

ECHO OF HIS CALL



India's National Spiritual Newspaper

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Vol. XXXII

YEAR OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, 2025 JUNE

No.06

THE HOLY BIBLE



Please memorize
this portion
PSALM 27:1-6

1. The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
2. When the wicked, even mine enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat up my flesh, they stumbled and fell.
3. Though an host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear: though war should rise against me, in this will I be confident.
4. One thing have I desired of the LORD, that will I seek after; that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to enquire in his temple.
5. For in the time of trouble he shall hide me in his pavilion: in the secret of his tabernacle shall he hide me; he shall set me up upon a rock.
6. And now shall mine head be lifted up above mine enemies round about me: therefore will I offer in his tabernacle sacrifices of joy; I will sing, yea, I will sing praises unto the LORD.

ARE YOU LEAVING A LEGACY TO YOUR CHILDREN?

Sis. Angel

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ to all our beloved Echo of His Call family members.

It is hard to believe that we have already completed nearly six months of 2025. It feels as though the year has just begun, and yet we are already entering its second half. This brings to mind the verse from Habakkuk 3:2: "...Revive thy work in the midst of the years ..." I pray that the Lord will revive you, your family, your ministry, and your business, profession, or studies with His divine favour and mercy in this second half of the year.



Luke chapter 15 is a well-known passage of Scripture. Last month, I wrote about the parable of the lost sheep - the one that the shepherd went searching for, leaving behind the ninety-nine. The entire chapter could be summarised as 99:9:1 - the 99 sheep that remained, the 9

....Contd. to page 3



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from your dearly beloved brother...



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Echo of His Call

**Our help is in the name of the LORD,
Who made heaven and earth. - Psalm 124:8**



Dearly beloved in Christ,

Grace, peace, and all goodness be unto you in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

We serve a good and faithful God, and we are ever grateful for the path along which He continues to lead us. We offer heartfelt thanks and praise to the Lord for our dedicated co-workers and partners who faithfully journey with us, even through times of challenge and hardship. Your continued prayers are greatly appreciated.

We thank God for the abundant blessings poured out during our **Vacation Bible School** conducted for the children in various places during the months of April and May. We are sincerely grateful to all our



Vacation Bible School in Santhosahpuram

co-workers, brothers, and sisters in Christ for their tireless efforts in making this project a great success. May the Lord richly reward your prayers, offerings, and sacrifices. Please be assured of our earnest prayers for you and your families.



The Faculty Meeting of Nehemiah Bible Colleges.

The Faculty Meeting of Nehemiah Bible Colleges was held on April 21, 2025, to prayerfully discuss the action plan for the upcoming

academic year 2025–2026. By God's grace, classes have commenced at both our **Nehemiah Bible Colleges** and **St. Paul's Matriculation School**. We request your prayers for the Principals, teaching and non-teaching staff, and all those involved in the academic ministry.

As co-workers in Christ's mission, we seek your continual intercession that we may receive the abundant grace of God in all our endeavours.

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....Contd. from page 1

coins that were not lost, and the 1 son who left his father's house, failing to understand his father's love.



Father's love!

Since Father's Day is celebrated in India during the month of June, I felt led to continue reflecting on the Father's love, drawing from the same chapter.

I understand that this message may not resonate with everyone - particularly those who grew up without a father figure, or those who had fathers who failed to

make a positive impact on their lives. To those of you in this situation, I offer my sincere apologies and heartfelt compassion. I also want to acknowledge the incredible strength and sacrifice of single mothers who have gone above and beyond to fill the role of a father. It is an extraordinarily challenging role, and if you are walking that path, even as a woman stepping into a father's shoes - hats off to you!

I would also like to honour those who are still waiting and praying to have children, like Zacharias, the father of John the Baptist. Even if you do not yet have biological children, I believe God will bless you with many spiritual children to nurture, mentor, and cherish. Take heart, and be of good courage!

I share all this at the outset because of a powerful encounter I once had. After preaching a sermon

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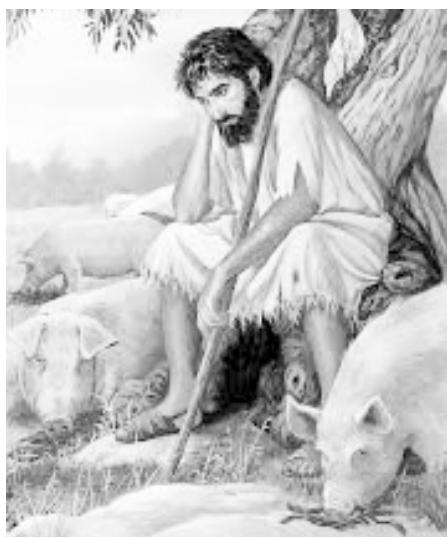


comprehend the love of God when it was likened to that of a father, due to painful experiences with her earthly father. I had to lovingly explain to her the true nature of our Heavenly Father - how He is unlike any earthly father, and how His love is perfect, healing, and unconditional. Only then did she begin to understand what the love of God truly means.

The role of a father holds profound significance across all cultures. He is often regarded as the head of the family - entrusted with the responsibility of providing for his household, making crucial decisions, and nurturing his children.

It is fascinating to observe how the Bible repeatedly portrays God as a Father. Jesus Christ Himself teaches us to address God in this intimate way: ... **Our Father in Heaven** ... Matthew 6:9. Let us explore, through the lens of Scripture - specifically Luke chapter 15 - what it truly means to be a "father," whether in a spiritual or biological sense.

This chapter recounts a familiar parable, but allow me to provide a brief summary. The story begins with a wealthy father who has two sons. The younger son, driven by his own desires, demands his share of the inheritance and leaves home in pursuit of worldly pleasures. He squanders everything and ultimately finds himself destitute, reduced to feeding pigs and yearning to eat their food. In his



The younger son feeds the pigs

lowest moment, he remembers his father - not as someone to return to as a son, but as a servant.

Yet, when he returns home, his father sees him from afar, runs to embrace him, adorns him with fine clothes and ornaments, and hosts a grand feast to celebrate his return.

Meanwhile, the elder son - who had remained at home, faithfully serving his father - feels overlooked and resentful. He refuses to join the celebration, struggling to grasp the depth of his father's love. Ironically, though he stayed physically close, he remained emotionally distant. In contrast, the younger son, despite his rebellion, had an inner understanding of his father's character. Even in a far-off land, he believed he could still return - not to be condemned, but to be received.

GOD AS OUR FATHER:

1. A LOVING FATHER!

While this parable is often viewed with the younger son as the central figure, let us instead consider the father as the main character. He represents our loving Heavenly Father - a God who loves His children not based on what they do or who they are, but entirely on who He is.

His love is constant, unwavering, and unconditional.

In Exodus 4:22, the Israelites are referred to as **God's firstborn**. Despite repeatedly turning away from Him, God continued to rescue and provide for them with a mighty and outstretched arm. His love for His children never wavers.

Similarly, in this story, the father does not reprimand or criticize his son for his failures. Instead, he welcomes him with open arms and celebrates his return with joy. He does not dwell on the past but rejoices in the reunion.

Such is the love of our Heavenly Father - immeasurable, compassionate, and freely given. He accepts us not based on our worthiness, but out of the abundance of His grace and mercy.

The Bible teaches us, **Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger by the way you treat them. Rather, bring them up with the discipline and instruction that comes from the Lord.** (Ephesians 6:4, NLT).



A Loving Father!

Some of us believe it's acceptable to treat our children harshly or speak to them with unkind words. However, the Scripture reminds us that even while disciplining our children, we must be gentle and thoughtful, ensuring we do not provoke them to anger. May the Lord help us become fathers who reflect His heart.

....*Contd. to page 6*



GREAT COMMISSION PARTNERS

TO SHARE (Galatians 6:2)

SUPPORT (Romans 12:13)

SPEED UP (II Timothy 1:6)

PRAISE & PRAYER POINTS - From June 19, 2025 To July 18, 2025

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



†PRAISE GOD FOR...

- June 19** ⇒ Dedicated Associate Editors who help us to publish **Echo of His Call magazine** in 16 languages on time.
- June 20** ⇒ His faithful blessings on our Magazine Ministry since its inception in 1969.
- June 21** ⇒ All the supporters of **Echo of His Call Ministries**.
- June 22** ⇒ God's blessing upon the student retreat of **Nehemiah Bible College** held on May 17, 2025, in Mahabalipuram.
- June 23** ⇒ The prayer and financial support of our well-wishers.
- June 24** ⇒ The successful completion of the 2024–25 academic year for our Residential and Evening **Nehemiah Bible Colleges** and **St. Paul's Matriculation School**.
- June 25** ⇒ God's grace that has enabled our ministry to bear fruit over the years.
- June 26** ⇒ Divine protection for our Senior Pastor and his family from all forms of evil.
- June 27** ⇒ Blessings over the admissions process for the 2025–26 academic year at **St. Paul's Matriculation School** and **Nehemiah Bible Colleges**.
- June 28** ⇒ The spiritual impact of our **Biblecor (Bible Correspondence Course)** and **Theological Correspondence Courses**.
- June 29** ⇒ God's hand upon our **Global Vision for Youth and Kid Care Ministries**, especially our daily 10:00 p.m. intercession for youth and children worldwide.
- June 30** ⇒ Protection and provision for our **Echo of His Call** staff and their families.
- July 01** ⇒ Fruitful outcomes from our **Vacation Bible School** programs at our main and branch Churches.
- July 02** ⇒ The success of our **Echo of His Call Church Achievers Award Function**.

- July 03** ⇒ God's protection over all our Bible College students.

†PLEASE PRAY FOR ...

- June 04** ⇒ Divine protection for missionaries around the world.
- July 05** ⇒ Peace to prevail throughout the nations.
- July 06** ⇒ Economic upliftment of the marginalized and downtrodden.
- July 07** ⇒ Safety and strength for missionaries reaching unreached people groups in remote areas.
- July 08** ⇒ God's provision for all our needs this month.
- July 09** ⇒ God-fearing leadership in every nation.
- July 10** ⇒ The safety and well-being of our Senior Pastor, Rev. S. Sam Selva Raj, and his family.
- July 11** ⇒ Deserving students to gain admission to our Residential and Evening **Nehemiah Bible Colleges** and **St. Paul's Matriculation School** for the 2025–26 academic year.
- July 12** ⇒ God's guidance for the new **Nehemiah Bible College** students whose classes will commence on June 2, 2025.
- July 13** ⇒ More dedicated laborers to be raised for the **Echo of His Call Ministries**.
- July 14** ⇒ Wisdom and strength for all spiritual leaders worldwide.
- July 15** ⇒ God's mercy upon our Prayer Partners, Subscribing Partners, Faith Partners, Life Partners, and Great Commission Partners and their families.
- July 16** ⇒ God's favor upon all our ministerial meetings and organizational activities.
- July 17** ⇒ Protection of all nations from terrorism and violence.
- July 18** ⇒ Good health and strength for our office and printing staff.

....Contd. from page 4

Our Good Father is always waiting for us to return to Him. No matter how far we may have strayed from our Heavenly Father, He stands ready to welcome us back with love and open arms.

A LONGING FATHER!

In Luke 15:20, we read: **But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.** This touching moment reveals the heart of a father who had been waiting and longing every day, holding on to hope that his son would return.

In the same way, our Heavenly Father longs for a restored relationship with each of us. This is what He desired with Adam and Eve - a deep, intimate relationship - and it is what He desires from us today - Longing and Waiting!

Yet the LORD longs to be gracious to you ... Isaiah 30:18, NIV. He is waiting to pour out His mercy, grace, and favor - just like the father in the parable.

When we return to Him, He will not interrogate us or shame us.

Instead, He will embrace us and bless us with His goodness. If you feel distant from God, unworthy of His love, or hesitant to return - know this: you are just one step away. He is waiting for you now.

more easily. Yet, fathers leave a lasting legacy, whether they realize it or not. They play a vital role in shaping the spiritual lives of their children.

In Exodus 15:2, we read:

The LORD is my strength and song, and He has become my salvation; He is my God, and I will praise Him; my father's God, and I will exalt Him.

The phrase "my father's God" reflects that faith in God was learned at an early age - through the influence of a father.

Deuteronomy 32:7 says:

Remember the days of old, consider the years of many generations. Ask your father, and he will show you...

Psalm 44:1 adds:

We have heard with our ears, O God, our fathers have told us, what deeds You did in their days, in days of old.

And Psalm 78:3-4 declares:

What we have heard and known, what our fathers have
....Contd. to page 9

LEAVING A LEGACY!!



The children learn a great deal from his father

This is a crucial and often overlooked aspect of fatherhood. The old adage, "Like father, like son," holds profound truth. Fathers not only pass on their genes - they also impart both biological and spiritual characteristics. For many young people, their father is their first hero. They learn a great deal from him - not just how to live, but also how not to live.

Sadly, it is often the negative traits that get passed down



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27. Ministers' Meeting : 6.00 p.m. First Saturday
28. Parents' Prayer : 4.00 p.m. First Sunday
29. Night Prayer : 9.30 p.m. Third Friday
30. Fasting Prayer : 9:30 a.m. Second Saturday
31. Holy Communion : Second Sunday Services
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PIT TO PALACE

(Life experiences of Pastor S. Sam Selva Raj)

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

**Oh, give thanks unto the LORD - Who remembered us in our low estate,
for His mercy endereth forever. (Psalm 136:1,23).**

From the beginning of my ministerial life, God gave me the mind to go to any extent and to take up any challenge to glorify God and for the extension of His kingdom, without expecting any immediate reward. From the year 1976 to 1986, I was in the habit of applying leave from my government office and arrange gospel tours and preaching the gospel by means of mini crusades in different parts of India by spending my own money.

The Lord helped me to take my spiritual friends with me to various parts at least for one or two months together and go to the unreached villages and touch the lives of thousands of people through the gospel of Jesus Christ. Several times, I had to depend upon God for all my financial needs, as I had to buy train tickets, bus tickets, book hotel accommodation for me and my colleagues. God miraculously helped me.

Through this ministry, God helped me to visit various remote areas in Chengalput District, Villupuram District, Madurai District, Trichy District and Kanyakumari District, Kodaikanal, Ootacamund, Trivandrum, Peermade, Idukki, Vandiperiyar, Vijayawada, Bangalore, Mysore etc. During my trips, I experienced different kinds of physical sufferings in transporting our musical instruments and gospel tracts from one place to another by means of buses and trains. Due to my low financial status, I could not even think of having a vehicle for the ministry. But God was watching my attitude and listening to my testimonies. ... **God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward His name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister.** Hebrews 6:10.

Later on I found that God blessed all my co-workers and elevated them to higher levels and

continuous to use them mightily in His vineyard even today. He also blessed me with all facilities like latest equipment, cars, vans and zealous workers and is enabling me more and more to preach the gospel to the unsaved people of India. Also God honoured me, took me to various countries of the world and blessed me with good friends.

The same God is still alive. He is searching for willing persons who can come forward to serve Him without expecting any immediate rewards, high positions and corrupted motives. **Cast your bread upon the waters, for you will find it after many days.** Ecclesiastes 11:1. He is not a debtor to anybody.

Personally I have learned that if we have a desire to do something for God's kingdom, we should do it immediately, without observing the wind and regarding the clouds as **He who observes the wind will not sow, and he who regards the clouds will not reap.** Ecclesiastes 11:4. The world and the worldly people will stand with you.

Now-a-days, our people do not want to invest their health, money and talents in advancing the kingdom of God; instead expect immediate elevation and on the spot rewards. Dear friend, I am really blessed because of the gospel of Jesus Christ. He can really bless you also. Can you come forward to do something for Jesus Christ now? Can you take up your cross and follow Him?? **God is searching for willing persons who are really interested to send forth His glorious gospel – in any – in every way – at all cost.** (1 Corinthians 9:22).

When you read there words, you must know that God has a special plan for you! The worldly wealth, health, relationship, and fame will cheat you one day!! But Jesus Christ will not leave you comfortless!!! John 14:18. Take a decision today. A great reward is awaiting you!

....Contd. from page 6

told us, we will not hide from their children. We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD, His power, and the wonders He has done.

These verses make it clear: Children learn from their fathers, and it is the responsibility of every father to pass on spiritual wisdom and godly values to the next generation.

Unfortunately, many sins in our children's lives are rooted in patterns passed down from previous generations. But God's desire is for us to leave a spiritual legacy of blessing, not one of curse.

The Bible provides many examples, particularly among the kings of Israel and Judah, where sons followed their fathers' ungodly paths and lived meaningless lives. In 2 Kings 21:21, we read about Amon, the son of Manasseh:

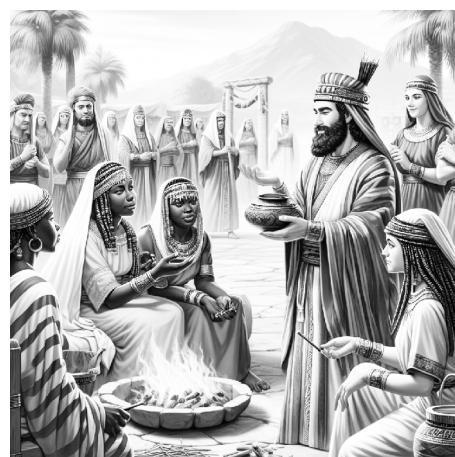
So he walked in all the ways that his father had walked; and he served the idols that his father had served, and worshiped them.

What a tragedy!

Manasseh himself was the son of the great King Hezekiah - a man who loved the Lord fervently. Yet, what happened to Manasseh? Why was he not raised with the same devotion to God? This raises an important question for every

father: What legacy are you leaving behind?

In 1 Kings 11:4-9 we read, **When Solomon was old, his wives led him astray after other gods, so**



Solomon wives led him astray after other gods

his heart was not fully devoted to the LORD his God, as the heart of David his father had been. Throughout Scripture, we encounter many fathers whose failure to leave a godly heritage brought ruin upon their children and subsequent generations. In stark contrast, kings like Asa, Jehoshaphat, and Josiah deliberately followed in their fathers' footsteps, establishing enduring legacies of faith. Their obedience not only blessed their own households but also brought peace to neighboring nations - 2 Chronicles 17:10 declares, ... **The fear of the LORD fell upon all the kingdoms of the lands around Judah, and they did**



The fear of the LORD fell upon all the kingdoms

not fight against Jehoshaphat ... What kind of legacy will we leave for our children and for generations yet to come?

Even God's servants are not immune to this risk. Moses, Eli, Samuel, and David - each a great servant of the Lord - struggled in their roles as fathers. We may be zealous in building spiritual legacies, as Moses paired with Joshua or Elijah with Elisha, but are we equally committed to nurturing our own children in the fear and knowledge of the Lord?

Consider the story of the prodigal son: despite his rebellion and wastefulness, the father's longing love never wavered. This portrait of the Heavenly Father reminds us that God calls us to be loving, patient parents, leaving a faith-filled inheritance that endures. May the Lord empower us to model His grace and devotion, so our children and their children may walk in His ways.

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