

Beloved in Christ,

I greet you all in the blessed name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

August is a month of 'Freedom' as far as our country is concerned. But what about the 'freedom' our nation has been experiencing over the past 61 years? Are we really enjoying the freedom in our country? As we ponder over the recent developments that have taken place in our country, it is really heart-rending that corruption is on the increase and things are getting worse day by day. The fact of the matter is that there is absolutely 'No Freedom' in the lives of people. We must understand that freedom in people's lives alone can bring real freedom in our city, state, country and the world.

What is real freedom? And how do we know we are really free?

1. Knowing Jesus is experiencing real freedom.

The scripture says that Jesus himself is the truth that sets us free (John 8:36). He frees us from the consequences of sin, from self-deception, and from deception by Satan. He shows us clearly the way to eternal life with God. Jesus does not give us freedom to do what we want, but freedom to follow God. As we seek to serve God, Christ frees us to be all that God meant us to be.

2. Knowing Jesus is freedom from the power of sin.

Sin has a way of enslaving us, controlling us, dominating us, and dictating our actions. Jesus can free you from this slavery that keeps you from becoming the person God created you to be. If sin is restraining, mastering, or enslaving you, Jesus can break its power over your life.

3. Freedom in Christ is the freedom to obey (Rom 5:21).

When Jesus lifts us into God's presence, we are to obey—out of love, not necessity; through God's power, not our own. We know that if we stumble, we will not fall back to the ground. Instead, we will be caught and held in Christ's loving arms.

4. Freedom in Christ is the freedom to serve (Galatians 5:1)

Christ died to set us free from the bondage of sin and eternal death. Christ came to set us free—not free to do whatever we want because that would lead back into

slavery to our selfish desires. Rather we are now free and able to do what was impossible before—to live unselfishly. We must stand against those who would enslave us with rules, methods, or special conditions for being saved or growing in Christ.

As we are getting ready to celebrate 'The Independence day', let us honestly examine and ask ourselves whether we have experienced the Freedom in Christ in our own lives. May the Lord enable us to celebrate the victory that Jesus won for us on the cross of Calvary every day, not once a year.....

Rev. Paul K. Royappa
Pastor

Pulpit Calendar - August 2008

Monthly Theme : *Purpose Driven Church*
Service Time: 9:30 AM

Date	Speaker	Theme
3rd August 08	Mr.Malcolm	Definition & Description of the Church
10th August 08 Communion	Rev.Paul K. Royappa	Discipleship & leadership in the church
17th August 08	Rev.Christopher Mohan	Distinctives of the Church
24th August 08	Rev.Paul.K.Royappa	Determination & Mission of the Church
31st August 08	Mrs.Bharti Moses	Destiny (hope) of the Church

Other Programs / Details - Aug 2008

Bethel Nagar Area Fellowship	02.08.08 (Sat) At 6.30pm	At Mr.Sanjay's house. For details 9902010658 (Mrs.Rita Publius)
A ECS Layout Area Fellowship	02.08.08 (Sat) At 5.30pm	At Mr.Ashok's house. For details 9731944666 (Irwin)
Monthly Planning Meeting	09.08.08 (Sat) At 4pm	At BMC
Prayer Meeting	09.08.08 (Sat) at 6pm	At BMC
Women's Fellowship	10.08.08 (Sun) At 11.30 am	After Sunday Service. For details 9886426287 (Angelin)

Bethel Nagar Area Fellowship	16.08.08 (Sat) At 6.30pm	At Mr. Sanjay's house. For details 9902010658 (Mrs. Rita Publius)
A ECS Layout Area Fellowship	16.08.08 (Sat) At 5.30 pm	At Mr. Arun's house. For details 9886771163 (Irwin)
Sunday School (English)	8.30 am	Every Sunday at BMC. Contact Iris (41215655)
Tamil Service	7.00 am	Every Sunday
Sunday School (Kannada)	2.00 pm	Every Sunday at BMC Kiruba (9342473900)
Choir Practice	11.30 am	After Sunday service. Isaac (9845232807)

- Praise God for Ezra's marriage. May God enable them to set up a godly home.
- Praise God for the blessing of a daughter for Arun and Joyce..
- Pray for the pastor Rev. Paul.K.Royappa, Mrs.Rachel Royappa and Allan
- Praise God for the women's fellowship. Pray for the three women groups that are meeting for prayer during mid of every week. Praise God for the meaningful women's retreat that took place on 27th July 08.
- Praise God for the provision of inverter which came as a donation. Please continue to pray for books for the library, rack to keep the books, keyboard, CD player
- Pray for Sunday school ministry at Whitefield, Hoodi & Priyanka Nagar
- Pray for plan and finance of phase 2 project of the church (purchase of adjacent land)
- Pray for the follow-up of VBS participant children
- Pray for the pastors and their families (Rev. Moses Mamdapur and Rev .Ramesh Christopher)
- Pray for the preachers who are on the calendar of this month. Pray for the pulpit ministry to have the desired effect.
- Pray for effective mutual support between Tamil and English congregations.
- Pray for the outreach work at SEA college and Garden City college. Pray for the permission for the SEA college girls hostel students to attend the service.



- ❑ Praise God for the launching of BMC website on 13th July 08 by Rev.Paul.K.Royappa. Pray that this would become an effective tool in the ministry
- ❑ Praise God for the choir dedication that took place on 27th July 08 by our Pastor. Pray that the choir would be a great blessing to the church

Women's retreat at BMC

Thank God for the first one-day women's retreat on 27th July 08 after the service. Mrs. Gladys Peter was the guest speaker. The first half of the retreat was for all the family members on the theme 'Relationships'. It was a lively session with sharing of many illustrations and personal experiences by Mrs.Gladys. It was great to have a fellowship lunch with all the church members. The post lunch session was exclusively for the women on 'Raising children'. This was a very interactive session. Rev. Paul Royappa shared few thoughts and concluded the retreat with a prayer.

- Mrs. Angelin Isaac

Missionary Story : Sadhu Sundar Singh

Sundar Singh was born into an important landowning Sikh family in the year 1889 in Rampur, Punjab. He was very attached to his devout mother and her death when he was just 14 plunged him into violence and despair. He turned on the missionaries, persecuted their Christian converts, and ridiculed their faith. In final defiance of their religion, he bought a Bible and burned it page by page in his home compound while his friends watched. Three nights later he went to his room determined to commit suicide on a railway line. Sitting on the railway track, Sadhu loudly asked who is the true God. If the true God didn't show Himself that night, he would commit suicide.



However, before dawn, he wakened his father to announce that he had seen Jesus Christ in a vision and heard his voice. The discipleship of the teenager was immediately tested as his father pleaded and demanded that he give up this absurd conversion. When he refused, Sher Singh gave a farewell feast for his son, then denounced him and expelled him from the family. Several hours later, Sundar realised that his food had been poisoned, and his life was saved only by the help of the nearby Christian community.

On his sixteenth birthday he was publicly baptised as a Christian. He walked onto the road, a tall, good-looking, vigorous teenager, wearing a yellow robe and turban. The

young Sundar Singh had chosen the sadhu's way, but he would be a sadhu with a difference. "I am not worthy to follow in the steps of my Lord," he is recorded as saying, "but, like Him, I want no home, no possessions. Like Him I will belong to the road, sharing the suffering of my people, eating with those who will give me shelter, and telling all men of the love of God." Scarcely tough enough to meet physical hardship, the sixteen-year-old sadhu went northward through Punjab, into Kashmir, and then back through Muslim Afghanistan and Baluchistan. His thin, yellow robe gave him little protection against the snows, and his feet became torn from the rough tracks. The little Christian communities of the north referred to him as "the apostle with the bleeding feet." He was stoned, arrested, visited by a shepherd who talked with strange intimacy about Jesus and then was gone, and left to sleep in a way-side hut with an unexpected cobra for company. Meetings with the mystical and the sharply material, persecution and welcome, would all characterize his experience in the years ahead.

Tibet was a Buddhist land that missionaries had long failed to penetrate with the gospel. Ever since his baptism Tibet had beckoned Sundar, and in 1908, at the age of nineteen, he crossed its frontiers for the first time. In December 1909, he began training for the Christian ministry at the Anglican college in Lahore. Much in the college course seemed to Singh to be irrelevant to the gospel as India needed to hear it. After eight months in the college, Singh decided to leave in July 1910. As Sundar Singh moved through his twenties his ministry widened greatly, and long before he was thirty years old his name and picture were familiar all over the Christian world. Many people said, "He not only looks like Jesus, he talks like Jesus must have talked." All his talks and his personal speech sprang out of profound early morning meditation, especially on the Gospels. In 1912, he began his annual trek into Tibet as the winter snows began to melt on the Himalayan tracks and passes. In 1918, he made a long tour of South India and Ceylon, and the following year he was invited to Burma, Malaya, China, and Japan. He visited the West twice, travelling to Britain, the United States, and Australia in 1920, and to Europe again in 1922.

In 1923 Sundar Singh made the last of his regular summer visits to Tibet and came back exhausted. His preaching days were obviously over and, in the next years, in his own home or those of his friends in the Simla hills he gave himself to meditation, fellowship, and writing some of the things he had lived to preach. In 1929, against all his friends' advice, Sundar determined to make one last journey to Tibet. In April he reached Kalka, a small town below Simla, a prematurely aged figure in his yellow robe. Where he went from there and what happened to him remains

unknown. Like He did in the instances of a few remarkable men of the Bible, God chose to conceal the time and manner of his death from the rest of the world. To this day Sadhu Sundar Singh remains truly one of the most Christ-like men the world has ever seen or will ever see.

Children Bible Quiz

1. Who was the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron?
A) Putiel B) Korah C) Phinehas D) Izhar
2. Who was the son of Omri, the king of Israel?
A) Ahab B) Joram C) Zimri D) Ginath
3. Who was the husband of Naomi from the book of Ruth?
A) Boaz B) Elkanah C) Obed D) Elimelech
4. Where did Dorcas live?
A) Bethel B) Joppa C) Caesarea D) Antioch
5. Who killed Sisera?
A) David B) Ahab C) Saul D) Jael
6. How wide was Noah's ark?
A) 35 feet B) 50 feet C) 75 feet D) 90 feet
7. How wide was the Ark of the Covenant?
A) 1.5 cubits B) 2 cubits C) 3 cubits D) 1 cubit
8. What was the name of Elisha's servant?
A) Jehoram B) Shaphat C) Gehazi D) Hazael
9. What was the name of Paul's famous teacher?
A) Justus B) Gamaliel C) Caiaphas D) Socrates
10. Who was the father of Rehoboam?
A) David B) Nimrod C) Abimelech D) Solomon

Answers:

1) C 2) A 3) D 4) B 5) D 6) C 7) A 8) C 9) B 10) D

Contact Us

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