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INSIGHT

India

newsletter

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SERVING HIS SERVANTS



in those days for the specific communities and cultural settings. Therefore, the necessities of the day, like children's education, marriage of a girl child, housing, literacy, etc., are not mentioned here.

This should lead and help us examine our giving pattern. Are we believers satisfied just by giving without understanding the need? Do we tend to give an offering on Sunday and leave the responsibility to the church deacons/elders to take care of it? Or to send gifts to some known workers directly? Some give to organisations and trust them to handle it appropriately. Most of the organisations distribute funds available to them periodically and systematically. There are occasions when a group of believers or an assembly sponsors special meetings for workers in certain areas and distributes gifts to the participants at the end. In all these, do we miss the most important aspect, which is made clear here: that is, understanding the specific need and providing to meet it?

If we do not try to understand the needs and work out a system to provide for specific necessities, we need to introspect whether there is a wasting of our resources. My experience of working with workers in India for close to three decades, has taught me many things. There are some local evangelists who are not able to manage their money and inflow well. They live one day at a time. They spend what they get without considering their own needs of the near future. So a generous gift at an unexpected time would prompt them to spend in excess. Recently an evangelist's wife, who served in North India for almost four decades and had trained several local workers, concurred regarding the impulsive spending nature among some workers. It is also appreciable to note that they are quite open to use it even on the unexpected needs of the believers in their congregations. But when

the situation comes that he has to pay the school fees for his child two months later, or when there is a medical emergency, sadly, there is no money in hand!

Observing such issues in the field, in Operation Barnabas, we have developed the need-based schemes of support. The Medical Aid Plan (MAP) provides for the medical need of evangelists. The Education Plan (EAP) provides for the education need of the evangelists' children. The Social Aid Plan (SAP) provides for maintenance of family and any other social concerns or specific needs like the marriage of children. These are given only when the need arises. There are funds coming to an evangelist at random through various sources to provide for his daily needs. Our goal is to put money in their hands at the time of precise and specific occasions when they need help. Operation Barnabas, being a supporting agency, gets several requests for help in these areas. But the scarcity of funds does not allow us to support them properly. Designated funds are handled only after proper consultation with both the donor and the recipient. We encourage anyone desiring to send designated funds to contact us and discuss the matter before sending the funds. We would only be happy to help.

One comment I received recently on the collection and distribution of funds is as follows: "According to the Word of God, the local assembly is the sphere and means of divine activities. The Lord has not established any organisations to carry out things like funding that local assemblies and individuals are supposed to be exercised and engaged in." I guess this is only an assumption among some "Brethren;" there is no such teaching in the Bible. We are not saying that the direct support by individuals and assemblies should stop; it should be continued.

My friend added, "Do you think we have no time, interest and means to get in touch with those whom we want to support directly, so that we need a middleman?" Perhaps this is where the failure comes. The brethren, who hold on to this extra-scriptural teaching usually do the distribution according to "their wish" and to "whomever they know." If that happens, a good number of workers' needs will be left unattended. This system can make some potentially well-off, while others are left uncared for. This disparity may force some so-called 'workers' to adopt their own ways of raising funds, which will be rightly or wrongly criticized as unscriptural and unethical. Rather than criticising those who practice such, we should realise that it is our own failure which prompted the workers to resort to those means. In the early church at Jerusalem, when there was a complaint about neglecting a certain group, the apostles took proper measures to rectify it. Shouldn't we also do so, brothers and sisters, if there is something to be corrected at our end?

In India we have over 3000 commended workers. It is not practical for a local assembly or an individual to know all the needs of these workers who are scattered all over a large country like India. Every assembly usually supports whom-ever they know or are acceptable to them. Is this the only right way to support? In effect, has the local assembly failed in their duty by negligence or by circumstance? The Lord has raised mission agencies in this context to take up some essential tasks just as it was done during apostle Paul's time. Changes in non-doctrinal practical issues are inevitable within the church. Even during the time of the apostles, the church went through several such evolutions.

In Paul's time, we see the case when the fund was not raised or administered by a local church (2Cor. 8).

It was collected in local churches from believers, but the initiative to distribute it came from Paul, an evangelist. It was his vision which he communicated to local churches and used his influence on the local churches. They co-operated in fulfilling that particular need and collected funds. It was then administered by a team. What Paul says in 2Corinthians 8:19 is noteworthy: "The gift which is administered by us for the glory of God." Here it is clear that it was not administered by just one local church, but rather by "us," a group of men. The fund was collected in the local church under his instruction. Paul used Titus, another evangelist, to go and receive it. Then he sought the help of two unimpeachable men from local churches and from different walks of life, one, a well-known preacher or a spiritual leader, and the other, a businessman who knew how to handle money well. One man's vision was executed by a 'committee' or group of people under the direction of the visionary himself.

Here I would like to bring up the role of evangelists, or full-time servants of God, in this collection and distribution of funds. Paul, the visionary, and his main assistant were full-time evangelists who had first-hand knowledge about the need. In most countries, the funding agencies have on their board full-time workers who were in the field for several years. Operation Barnabas follows this pattern and has three commended workers on its board of trustees.

At that instant, the committee (a group of believers) was executing the vision of Paul and was doing what he told them to do. That is one of the patterns we see in the New Testament. Since it is not a doctrinal subject, nor did the apostles instruct any of the churches to follow this particular pattern, it can be evolved to suit the needs of the time. Today, the agencies are following the same

For I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes, and you clothed me, I was sick, and you looked after me, I was in prison, and you came to visit me... The King will reply, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

Matthew 2:42,45

AS BELIEVERS, MANY OF US WOULD HAVE READ THESE BIBLE VERSES, HEARD SEVERAL MESSAGES, AND PERHAPS PREACHED ON THEM ON SOME OCCASIONS. WE OFTEN CONSIDER THIS PASSAGE AS RELATED TO THE JUDGEMENT OF GOD ON THOSE WHO HAVE NEGLECTED THEIR DUTY. The ground for judgment will be men's conduct towards other people, both by omission and commission, failure to perform the most elementary duties of charity and brotherly love. It will not be a profession of religion, nor a creed, the purity of doctrine, nor a performance of acts of worship. God is so perfectly sympathetic, and He takes what is



The blessing of poverty

Sam K John

Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5:3

THE VERY FIRST BEATITUDE TELLS US WHO WILL BE PART OF THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN. IN THE NORMAL COURSE, NO ONE ASSOCIATES THE WORD 'POOR' WITH BLESSING. Here the Lord is not talking about physical poverty. He never did propagate such a teaching that only the poor, needy, helpless and unwanted people are candidates for the Kingdom. Here the Lord is talking about being poor in spirit. Some of us have a tendency to associate 'poor in spirit' with outward simplicity, and consider it a virtue.

What it is not

Consider the Israelites at Kadesh Barnea. They refused to enter the Promised Land. They said, yes, the land is fertile and fruitful, but the people of the land are strong and powerful. We are no match for them (Num. 13:27–28). Here, their attitude cannot be considered as being poor in spirit, though they considered others better than them. Their attitude was pure cowardice.

Being poor in spirit is not laziness. In the parable of the talents, we read of one of the servants who buried his talent. He was trying to give a picture of humility and submissiveness, saying how he was in awe and fear of his master. The master could not be deceived. He called him a lazy servant (Matthew 25:24–27). This servant showed an outward appearance of simplicity which was really laziness.

So then, what does being poor in spirit mean? The Lord Jesus Christ, through his life and example, revealed what it is to be poor in spirit. He said: *By myself I can do nothing... I seek not to please myself but Him who sent Me.* (John 5:30)

For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of Him who sent me... (John 6:38) ...I do nothing on My own but speak just what the Father has taught Me. (John 8:28)

The Lord Jesus had His own will, power and personality. He is the second person of the Trinity. Yet, He voluntarily put Himself under the Father's authority, direction, and will. Jesus Christ, in His walk, talk, work, attitude, desire, and

thought, was in tune with his Father in heaven. He relied and depended on God's power and authority. He was willing to submit and be directed. That is being poor in spirit."

Jesus Exemplified Being Poor in Spirit

Jesus demonstrated how to be poor in spirit by His attitude and action in the upper room. It was the demonstration of the full extent of His love to them who were His disciples and over whom He was Master.

The twelve disciples and their Master had come to the upper room to celebrate the Passover. It was the Jewish custom that the host must wash the feet of the guests or that the least of the slaves wash the feet of the master as they entered the house. In this scenario, all thirteen of them were guests as well as hosts. The custom of hospitality demanded that their feet be washed before they sat for the meal. Each of the disciples might have been looking at, or rather even expecting, one of the others to fulfill the act, only that none of them stooped down to do it. None of the disciples wanted to play the host and take on the responsibility of washing the feet of the others. Peter must have thought that since he was the natural leader, let one of the others wash. John must have thought that since he was the beloved, let others do it. Each one of them must have had his own justification for not doing this menial act and so all of them quickly sat for the meal. So *Jesus got up from the meal, took off His outer clothing and wrapped a towel around his waist. After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash His disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around Him.* (John 13:4–5)

Being poor in spirit is to be like Jesus Christ, being obedient to His Father in heaven in total willingness and perfect humility, and like Him, serving His disciples with unconditional love. The very purpose

of His coming into the world was to serve (Matthew 20:28).

The Poverty of the Prodigal Son

The parable of the Prodigal Son portrays this beatitude. The younger son, when he came to his senses, decided to go back to his father and say, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son." He acted on what he decided to do. He is a classic example of poverty of spirit. He realized his unworthiness. Receiving the gift of salvation, which is purely by grace, requires poverty of the spirit. We have nothing to claim, nothing to demand, nothing to boast as we come to God. The elder son, on the other hand, is a classic example of being proud in spirit. He was angry with his father. He did not want to enter and rejoice with the sinner. The Father's banquet is a picture of heaven where sinners are accepted, forgiven, and brought in. It is a place where they rejoice and celebrate. There are many older brothers outside. If the younger brother was prodigal in action, the older brother was prodigal in attitude.

To enter the Kingdom of Heaven, one has to be poor in spirit. To remain in the Kingdom also, one has to be poor in spirit. What does this mean? In Jesus' time, it was a curse to be poor. And it was a blessing to have possessions. But Jesus talks about a poverty of the spirit. It is related to the attitude of the heart. Only those who realize that they are spiritually bankrupt will also desire for spiritual filling. Remember blind Bartimaeus in Mark 10:46–52? The beggar on the Jericho road was someone who had to beg for his living. When he heard that Jesus was passing by, he cried out, "Jesus, Son of David have mercy on me!" It was the cry of a spiritual beggar to the Saviour of the world, to the only one who could give him, not just physical sight, but spiritual life! And Jesus

responded at once and healed him. The response of Bartimaeus was to leap up and follow Christ along the road, choosing the difficult path of discipleship and not a life of ease.

The Proud in Spirit

The poor in spirit are the ones who acknowledge their own helplessness and weakness, rely on the wisdom, power and authority of God, and are willing to be taught and willing to serve and submit.

On the other hand, to be proud in spirit is the opposite of being spiritually poor. The world, during the time of Christ, was represented by the Romans, Greeks and Jews; they represented the kingdoms of the world. The Romans reflected authority and aggressiveness. They gloried in their power and might. The Greeks reflected knowledge and wisdom. They gloried in the power of their mind. The Jews reflected spirituality... knowledge of God. They gloried in the fact that they alone knew God (spiritual pride). Their pride blinded them from seeing who Jesus was. That is why John 1:11 records, *He came to that which was His own, but His own did not receive Him.* The Jewish nation rejected Him. The Jews said, "We know how the Messiah ought to be, and you, Jesus, don't fit into it." In contrast, the Beatitudes represents the Kingdom of Heaven. The Kingdom of Heaven is contrary to the kingdoms of the world.

The Danger of Spiritual Pride

So if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don't fall.

1Corinthians 10:12.

Uzziah's Downfall

King Uzziah is an example of how one can fall from grace (2Chron. 26:3–21). Uzziah became king of Judah when he was 16, and reigned in Jerusalem for 52 years. He did what was right in the eyes of the LORD. He did great reformation in his kingdom. He developed and

fortified the kingdom and won wars against the Philistines. The neighbouring kings began to fear him and give tributes. He developed irrigation, agriculture, and livestock. He had a well-trained and powerful army which was well-equipped with innovative weapons. All these he did because God helped him as he depended on Him alone.

Sadly, when King Uzziah became powerful, he became proud and gloried in himself, which led to his downfall. He became unfaithful to his God. In his arrogance, he defied God and entered the temple of God to burn incense on the altar, which was only rightful for priests who were consecrated. In spite of being warned by 81 courageous priests not to burn incense, he defied them. Right there before the altar of incense, as he was raging at the priests for asking him to leave the sanctuary, God struck him with leprosy. What a shameful end! The Bible tells us that He had leprosy till the day he died. He even had to leave his palace and remain in confinement till his death. Uzziah began well, did well and walked with God for the first forty years of his reign, but the last ten years of his life, his pride and arrogance caused his downfall, shame and loss.

The Disciples' Lack of Spiritual Poverty

Scripture doesn't glorify anyone. It reveals us exactly as we are—sinners. The disciples are shown exactly as they are. None of their shortcomings, failings, or fleshly nature was covered up or justified. The disciples had their share of conflicts, ego, and pride. They were unloving and had no compassion. Most of the time; they were fighting amongst themselves as to who among them was the greatest. Matthew 18:1–4 records such an incident. The disciples came to the Lord Jesus with the question of who is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven? Each one of them perhaps wanted and longed to hear

their own name from the lips of their Master. Jesus Christ rebuked them. He said forget about being greatest. With such an attitude, you will never even enter the Kingdom. Here the question is of attitude. It wasn't even the right question to ask. Lord Jesus took the example of a child and explained about being poor in spirit to enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Jesus told them unless you change and humble yourself and become like little children, you will never enter the Kingdom of Heaven or qualify to be called greatest in the Kingdom.” (Matthew 18:3–4)

Peter's Pride

Simon Peter displayed pride and spiritual arrogance when he declared, “Even if all others leave you and forsake you, I will not.” (Matt. 26:33) Anything for you, Lord! You can count on me, jail or even death, said Peter confidently (Luke 22:33). What happened? He denied the Lord three times!

We cannot live our life with our own self-will. The Lord had to teach Peter about poverty of the spirit. So the Lord tells him to be vigilant, watch and pray. To depend on God and not on your self-will. Don't undermine the flesh, world or Satan. Watch and pray that you will not fall into temptation. “The spirit is willing, but the body is weak.” (Luke 22:40,46; Matt. 26:41) We may fail or fall; the call is to get up, get back to the Lord and His ways. Peter did it, but Judas failed; let us not forget that!

How to live in Spiritual Poverty

The Life of Paul

Apostle Paul is an example of serving God from first to last, from the time of his salvation up to the time of his homecall. He was able to do it effectively because he was poor in spirit. His attitude and actions proved it. He said, in 1Cor. 15:9, “I am least of the apostles.”

1Corinthians 15:10: “I am what I am by the grace of God.” 1Timothy 1:16: “I am worst of sinners” and in 2Timothy 1:12, he could also say that his confidence was in CHRIST alone, even for his very own salvation.

Paul viewed his own salvation as an example of God's amazing grace. He went on to say, “But for that very reason I was shown mercy, so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display His immense patience as an example for those who would believe in Him and receive eternal life.” (1Tim. 3:16) This is an attitude of spiritual poverty, acknowledging our complete lack of any merit, and in fact, going on to acknowledge that by all requirements of justice, we should have been severely punished.

D L Moody, the 19th Century preacher, was conducting a workshop for young pastors at the Moody Bible College campus in the United States of America. At night all the European candidates left their shoes outside to be cleaned and polished, as it was their custom in Europe, where they had hall servants to do that job. In America there was no such provision. Each one had to clean their shoes. Moody saw the shoes and understood the situation. He called students from his campus to do the job without embarrassing the foreign delegates. Those students managed to excuse themselves, each of them telling Moody that they were extremely busy with other activities. In the middle of that night one of his students from his campus saw a light in Moody's room as he passed through the corridor. He looked in to find Moody beside many pairs of shoes, polishing them.

To enter the Kingdom of Heaven, one has to be poor in spirit. To remain in the Kingdom of Heaven, one has to be poor in spirit. To serve God in His Kingdom, one has to be poor in spirit. □

ROBERT G LETOURNEAU WAS A SMALL BUSINESSMAN LEADING A NORMAL CHRISTIAN LIFE WHEN HIS SISTER SARAH CHALLENGED HIM. “Yes, I know, you have a list of good deeds, and as fast as you do them every week you check them off and say, ‘Now that that's over I can get back to work.’ Bob, that's not loving Jesus. When you love Him, you'll want to serve Him, and you'll hunt for ways to do it.”

That disturbed him. The following week there was a revival meeting in his church. He attended it and on the last day when all were gone, he went forward and knelt at the old wooden altar. Alone with God, he prayed, “Lord if You'll forgive me and help me, I'll do anything You want me to do from this day on.” He thought, “service to the Lord, to which I had just dedicated my life, meant the ministry or missionary work. I couldn't see myself as a minister. I couldn't even speak correct English in private, let alone stand up before a congregation.”

That night he struggled to sleep. Early the next day, he went to see Pastor Devol. “The Lord did something for me last night. He took me out of spiritual bankruptcy, and I promised Him I would do anything He wanted me to do from that moment on. But how can I know what He wants me to do? I know a layman can't serve Him like a preacher can, but tell me, does He want me to serve as a missionary? I need your advice.”

After listening to him, Pastor Devol said, “Let's pray and find your answer there.” They both prayed asking God what He wanted him to do. After the prayer, God spoke to him through the words of his pastor. “You know, brother LeTourneau,” he said, “God needs businessmen as well as preachers and missionaries.” He made the decision. “If that is what God wants me to be, I will try to be His businessman.”

God's businessman

WHO GAVE 90% OF HIS INCOME TO GOD

Shibu K Mathew

Later, R G Letourneau came to be known as “God's businessman” who made God his business partner. He became a prolific inventor, with more than 300 patents for his machines. He gave 90% of his company income and 90% of his personal income to God. His life story is a testimony of how God can change a dumb and uneducated person for His glory.

Robert G. Letourneau was born on November 30, 1888. He had godly parents and seven siblings. They had a legacy of many ministers and missionaries in the family. As a family, they worshipped in a small Brethren assembly. This is what he says about his childhood:

“As a boy I was restless, destructive, wilful, stubborn and fanatically determined to amount to nothing. I was not only the biggest in the class, but also the dumbest. We call what I had an inferiority complex today, and I was crawling with it. I quit trying entirely and came to hate school with an almost physical violence. I wanted to break windows and kick out walls. I simply didn't have enough to do. I chopped the wood, hauled water and watered the garden, all before noon, and

then ran wild through the woods and along the lake.

My father's opinion of me during my first fourteen years was usually expressed in a wide selection of Bible verses aimed at describing the fate of rebellious boys like me. I regularly attended church; I had no escape—and heard a lot about God without learning a thing. I still resented the outside world, and going to church was a duty I performed only because it pleased the family. About all I knew of religion was that I didn't have it, and that if you didn't have it, you were going to hell.”

Though he hated school, he was curious and enjoyed working with his hands. At the age of 12, he designed his first equipment, a snow plow, to finish the work assigned to him soon. Later, this became his major strength, and he invented more than 300 earth-moving and related machines that would do bigger jobs faster.

He started to work as a farmhand, and then he became a foundry apprentice, then master molder. In each of these trades, he learned new things and improved upon them.

His parents continued to pray for their rebellious son, and at the age of 16, he was won by Christ's love. After his conversion, he joined the choir and was part of the young people's meeting.

He slowly started to grow as a businessman. He bought an old tractor, improved it and got contract jobs. He finished jobs faster with his tractor than others. Meanwhile, he started a garage with his friend. It also started to grow, and he started to get many contract jobs. He married Evelyn, who became his helpmate throughout his life for his future success.

Then suddenly his garage business broke, and he was in debt of \$5000. Later, his first child also died, which forced them as a family to seek God's face. He says, "That night while we were still numb with sorrow, the answer came to me. 'My child,' the voice said, 'you have been working hard, but for the wrong things. You have been working for material things when you should have been working for spiritual things.'"

As the members of the local assembly were very few, after prayer, they decided to join another church; that was a tough decision for them. Evelyn started to be involved in the Sunday School, and Bob started to work with *Peniel Mission*, which forced him to engage in street-corner meetings.

Though things were going on, they were not satisfied with their spiritual lives, and it was this point that his sister Sarah, who was a missionary in China, challenged him to rededicate his life as God's businessman, at the age of 30. He remembers that day: "My idea was that if a man were going all out for God, he would have to be a preacher, or an evangelist, or a missionary, or what we call a full-time Christian worker. I didn't realize that a layman could serve the Lord as well as a preacher. If I didn't amount to much, I felt, it was because I had tried to struggle

along too much on my own. Now that I was in business to serve God, in a sort of partnership, as it were, how could I fail?"

God blessed him with many new ideas for earth-moving machines, which he designed and used in the contracting business of building dams and highways. He started two factories to manufacture the machines; This improved his financial position and slowly his business grew further that in 1929. He listed his company in the stock market. Business improved further, crossing sales of \$110,808 and a profit of \$34,794 in 1931. Though God prospered him, he didn't give back to God. He confesses that "That night I got down on my knees and gave due thanks to God for His bounty, and for sparing us from the business depression that was sweeping the country. 'And now that the new factory is finished, we'll do some business. So instead of giving You Your share now, I'll put it all into expanding the business, and next year You will get a share to be proud of.'"

He realized his mistake later. One of his dam-building contracts had a major accident, and God saved their lives, but he ended with a major loss and a debt of \$50,000, and another \$50,000 for the material suppliers.

At the same time, he got another major job, which they worked for a month, seven days a week to finish it. In the midst of it, he remembered that he missed the Sunday worship. He resolved that he will never miss it again.

He got another major job. As he was in debt, the surety company that offered money to rescue them wanted them to work seven days a week on that project and finish it early. But he decided to keep the Sunday holiday by working late till midnight on Saturdays, and started working from midnight on Sundays. They finished the job on time.

"We had had our struggles, however. I remember his (my accountant, Frost's) horror the first week when he discovered I couldn't pay any salaries.

I went to church the following Sunday, I had forgotten it, but this was the Sunday the annual pledges for missionary work were taken up. I listened to the speakers, especially a foreign missionary who gave a highly stirring plea, and I said to myself, "Lord, I'm sorry, but there just isn't any way I can make a pledge this year. I can't even meet my payroll." Right then I had the thought that I had failed to share with the Lord the year before when I had my first big profit, promising to share with Him this year when my profits would be big pickings. Certainly, in dropping me a hundred thousand in debt, He had shown me the error of my ways. Was I to fail Him again?

"I had been pledging \$5,000 a year for some years past, and I had the feeling that the Lord wanted me to pledge the same amount again. Our folks didn't read off the names of those who pledged, but it was customary to read off the amounts as the pledges came in, and I knew, and the congregation knew, that there were only a few of us who made a pledge that size. They'd spot me in a minute, and after missing my pledge last year, I could just hear them say, 'Why that old hypocrite! He pledges big, but he never pays his bills.'"

He pledged the full amount for His sake, but rather than appear conspicuous before the members of the church, He broke the pledge down in small amounts divided amongst the members of his family. "I will say Frost was appalled when I insisted upon adding the pledge, plus the same amount for the year I had missed, to our mountain of debts. 'There goes the business,' he said. 'I don't think so,' I said. 'Well, add the pledge to the payroll, and whenever we can meet the pay-

roll, we'll meet the pledge. I think I'd better get out of here," he said. "The Bible isn't one of the books we use in cold-cash bookkeeping." "You thinking of quitting?" I asked. "No," he said slowly. "We can't be any worse off than we are now. I'll stick around to see how the show ends." Within a month, we were meeting the payroll—and the pledge—on time. "We're making it," Frost reported." "With the help of the Lord," I said."

He says how God blessed it: "Just to give you an idea, the year I failed to share with the Lord, my profits were, as mentioned, \$34,474.92. The next year of 1931, I had almost the same figure—\$32,507.41—as a loss, and the worst was yet to come. By mid-1932, I had sunk \$100,000 below bottom, but had recognized my error and was back in the good graces of my Lord. We ended that year with a net profit of \$52,055.61, meaning we had earned that much even if we did owe it all and then some. But with substantial payments on our debts, Frost was able to re-establish our credit rating, and while we were still living hand-to-mouth, we did have beans in the pantry.

He decided to stop the contracting jobs and started focussing on designing and manufacturing new machines. This picked up well.

"That is what I had to do. And even now I find the results rather staggering. In 1933, my sales had mounted to \$379,106.53. In 1934, they had shot up to \$929,860.67, of which \$340,275.49 was net profit, or nearly as much-profit as total sales had been the year before."

Slowly he was recognised as a successful businessman, and he got the first opportunity to speak at Peoria Chamber of Commerce to share his experience. Though hesitant about public speaking, he prayed to God and got his strength and shared his testimony of God's help in his life and his business. This opened more invitations to speak at business meetings and churches,

where he shared his testimony and the gospel.

On the way back from the meeting, Bob and Evelyn had a discussion in the car. They decided to start *Le-tourneau Foundation*, dedicated to God and His work. They sponsored religious, missionary and educational work for the greater glory of God. They would give half of the company stock to the foundation and keep half to themselves. Then half of what the company makes would go to the foundation and half to them. Evelyn said, "but there is nothing personal about it." So they decided to give half of their own income to the foundation. Later they increased it to 90% of the company stock and 90% of their income. In 1972, the Letourneau Foundation was worth \$40 million after the distribution of \$10 million to religious and educational work.

Letourneau was not only designing and manufacturing machines; he was interested in the souls of his factory workers. So he arranged special gospel meetings in the factory and later appointed three chaplains to take care of those who were interested in the gospel. He started a company newsletter and in that, he wrote a column where he shared about spiritual matters, This later became an evangelistic paper NOW, which circulated six hundred thousand copies freely. In his company shareholders' meeting and annual report, he shared the word of God without shame.

His preaching ministry flourished, so he started the *Letourneau Evangelistic Center* to travel and preach the gospel. They started by road and in 1947, he bought a plane for his travel. Later, many planes were added to carry the whole team to meetings across the US. He had flown more than three million miles for ministry purposes during weekdays, speaking at 5–6 meetings a day.

Later, they started the *Letourneau Technical Institute* to provide students with mechanical skills, as

well as biblical training. He also started two missionary projects in Liberia and Peru spending millions of dollars.

Being successful, he always acknowledged God's grace in his life: "Everything considered, I've had my share of ups and downs, but thus far my life has been a miracle of God's grace all the way through. I remember when a man said to me, 'I know you claim the Lord does it for you, but I figure you were just smart enough to make machines that would work, and that's all there is to it.' I agreed with him that it was that simple, and then said, 'But you have to give the Lord the credit for giving me the brains to figure out the machines.'"

As a billionaire, "his attitude toward money is also unique," writes Nels in a memoriam. "He does not view money as something to be accumulated for the satisfaction of looking at it, counting it each day to check its increase, nor as a measure of a man's worth; He sees it only as a means to produce the machine his mind has conceived or as a means to bring men to God. A suit of clothes, to him, is simply a garment for proper dress; his car, a means to bring him to his destination; his plane, a conservator of time; his office (unbelievably unpretentious), a place necessary to carry out the duties of the day. There are no status symbols in his life; he is too busy to have such concerns." He often said, "The question is not how much of my money I give to God, but rather how much of God's money I keep for myself.

After 81 years of fruitful service to the Lord as God's businessman, he went to be with His partner on June 1, 1969.

He always reminded his hearers: "I am just a mechanic blessed by God. You will never know what you can accomplish until you say a great big yes to the Lord." □

Aben John Skariah

I am Aben John Skariah, from Kerala. I was born and brought up in a Christian Brethren family. I used to attend all our church meetings, Sunday School, etc, but I was living a life without salvation. One day a person visited my home and he shared the gospel of Jesus Christ with me. That day I realised that I was a sinner and I need a Saviour... this was in Nov 21, 2009. One year later I was baptized.

I enrolled into a Bible college, but after stepping out, I was totally confused. I had no idea what I should do for the Lord. This was during the time of Covid-19's second wave. Due to the lockdowns, I was at home and thinking about it. One thing that happened at that time was: I was very much interested in music, and I was praying for a long time to study music production and sound engineering. Unexpectedly, God opened the way and I could study it and I started working as an engineer in a studio at Kochi. I began working in a secular set up. There God again started speaking to me to leave it and do His work. Once again I had no idea what ministry I should be doing. It was at that time that I met one of my teachers and asked him, what should I do? I had a desire to do God's ministry. Then he told me that I could use my talent for missions, and he introduced me to Bro. Timmy Paul Mathew and the ministry he does. I never thought that my secular studies or skills and talents could be used in the Lord's mission. Then God spoke to me, and now I am in Coimbatore with Bro. Timmy Paul Mathew.

The ministry we are doing is recording audio Bibles in tribal languages, because many of the tribals are not educated and cannot read and understand the Word of God. We give them the Bible in audio format, so that they can listen and understand. Also, we make songs for tribals, because most of them don't have Christian songs in their own languages. We make short gospel messages for those tribal groups where there is no Bible in their language.

I am so glad that God is using my talents and skills for His mission and for His glory. While my greatest desire is to go as a missionary to the unreached places, I can do only what God wants me to do. I am praying for that as well.

Ajith A

May the precious name of our Lord be glorified! My name is Ajith A. I was born and brought up in a Christian family. I have my parents and two siblings. My father is serving the Lord for the last 18 years in a place called Sandaiyur in Madurai district of Tamil Nadu.

I was born in this world without any hope and was on the verge of death. God miraculously touched and healed me. Therefore my parents prayed and dedicated me for the Lord's work. From my childhood I was nurtured and given sufficient exposure to missions, but my desire was to live a mediocre life and, like other people, to enjoy the pleasures of this world.

Having seen the hardships of my parents in the missions, it was not my first choice. But over the years, the Lord had been strongly speaking to me concerning missions through His Word, godly people and through various circumstances since I got saved at the age of 14, when I was studying in Std 10.

Being convinced of the call from God for missions, I got the privilege to systematically pursue theological studies at Brethren Bible Institute, Pathanamthitta. It was in this place that God moulded me and spoke clearly from His Word (Isaiah 49; Romans 1:11) about the need and burden for the North Indian missions, giving strong focus on equipping and establishing the believers in the Word.

Subsequently, the Lord brought many of His servants, who shared the need in North India, especially in the largest state of our country which is Uttar Pradesh. Therefore after my B.Th. and M.Th., as I was waiting upon the Lord and praying to get trained, He directed me to Mathura in Uttar Pradesh. Here, in

Mathura, I am learning Hindi, North Indian culture, ministry exposure, both inside and outside the assembly, apologetics and religion studies, essential life skills in the missions, etc. I am staying with Evg. Samuel B Thomas and his family along with Bro. Sem Kumar and Bro. Arun K., learning and exploring missions and mission fields. Please uphold us in your prayers.

Jones Krish

I am Jones Krish from Tamil Nadu. I accepted Jesus Christ as my Saviour in my childhood. At that time, I was considering to go as a missionary after I read Zigenbalg's biography. But I didn't take that thought very seriously. I realized my calling by God through Paul's life for the first time when I was baptized. But I didn't commit myself initially. I didn't regard it. After my schooling, I started my UG degree. I involved myself with the EU at that time. I was called by God once again through the same passage. At that time, I committed myself to God to go as a frontier missionary. But due to my family situation, I couldn't commit fully, but partially with some demands.

However, God didn't leave me. After I completed my UG studies, God spoke to me repeatedly in one of the Mission Conferences that I attended. I was very stubborn and refused to obey immediately because of my family situation. But God broke my heart many times through many different things. But I knew that God wanted me to do His work. So, I went to Madurai Bible College with some vows and God fulfilled that. Finally, I committed myself fully and started to pray for North India. God showed me a

place in Jammu and Kashmir, and I went there. I could see the need for God in that place. After I completed my BTh degree, I asked God what I should do after that. He sent me to one of the brothers who was on a mission of recording the audio Bible, gospel messages, and gospel songs into tribal languages. I began to involve in that mission. I did sound engineering for this ministry. When I was with the tribals, I heard a memorable statement from them: "OUR GOD IS SPEAKING IN OUR LANGUAGES!" That moved my heart to know how people needed God. It encouraged me. God enabled me to record the audio Bible in more than six tribal languages. At the same time, I was praying for Jammu and Kashmir. Again God gave me another chance to go to Jammu and Kashmir to take a survey. He made me realize that I had to equip myself to meet the needs of those people. I came back to Tamil Nadu and again I asked God what I should do next. God opened a way to do a one-year Clinical Chaplaincy Course at Bangalore Baptist Hospital. I am currently doing this course and waiting for God to lead me to His mission further.

P Simeon Raj

I am P Simeon Raj from a place called Karaikudi in Tamil Nadu. I was born and raised in a Christian family. If I should testify about my life, I should start with His grace; if it weren't for His grace, I wouldn't be in this world today. When I was born, there were doubts if I would live. My parents were praying and vowed, "If this child is born, we will dedicate him to Your ministry like Hannah did Samuel." As a result, I survived. There was one point in time where I met with an accident, and there too, God saved me by His mighty power. I then realised how God was keeping me safe and being merciful. Later, while talking to my father, I encountered God and accepted Jesus as my personal Saviour. After my secondary education, I completed my BTh in Chennai and my MTh in Kerala. Overall, in six years, I had a great experience with God and learnt a lot about how to do His ministry and glorify His name.

After that, I attended a missions exposure meeting in Bangalore. There, God called me for full-time ministry and gave me a burden for North India. Then, one month later, I visited North India. As I went to different places, God was speaking to me. After coming back home, I was thinking about what to do, and how to connect with the people there to share the gospel. Before, I was vaguely interested in counseling, but this situation gave me

more confirmation to pursue a counselling course. I began praying and enquiring about counselling. Then God showed me one course through a brother. Finally, I confirmed that course with God's help. Presently, I am doing a Postgraduate Clinical Chaplaincy and Counselling course in Bangalore. After this, I will go to the north, where God has led me. I am praying and waiting for a particular place to be shown and for God to lead me over there to minister for His glory and accomplish His purposes in my life.

K Senthil Kumar

I am K Senthil Kumar/Vishal. I am from Pondicherry. We are a nuclear family of four people; my father, my mother, my younger sister and I. Before coming to the faith, we were staunch Hindus.

We were facing many problems and there was no peace in my mother's heart. She pursued many gods and visited many temples. All she got was desperation and no results. My aunt gave her a Bible, but my mom refused to read it. It was kept in a corner of the house and was covered with dust. Desperation led my mother towards suicide. As she was about to hang herself, her eyes saw that Bible. She was strongly prompted to read it. Her eyes fell on the verse "Cast your burdens upon the LORD and He will sustain you" (Psalms 55:22). That was it... she abandoned suicide, and this verse brought her the peace she never got anywhere.

My parents went to a Brethren Assembly named Bethel Christian Assembly in Pondicherry. In some months' time they were assured of their experience of salvation and obeyed the Lord in the waters of the baptism, and broke bread. My mom enrolled me in Sunday School. My Sunday School teachers gave me a sound knowledge of the Bible. I remember when I was in the 8th standard, my Sunday School teacher gifted me two books—The Martyrs & The Puritans. I read those books repeatedly. God sowed a seed in my heart.

As days went by, Bible reading became habitual and didn't make any difference in my life. I had secret sins. It was then that I read: "You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin" (Hebrews 12:4). God made me understand how he viewed sin. I saw what Christ has done for me on the cross. But there were still corners in my heart where Christ was not my king. I was reading the Bible, went to fellowships, participating in church activities, but my heart was so away from God. And my secret sins were still controlling my life.

After finishing college, I was placed in a huge company in Bangalore. But deep in my heart, I knew all I cared about was myself, my life, and my worthless goals. I rejected God and His love. But there was only frustration in my life.

My career was growing, but the joy I had with God was lost. I cried to God for help. God brought great failures in whatever I did. That broke me. But now I thank Lord for those failures. I resigned and I returned home. But God used this dark time to do His work in my life. I opened the Bible after so many months. My eyes filled with tears as I was reading the 1st chapter of Ephesians. Lord spoke to me "just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love, having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself" (Eph. 1:4-5)

My heart was overwhelming with joy. I regretted the life I had lived before. Days passed, I realized I am not fulfilling my life's purpose. The more I enjoyed God everyday, my heart yearned to please Him more. My heart was filled with so much love that I wanted to share about His love to anyone I see. A brother from Uttar Pradesh named Suresh Kumar called a brother in my church and shared about the need in Uttar Pradesh, and that brother shared that to me. I was stirred up in my heart after hearing this and I prayed asking God to lead me if that is in His will. I got an opportunity to go for a mission trip and I was moved when I saw the people who don't know about the one who died for their sins. My heart was in deep pain to see their lifestyle, their beliefs and their superstitions. I returned back and resigned my job and shared the gospel to everyone in my company, but I was clueless

about what to do next. In the mission trip, we met Charley John uncle. He contacted me and told me that his mother wanted to teach me Hindi. I learned to read and write Hindi and from there, I went to a place named Amethi, which is near Ayodhya, and participated in the ministry of Bro. Silas. From there the Lord led me back to a place called Muzaffarnagar. and by God's grace, the ministry was started in here in July 2022. Muzaffarnagar is called the city of religious riots. But God loves these people. Some families have heard the gospel and the Lord is working in their hearts. I have also started to teach some people English, and many youths have heard the gospel. Please remember these ministries in your valuable prayers. Thank you.

Karthikeyan

My name is Karthikeyan and I am from Tamil Nadu. I was born and brought up in a Hindu family. In December 2015, my father passed away and I felt hopeless. A week after my father's death, an evangelist (Bro. Christon Edward), visited my home and prayed for our family. I was comforted. He invited me to church and I decided to go.

It was a Sunday morning; I entered the church and looked around the empty hall, confused. I had been to a few Roman Catholic churches before and had seen many idols, but was confused to not find any idols in this church. I observed and listened very keenly and a thought which was shared by a brother touched my heart. After the meeting, all the believers came and spoke to me and this made me very joyful. I decided to attend this church regularly.

One Sunday, a brother was sharing a worship thought, and I still remember the words that broke my heart: "Jesus Christ died for you!" I had heard about Jesus from my childhood, but never realised that His death was for ME! That night, I cried out and prayed to Him to make me His child and I accepted Him as my Lord and Saviour. Since then I have been enjoying and experiencing joy and peace that I had never known before.

I started involving in many ministries, and the Lord helped me grow in Him. In January 2017, I attended a "Children's Ministry Teachers' Training Programme." That program helped me understand how I can be more useful in God's Kingdom. And I praise the Lord for the many opportunities that I got to serve Him and share about Him in Tamil Nadu since then.

One day, while in Coimbatore, as I was reading the Bible, these verses from Romans 10:14 and 15 struck me: "And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless they are sent?" For almost a week after I read these verses, I was restless. It was then that, Bro. R Murthy, an evangelist from Coimbatore told me about a missions conference in Chennai. By God's grace, I was able to attend this conference, and in the evening on the first day of that camp, Evg. Sam K. John, from Bangalore, took a session on a "Survey of India." He was explaining about the need for ministers in North India and when I saw the data on unreached people, my heart was broken again! That night I prayed to God, "In my country there is a large population who still haven't heard about You or about Christ" and as I was praying, I felt God ask me, "WHO WILL GO?" That night, I obeyed God's voice and decided to go to North India, and particularly to Uttar Pradesh. God helped me visit and take a survey of Uttar Pradesh twice. In the coming years, if it is the Lord's will, I desire to serve Him among the people of Uttar Pradesh.

Currently, I am working as a teacher in a mission school in Pakhanjore, Chhattisgarh. I believe the Lord is training me and equipping me for the greater call that He has given me. Please do remember me in your prayers.

Equipped to Go (E2Go)

The training wing of OB, Operation Mission Focus (OMF) is involved in encouraging, training, facilitating and supporting young people who are stepping out into cross-cultural missions (full-time, bi-vocational and tent-making). If you would like to know more about this initiative and be part of it, please write to meetskj@gmail.com

OPERATION BARNABAS					
421, Palm Peak Layout, Kalkere Road, Dooravani Nagar P.O, Bangalore-560016					
BALANCE SHEET AS ON 31ST MARCH 2022 - CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS					
Pr.Year	LIABILITIES		Amount (Rs.)	Pr.Year	ASSETS
3,17,49,942	CAPITAL:-			2,90,70,143	FIXED ASSETS - as per Schedule:-
1,15,82,538	FC FUND A/C-Opening Balance	3,07,37,562		1,04,35,128	Fixed Asset-FC Fund A/c
	Local FUND A/C-Opening Balance	1,10,96,339			Fixed Asset-Local Fund A/c
		4,18,33,901		8,50,000	INVESTMENTS:-
	Add. excess of income over expenditure- FC A/c	9,33,000			FD on endowment funds with HDFC Ltd- FC Fund A/c
-10,12,380	Less:- Excess of Expenditure over Income-FC Fund A/c				FD on endowment funds with HDFC Ltd- Local Fund A/c
-4,86,199	Less:- Excess of Expenditure over Income-Local Fund A/c	-12,35,292	4,15,27,609		
	CAPITAL RECEIPTS:-			22,28,630	CURRENT ASSETS/CLOSING BALANCES:-
5,00,000	Abey & Rachel Endowment Fund-Local Fund A/c	5,00,000			TDS Receivable-FC Fund A/c
	Angelina Arthur Alfred Endowment Fund - Local Fund A/c	5,00,000			TDS receivable-Local Fund A/c
	Late VM Mathew Endowment Fund - Local Fund A/c	3,00,000			Cash at HDFC Utility A/c No. 50100243257700-FC Fund A/c
	Nalkalikal Abey Endowment Fund- FC A/c	5,00,000			Cash at SBI CA A/c No: 40087433151- FC Fund A/c
2,50,000	Late Saramma Mathew Endowment Fund - Local Fund A/c	2,50,000			Cash at HDFC A/c No. 50100310982712-Local Fund A/c
	Sunny Thottali Daniel Endowment Fund- FC A/c	5,50,000	26,00,000		Cash at BOI A/c No. 843710110003276-Local Fund A/c
					Cash in Hand-FC Fund A/c
					Cash in Hand-Local Fund A/c
4,25,83,901			4,41,27,609	4,25,83,901	

OPERATION BARNABAS					
421, Palm Peak Layout, Kalkere Road, Dooravani Nagar P.O, Bangalore-560016					
INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1/4/2021 TO 31/3/2022 - CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS					
Pr.year	EXPENDITURE		Amount (Rs.)	Pr.year	INCOME
4,06,57,454	EXPENSES FOR TRUST OBJECTIVES:-			4,29,23,432	CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED:-
49,86,654	FC Fund Expenses	3,56,17,201		51,98,830	FC Fund - Contribution Received
	Local Fund Expenses	1,00,00,949	4,56,18,150		Local Fund - Contribution Received
	ESTABLISHMENT EXPENSES:-			2,60,809	OTHER RECEIPTS:-
14,86,369	FC Fund A/c	13,95,322			Interest on SB A/c-FC Fund A/c
13,966	Local Fund A/c	2,453	13,97,775		Interest on SB A/c-Local Fund A/c
	OTHER EXPENSES:-				Interest on Term Deposit-FC Fund A/c
7,09,854	Fixed Asset Written off- FC Fund A/c	11,551			Interest on Term Deposit-Local Fund A/c
34,176	TDS Refundable w/off - FC Fund A/c				
20,411	TDS Refundable w/off - Local Fund A/c				
12,16,479	Depreciation-FC Fund A/c	12,81,938		10,12,380	Excess of Income over Expenditure-FC Fund A/c
7,56,287	Depreciation-Local Fund A/c	6,80,656	19,62,594	4,86,199	Excess of Expenditure over Income-Local Fund A/c
			19,74,145		
4,98,81,650			4,89,90,070	4,98,81,650	

OPERATION BARNABAS											
421, Palm Peak Layout, Kalkere Road, Dooravani Nagar P.O, Bangalore-560016											
RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1/4/2021 TO 31/3/2022 - CONSOLIDATED ACCOUNTS											
(Amount in Rs.)											
Pr.year	RECEIPTS	SCH	FC FUND	LC FUND	TOTAL	Pr.year	PAYMENTS	SCH	FC FUND	LC FUND	TOTAL
25,81,122	OPENING BALANCES	7	16,67,419	5,61,211	23,28,630	1,29,99,523	RELIGIOUS	1	29,13,094	2,36,930	31,50,004
4,81,22,261	CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED	8	3,91,03,798	93,67,631	4,84,71,429	55,94,205	EDUCATIONAL	2	67,09,335	13,53,216	80,62,551
	CAPITAL RECEIPTS	9	10,50,000	8,00,000	18,50,000	2,84,32,890	SOCIAL WELFARE PROJECTS	3	2,85,73,900	84,10,823	3,69,84,723
5,10,659	OTHER RECEIPTS	10	16,35,214	77,135	17,12,349	15,00,335	ESTABLISHMENT EXPENSES	4	13,95,322	2,453	13,97,775
						3,58,459	INVESTMENTS	5	10,50,000	8,00,000	18,50,000
						23,28,630	CLOSING BALANCES	6	28,14,780	1,02,575	29,17,355
5,12,14,042			4,34,56,431	1,09,05,977	5,43,62,408	5,12,14,042			4,34,56,431	1,09,05,977	5,43,62,408

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01-07-2022

For PAUL AND JOSEPH
Chartered Accountants
Firm Regn. No. 014753 S



Gopakumar B.K., FCA
Partner, M. No. 226859

For Operation Barnabas
Roy T Daniel
Managing Trustee



For Operation Barnabas
Executive Trustee
(Anil Rajan)



"There was always enough flour and oil left in the cruse, just as the Lord had promised Elijah for the widow and her son."

"My family children received the monthly amount of Rs.XXXX just now. We were out of cash for the last one week. This help is a life-saver!"

thus wrote a mother of two school-going children, whose husband deserted the family many years ago. As the lone breadwinner, she works hard to earn a small income, but that hardly supports the entire monthly needs of rent, fees and provisions. She is enrolled in Project Shrestha, an educational scholarship and life support program for children of poor/needly families with:

- Only one or no surviving parents
- Only one or both parents deserted
- One or both parents who are invalid for life.

This is an initiative of **Operation Sahay Foundation (OSF)**, a non-profit organization operating from Bangalore, with projects across many states of India. It was launched in 2021 during the 2nd Covid wave in India, when many children/women slipped into painful distress due to the loss of one or more family members.

Why this Project

- The children's studies should go uninterrupted.
- The family has a supplementary channel of income for their sustenance.
- The women should be introduced/trained/supported to a livelihood self-sustenance scheme.

The coverage

Monthly support of Rs.1500 to Rs.3500 per family to cover fees and living needs (computed on current income, location, academic fees, number of members in the family, own/rented stay, etc.).

The Reach

70+ families across states now; the aim is to reach 100 in the next four months.

Inspiring Brighter Futures PROJECT SHRESTHA

If you wish to help

For Project Shrestha: Foster them with your prayers and encouragement. Sponsor one or few families for one or a few months and ease their burden.

Donation options to OSF projects, including **Project Shrestha** are:

- Website <https://www.osfindia.org/donate-donor/>
- Credit/Debit cards, wallets accepted
- Gpay/Paytm/PhonePe to **63642 68890**



To make a donation to OSF, please scan the QR code

Bank Transfer: **Operation Sahay Foundation**
HDFC Bank Ltd, Kalkere Branch,
Bangalore
A/c No: **50200037053113**
IFSC: **HDFC0001050**

Contributions to OSF are exempted under Sec 80G of Income Tax Act.

About OSF

The mission provides small social projects, providing support, sustenance and solace to disadvantaged communities and individuals. OSF works with a holistic perspective to see the people maintain a balance of body, mind, and spirit. Thus, it manifests the Lord's compassion in visible and physical form. Impact areas are **Samridhi**: Social development, **Shiksha**: Education (adult literacy, skill development, academic support for rural children, reading cum personality development centres), **Harith**: Agriculture, and **Aarogya**: Healthcare. Write to admin@osfindia.org or visit www.osfindia.org to know more.



Serving His Servants OPERATION BARNABAS

Established in 1994 at Bangalore, the Operation Barnabas (OB) ministry primarily serves the commended assembly workers in India.

Medical Aid Plan



A support scheme to meet the medical needs of Lord's workers and their family members.

Aid up to Rs. 2 lakhs for hospital bills will be given to a family based on availability of funds.

In 2021-22, Rs. 2.23 crores disbursed for hospitalisation and medical bill settlement. All commitments till Aug 2022 (for Sep21 to Aug22 round) honoured in full.

Budget for 2022-23: Rs. 2.5 to 3 crores (Rs. 25 to 30 million). The applications for 2022-23 are actively taken up now.

Education Aid Plan



To support the educational needs of commended workers' children. Covers school/college fee, uniform, books or hostel fees.

2021-22 Disbursement: Rs. 74 lakhs (Rs. 7.4 million).

This includes expenses for OB's tablet supply program for children of Lord's workers, where 300 families benefitted.

Budget for 2022-23: Rs. 75 lakhs (Rs. 7.5 million).

Social Welfare Action Plan (SWAP)



Designated help for special needs of commended workers (marriage of children, housing, grant for widows—currently 120 widows enlisted for monthly support).

Relief and rehabilitation during natural calamities

Aid given in 2021-22: Rs. 1.47 crores (Rs. 14.7 million).

Budget for 2022-23: Rs. 1.6 crores (Rs. 16 million).

Training and Conferences



Training to equip workers to take up the challenges of today, mission readiness, etc.

Under this we do several trainings, workshops and conferences, viz., E2S—Equipped to Serve & E2G—Equipped to Go.

2021-22 Disbursement: Rs.6 lakhs (Rs.0.6 million) was spent for various programs conducted in multiple states of India.

Budget for 2022-23: Rs.10 lakhs (Rs. 1 million).

Literature and Publishing



Publication of Insight India magazine, Prayer Handbook of Lord's workers among the assemblies, Scripture translation work.

We value your prayers, partnership and support for OB projects

As the Lord leads you, if you wish to contribute, the options are:

For Indian donors

Gpay/Paytm/PhonePe to **63663 33212**



To make a donation to OB, please scan the QR code [Indian donors]

Bank Transfer: A/c No: **50100310982712**
HDFC Bank Ltd, Kalkere Branch, Bangalore

IFSC: **HDFC0001050**

Online through secure website www.obindia.in

For overseas donors

Bank Transfer: A/c No: **40087433151**
State Bank of India, New Delhi main branch

IFSC: **SBIN0000691**

Swift: **SBININBB104**

**Assuredly, I say to you,
inasmuch as you
did it to one of
the least of these
My brethren,
you did it to Me.**

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