children, students on a mission trip gather at their temporary home, the meeting place of the Church of Christ in the remote village of Pageste.

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

Great Christian Preachers Of All Time

MARTIN LUTHER the Reformer



- ❖ **Martin Luther** (1483-1546)
- ❖ Martin Luther had a small head-start on Tyndale, as Luther declared his intolerance for the Roman Church's corruption on Halloween in 1517, by nailing his 95 Theses of Contention to the Wittenberg Church door. Luther, who would be exiled in the months following the Diet of Worms Council in 1521 that was designed to martyr him, would translate the New Testament into German for the first time from the 1516 Greek-Latin New Testament of Erasmus while imprisoned and publish it in September of 1522. The Protestant church clearly owes this man's selfless effort and bold, courageous work in what had been missing for centuries: that we are saved by grace and not by works. His commitment to the centrality of the Scripture over church tradition and his emphasis on salvation by grace is still the essential to any successful church today.

Christian Hymn Writers



- **Eliza Edmund. Hewitt** (June 28, 1851)
- She was a school teacher for many years, until an accident injured her spine and left her a partial invalid. Unable to continue with her first career choice, she decided to try her hand at hymn writing. The song "Calvary's Stream is Flowing" was one of the blessings that resulted from her tragedy.



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: Sunilmon Lukose B.Th(BCC, chathanoor),
 M.Div(BBBC&S, Bangalore), M.Th(HBI, Chennai), P.HD in
 Missions ith IATA
Administrator: Br. Matthew P. John



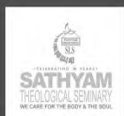
• CELEBRATING 30 YEARS •

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**



www.sathyam.org

SATHYAM THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
 Throttabhagom P.O., Thiruvalla - 689 541
 Kerala, India
 Cell: 9447126182, 9446513555
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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 fulfill 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



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.

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

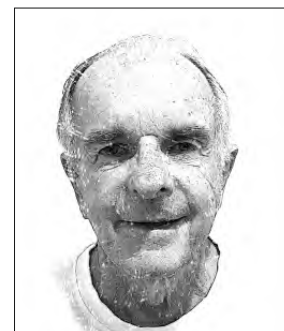
Seminary has gargantuan library having more than 50,000 books and almost all periodicals. Each year we plan to add more volumes. Books including commentaries of renowned authors, Basic Theology, Church History, Hermeneutics, Homiletics, Preaching Aids, Devotional Books, etc. with computer and internet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



TALKING TRUTH

HOW TO PREPARE & PRESENT GOSPEL TALKS

Alan Bartlem



Introduction: Briefly tell the story of Moses, leading up to this crisis in his life.

I. A Great Faith (a) What faith is. (b) How faith works.

II. Great Renunciation. (a) Position and honour. (b) The pleasures of sin. (c) The treasures of Egypt.

III. Great Choices. (a) Choosing affliction. (b) Accepting the reproach of Christ.

For a conclusion, apply the lesson to our own lives, testing our faith, our choices, the renunciation we must make. Using a well-crafted illustration let's the light in thus driving home the desired impact of your message.

EXAMPLE #2 Sometimes a text will disclose its beauty to you if you simply underline its phrases, or clauses, or even its most important words, one by one, and use them as the leading ideas in the outline.

Take, now another text, Heb. 2:3a: "How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation?" At once you have a simple and effective outline.

1. A Pertinent Question: "How shall we escape?" 2. The Peril of Neglect: "If we neglect." 3. A Great Salvation: "So great salvation."

With practice you will soon learn to develop ingenuity in handling a text. This one, for instance, might be more effective if you dealt with the main points in the reverse order to that in which they are found in the text. The subject of the text, in a sense, is the great salvation; that naturally comes first. The pertinent question is a sort of application; that would better come last. Hence your arrangement will be:

I. A Great Salvation. II. The Peril of Neglect. III. A Pertinent Question.

You will always feel free to expound a text in any order that will discover its meaning and apply its lessons.

We still have only the main outlines. How shall we find the material to talk about? Well, you use your knowledge, and you exercise your imagination, and you go to work. You must work.

APPLICATION TO TASK Take then the first point, A Great Salvation. You may ask Salvation from what? Answers immediately spring to your mind: Salvation from the guilt of sin, from the power of sin, from a life of ineffectiveness, from the fear and dread of the tomb. Take the other word in the first main heading: Great! How is this salvation great? Albert Barnes' commentary, written over one hundred years ago, but still of very great value to anyone who is learning to preach, answers the question in this way:

A Great Salvation! 1. Because its author is great; 2. Because it saves from great sins 3. Because it saves from great dangers; 4. Because it is effective by infinite displays of power, wisdom and love.

We are now developing headings, under our main headings, and soon we will need to discuss the sub-headings. In the meantime we shall note that here is a way to make the sermon grow. When you have a little material on each of these points, and perhaps have given an illustration or two, it will be time to move on to the next main heading, because people will soon become restless if too much time is spent on one point.

The Peril of Neglect! What are the perils of neglect in any department of life, in education, in family, in business? You can tell, and you could apply the lesson. Set your ideas out in so many definite points, so that you can discuss them one by one.

A Pertinent Question! A preacher once said that he was about to ask a question which he could not answer, and which his hearers could not answer, which angels could not answer, nor the devil, nor even God himself. How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation?

I have illustrated at some length this method of outlining a text in order to discover the leading ideas for the main headings of the sermon. All texts may not be dealt with so readily.

(End)



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**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 •
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 MINISTRIES**
 WE CARE FOR THE BODY AND THE SOUL

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Embrace Our New Bangalore Branch of Sathyam Publications

Sathyam Publication has been gracing the masses with the word of Lord Jesus for more than two decades now. Our branches are in the USA, Australia, and India. We have recently shifted our publication house at Kammanahalli, Bangalore from its previous location at Horamavu. Every step that we take has been to reach out to more people, globally. Why is it so? Each one of us need to meet His grace at some point in time. Hence, we bridge the gap with 15 different versions of the Bible along with novels, dictionaries and annotations, published and collected for you and your loved ones. We have unique collections for you to consider:



- Study materials for Sunday School teachers/children and Bible colleges
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We are located at Keerthi layout in Kammanahalli with a pleasant and homely surrounding. Travelling to our branch is easy and it has been placed on Google maps too. You will find a plethora of books which talk about the power of prayers, alignment of daily lifestyle and emotions with the teachings of the Bible. Moreover, we also have a space for you to sit

and go through the books of your interest. Come and connect with the treasure of readings we have in store for you.

Also, feel free to contact us for bulk orders too (You get a variety of freebies when you order bulk items from us).

You can find the books by Sathyam Publications on Flipkart as well. We understand that in this fast-paced world, digital communication is necessary. Therefore, we have made our resources conveniently available on an online platform. Get them delivered to you at your doorstep without any hassle.



Visit our website to know more about us: www.sathyam.org

Email us: cvv.india@gmail.com Or call us at: +919446026182

Keep in touch with us for the latest additions to our library.

Invitation Letter

SUMMER BOOK FAIR WITH EXCITING OFFERS

Thiruvalla: The Summer Book Fair organized by Sathyam Publications will be held from 20th of May to 8th of June, 2019 at Sathyakudaram, Manakkachira. We invite you to this book fair as a member of our Book club.

The exhibition and sale of English, Malayalam and Hindi books are the highlights of this year's Book fair. We have set the discount upto 70%. An extensive collection of foreign books have arrived in our renovated book stall. Besides the Christian Libraries and the Bible Colleges, numerous books will be distributed freely to all who participate in the book fair.

The English-Malayalam, English-Hindi, Hindi-Malayalam Bilingual study Bibles, Malayalam Dakes study Bible, Malayalam Reference Bible, Bible Commentaries, Books for studying the Bible, Song Books, Verse Boards, Stickers, CDs, Bible Covers, Scarfs, Key chains are ready for sale.

The Book Fair is arranged on Monday to Saturday from 9 am to 7 pm. Exciting offers are awaiting for the first 100 customers.

OFFERS (For the first 100 people)

- Sathyam Dakes Bible of Rs.2500/- offered for Rs.1750/-.
- Sathyam English- Hindi Study Bible of Rs. 1500/- offered for Rs.1200/-.
- Sathyam Reference Bible of Rs.650/- offered for Rs.450/-.
- Sathyam English-Malayalam Study Bible of Rs.1750/- at 10% discount.
- Sathyam Books at 50% Discount.
- Sathyam CDs of Rs.100 offered at Rs.75/-.

NB: -

- One Sathyam Publications CD and one Journal/English Bible will be given free for the customers who purchase over Rs.3000/-.
- Hindi- Malayalam Bilingual Study Bible Pre Publication booking is open.

Thiruvalla
18-05-2019

Jestin V Samuel
(Manager)
Sathyam Publications

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INDIA NEWS

India's Christians See Danger in Hindu Nationalist Party's Victory

Christians and other religious minorities in India are on edge after a nationalist Hindu party won a massive landslide victory in national elections this week.

Incumbent Prime Minister Narendra Modi won a second-term in office following a marathon election in the world's largest democracy.



[Pastors Knocked Out, Christians Killed as Persecution Spikes Dramatically in India](#)



[WATCH: Hindu Radicals Burn a Thousand Bibles as Historic Indian Election Gets Underway](#)

Official data also showed Modi's BJP party winning 303 of the 542 seats in parliament, up from 282 it had won five years ago.

Christians have suffered intense levels of persecution under Modi's first five years in office and they fear the next five years could bring even more hardships.

"The number one issue in this election for Christians is safety," Dr. Paul R.T. Maran, National Bishop of the Indian National Apostolic Deities told the human rights group, [International Christian Concern](#), [earlier this month](#). ["This election is like a 'do or die' situation. If the BJP comes to power, Christians won't be treated as equal citizens because their aim is to establish a Hindu India."](#)

ICC cites the Evangelical Fellowship of India, which says violent attacks on the Christian community in India have more than doubled since the BJP came to power. In 2014, there were 147 violent attacks on Christians in India but by 2018 that number had jumped to 325.

The increase is attributed to the BJP's emphasis on Hindu nationalism and stirring up religious passions that often lead to attacks on minority faiths by Hindu radical groups.

Christians are concerned the new government will try to rewrite the constitution, changing India from a secular nation that guarantees religious freedom into a Hindu nation that treats other faiths as second class, or worse.

Dr. A.C. Michael, Former Member of the Delhi Minorities Commission tells ICC the church will continue to worship and serve Jesus Christ.

"This does not mean that we Christians will stop practicing our faith as guaranteed by the constitution. I feel, however, that we have to adopt different approaches to win over the confidence of minorities who are otherwise living in fear of the Hindutva agenda," he said.



How Should Christians Respond to Attacks and Insults?

FROM [R.C. Sproul](#) MAY 17, 2019 CATEGORY: [Articles](#)



Has anyone ever said something unkind to you or about you? I think we all have had that experience. Becoming victims of slander or malicious gossip can be difficult to bear. However, God calls us to exhibit a very specific kind of response in such circumstances.

Years ago, I received a letter from a friend who is a pastor at a church in California. In it, the pastor included a copy of an article that had appeared in the *Los Angeles Times*. Although the article included a photo of him standing in his church and holding his Bible, it was basically a vicious personal attack against him.

When I saw that picture and read that article, I felt a great deal of empathy for my friend because I had recently had a similar experience. A person I believed was my friend made some very unkind statements about me publicly, and word had gotten back to me. My feelings basically vacillated between despondency and anger, even though I knew I needed to respond with joy ([-Matt.5:1112](#)).

I believe the greatest book ever written about the virtue of love in the Christian life is Jonathan Edwards' classic *Charity and Its Fruits*. In this book, Edwards included a chapter on how we are to respond to false charges. There, he makes the biblical point that such attacks should not surprise us; rather, we should expect them:

Men that have their spirits heated and enraged and rising in bitter resentment when they are injured act as if they thought some strange thing had happened to them. Whereas they are very foolish in so thinking for it is no strange thing at all but only what was to be expected in a world like this. They therefore do not act wisely that allow their spirits to be ruffled by the injuries they suffer.

Edwards' point is that if the Christian expects to be slandered and keeps his eyes focused on God when it happens, he will not be depressed over it.

Edwards reinforces the concept that other human beings can harm only my worldly pleasure. A person can injure my body, steal my money, or even destroy my reputation. However, all of these things have to do only with the cares

and pleasures of this world. But we have an inheritance that is laid up in heaven, a treasure no one can steal or defile ([1 Peter 1:4](#)). It is protected by the Lord Himself.

We might be tempted to think that Edwards was a spiritual giant who could handle personal attacks with ease, while we are “ordinary” believers. How, then, can we not be distressed when we are hurt by people we thought were our friends? Yet while it is true that it is part of our human nature to respond to personal attacks with sadness, anger, or bitterness, these feelings are part of our fallen humanity. They are not fruits of the Holy Spirit. This means that Edwards, as great a saint as he was, was not calling “ordinary” Christians to do anything extraordinary. We are all called to bear our injuries with joy, patience, love, and gentleness.

This kind of response is required of all of us because the Christian life is about the imitation of Christ ([1 Cor. 11:1](#)). We are being molded into His image, so we are to strive to live as He lived. Our Lord was slandered and falsely accused of all kinds of offenses, but He opened not His mouth in protest ([Isa. 53:7](#)). Like a lamb, He accepted these vitriolic attacks, and, in the very moment of His passion, He prayed for the forgiveness of those who were attacking Him ([Luke 23:34](#)). This is how we are called to react to our enemies ([1 Peter 4:13](#)). Therefore, every false accusation, every slander, every ill word spoken about me is an opportunity for me to grow in my sanctification.

Edwards helped me see that I had allowed my soul to become distressed, and that was sin. Instead of seeing the attack on me as an occasion to imitate Christ and to grow in my sanctification, I had resisted God's Spirit, who had brought this painful event into my life for my edification, that I might remember where my treasure is.

The key to responding to attacks and insults as Christ would is to nurture love for God. Edwards writes:

As love to God prevails, it tends to set persons above human injuries, in this sense, that the more they love God the more they will place all their happiness in him. They will look to God as their all and seek their happiness in portion in his favor, and thus not in the allotments of his providence alone. The more they love God, the less they set their hearts on their worldly interests, which are all that their enemies can touch.

We need to keep Edwards' insight in mind as we deal with the inevitable attacks and insults that come our way in this life.

This post was originally published in [Tabletalk](#) magazine.



WORLD NEWS

Netanyahu Fails to Form Government Coalition, Throwing Israel into Another National Election

For the first time in its history, Israel is going back to the polls for a second consecutive time after Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu failed to form a coalition government.

The election will take place on September 17 and will decide Netanyahu's political future.

Just before midnight Wednesday, the newly sworn-in Knesset voted to dissolve itself. The vote meant Israeli President Reuven Rivlin could not choose another party to try and form a new government.



Netanyahu Running Out of Time to Solve Coalition Crisis As Midnight Deadline Looms

The vote put Israel in uncharted waters, sending the political system into disarray with a second snap election in just a matter of months.

After 42 days of negotiations, Netanyahu was unable to bring together two of his main coalition partners – former Defense Minister Avigdor Liberman's secular-right wing party Yisrael Beiteinu and the ultra-Orthodox Jewish parties.

Netanyahu's Likud party secured 35 seats out of the 120-seat Knesset (parliament) following the national elections on April 9. He needed both Liberman and the ultra-Orthodox parties to join his coalition to win a majority in the Knesset and stay in power.

The dispute is based on a law that would require

ultra-Orthodox men to serve in the Israel Defense Forces (IDF).

Liberman believes ultra-Orthodox must serve like all other Israelis. But ultra-Orthodox party leaders believe their men should be excluded from military service as they have been since Israel's founding in 1948.

Netanyahu said Tuesday that he presented a compromise to the law that allows legislators to negotiate the quota of Ultra-Orthodox men to be drafted in the military after Liberman's law passed.

Liberman said he was not interested in compromise and demands to pass the ultra-Orthodox military conscription bill as is.

Netanyahu blames Liberman's unwillingness to bow to the demands of the ultra-Orthodox for the reason Israel is going to an election for the second time this year.

"In eight months Avigdor Liberman is dragging the country twice to elections because of personal whims and an attempt to get a few more seats. Simply unbelievable," Netanyahu said.

Liberman accuses Netanyahu of caving to the ultra-Orthodox and refuses to compromise.

In the meantime, after just finishing one campaign, Israel's political parties will begin campaigning once again. While Netanyahu remains the front runner, he faces challenges from retired general Benny Gantz's Blue and White party and other opposition parties. Yet it also gives some politicians like former education minister Naftali Bennett one more shot at re-election.

Netanyahu vowed he'll win the next election but in addition to his political challenges, he will face three separate criminal charges one month after the next election.

The new elections also mean the unveiling of President Donald Trump's peace plan will likely be put on hold for several more months.

Donald Trump Attends Church and Receives Prayers Prior to His UK Visit



CHRISTIANPOST.COM

David Platt prays for President Trump after he unexpectedly shows up at ch...

What do we know of Mother Teresa's early life?

Leslie James



Nun and missionary Mother Teresa, known in the Catholic church as Saint Teresa of Calcutta, devoted her life to caring for the sick and poor. In 1979 she received the Nobel Peace Prize for her humanitarian work. She died in September 1997 and was beatified in October 2003. In December 2015, Pope Francis recognized a second miracle attributed to Mother Teresa therefore clearing the way for her to be canonized on September 4, 2016.

Here are some interesting pictures and details about her early life.

1. Mother Teresa was born as [Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu](#) in Skopje, Macedonia, on August 27 in the year 1910.



(Vittoriano Rastelli via Getty Images: Agnes Gonxhe Bojaxhiu on the day of her confirmation. Image taken from [Huffington Post](#))

2. She was the youngest of three children born to Nikola and Dranfile Bojaxhiu who were Albanian grocers. When Agnes was nine years old, her happy and comfortable family life was disturbed when her father died.



(Vittoriano Rastelli via Getty Images: Agnes (Mother Teresa on the right) with her brother and sister) Image taken from [Huffington Post](#)).

3. She attended public school in Skopje. She first showed religious interest as a member of a school society that focused on foreign missions; basically groups that traveled to foreign countries to spread their religious beliefs. By the age of twelve she felt she had a calling to help the poor.



(Vittoriano Rastelli via Getty Images: Agnes at the age of 18). Image taken from [Huffington Post](#))

4. Her calling took sharper focus through her teenage years when she was inspired by reports of work being done in India by Yugoslav Jesuit missionaries serving in Bengal, India.



(Vittoriano Rastelli via Getty Images: At the center, behind the priest in black, stands the future Mother Teresa of Calcutta. Image taken from [Huffington Post](#))

5. When she was 18, Mother Teresa left her home to join a community of Irish nuns- the Sisters of Loretto, who had a mission in Calcutta, India. She first received training in Dublin, Ireland, and then in Darjeeling, India.



(Vittoriano Rastelli via Getty Images: Agnes Gonxhe Bojaxhiu, future Mother Teresa of Calcutta (C), with her sister Aga (L) and a friend, a few days before her departure to the Loreto Abbey in Rathfarnham, Ireland. Image taken from [Huffington Post](#))

6. One of her first assignments was to teach, and later serve as principal in a girls' high school in Calcutta. Although the school was close to the slums, the students were quite well-off.

7. In 1946 Agnes experienced an inner urging to leave the convent life (life of a [nun](#)) and work directly with the poor. In 1948 the Vatican gave her permission to leave the Sisters of Loretto and to start her new work under the guidance of the Archbishop of Calcutta.





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