



# Far and Near

2020 | SECOND QUARTER

**VISION:** Christ's transforming presence in healthcare and The nation through Christ centered medical professionals.

## Chairman's Letter

### CHECK YOURSELF! ARE YOU TRANSITIONING DURING THIS CHANGE?

*'By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down and wept' (Psa. 137:1)* is a lament of captive Israelites marching across the sweltering desert of Babylon. Their hope, their Zion, has faded away in the far distance. Their comfort, security of the community are now cruel memories. All that they considered precious, is melting away in the red-hot sand they are trudging. The Babylonian militia are brutal, slamming Israelite infants against rocks. They taunt them, 'sing now, one of those songs of Zion.' The extraordinary suffering refuses to make sense. To top it all, Yahweh, their protector, is nowhere. The Psalm is a desperate lament over the past amid precipitous change.

How do we respond when change comes upon us suddenly? Rapid change has become a way of life. In many instances, we are forced into change. Getting married, birth of a baby, retirement or sickness are seasons of life that leads to dramatic changes. There are also instances when we deliberately opt for change like seeking a new job or shifting into a new neighbourhood.

In his perceptive book, 'Transitions', William Bridges, talks about change and transition. Change, according to him, is what happens externally while a transition is internal, psychological and emotional. If we do not pay attention to transitions during the process of change, we are likely to have a worse outcome. Bridges lays out three stages in transition:

Stage 1:

**Ending of the old:** There is a losing and a letting go of old identity. There is an uprooting from our security. We need to be aware of this critical phase to make the internal transition well. It is also when others need help in recognising this phase. We will need to look at our old mindset, the old way of doing and be open for change. As in Psalm 137, the lament is over our disappearing precious world. But we must internally decide to move on to experience newness.

Stage 2:

**Neutral zone:** when new is not fully a reality. It is a period of disorientation and confusion. We are not sure of the next step and it can generate anxiety. When we have deliberately chosen to end the old, this phase will result in critical psychological realignments and repatterning.

Stage 3:

**New beginnings:** We begin to see possibilities in the future. We can imagine ourselves in a new context. We develop a new identity and experience an energy surge with a sense of purpose. We become confident of acquiring new skills needed for the new situation. Change begins to work at this stage.

Here's an example: A man and a woman decide to get married. They have lived separate lives and enjoyed the freedom of being single. But now, there is a certain ending to one's rights and a resetting of other relationships including the relationship with parents. A period of confusion follows, when they struggle with these tensions. At some point when they accept their new life, they begin to enjoy the marriage. This again changes when a baby comes along. Both their freedom and life are severely tested again. They must make a new transition now, as parents.

Beginning the process of transition at the 'ending stage' is critical. Without transition, endings can be incomplete resulting in a persistent longing for the old while being frustrated at the newness of the present. Such maladjustment to the new can go on for years and likely result in a lifetime of bitterness.

We must begin the process of transition with thanksgiving and gratefulness for the old. And move on to newness with hope and expectation that God is ready to do something new with our feeble lives.

*Varghese Philip*



# Highlights from the staff

Due to the CORONA virus pandemic and the lockdown in the nation, our staff have not been able to travel and visit students and graduates like they used to do before. But the Lord has enabled them to be in touch through the various virtual platforms. Some of our staff who were travelling were able to get back to their homes just before the lockdown was enforced. This is what some of our staff have to say about this time.

## CHANDY ISSAC: Associate Staff - Karnataka

ISSAC CHANDY (Bangalore) writes, "Praise be to our Sovereign Lord, who has wonderfully led and provided for us in this period of lockdown, which got extended through this month. What God has done is quite fascinating because, never before have so many of our members come together from far-flung locations, albeit on a virtual platform, for fellowship, bible study and prayer and all this at an increased frequency! Dr Hepseeba took us through the remaining 5 studies of the 7-part series titled "In pursuit of Jesus" which began last month. And from the 13th April, Dr Eva who is currently in Trivandrum, launched us into a fresh set of studies titled "Discovery Bible Study" starting at Genesis 1: 1-25 with 'God Creates'. It is heartening to see the growing love for God's Word and the initiative taken by several members to prepare and lead. Apart from the Bible Study meetings, some key members have been burdened to intercede daily at 10.10AM for 15-20 minutes on behalf of the sick, lonely, poor migrant workers, the hungry, those who have lost their livelihoods, the Govt authorities & leaders and for the frontline staff & Mission Hospitals in particular."



## MICHAEL SUNDERSINGH: Coordinator - Pastoral Care

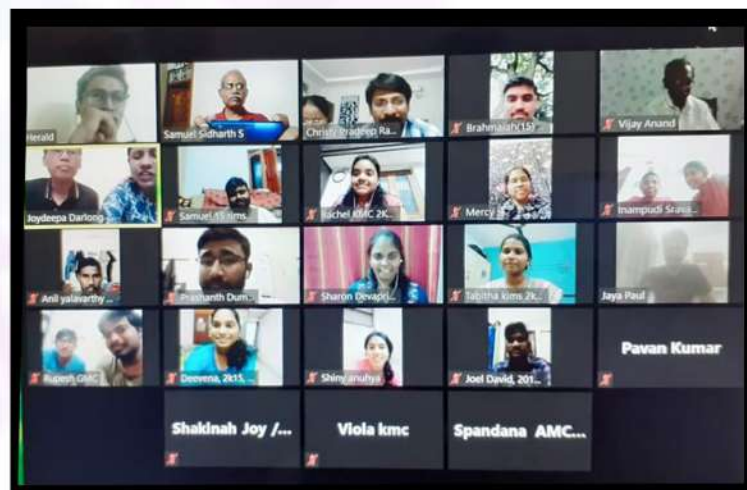
MICHAEL SUNDERSINGH (Delhi) and his wife Grace could minister to many students during the lockdown through phone calls, whatsapp and Zoom video conferencing. Michael writes, "During these days, a church in South Delhi approached us with a Macedonian Call to join them as Pastor. After a time of prayer and the guidance from the Lord through His Word and discussions, we arrived at our final decision to give our consent and took their invitation. Therefore, God willing after my term, which shall end on 30th June 2020, I will be joining this church in the capacity as pastor."

## ANUP KUMAR RANA: Field partner - Odisha

ANUP KUMAR RANA (EMFI staff for ODISHA based in West Bengal) was caught in the midst of the cyclone Amphan and had some damage to his house as well, but the Lord protected him, his family members and his villagers from any casualties.

## KT PAUL: Coordinator - North India

KT PAUL (Satbarwa), could visit a few places like Kacchuwa, Kanpur, Farrukhabad, Allahabad and Prayagraj just before the lockdown was enforced. He encouraged and spent time in prayer with many of the students and graduates in these places. This is what he writes about the current status of the mission hospital where he is based, "We are far from having PPE's for our staff, and the only PPE we have is Prayer as Protection Equipment. May God have mercy! It hurts when we think of the poor and needy suffering around. When I look around and think of the things happening, it gives me some anxiety, but in the presence of God we find peace and rest. Thank you very much for your prayer support."



## MV RAO: FIELD PARTNER - ANDHRA PRADESH & TELANGANA

MV RAO (Tirupathi) says that his day begins at 7am with a Zoom prayer meeting with the AP-TS group and continues till 8pm with various prayer meetings and bible studies through Zoom video conferencing and phone calls.

Other than their regular Zoom bible studies and prayer meetings we as EMFI staff have been able to meet twice a week on Zoom video conferencing; one for a time of prayer and the other for a Marriage Enrichment seminar where Mr Peter and his wife Sally from Pondicherry have been ministering to us. The staff found these times to be encouraging and a great blessing to be in touch even in the midst of this nationwide lockdown.



# New addition to the EMFI staff family

In a very special blessing upon us, the Lord has provided us with three new staff. All of them have been involved with EMFI in the past. Two of them are dentists and one of them a medical Doctor.

**DR HERALD**, after training as a Dentist with a Post-graduation in Maxillo-facial surgery had worked in Asha Kiran Society Hospital for ten years. Dr Herald will be coordinating the work in Tamilnadu and later in other states. He will also be overseeing the communications and advising in the Financial management. He is based in CMC, Vellore where his wife Dr Susitra works in the Paliative care department.



Dr Herold

**DR. ENOCH**, has trained as a Radiotherapist in CMC Vellore and had, been working with the Government. After his retirement he has been trying with much zeal in reviving the fellowships in Nagpur where he is based with his family. He will be working with EMFI on a part-time basis and will oversee the work in and around the city. His wife Dr Shobha helps in the Umri Christian Hospital. It is exciting to see the revival of the work in the birth place of EMFI, Nagpur.



Dr Enoch

**DR ELLIOT**, has trained as a dentist and lives in Chennai. She has been working for a big Corporate Dental Chain as a Dentist and also as its Zonal Manager. She along with her husband Ronald who works for an MNC are based in Chennai. Dr Eliot begins her work nurturing some of the college fellowships in Chennai. She has begun as a part-time staff for now. Dr Elliot is also filling the long felt need for more women 'field-staff'.



Dr Elliot

All of the new staff were interviewed by a group of leaders in EMFI and the Executive Committee has approved of this decision warmly. They have joined work from the first of June and are actively going about the same. We as EMFI will need to uphold them with our prayers and support as they begin their work in these trying times.

## A testimony of the Lord's goodness

I should have shared this a long time ago. After my MBBS, just like anyone else, I joined Post Graduate (PG) coaching. After a devastating result, I decided to join a job and prepare for PG and so I joined as a duty doctor at an emergency hospital. After 2 months or so, I was selected for a contract job near Bhadrachalam. But I didn't join because it has some tough terms and conditions. Later I left that job and started preparing again for PG. But the result was still devastating as I didn't clear this time too. I didn't know why questions were not coming from the notes that I had prepared. Later, on one final attempt, I got DDVL in Gandhi Medical College. If I had opted for private colleges, I might have got some Masters degree allotted. But I didn't opt for private colleges as my sibling got a private seat that same year and so I didn't want to burden my parents again. After 2 years, I finished my DDVL. Immediately after my practicals, I got a call from my SR madam, saying that there was a job with 1.3 lakhs salary. I joined it and started preparing again for masters while doing the job. At one point, I gave up. Please believe me, I didn't touch any book for 10 days before the exam. I left it to God's hands. And this time, the questions came from my notes, and I could crack them. And by God's grace I got MS Orthopaedics in second phase last year.

I never got even a distinction in my whole MBBS. I longed for a PG seat, and God gave me two. Don't be discouraged when you can't get something initially. God said " For your former shame, you will get a double reward". Isaiah 61:7.

*Ajay Kumar*

A post shared on the EMFI FB page

# COVID19 thoughts

This is not a comprehensive review of the whole impact of COVID on all of us now.

It is a collection of personal thoughts for Christians on the theme: Meaning of the COVID pandemic and the message contained in it for us.

## MAKING SENSE OF THE PANDEMIC

An unprecedented pandemic is quaking the whole world now. Questions arise in every one's minds:

Is God in control of all things...even in such a destructive pandemic?

How can a loving God allow such misery and death across the whole world?

These are genuine tough QUESTIONS.

## I. IS GOD IN CONTROL OF ALL THINGS IN OUR LIFE?

The answer is: YES.

Somebody may ask: why do you say so? The simple answer for me/us, I believe is:

Because God's word /the Bible says so unequivocally. The Bible, both in the Old and in the New testaments is replete with passages declaring God's Sovereignty over all things, all the time "*The Lord God is on the throne*" is a recurring refrain in many psalms for example. "*The Lord reigns forever; he has established his throne for judgment. He rules the world in righteousness and judges the peoples with equity - Psalm 9:7-10*

## 2. WHY DOES A LOVING GOD ALLOW SUCH MISERY, SUFFERING AND DEATH?

I feel that no one is able to give a fully satisfactory answer to this piercing question. In spite of much inner search and thinking, my honest answer is: I do not know fully; "We know in part" only. So, we need to wait on God patiently: listen, ask and seek His revelation. Let me share a few thoughts which come to my mind while pondering over the meaning of this present crisis across the globe.

## THE HIDDEN MESSAGE!

### I. RETURN TO GOD.

Is God telling us all: "*Be still and know that I am God*" - Psalm 46: 10

And you are NOT God. Man has to accept and acknowledge the truth that: We are not God.

As the psalmist says: 'We are only mortals'

*Strike them with terror, Lord; let the nations know they are only mortal. - Psalms 9:7-10, 20* (Mere men/ humans) True, man has progressed so much -technologically, scientifically and intellectually (AI) especially in the recent years. Yet, today, everywhere, rich and poor, developed and underdeveloped, advanced and backward alike are now reeling under the heavy weight of this tiny little deadly virus particles.

Why?

Unable to make sense of this, even the most developed nations today are bewildered. They scramble helter-skelter in frantic search for the elusive cure to escape this wrath. Surely science is a blessing from God. Yet, even science has no real answer regarding the 'why' and 'how' of Corona. "In science we have been reading only the footnotes of the poem; in Christianity we find the poem itself", says C S Lewis.

And we see clearly now that science too is helpless and know that it cannot fully solve the Corona enigma. The real answer lies elsewhere. It is in 'God alone'. Only He can save us, heal us. So, this is a wakeup call for us all. The word of God says:

*If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land. 2 Chronicles 7:14 NIV*

## II. RETURNING TO THE RHYTHM OF LIFE

So, the invitation hidden in the present disaster is: Remember we are His people, Called by His name. Let us therefore. Humble ourselves, Pray, Seek His Face, Repent, Receive Forgiveness. And then He will Heal the land.

Corona has stopped all of us suddenly on our tracks. It has pressed the PAUSE BUTTON.

Why? It is in order to lockdown, to slow down and make us introspect. Ask ourselves the vital life question: What, are we seeking after in life, and where are we racing to? The pandemic means many different things to many of us. Thousands are jobless, hapless poor are racing for their homes even on foot, some dropping dead on the way. Untold suffering unfolding before our eyes. There are no easy answers. Yet, for us Christians the words are: 'Return and Trust'

Return to the true RHYTHM OF LIFE in God as Jesus lived and showed. Turn away from the rat race of crass materialism.

Isaiah prophesied: *This is what the Sovereign Lord, the Holy One of Israel, says: "In returning/repenting and resting is your salvation, in quietness and confidence is your strength, but you would have none of it." Isaiah 30:15*



The Rhythm is:

Returning to God. Resting in Him. Rest and Action. Prayer and Work.

The lockdown, in a most surprising compelling way, asks us to stop and examine ourselves!

### III. RETURN TO THE FAMILY

And in another unexpected strange way the pandemic now forces all TO STAY HOME, whether one likes it or not. Stay home! Stay safe. Spend long time, time with one's family - especially the parents with their children! This is impossible in a workaholic culture like ours without the 'help' of this tiny little invisible virus.

Is it not 'child sacrifice' that is happening in the modern culture, especially in the advanced countries, at the altar of money when both parents are making career their first priority and not their children? Prophet Malachi has a truly enigmatic word from God for us at this time.

*He will turn the hearts of the parents to their children, and the hearts of the children to their parents; or else I will come and strike the land with total destruction. Malachi 4:6 NIV*

### IV. RETURN TO THE WORLD WITH A NEW HEART OF COMPASSION

The compassion OF CHRIST for those who suffer from the Corona and the LOCKDOWN which turned out to be a man-made human disaster - a classical case of the 'Treatment becoming worse than the disease.' Look out with eyes of compassion and respond.

#### ONE QUESTION:

*Have you personally responded to this calamity in a practical way in solidarity with those poorest of the poor who are suffering most - who lost their dear ones, those who lost their jobs, those who are walking or waiting in despair-hungry and thirsty fleeing in fear of starvation, death?*

For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.

*He will reply, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me."*

*Matthew 25:42-43, 45 NIV*

*Kuruville Varkey*



Dr Mathew has been involved with EMFI from his student days beginning from 1985 onwards, organising the Karnataka State Conference. In 1992 at an EMFI National Conference he committed to serve in the then united Bihar as an EHA/EMFI associate staff. From 1993 onwards, based in an EHA hospital at Raxaul, he visited colleges on a weekly basis. He travelled by Bihar buses, slept on the luggage rack of trains, on top of buses, slept in platforms of railway stations, etc. In 1994 one of his first student contacts from Jamshedpur was Vikram Tirkey who after his graduation joined EMFI. He coordinated the annual students conference at Duncan Hospital where 40 – 45 students from Patna, Purlia, Muzafarpur, Dharbanga, Jamshedpur and Bhagalpur attended. He worked hard to establish the Institute of Medical Missions (IMM) and in developing the curriculum for it. In 2013, Dr Mathew was deputed from EHA to EMFI as a fulltime Coordinator of Missions and has served in this capacity till 2019, conducting IMM's and mission exposure trips. He conceptualised the Kingdom Of God (KOG) study curriculum for doctors and worked on a course material (Participants and Facilitators) to study the word in a thematic manner. Dr Mathew initiated the AP/ TS graduate involvement in EMFI ministry and encouraged them to engage at different levels.

Dr Latha married Dr Mathew in 1993 being a six month old Christian, and a fresh dental graduate. As EHA could only offer a post for one dentist, Dr Kuruville George, the then GS- EMFI, decided to support Dr Latha. So, it was a joint venture between EMFI and EHA that enabled her to work with Mathew in Bihar. She continued being part of EMFI attending all National conferences and staff meetings. At the insistence of Dr Sam David, she began conducting the 'Saline Process' (Being a witness in our daily practice) trainings in Chennai and other places and took up the responsibility as coordinator all over India in partnership with IHS, USA. She was part of the team that produced the Saline material for the Indian context.



Under the encouragement of the General Secretaries of EMFI she was introduced to various hospitals and conducted trainings, and Saline trainings organized by each of the staff in EMFI who were trained as trainers. From 2013 onwards she served as a fulltime EMFI coordinator for Saline Process in India.

Dr Mathew George and Dr Latha resigned from fulltime work with EMFI in December 2019. We will miss their enthusiastic presence at all our gatherings. We wish Dr Mathew and Latha the Lords blessings and guidance as they continue to serve the Lord in different capacities in the future.

Here are excerpts from what some of our members/staff had to say about Dr Mathew and Dr Latha:

Mathew is passionate about mentoring and building young students and doctors committed to missions and evangelism. He is good in developing training programs and detailed modules. *As a family they are very hospitable. Mathew and Latha are very articulate and Latha is very passionate about evangelism.*

*- Dr Santhosh Mathew & Dr Saira Paulose(EHA)*

*One of Mathew's unique strength is his networkingskills. He not only keenly kept a record of students & graduates all over the country, but made sure he always stayed in touch with many of them. This was one of the reasons why Mathew could conduct so many IMM's with such ease, year after year." EMFI will surely miss Latha & Mathew.*

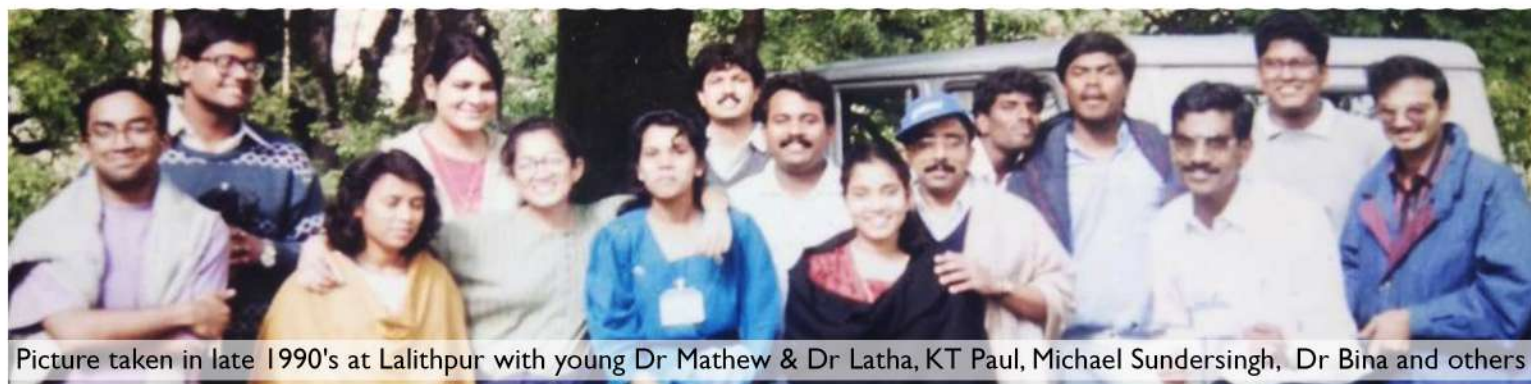
*- Devakumar (Ex-EMFI staff)*

*Having Drs Mathew and Latha as part of my family and EMFI ministry was a blessing. Leaving comfortable lifestyle and taking up the challenge of joining Raxaul, and travelling in Bihar and Jharkhand then in Bihar to minister to the medical students was a challenge. Bihar is notorious and North Bihar is worse even now, so you can imagine how it would have been in 90's! Those who know them can say how they had fallen in love with Bihar over the years. The time, energy and God given talents they have invested sincerely in the medical student lives and graduate families had and is having a lasting impact and leaders were built. Latha too turned out to be a great blessing through Saline. Glory be to God. As they move on we want to wish them the best, being sure that the Lord who has called them will continue to use them for His purpose and will richly reward them for their sincere investment. They were an inspiration and blessing.*

*- KT Paul, (EMFI Staff)*

*I have personally known Mathew and Latha for more than 15 years. Their friendship and fellowship over the years have been a source of blessing and encouragement for me personally and our family. From the time he felt his heart shaped like Bihar when praying in 1993, and which finally led him to move to Bihar, he has faithfully served the Lord in various capacities both in EHA and EMFI. His passion for people, especially young students, has blessed many generations of students across the states. He has limitless energy, often going into late hours, listening to people and seeking to address their struggles. Latha's quiet but 'steel-strong' determination and faith has been very encouraging. I often see a generally 'timid' Latha transforming into a different person on the stage when teaching and training- passionate and authoritative! Many across the world have been blessed by her sincere and ardent call for sharing the good news through the Saline process with patients and colleagues. She is non-compromising in her values and is one of my personal prayer partners, whom I can rely on to pray sincerely for any need I may bring to her notice. Now as both of them move into a different season of their lives, my prayer and desire for both of them is that they would be drawn to a deeper intimacy with the Lord and continue to seek His heart and purposes. I am confident that this season will be more blessed and fruitful and that their lives will continue to be a beacon of light in this generation for the cause of Christ and His Kingdom.*

*- Dr Manoj Jacob*



Picture taken in late 1990's at Lalithpur with young Dr Mathew & Dr Latha, KT Paul, Michael Sundersingh, Dr Bina and others



# Reflections from the General Secretary

## RESPONDING TO AN 'END-TIME SIGN'

Is it the end time? The virus, locusts, cyclones, earthquake, and rumors of wars! A powerful nation rising! Is it really the time? The air is rife with speculation. I remember Dr Tharien from CFH Oddanchatram, teaching one day, the end time and our death mean almost the same. Either the world comes to an end or you end to the world. Both are end times in their own way. In times like these both of them can no longer be relegated to the realm of a remote possibility.

Our Lord taught that there will be many such events before the Day comes. He wanted us to read the signs of the times, but at the same time also wanted us not to be speculating about the specific time. Instead he called for a response, a readiness, an attitude.

In each of our lives, there may come a time which is a sign from the Lord about an end to the world, or an end to ourselves. Such a sign can come either once or many times in our life. A sign like this can be called an 'end time sign', a wake-up call for us to think about the world's end or ours. The present condition of the world and that of our land surely fits into the category of an 'end time sign' and such a sign calls for us to respond by being ready. The response calls for an attitude, a set of characters that helps us to be prepared. In Mathew 24, 25, Mark 13 and in Luke 17:20-37 our Lord has taught us some attitudes which are a proper response to the end time signs.

### Spending time with his Word and prayer-Mathew 24:20, 25.

In Mathew 24:24, our Lord tells 'See, I have told you beforehand'. He has already taught us well about the 'end-time signs.' Those who dwell on the Lord's word will not fall into the dual mistakes of either ignoring the signs or launching themselves into excessive speculation and be misled by false deceivers. They will discern the time and stand firm in the tribulation. They will know when to stand firm and when to take evasive action. Without such an immersion in the Lord's word we will not be able to face the trials of the 'end time'. In Mathew 24:20, we are called to pray for a mitigation of the suffering. Increasing the quality and quantity of our time with the Lord in prayer and meditation of his word is a good response to an end-time sign.

### Accepting the gospel and being involved in the work of the Gospel - Luke 17:25, Mathew 24:14, Mark 13:10

If we have slighted the word of the Cross, then this is the time to seriously consider the precious salvation that has been offered to us on the cross as our only way to enter into the Kingdom. By grace we are saved through faith. It is a free gift. All who accept in faith receive. An end-time sign is a call to be 'Born again' if you are not.

The discerning disciple responds to an end time sign by evaluating whether he/she has been lax in the work of the gospel. Have we let secular education and philosophy blunt the edge of our sharing the good news? Have we become comfortable on our couches of pluralism? Have we wandered

away into the barren wastelands of relativizing? It is time to sow again, the life-giving seed! Let us all get involved in the work of the gospel in whatever way we can; using whatever means given in our hands, hearts and minds by His Holy Spirit.

### Diligent, responsible, fruitful - Mathew 24:36-25:30

Our Lord, through a stream of parables teaches us to take seriously, that which he has entrusted in our hands. Be it family, work, ministry studies or gifts. An end-time attitude calls us to be involved fully, taking adequate care of those given us to care for, being prepared and diligent like the virgins and not flippant about life, being industrious and fruitful like the one with five and two talents. Of course, we will have to evaluate if the work we are involved in is ethical and integral, for if we have erred here, we fall into the category of the steward who landed up beating those under his care. Being responsible, diligent and fruitful is part of the preparedness in response to an end-time sign.

### Pro-poorness- Mathew 25: 31-46

The trap that we may have fallen into is sometimes called the 'puritan paradox'. It includes characteristics as simplicity, industry, diligence etc. coupled with a hoarding of wealth. Our Lord says to the ones on the right to come and inherit the Kingdom, for they had learnt and obeyed him in caring for the hungry, thirsty, stranger, the naked, the sick and the imprisoned. Whatever was done for the least of his brethren was accounted as done for him. Will we be the ones on His right? Pro-poorness is a response to an end-time sign.

### Holding it light, in the coming light - Luke 18:20-37

Our Lord teaches us not to be like the people in the 'days of Noah', or like the ones in Sodom and Gomorrah. We are not to be like Lot's wife either, who having left behind 'her world' turned to gaze at it. The sure sign of a non-response to an end-time sign is 'life as usual' and a tight grip on possessions. We are called to hold our possessions light, as he has reminded us in another place that life does not consist in the abundance of possessions. He who seeks to save his life (which according to the pattern of this world, is made of the abundance of possessions) will lose it. Let us release the grip on our possessions, whether it is money, position or power. Let us hold it light in view of the coming Light.

The response therefore is an attitude, a set of characteristics which the Lord taught us when he spoke about the end times. The invitation is for us to hold all these things together to develop a comprehensive readiness, a beautiful bouquet to welcome our Lord. Let us not confuse this teaching from the Lord and begin to doubt our salvation. Let us take it as an exhortation from him, about the way we respond to an end-time sign. In responding so, shall we glorify him in our life here on earth! Let us arise and respond!

*Samuel Sidhartha*





## Institute of Medical Missions (IMM)

The Institute of Medical Missions (IMM) 2020, was conducted in two phases from the 1st of March to the 15th of March 2020 at the Asha Kiran Hospital, Lamtaput, Odisha. As soon as the dates were announced, students from different parts of AP-TS showed interest. In the first phase, 25 students from 7 medical colleges in AP participated. And in the second phase, 15 students from 6 medical colleges of AP and TS. Dr Sam Siddhartha - EMFI Gen Sec; Dr Vijay Anand – EHA Hospital, Makunda, Assam; Dr Famkima Dorlong - TLM, Delhi; Dr Herald; Dr Sukumar and the doctors of Asha Kiran hospital were the resource people.

The students had a unique opportunity to explore the transformative impact of the mission hospital in the OPD &



wards as part of clinical exposure and community at large, as a part of village visit for the first three 3 days. They witnessed how the lives of the people were influenced and transformed in all aspects like education, agriculture, health etc. Each day a couple working at Asha Kiran Hospital shared their life's journey which was an inspiration to the students. When given an exercise to solve a problem faced by the EAG states & Assam, the students came up with brilliant ideas and working models. The call to follow Jesus joyfully, persevering for a long term in spite of all adversities, and living our lives with eternal perspective were stressed upon. It was a great joy to see the students committing themselves to work in missions, some for long term and others for a short term. Praise and Glory to God! Bro Anup Rana (EMFI Staff, Odisha) and Dr Ramya Sree looked after the logistics along with the hospital team.

*Dr Ramya Sree.*



## Treasurers Note



Dear Friends,

Thank you for partnering in the Lord's work through your prayers and contributions.

The Lord has been gracious to provide our needs at all times, and HE proved his faithfulness yet again during these unprecedented times.

He is working with our lives in unusual and unique ways so that each of us will become a blessing as HIS strategies unfold.

Please continue to uphold us as we look to him for our tangible and intangible needs.

Regards,

*Sukumar Chitturi*

## Financial Update

MONTH	INCOME	EXPENSE
MARCH	612601	726119
APRIL	805820	722605
MAY	643282	735488

Those wishing to contribute can send your Cheques/DDs/MOs in favour of 'Evangelical Medical Fellowship of India' to the address given below or make an electronic/Bank transfer to:

**State Bank of India**

**Current A/c No: 35465591006**

**(Branch Code: 2288, IFSC: SBIN0002288)**

**HDFC Bank A/c No: 04921000009885**

**(Branch Code: 492, IFSC: HDFC0000492)**

Please write your name in the space for narration while doing the online transfer

You can also make direct online payment by visiting our website [www.emfi.in](http://www.emfi.in) and clicking on the 'donate online' button under GET INVOLVED\*

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