# Indian Brethren Fellowship



Elijah: Ordinary Man with an Extraordinary God

Elijah was a man with a nature like ours – James 5:17

42nd Annual Family Conference
July 3 - 7, 2019

Indiana Wesleyan University\*
4201 S. Washington St
Marion, IN
\*THIS IS NOT A FUNCTION OF INDIANA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

# PROGRAM

Time	Wednesday	Thursday	
6:30 AM		Prayer (Jones A)	
7:00 AM		Devel free	
7:30 AM		Breakfast	
8:00 AM			
8:30 AM			
9:00 AM		Plenary Session II (Phillippe Auditorium)	
9:30 AM			
10:00 AM		Break (SC Piazza)	
10:30 AM		Youth Adults Classes	
11:00 AM		Workshop (Baker	
11:30 AM		(SC) Recital	
12:00 PM			
12:30 PM		Lunch	
1:00 PM			
1:30 PM			
2:00 PM			
2:30 PM		Free Time (Basketball	
3:00 PM		court, volleyball court, racuqetball court, indoor	
3:30 PM	Registration (Phillippe	track, climbing wall, tennis courts open)	
4:00 PM			
4:30 PM			
5:00 PM			
5:30 PM			
6:00 PM	Dinner (5:45 pm - 7:00	Dinner	
6:30 PM	pm)		
7:00 PM			
7:30 PM		Evening Session I Youth	
8:00 PM		(Phillippe Session I	
8:30 PM	Plenary Session I (Phillippe Auditorium)	Auditorium) (Globe Theater)	
9:00 PM		Adults Youth	
9:30 PM	Adults Youth Fellowship Fellowshi	Fellowship (Game	
10:00 PM	Fellowship Fellowshi (Piazza) (Game	(Piazza) Room)	
10:30 PM			

Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Time
Prayer (Jones A)	Prayer (Jones	A)	6:30 AM
December 1	David foot		7:00 AM
Breakfast	Breakfast	Breaking of Bread	7:30 AM
		(Phillippe Auditorium)	8:00 AM
			8:30 AM
Plenary Session III (Phillippe Auditorium)	Plenary Sessior (Phillippe Auditor	Diameter Constants	9:00 AM
(:рроташиоти,	(**************************************	(Philippe Auditorium)	9:30 AM
Break (SC Piazza)	Break (SC Piazz	Daving also and Fancius II	10:00 AM
Men's/Wom Youth Classes		uth Brunch and Farewell	10:30 AM
en's (Baker Meetings		aker	11:00 AM
(SC) Recital	, ,	cital all)	11:30 AM
			12:00 PM
Lunch	Lunch		12:30 PM
			1:00 PM
A duda 18/2 alaba a (CC)	Free Time (Baske	tball	1:30 PM
Adults Workshop (SC)	court, volleyball		2:00 PM
	racuqetball court, track, climbing v		2:30 PM
Free Time (Basketball	tennis courts or	pen)	3:00 PM
court, volleyball court,		,	3:30 PM
racuqetball court, indoor track, climbing wall,			4:00 PM
tennis courts open)	Singspiration (Ph Auditorium)		4:30 PM
	, iddrestrain,		5:00 PM
D'	5:		5:30 PM
Dinner	Dinner		6:00 PM
			6:30 PM
F in .			7:00 PM
Session II Youth	Gospel Meeti	ng	7:30 PM
(Phillippe Session II Auditorium) (Globe	(Phillippe Audito	rium)	8:00 PM
Auditorium) (Globe Theater)			8:30 PM
Adults Youth	Δdults	uth	9:00 PM
Fellowship (Game	Fellowship Fello	wship ame	9:30 PM
(Piazza) Room)	(Piazza) `	om)	10:00 PM
			10:30 PM

# General Program

# WEDNESDAY

01:00pm – 06:00pm Registration [PHILLIPPE Lobby]

05:45pm – 07:00pm Dinner

08:00pm – 08:20pm Congregational Singing [PHILLIPPE Auditorium]

08:20pm – 08:30pm Opening Remarks and Prayer

08:30pm – 09:15pm Plenary Session I

Confrontation of sin in our day (1 King 17:1)

**Bro. Keith Keyser** 

09:30pm – 10:30pm Fellowship time

[Adults - Student Center Piazza]

[Youth - Student Center Game Room]

12:00am Lights Out

#### **THURSDAY**

06:30am – 07:15am Prayer [Student Center Jones A]

07:00am – 08:00am Breakfast

08:30am – 08:50am Congregational Singing [PHILLIPPE Auditorium]

08:50am - 09:00am Prayer

09:00am – 09:45am Plenary Session II

Communion with God and His plan

(1 Kings 17:2-7)

Bro. John Kurian

09:45am – 09:50am Announcements and Dismissal
09:50am – 10:20am Break [Student Center Piazza]

[High School and under meet separately after break; see the youth program on page 8]

10:30am – 11:30am Workshops [See information on page 9]

11:30am – 12:00pm Small Group Prayer

12:00pm – 01:00pm Lunch

01:00pm – 05:30pm Free Time 05:30pm – 06:30pm Dinner

Adults meet in PHILLIPPE Auditorium

07:00pm – 07:30pm Missionary Report

Page 4 www.ibfus.org

07:30pm – 07:50pm 07:50pm – 08:00pm 08:00pm – 08:45pm	Congregational Singing [PHILLIPPE Auditorium] Announcements and Prayer Evening Session I Revealing the Heart of a Great Servant Bro. Anil Samuel
	Youth meet in Student Center Globe Theater
07:30pm – 07:50pm	Congregational Singing
	[Student Center Globe Theater]
07:50pm – 08:00pm	Announcements and Prayer
08:00pm – 08:45pm	Youth Session I
	<b>The Enemy outside—</b> Finding Victory over the
	enormous opposition we face each day.
	Bro. Christian Ramirez
07:30pm – 08:45pm	Children's Session I in PHILLIPPE Baker Recital Hall
	Bro. Beno Varghese (Elmont, NY)
09:00pm – 10:30pm	Fellowship time
	[Adults - Student Center Piazza]
	[Youth - Student Center Game Room]
12:00am	Lights Out
FRIDAY	
06:30am – 07:15am	Prayer [Student Center Jones A]
07:00am – 08:00am	Breakfast
08:30am - 08:50am	Congregational Singing [PHILLIPPE Auditorium]
08:50am - 09:00am	Prayer
09:00am – 09:45am	Plenary Session III
	Conflict between a nation and an ordinary man
	(1 Kings 18)
	Bro. Keith Keyser
09:45am – 09:50am	Announcements and Dismissal
09:50am - 10:20am	Break [Student Center Piazza]
	[High School and under meet separately after
	break; see the youth program on page 8]
10:30am – 12:00pm	Men's Meeting [Student Center Henry West]

10:30am - 12:00pm	Sister's Meeting [Student Center Jones/Leedy/ Bedford]
12:00pm - 01:00pm	Lunch
01:30pm - 02:30pm	Workshops [See information on page 9]
02:30pm - 05:30pm	Free Time
05:30pm – 06:30pm	Dinner
	Adults meet in PHILLIPPE Auditorium
07:00pm - 07:30pm	Missionary Reports
07:30pm – 07:50pm	Congregational Singing [PHILLIPPE Auditorium]
07:50pm – 08:00pm	Announcements and Prayer
08:00pm – 08:45pm	Evening Session II
	Bro. Sajeev Varghese
	Youth meet in Student Center Globe Theater
07:30pm – 07:50pm	Congregational Singing
	[Student Center Globe Theater]
07:50pm – 08:00pm	Announcements and Prayer
08:00pm – 08:45pm	Youth Session II
	<b>The Enemy inside</b> —Finding victory over the
	overwhelming weight in our own hearts
	Bro. Christian Ramirez
07:30pm – 08:45pm	Children's Session II in PHILLIPPE Baker Recital Hall
	Bro. Beno Varghese (Elmont, NY)
09:00pm – 10:30pm	Fellowship time
	[Adults - Student Center Piazza]
	[Youth - Student Center Game Room]
12:00am	Lights Out
SATURDAY	
06:30am – 07:15am	Prayer [Student Center Jones A]
07:00am - 08:00am	Breakfast
08:30am – 08:50am	Congregational Singing [PHILLIPPE Auditorium]
08:50am - 09:00am	Prayer
09:00am - 09:45am	Plenary Session IV
	Communication with God in prayer

(1 Kings 18:1, 41-46)

Bro. John Kurian

09:45am – 09:50am Announcements and Dismissal

09:50am – 10:20am Break [Student Center Piazza]

[High School and under meet separately after break; see the Youth program on page 8]

10:30am – 11:30am Workshops [See information on page 9]

11:30am – 12:00pm Small Group Prayer

12:00pm – 01:00pm Lunch

01:00pm - 04:00pm Free Time

04:00pm – 05:30pm Singspiration [PHILLIPPE Auditorium]

05:30pm - 06:30pm Dinner

07:30pm – 07:45pm Congregational Singing [PHILLIPPE Auditorium]

07:45pm – 07:50pm Announcements and Prayer

07:50pm – 08:05pm Testimony

08:05pm – 08:10pm Offering and Solo

08:15pm – 08:45pm Gospel Meeting

**Bro. Keith Keyser** 

09:00pm – 10:30pm Fellowship time

[Adults - Student Center Piazza]

[Youth - Student Center Game Room]

11:00pm Lights Out

#### THE LORD'S DAY

07:00am – 07:15am Quiet time [PHILLIPPE Auditorium]

07:15am – 08:15am Worship and remembrance

08:15am – 08:45am Breaking of Bread

08:45am – 09:00am Congregational Singing

09:00am – 09:15am Announcements and Prayer

09:15am - 10:00am Plenary Session V

Commitment to God when the world is against us

(1 Kings 19)

Bro. John Kurian

10:00am Brunch and Farewell

# Youth and Children's Program

# Grades KG Through High School

THURSDAY, FRIDAY & SATURDAY

10:30am – 11:00am Singing, Prayer [PHILLIPPE Baker Recital Hall]

[All youth HS and under meet together]

11:05am – 12:05pm Children go to Individual Classes

Grades KG-3 [Room: PHILLIPPE 150]

Shannon Roy (Lawrenceville, GA)

Grades 4-6 [Room: PHILLIPPE 137]

Jeff Pulinat, (Floral Park, NY)

Grades 7-8 [Room: PHILLIPPE 133]

Shawn Roy (Lawrenceville, GA)

High School [Room: PHILLIPPE Baker Recital Hall]

Joshua Chacko (New City, NY)

12:05pm - 01:00pm Lunch

**Please Note:** Children follow the general program for all times not listed above. Children under 5 stay with parents at all times.

Nursery is available during the Plenary Sessions for children 0 to 5 years in the PHILLIPPE 135. If you would like to volunteer to help in the nursery, please contact Bro. George & Sis. Shirley Mathew at 847-530-7170.

# Workshops

# College and Above

1. Maintaining Unity...Case Study from Acts 15

Bro. Abe Chacko

[Room: Student Center Century]

2. Walk not as fools, but as wise (Malayalam)

Bro. Sajeev Varghese

[Room: Student Center Henry West]

3. The nature of reality: Does the Bible's account hold up to critical thinking?

Bro. Roshan Samuel

[Room: Student Center Jones A]

4. Passing the Torch - Older brethren teaching the younger

Bro. Don Graham

[Room: Student Center Bedford]

5. Preparing for and sustaining a Godly Marriage

Bro. John Kurian

[Room: Student Center Globe Theater]

6. Christian Hospitality

Bro. Christian Ramirez

[Student Center Piazza Terrace]

7. NT Priesthood: Rights, Roles, Responsibilities

Bro. Keith Keyser

[Student Center Leedy]

# Plenary Session I

# Confrontation of sin in our day (1 King 17:1)

Bro. Keith Keyser

- I. How not to stand
  - A. Confidence in:
    - 1. Family descent
    - 2. Physical strength
    - 3. Natural intelligence
    - 4. Spiritual gift exercised in our own power
    - 5. Past accomplishment
  - B. Adopting worldly tactics
    - 1. Politics
    - 2. Pragmatism
    - Power [physical, not spiritual]
- II. Why Elijah could stand
  - A. Confidence in God:
    - 1. His standing in the LORD: "Before whom I stand"
    - 2. His physical dependence on God

- 3. His obedience to the Word of God
- 4. His reliance on God in carrying out his ministry (Jas. 5:16-18)
- 5. His seeming lack of experience did not prevent his present usefulness This is his first recorded message in the Bible.
  - B. A simple plan: Adopting tactics that glorify the LORD
    - 1. Faith
    - 2. Dependence
    - 3. Clarity
- III. Therefore, stand . . .
  - A. Getting outfitted for the fight
    - 1. The armor that God provides (Eph. 6:10-20)
    - 2. Following the Captain of our salvation (Heb. 2:5-18)
  - B. A band of brothers
- 1. More than Elijah's experience, most of us have regular fellowship with fellow-soldiers in Christ.
- 2. We have a long train of witnesses pointing to God's enablement in the battle (Heb. 11.)

# Plenary Session II

# Communion with God and His plan (1 Kings 17:2-7)

Bro. John Kurian

# Before God can do a mighty work through us, he needs to do a mighty work in us.

Elijah had to hide learning lessons on obedience to God and dependence on Him for his provisions- 1kings 17:2-10

"God at work in you" - Phil.2:13

#### BIBLICAL EXAMPLES

**Moses**- Transformed in to the meekest of all men -Exod.2:11-12; Numb 12:3

Moses had to be trained for forty years looking after sheep in the wilderness before He could be the leader of God's people. His 'self power' had to be broken. Acts 7:22

"I am not...."- Moses; "I am"-God (Exod.3:11,14:4:10)

**Isaiah**- commissioned to be a spokesman for God - Confession, cleansing, commissioning (Isaiah 6)

**Paul**- transformed in to the greatest Apostle, once the greatest enemy of Christianity (Acts 7:58; 8:1-3)

The Disciples – made in to "fishers of men."-Mat.4:19

Our ministry emerges out of what we are.

God is more interested in the quality of our character than in the quantity of our ministry.

Our **being** is more important to God than our **doing** – Rev. 2:4

# Importance of a life in communion with God

Walking in close fellowship with the Lord – Deut.10: 20; 11:22:13:5 Spending time in the presence of the Lord – Is. 40:31;Ex.34: 34 Life of 'abiding' in the Lord – John 15:4

Elijah was a man standing before - 1Kings17:1( boldness, authority

and clarity in his words)

Abraham was asked to walk before God-Gen.17:1

Joseph lived before the face of God-Gen.39:9

Disciples were called to communion with the Master before communicating His message – Mark 3:13-14

God fulfils His plan through men who commune with him in intimate fellowship

Result of a life of personal intimacy and communion with the Lord:

Character formed ... Exo. 34:30

Impressions made

Secrets shared......Ps. 25:14

Will revealed

Fruit born......Jn. 15:5

Strength renewed....lsa. 40:31

#### Need for obedience even without knowing the plan of God.

Elijah obeyed when he was asked to hide and later go to Zarephath (1 Kings 17:5, 10)

Joseph obeyed the light God had given Him in Gen.39 (in the midst of temptation)

Daniel obeyed the dietary rules even when he could not have probably explained the reason behind it. (Dan.1:8)

# Plenary Session III

# Conflict between a nation and an ordinary man (1 Kings 18)

Br. Keith Keyser

I. The Appeal Of Apostasy	

- A. Baal & Ashtoreth's allure licentiousness & material prosperity
- B. Popularity among the nations = religious peer pressure

#### II. The Approach Of The Prophet

- A. The encounter with Obadiah
- B. The challenge to Ahab

#### III. The Ambivalence Of The People And The Angst Of The False Prophets

- A. An empirically-verifiable experiment Which worldview stands up to testing?
- B. Desperation, ignorance, and self-harm the fruit of false philosophy / religion

- IV. The Amazing Answer Of The Living LORD

  A. One God, Who Remembers His Promises To His People

  B. He Hears Prayer

  C. He Answers By Fire
- V. Leadership Does Not Abide Alone
  - A. The Confession Of The People
  - B. The Declaration Of The Prophet

# Plenary Session IV

# Communication with God in prayer (1 Kings 18:1, 41-46)

Bro. John Kurian

#### COMMUNICATION WITH GOD IN PRAYER (1 Kings 18:1, 41-46)

James 5:17 tells us "Elijah was a man just like us, he prayed earnestly..."

#### The purpose of prayer

We are not giving God any new information in prayer; God already knows our needs (everything) Mat.6:8, 32

Prayer is declaring our total dependence on the Lord and our allegiance to Him.

In prayer we are acknowledging our own inability and weakness; we seek God's strength and wisdom as we seek His face

Prayerlessness is a sign of our carnal pride and it boasts that things can be done in our own power without God.

# What do we do in prayer?

We make our needs known to God – Phil 4:3; Neh4:4,9;6:9,14

We cast our burden upon the Lord-Psalm 55:22; 1 Pet.5:7

We commit our ways to God – Psalm 37:5;1 Pet 4:19

We trust/lean/rely upon God- Ps.50:10

We lift our eyes to God - Psalm 121:1; 123.1,2

#### Elijah's prayer

**Elijah learned to be completely dependent on God**. At the Kerith brook with no human resources available for sustenance, God provided for him through a raven and later at Zarephath through a widow

Elijah prayed boldly for God-sized miracles. Elijah made no small requests to God: He asked for big things - for a drought in the land and rain later. Raise the widow's son from the dead. Call down fire from heaven to consume the offering on Mount Carmel, even making it 'difficult' for God to answer by pouring water on the offering.

Elijah's prayers turned the people back to God. He lived in tune with God and prayed in agreement with what God asked of him. 1 Kings 18:37

#### Elijah's prayer was not for any personal gain but only for God's glory

(The people had looked to Baal as the god of storms and rain. They believed that during the long, hot, dry days of summer Baal was either asleep or away traveling. When the autumn rains came in October, the people viewed Baal as awake and active once again. The people had absolutely no concept of a sovereign God who ruled over His creation).

Effective, fervent, righteous, faith-believing prayers get Heaven's attention.

## Other Biblical examples

Nehemiah's prayer accomplished a great work in the plan of God. Neh.1:4-11;6:15,16

Daniel understood the time line regarding the desolations of Jerusalem and prayed. Dan.ch.9

# God's operational strategy (How does God work?)

God shares his burden/plan with a man He prays that burden back to God And in answer to prayer God accomplishes His plan

God uses prayer as a means to accomplish His purposes.

"Prayer is the hand of faith that translates promise into performance"

"The promises of God are not given to stop praying but to inspire prayer. The sovereignty of God does not relieve us of the responsibility to pray"

Man is at his greatest and highest upon his knees, He comes face to face with God in prayer.

WORSHIP AND PRAYER – THE HIGHEST EXERCISE HUMAN BEING IS CAPA-BLE OF.

When God uses an ordinary man to do great things, all the glory will go to God for the man used of God has nothing to boast about (Example: David used of God to kill Goliath) 2 Cor.3;5; 4:7

- Never be too busy with the things of God that you have no time for God.
- A praying man will accomplish more than a busy man.
- If you are too busy busier than God wants you to be you are involved in something that is out of God's will for your life.
   Set priorities right, manage time properly and discipline yourself to spend sufficient time with the Lord.

# Plenary Session V

# Commitment to God when the world is against us (1 Kings 19)

Bro. John Kurian

#### COMMITMENT TO GOD WHEN THE WORLD IS AGAINST US (Kings 19)

"All who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution" 2 Tim.3:12.

Adversities bring out the best in us.

#### Elijah's failure – as a man of like passions as we are

1. <u>He saw the wrong things</u> (verse 3, "when he saw that.") He saw Jezebel and failed to see the Lord.

Exod 14:10-13 -The people saw the Egyptians but Moses saw the Lord

Numb.13:33 – The people saw the giants; Joshua and Caleb saw the Lord 14:8,9

1 Sam. 17:24-25- The people saw Goliath; David could see God 1 Sam. 17:36.

Mat.14:30 – When Peter saw the wind, he was afraid

Elijah took his eyes off the Lord and focused instead on his own circumstances.

When we leave God and His power out of the picture, we are in trouble.

Heb.12;1,2 - let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of *our* faith

# 2. He Sought The Wrong Things

(V.3,4– Elijah "went for his life," He was concerned about his own safety.

He was concerned with getting his own will and way, putting self in front of God's will.

Praying to die (Moses-Numb.11:15; Jonah 4:8)

But taking your life isn't the answer to despair for 2 reasons: 1) it is selfish 2) it does not bring glory to the Lord.

"Let those who long to die, leave God to choose the day; else they may miss the horses and chariots of fire". F.B.Meyer

#### 3. He assumed the wrong things

- v. 14, 18 Elijah Assumed That He Was all alone standing faithful to God God reminded him that he still had 7,000 faithful men in Israel
- v. 15-17 **Elijah Assumed That He Was Finished** Elijah thought his life and ministry were over, and he was ready to die. God reminded him that he still had big plans for Elijah's tomorrow.

Depression can cloud our thinking, it can distort what is true.

# 1 kings ch.18 he risked his life for God's Glory, in ch.19 he tries to save his life for his own sake God's faithfulness and encouragement

Ps.103:13,14 - As a father pities his children, So the Lord pities those who fear Him. For He knows our frame.

God of the Bible is a God of second chance

"Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time, saying, Arise, go"- Jonah 3:1,2

"But when the morning had now come, Jesus stood on the shore"-John 21:4

Elijah was not forsaken - for God was with him.

God sent an angel (not a raven) this time to feed him and let him rest-V.6

The angel came a second time to strengthen him for the many days to come

Elijah was not finished (in ministry) - for God had work for him to do. Elijah is commissioned to anoint kings and Elisha the prophet- V.15-17

Elijah was not alone - for 7000 hadn't bowed to Baal.V.18

God came to him with a message of hope and encouragement.

God also came with a message of confrontation. (v.9 "What doest thou here, Elijah")

Elijah was refreshed, revived and re-commissioned

There is no place for discouragement and quitting in Christian life. God of the Bible is always a God of encouragement.

For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." Heb.13:5

"In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." John 16:33

"All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth..... I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Mat.28:18,20

(God's <u>promise</u>, <u>power</u> and <u>presence</u> assured)

"Courage is not the absence of fear; it is fear that has said its prayers"

(FEAR +PRAYER= COURAGE)

Failure is not final with God

# **Evening Session I**

# Revealing the Heart of a Great Servant

Bro. Anil Samuel

<u>Scripture Passage: Mark 9: 30 – 50</u>

<u>Introduction:</u> What are some of the underlying issues today in our faith journey that hinder the work of the Holy Spirit? Could it be self – promotion, ambition, pride, or lack of concern for others?

**I. Exposure: Vs. 30 – 37 –** How does Jesus reveal/expose the true intentions of the disciples hearts? How is He getting our attention today? Or do we even realize it?

**II. Warning:** Vs. 38 – 41 – What are the warnings that Jesus gives to the disciples, about where their intentions may lead? Are we in the midst of these dangers today in our lives?

III. Practical Thoughts: Vs. 42 – 50 God's Calling for a Servant's Heart – What does Jesus teach the disciples about becoming a "great" servant in God's eyes? How can we change our ways or enhance our testimony in the name of Christ?

Theme Verse: Mark 9: 50 – "Salt is good, but if the salt has lost its saltiness, how will you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.

# **Evening Session II**

Bro. Sajeev Varghese

# Youth Session I

# The Enemy Outside

Finding Victory over the enormous opposition we face each day.

Bro. Christian Ramirez

#### 1. A WORLD OF OPPOSITION

Elijah's world was one of direct opposition to the God of Israel, he thought he was alone in an upstream battle against his culture, his peers and his authorities.

#### A. His world

- i. A culture gone wild
  - 1. Baal worship was rampant, common and the norm
- ii. Peer pressure
  - 1. Elijah constantly saw himself as the only one who still followed the Lord
- iii. Opposing Authorities
  - 1. King Ahab was completely misled by Jezzabel, he supported the worship of Baal and led the country to destruction

#### B. Our world

- i. How crazy is the world you live in?
  - 1. A God-ridden, sex driven, materialistic and thirsty culture
- ii. Are you affected by what other say?

1. The pressure is on! Media, friendships, and so on

#### iii. Opposing Authorities

1. Teachers, government, this world

#### 2. A DEADLY BATTLE

In spite of the enormous opposition that Elijah experienced he still persevered and even confronted the Evil in His day. His faith and faithfulness won a battle for the Lord that brought people around him to the worship of the one and true of God.

#### A. An Epic Battle

- i. The setting
- ii. The stakes
- iii. The Method

#### B. A Daily Battle

- i. Our struggle
- ii. What is at stake
- iii. Our weapons

#### 3. A SUPERNATURAL VICTORY.

Elijah was faithful and had faith in a God that can do great wonders. He trusted that God could do what the idols could not and fiercely confronted the powers in place. We also have a Supernatural God, will you be faithful? Will you trust God? Will you see supernatural victory in your daily battles?

- A. God's power THEN and NOW
- B. God's Faithfulness then and now
- C. Our response

# Youth Session II

# The Enemy Inside

Finding victory over the overwhelming weight in our own hearts

Bro. Christian Ramirez

#### 1. WHEN THE HEART FAILS

Elijah had used up all of his energy all fo his resources and all of his faith. As he faced one more challenge he heart was completely discouraged.

- A. Dealing with our emotions
  - i. The limits of our humanity
  - ii. Hard does not mean impossible

#### 2. WHEN YOUR FAITH FAILS

Elijah's emotions were not the only ones that had been compromised, his faith had also taken a beating. He doubted his calling, he doubted the power of God to protect him and felt completely abandoned. There are occasions when we have a crisis of faith. What do we do then?

- A. When the mighty doubt
- B. Looking for God when we don't feel like it
- C. The presence of God that restores

#### 3. THE GOD THAT NEVER FAILS

The greatest lesson is not about Elijah, this story is not about his great character or great deeds. This is a story about a powerful, faithful, mighty, and never tiring God. His character and His deeds are still the same so he can still save, he can still restore,

and he can still strengthen those who come to him.

- A. The Mighty God
- B. He Never tires
- C. He is always present.

### Maintaining Unity...Case Study from Acts 15

Bro. Abe Chacko

At last year's IBF – we considered Conflict Resolution rather extensively, using this biblical passage in John: 17:22/23.

<sup>22</sup> I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— <sup>23</sup> I in them and you in me—so that they may **be brought to complete unity**. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

Christ's High Priestly prayer clearly indicates **His desire** for his people to demonstrate - UNITY & MATURITY. But we all know that there are conflicts between believers and at times those conflicts rise to the level where the entire church needs to get a resolution of those conflicts.

Sadly, churches that experience a constant state of disunity and which are in conflict and turmoil are generally led or have people looking to their own needs, their own desires, and their own ambitions. Its often veiled under the banner of 'doctrinal truth " – which upon closer examination is an obsession with traditions, and not wanting to give up the practices they are comfortable with. (May not always be the case..)

The secret to unity begins with how we view ourselves within the body and how we view others. The key verse that addresses this is <u>Philippians 2:3</u>: "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves." Most disunity in a church can be traced back to the simple truth that too often we act selfishly and consider ourselves or our ideas and interpretation of Scriptures better than others.

"The goal of conflict resolution is unity, and unity in the church poses a threat to the devil who will use every opportunity to take advantage of unresolved issues, especially those involving anger, bitterness, self-pity, and envy. These emotions are involved in most church conflicts. Scripture tells us that we're to "let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from [us], along with all malice" (Ephesians 4:31). Failure to obey this command results in division in the body of Christ and grief to the Holy Spirit. We're also told not to al-

low a "root of bitterness" to spring up among us, leading to trouble and defilement (<u>Hebrews 12:15</u>). Clearly, a biblical method of conflict resolution is needed." Website –"GOT QUESTIONS"

The book of Acts has 3 types conflicts

**COMMUNAL CONFLICT** -- **Acts 6** begins, "In those days when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a **murmuring** of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration" (verse 1, kjv, emphasis added).

**PERSONAL/PREFERENTIAL CONFLICT- Acts 15:36-41 -**Disagreement between Paul/Barnabas

#### **DOCTRINAL CONFLICT - Acts 15:1-35**

In this session we will primarily focus on this section and see for ourselves certain principles modeled for us to resolve such types of conflicts

We will examine this section under the following outline

- A) The Root Cause A Problem stated succinctly
- **B)** The Respectful Conditions People want to be treated fairly. They also want to know they are valued and that their opinions are valued.
- **C)** The Rigorous Course "..there was "much discussion.".. Its NOT my way or the highway .
- **D) The Right Cure** Holding fast to the essentials .The Rightful Scriptural authority & The Rightful Spirit led leaders
  - E) The Required Communication Communicate!! Communicate!!
- **F) The Resulting Communion** the Word of the Lord continued to be taught and preached by not only Barnabas and Saul, but by "many others" (Acts 15:30–35).

If believers are going to be unified, we must have the right practice. We must forsake selfish ambition and vain glory. We must practice the humility of a servant. We must take care of our own interests in obedience to God, and finally we must look out for the interests of our brothers & sisters.

#### These are essentials for Unity

May God give us His grace to consider these factors and maintain the Unity of the Spirit

### Walk not as fools, but as wise (Malayalam)

Bro. Sajeev Varghese

The Title---- Walk not as fools, but as wise (Eph.5:15).

Eph.Ch.5 (Redeem the time)

verses 1---2 Walk in love

verses 3---14 Walk as children of light

verses 15---33 Walk as wise.

Eph.5:15----21 Walk as wise

- 1)Understand the will of the Lord (v17)
- 2)Be filled with the Spirit (v18)
- 3) Always be thankful to God (v20)
- 4) Submit each other in the fear of God(v21)

Walk wisely means

- 1) Walk in Christ (Col.2:3 &1Cor.1:24,30)
- 2) Walk in the fear of God (Pasm.111:11, Prov.1:7)
- 3) Walk by the scripture (2Tim. 3:14)
- 4) Walk by the Spirit (Eph.1:17)
- 5) Walk by the guidance of the shepherds (Jer. 3:15)

# The nature of reality: Does the Bible's account hold up to critical thinking?

Bro. Roshan Samuel

Why should a believer bother with science? Unless required by career or education, does the Christian have any use for pursuing scientific inquiry? To believe in Christ, to be born again, and to be part of his body there is little need for anything other than the Bible. It is the inerrant and complete word of God. Only through the Bible can you understand "Special Revelation", which is spells out the nature of sin, God's attitude towards sin, his love for mankind and his plan of redemption through the blood of his son Jesus Christ.

While these statements are true, we must recognize that there is a tendency among us to dismiss science with the words "the Bible says such and such", so I can ignore opinions from science. We must question ourselves when we make such a statement. Perhaps in our heart, there is a fear that pursuing scientific inquiry too far may end up with doubt in the scriptures. For example, if science can prove evolution, then what do I say to Creation as laid out in the book of Genesis? The believer may then take the position that, to defend the faith, I must defend it against science. Thus begins the view that the Bible is adversarial to science. This then leaves us unable to defend our faith when questioned by the non-believer. It might even lead us to question our faith in the light of scientific evidence. This is a sad state of events. The reality is that when you truly understand science, it brings you face to face with the Creator. He reveals himself through 'General Revelation', which can be understood by any person examining creation (Romans 1:20). General revelation, which can be understood without scriptural assistance, cries out about the presence of design everywhere. Scientific discoveries lead you to the inescapable conclusion that 'someone' is out there. Let us define what is General Revelation, or more broadly, our perceptions of 'Reality'.

What is 'Reality'?

'Reality', as we perceive it, consists of what we can experience with our five senses, what can be measured with instruments and what can be described by science. Reality can be reliably seen and understood by anyone following the scientific method. In simple terms, consider reality as the universe around us. We can see it, touch it and smell it. We study reality by using the sciences: physics, chemistry, biology, math, astronomy and others. The question we have shall attempt to answer: do these sciences align with what the Bible says? We shall examine three disciplines of study to find out: astronomy, biology and physics.

#### **Astronomy**

After the decline of Rome around A.D. 400-500, the nations of Europe reverted to a period of scientific ignorance. While the East continued to maintain a high culture, it took Europe another 1000 years to come out of a period known as the Dark Ages. During the dark ages, people used organized religion to teach falsehoods to people. Their purpose: to better control the population. These falsehoods were spiritual as well as scientific. One of these falsehoods was the notion that the Earth was the center of the solar system, and that the Sun, Moon and all heavenly bodies revolve around it. If God created the Earth to be special, then surely that must be true, right? Nicolaus Copernicus (A.D 1473 – 1543) was the scientist that first challenged this assumption. He used math and astronomy to suggest that the Earth revolved around the sun. He further suggested that the other planets also revolved around the sun. He was followed by many other astronomers that confirmed this fact. As the centuries passed, the idea that Earth was not the center of anything gave rise to the notion that the Earth, was not, in fact, special in any way. This idea, sometimes called the Copernican principle, was never suggested by the man himself. Instead, it is an idea that developed from his discoveries. Very recently, this idea has been taken to its logical conclusion, i.e., if the Earth is not unique, there must be thousands of planets that are inhabitable just like the

Earth. If there are many such worlds, then there must be many inhabitants on these worlds, and there was born efforts such as SETI to try and find proof of these inhabitants.

One such effort was by a scientist named Frank Drake, who came up with the Drake Equation. It attempts to estimate, using math, the probability of how many civilizations might be out there. It starts with how many stars are out there. Our best estimate is 1,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 stars, or a "1" with 24 zeros after it. It then asks the following question: Of these stars, how many have planets? How many have planets that is safe for life to live on? How much of this life became intelligent and so on. The most optimistic estimate says there might be 15,600,000 civilizations out there. Even this optimistic estimate is vanishingly tiny compared to the number of stars there is known to exist.

However, saying 'optimistic' is an understatement. These estimates do not include all that life requires. The 'Rare Earth hypothesis' states that there are many more factors that life needs. The planet must have a magnetic field. It must have a large moon (our moon is freakishly large compared to the size of the Earth). It must have an axial tilt. It must have an elliptical orbit. It must have a gas giant, such as Jupiter, in its solar system. There are too many other factors to list in this text. Taking all into consideration, the value of the Drake equation comes out to not 15,600,000 civilizations, but instead 0,0000000091 civilizations. Not even 1. In other words, when you truly understand the science, you have to say to yourself, with solid evidence to back you up: The Earth cannot exist. And yet here we are. Take a minute to read Psalm 19:1. We do not live on an insignificant mud ball around a mediocre star. We live on a divinely engineered spaceship. It has energy management systems, food processing systems, radiation protection systems. Just like any spacecraft man can dream up. Gen 1:1!

#### Biology

No doubt you have heard many learned believers talk about the fallacy that is evolution. The arguments put forward by scientists are rooted in this idea: all living thing share commonalities. From chemical makeup to shape of the organs. Therefore, all life must have a common ancestor. This is a classic example of correct observation (knowledge) leading to incorrect conclusions (due to lack of wisdom) (Prov 9:10). It is possible to use the same logic to say that the Ford Mustang evolved from the Ford Pinto. Why not? They have more commonalities between them than most life does. They both have 4 wheels, an internal com-

bustion engine and so on. Or, there is another possible explanation: the designer hit up on a basic design that works: 4 wheels, an engine, doors etc. and simply used that design to improve the Pinto into a Mustang. Just because the two cars are alike does not mean they evolved from one to another. It simply means that the design works, and the designer stuck with it.

Evolution states that changes happened slowly, over millions of years. Is that possible? Consider a mousetrap: It has 5 basic components: a base, a spring, a latch, a hammer and a pivot. All parts are necessary, all together at the same time, to catch one mouse. Question: If one of these five components has not 'evolved' yet, how many mice will the mousetrap catch? 4/5th of one mouse? No, it will catch none. This principle is known as the "Irreducibility of Complex Systems". All parts must exist, all together, on day one, or the organism dies. Gradual changes, as theorized by evolution, simply cannot produce a living organism. So, how did all part of the millions of species come together? Genesis 1:24-25.

#### **Physics**

Time and space. We never think about it. Well, we might think about Time because we are always late to something. But we never think about space. By space I do not mean what it outside the Earth's atmosphere, I mean the three dimensions of length, breadth and height. Have you ever asked yourself why there is space around you? Or why there is time? Most normal, well-adjusted people do not ask themselves such questions, but Albert

Einstein (A.D. 1879 – 1955) did. His Theory of Relativity shows that time is a 'thing', just like weight, smell or color. Time can be made to go slower or faster, depending on how fast you are travelling, gravity acting on you and the mass of your body. More importantly, he showed that Time and Space are connected. One cannot exist without the other. Time is not something from eternity past to eternity future; it is an 'effect' produced by material things, gravity and speed. In other words, no Creation, no time. Therefore, for Creation to exist, something/somebody outside Time must have created it. This is an astonishing scientific fact. It has been proven experimentally beyond any reasonable doubt. No one, no philosopher, no scientist, no religion has ever conceived of this

idea until Einstein came along. Except for one book that came before Einstein.

Genesis 1:1 "In the beginning God created....". Note that, if you are reading the KJV, 'the' in this verse is italicized. In other words, the translators added it for clarity. The verse actually says "In beginning". In beginning of what? In the beginning of everything, including time. Not convinced? Read Psalm 90:2.4, 2nd Peter 3:8, Titus 1:2, Read 2 Tim 1:9, but read it in KJV first and then read it in NKJV (notice the words at the end that are different between the two versions? Pro Tip: For this verse at least, the NKJV is more accurate to the original Greek). Read prophecy, then read how it came true hundreds and sometimes thousands of years later. If God is bound by time, how can he see the future? Prophecy can only be given by someone outside time itself. The most direct quote of God about time is Revelation 22:13 "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End." He is not saying he has lots of time on his hands, he is saying he is completely outside time all together. That is an idea that was totally ridiculous, until Einstein came along. So is Tim 1:9. Here it is, in writing that is almost 2000 years old, the conclusions of Einstein's Theory of Relativity.

#### So.... what?

God created the heavens. God created the Earth. God can do this because he is outside time. God formed man(hardware) and breathed into him a spirit (software). Still, having a lot of knowledge does not lead to wisdom (Proverbs 9:10). Question for all of us: what do we do with knowledge? Are we emotionally moved by this intellectual exercise, and then we go about business as usual? I would pray not. The same God who created the universe sent his only begotten Son to die on that cross for our sins. Why? The answer is very simple. He loved us. Period. As you walk the Earth, marvel at creation, ponder about loved one lost to time gone by, and think about loved ones not yet come into our time and space, remember, HE is the same today, tomorrow and forever.

# Passing the Torch – Older brethren teaching the younger

Bro. Don Graham

The story of Elijah and Elisha in I Kings 19:15-21 provides an excellent illustration of the principles of discipleship that are presented throughout Scripture. The parallels to II Timothy 2:2 are remarkable.

In addition to I Kings 19:16-21, other key texts that will be referred to in this study include Matthew 28:18-20, II Timothy 2:2, and Titus 2:4-5. Discipleship training includes both physical and mental work, both of which will be covered. We'll focus on ways to put into practice biblical Christian life principles. This outline is based on I Kings 19 and II Timothy 2:2.

#### I. God's Plan: Commit Thou

Elisha's Selection, I Kings 19:15-18

- A. God's plan involves succession, v. 16
  - God's plan continues even when His servants, like Elijah, are sometimes feeling inadequate, weak, and unqualified
  - 2. God's plan involves recommissioning repentant sinners like Elijah (and Peter: "Feed my sheep," John 21:6)
  - 3. God's plan involves mentors that have a passion for the next generation
- B. God's plan involves mentors, v. 17
  - God's means of achieving His work depends not so much on better techniques and greater technology, but rather on the development of committed people, II Timothy 2:2.
  - 2. God's means of achieving His work depends on

#### choosing and maturing committed people

#### II. God's People: Faithful Men

Elisha's Work, I Kings 19:19

- A. Elijah was at work, v. 19
  - 1. The importance of "secular" work: 1 Thes. 4:11-12, II Thes. 3:7-12, Titus 3:14

The old commentator Alexander B. Bruce said the work of a mentor is finely polishing the mirrors of the people we work with so that they might "reflect the image of Christ." We are to remove the rough edges, sharpen the focus, and bring out the strengths of disciples.

- 2. The importance of family life: Ephesians 6:1-4, I Timothy 5:8
- 3. The importance of "spiritual" life
  - a. We must master "the things you have heard"
    - i. Teaching students how to study the Bible
    - Ii. Teaching students how to use study aids:Study Bibles, general commentaries, technical commentaries, internet
    - lii. Teaching students how to think

Mentors need to be the "tomato stakes" that help the "plants" grow straight and healthy. We need to be around the trainees to facilitate that.

b. We must choose the right "students"

While all believers need training and discipleship, no one of us has the capacity or resources to meet that need. But we can find one or a few and invest in their development, in obedience to the Word and for the glory of God.

- Hunger for God's word, I Peter 2:2, Jer. 15:16,
   Psalm 63:5, 6, Psalm 119:20
- li. Thirst for holy living, I John 2:3, I Peter 1:15, 16, Psalm 51:10
- lii. Desire for greater knowledge of God, Psalm 42:1, 2, Psalm 63:1

- Iv. Basic commitment to the Lordship of Christ, Deut. 6:5, Matt. 6:33, Rom. 12:2
- v. Desire to be used by God, Rom. 1:11, Rom. 1:15, Col. 2:1

Often young people have a heart for the work of God (e.g. Psalm 110:3) and should be given increasingly responsible and meaningful opportunities within the assembly. Allowance needs to be made for the clear and obvious fact that no one does a perfect job the first time they attempt an activity.

vi. A love and heart for people, II. Cor. 5:14, Phil. 1:8, I Thes. 2:7, 8

Abundant opportunities for service within and without the assembly are available. Working on Sunday School and VBS committees, visiting older people, visiting hospitals, volunteering in the neighborhood, planning evangelistic outreach activities, assisting older people with work around their house, etc.

c. We must instill passion

B. Elisha was available, v. 19

#### III. God's Product: Teach Others Also

Elisha's Heart, I Kings 19:20-21

- A. Elisha was humble, v. 20
- B. Elisha was committed, v. 21
- C. Elisha was serving, v. 21

## Preparing for and sustaining a Godly Marriage

Bro. John Kurian

#### **IMPORTANCE OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY**

Marriage is Divine in origin (Gen. 2:18)> Idea of an all-wise God. First institution by God.

Means to carry out God's programme for this world (Gen. 1:28) First and strongest human bond.> basis of all other human relationships

#### Points to ponder

- A Biblical understanding of marriage is important in the context of distorted views like marriages of convenience, live-in relationships without marriage, same sex marriages, etc.
- The Bible is our Standard and we should understand marriage from a Biblical perspective and live according to what God's Holy Word teaches us.
- Marriage is of divine origin and therefore God has given us instructions to regulate it. Bible is the hand book God has given.

# To what extent we err from God's perfect plan and guidelines in the Bible, to that extent we suffer loss.

Marriage is a man and a woman, blending in to a unique relationship without losing their identities, agreeing to lay down their rights for the benefit of the other and becoming one person, before God.

Marriage is a solemn covenant of a lifetime commitment between one man and one woman.

#### **PURPOSE OF MARRIAGE**

- 1) PARTNERSHIP- Sharing life together, companionship- Gen 2:18
- 2) PLEASURE God who is interested in our well being designed physical relationship within marriage as the greatest expression of love and intimacy between the partners-Song of songs 4:11; Prov.5:18,19
- 3) PROCREATION Multiplying to fill the earth Gen.1:28: Jer 29:5,6 DO NOT ENTER IN TO MARRIAGE FOR THE WRONG REASONS- Monetary gain, taking care of the parents etc.

#### **PREPARATION**

Marriage is a union of two individuals. It is the coming together of two different "worlds"—individuals from two different backgrounds, personalities, tastes, perspectives, experiences, expectations, aspirations. Therefore, they need to be well-prepared and well-equipped, to embark upon this life long journey together.

Prepare more for the marriage (life) than the wedding (event)

Prepare more for the marriage (life) than the wedding (event) Do not enter in to it lightly or hastily

**The best preparation**: to become the best person spiritually, emotionally, physically, socially Determine to work on yourself with God's help.

#### 1.Spiritual preparation

- Human relationships can never do for us what God alone can do. None but God can fill the vacuum in human heart.
- Our primary relationship is with our Creator and all other relationships are dependent on this. (Closeness of the husband and wife is directly proportionate to the spiritual closeness of the husband and wife to God).
- A study of the responsibilities laid down by the scriptures leading to a proper understanding of what they are going to enter into is essential.
- A proper understanding of your calling and how you are going to fulfill that in the context of marriage should be planned. Consider how your partner can help you in fulfilling that call.

#### 2.Mental/emotional preparation

• Identify and deal with negative emotions, attitudes and be-

haviors before entering in to marriage. (Example: outbursts of anger, depressive moods, inability to handle stress, lack of self esteem etc.)

- Marriage will not cure these problems; it will only expose and aggravate them affecting the marriage relationship.
- This should include dealing with past abuse, trauma, negative experiences or wounds and peculiar behaviors that stem from these abuses. Any form of addictions also should be dealt with.

#### 3.Personal life preparation (self management and self control)

Proverbs 25:28 Whoever has no rule over his own spirit is like a city broken down, without walls.

- Bringing your own life in order—Learning how to manage your own life's responsibilities (time, finances, career, daily routine work at home etc) and developing necessary skills to do so.
- Break free of all sexual addictions like pornography
- Bring all sexual appetites in submission to the Lordship of Christ.
- Keep your soul and body, including your sexual passions, drive and desires pure by the power of His Word and His Spirit.

#### **COMPATABILITY (**Genesis 2:24; Amos 3:3: Mark 3:25)

Compatibility does not mean both being the same; it is the ability to agree together and work under the same yoke with unity and understanding. It is complementing each other in spite of the differences.

#### 1. Spiritual compatibility

Both the partners should be the children of God with similar commitment, passion and disciplines in their daily walk with God and in their life's calling.

#### 2. Emotional and intellectual compatibility

The ability to connect, understand and relate to each other emotionally and intellectually with common areas of interest.

#### 3. Physical compatibility

A liking, an attraction to each other, appreciation for one another

#### Watch Out for problem indicators/ Warning signs

Character weakness, mental instability, immaturity, parental control/ over dependence etc. should be addressed before marriage

#### Discerning the will of God in choosing your partner

- Gen.24- All the parties involved look to God and sense God's leading
- Prayer and study of scriptural teachings on marriage will help in decision-making.
- Consider the person you recognize as the one God is guiding you to (and the one you sense is the most suitable for you).
- The one that you choose with God's guidance and His peace in your heart (following biblical principles) then becomes the one for you.
- Consider the support and approval of parents and spiritual mentors, wherever possible

# Reading helpful Christian books on the subject and seeking pre-marital Christian counseling is highly recommended.

#### Sustaining a marriage that is honoring to God.

Both the partners have to work together to achieve the best in marriage. Strong, growing marriages do not happen automatically. Good marriages are cultivated taking time and effort.

Seek the face of God earnestly for grace and divine wisdom, as we have no strength in ourselves.

#### **Biblical guidelines**

- 1. Accept one another and appreciate the worth of your spouse as God given companion and treat with dignity (Rom. 15:7).
- 2. Serve one another (Rom. 15:1, 3; Mark 10:45).
- 3. Love one another (John 15:12, 13:34)
- 4. Forgive one another (Col. 3:12, 13; Eph.4:32).
- 5. Follow the biblical command to leave and cleave (Gen.2:24)

- 6. See physical relationship as a God designed gift and enjoy it meeting each others needs (1 Cor.7;3-5)
- 7. Live together with understanding (understand the psychological differences)-1Pet.3:7
- 8. Spend quality time together maintaining proper communication
- 9. Pray together bringing everything to God in prayer and seeking His grace
- 10. Resolve conflicts at the earliest

There is always scope for improvement in married life. We can climb higher to enjoy all that God has in store for our family life. Part of the 'abundant life' Christ came to give can be experienced in our marriage.

# Christian Hospitality

Bro. Christian Ramirez

### NT Priesthood: Rights, Roles, Responsibilities

Bro. Keith Keyser

- I. What's so special about priesthood?
  - A. The honored history of approaching God
  - B. The Lord demands worship (& that's perfectly reasonable)
  - C. The essential duty and privilege of prayer:
    - 1. Adoration
    - 2. Thanksgiving
    - 3. Intercession
    - 4. Supplication
- II. A priest's work is never done
- A. Representing God before the people & the people before God Our Great High Priest's service (but aspects of that work are also replicated in our service):
  - 1. Our testimony
  - 2. Our collective worship
  - 3. Our collective prayer life

- B. Living Sacrifices, living out the implications of His sacrifice for us
  - 1. Spiritual gifts & service
  - 2. Giving sacrificially
  - 3. Imitating Paul, as he imitated Christ (1 Cor. 11:1; Phil. 2:17)

# Men's Meeting

### Confirmation of our Calling and Election

#### Read <u>2 Peter 1:3-1</u>1

- 1. God's divine providence
  - a. What did God grant to those he has saved? (v3, 4)
  - b. For what purpose? (v3, 4)
  - c. How do we obtain these things that God has given us? (v3,4)
  - d. What are those things that pertain to life and godliness? (Rom 8:32; 1 Tim 4:8)
  - e. Is this effort on our part or these characteristics necessary for salvation? In other words, if we are not diligent, is our calling and election unsure? (v10, 11)
- 2. The believer's qualities (v 5-7) and the results of putting on these qualities (v 8-11)
  - a. What are the things/qualities that we are to add to our faith (there are 7 listed)? (v5-7)
  - b. How do we add these qualities? What does Scripture mean by "make every effort"? (v5)
  - c. How are these qualities realized in our life? For example, how do we practically put on self-control or brotherly affection or love?
  - d. What is the difference between brotherly affection and love? (Rom 12:10; 1 Thes 4:9)
  - e. What is the positive outcome if we do this?
  - f. What is the negative outcome if we do not do this?

# Sister's Meeting

# Remembrance and Worship Hymns

#### 1

Come, Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, Tune my heart to sing Thy grace; Streams of mercy, never ceasing, Call for songs of loudest praise. Teach me, Lord, some rapturous measure,

Meet for blood-bought hosts above; While I sing the countless treasure, Of my God's unchanging love.

O to grace how great a debtor,
Daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace Lord, like a fetter,
Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;
Prone to leave the God I love:
Yet Thou, Lord, hast deigned to seal it;
With Thy Spirit from above.

Jesus sought me when a stranger, Wand'ring from the fold of God; He, to save my soul from danger, Interposed His precious blood. Rescued thus from sin and danger, Purchased by the Saviour's blood, May I walk on earth a stranger, As a son and heir of God.

— Robert Robinson IBF CCLI# 11159068

#### 2

Great God of wonders! All Thy ways Display Thine attributes divine; But the bright glories of Thy grace Above Thine other wonders shine; Who is a pardoning God like Thee? Or who has grace so rich and free?

Such deep transgressions to forgive! Such guilty, daring worms to spare! This is Thy grand prerogative, And in this honor none shall share; Who is a pardoning God like Thee? Or who has grace so rich and free?

Pardon, from an offended God! Pardon, for sins of deepest dye! Pardon, bestowed through Jesus' blood!

Pardon, that brings the rebel nigh!
Who is a pardoning God like Thee?
Or who has grace so rich and free?
— Samuel Davies

IBF CCLI# 11159068

#### 3

Hail, Thou once despised Jesus!
Hail, Thou still rejected King!
Thou didst suffer to release us,
Thou didst free salvation bring;
Thro' Thy death and resurrection,
Bearer of our sin and shame!
We enjoy divine protection,
Life and glory thro' Thy name.

Paschal Lamb, by God appointed,
All our sins on Thee were laid;
By our Father's love anointed,
Thou hast full atonement made:
All who trust Thee are forgiven
Thro' the virtue of Thy blood;
Rent in Thee the veil of heaven,
Grace shines forth to man from God.

Saviour, hail! amid the glory,
Where for us Thou dost abide;
We, by faith, do now adore Thee,
Seated at Thy Father's side.
There, for us Thou now art pleading,
While Thou dost our place prepare;
For Thy saints still interceding,
Till in glory we appear.

Worship, honor, praise and blessing,

Thou shalt then from all receive;
Loudest praises, without ceasing,
All that earth or heav'n can give:
In that day Thy saints will meet Thee,
Welcome Thee with grateful song;
Joyful hearts will ever greet Thee,
Source of joy to all the throng!

— John Bakewell & Martin Madan
IBF CCLI# 11159068

#### 4

Behold! A spotless Victim dies, My Surety on the tree; The Lamb of God, the Sacrifice, He gave Himself for me!

Whatever curse was mine, He bore; The wormwood and the gall, There, in that lone mysterious hour, My cup – He drained it all!

Lord Jesus! Thou, and none beside, Its bitterness could know, Nor other tell Thy joy's full tide That from that cup shall flow.

Thine is the joy, but yet 'tis mine.
'Tis ours as one with Thee;
My joy flows from that grief of Thine;
Thy death brings life to me!

And while the ages roll along,
This shall my glory be;
And this the new and endless song,
Thy love to us – to me!

- Unknown IBF CCLI# 11159068

#### 5

Abba, Father! We approach Thee In our Saviour's precious name; We, Thy children, here assembling, Access to Thy presence claim; From our sin His blood hath washed us; 'Tis through him our souls draw near, And Thy Spirit, too, hath taught us, Abba Father! Name so dear.

Once as prodigals we wandered In our folly, far from Thee;
But Thy grace, o'er sin abounding,
Rescued us from misery:
Thou Thy prodigals hast pardoned,
Loved us with a Father's love;
Welcomed us with joy o'erflowing,
E'en to dwell with Thee above.

Clothed in garments of salvation,
At thy table is our place;
We rejoice, and Thou rejoicest,
In the riches of Thy grace:
It is meet, we hear Thee saying,
We should merry be and glad;
I have found My once lost children,
Now they live who once were dead.

Abba Father! All adore Thee,
All rejoice in heaven above;
While in us they learn the wonders
Of Thy wisdom, power and love;
Soon, before Thy throne assembled,
All Thy children shall proclaim,
Glory, everlasting glory,
Be to God and to the Lamb.

— James G Deck

#### 6

IBF CCLI# 11159068

According to Thy gracious Word, In meek humility This would I do, O Christ my Lord, I would remember Thee.

Thy body, broken for my sake, My bread from heaven shall be; Thy testamental cup I take, And thus remember Thee.

Gethsemane can I forget? Or there Thy conflict see, Thine agony and blood-like sweat,
And not remember Thee?

When to the Cross I turn mine eyes
And rest on Calvary,
O Lamb of God, my Sacrifice.
I must remember Thee.

Remember Thee, and all Thy pains, And all Thy love to me; Yea, while a breath, a pulse remains, Would I remember Thee.

And when, O Lord, Thou com'st again And I Thy glory see;
For ever, as the Lamb once slain,
I will remember Thee.

— James Montgomery IBF CCLI# 11159068

#### 7

When I survey the wondrous cross, On which the Lord of Glory died, My richest gain I count but loss, And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, Save in the cross of Christ, my God; All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to His blood.

See, from His head, His hands, His feet, Sorrow and love flow mingled down; Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were an off'ring far too small; Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my heart, my life, my all!

— Isaac Watts IBF CCLI# 11159068

#### 8

"Man of Sorrows," what a name, For the Son of God who came, Ruined sinners to reclaim! Hallelujah! What a Saviour!

Bearing shame and scoffing rude, In my place condemned He stood; Sealed my pardon with His blood; Hallelujah! What a Saviour!

Guilty, vile, and helpless we; Spotless Lamb of God was He; "Full atonement," can it be? Hallelujah! What a Saviour!

Lifted up was He to die, "It is finished," was His cry; Now in heav'n exalted high; Hallelujah! What a Saviour!

When He comes, our glorious King, All His ransomed home to bring, Then anew this song we'll sing: Hallelujah! What a Saviour! — Philip B. Bliss IBF CCU# 11159048

#### 9

Crowned with thorns upon the tree, Silent in Thine agony; Dying, crushed beneath the load, Of the wrath and curse of God.

On Thy pale and suff'ring brow, Mystery of love and woe; On Thy grief and sore amaze, Saviour, I would fix my gaze!

On Thy holy, loving breast,
Thou dost bid the weary rest;
Rest there from the world's false ways,
Rest there from its vanities.

Rest in pardon and relief, From the load of guilt and grief; Rest in Thy redeeming blood, Rest in perfect peace with God. Sin-atonina Sacrifice, Thou art precious in mine eves: Thou alone my rest shall be. Now and thro' eternity.

 H. Grattan Guinness IBF CCLI# 11159068

#### 10

How deep the Father's love for us, How vast beyond all measure. That He should give His only son, And make a wretch His treasure.

How great the pain of searing loss, The Father turns His face away. As wounds which mar the Chosen One. Bring many sons to glory.

Behold the Man upon the cross, My sin upon His shoulders Ashamed I hear my mocking voice, Call out amona the scoffers.

It was my sin that held Him there Until it was accomplished. His dvina breath has brought me life I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything No gifts, no power, no wisdom. But I will boast in Jesus Christ. His death and resurrection.

Why should I gain from His reward? I cannot give an answer. But this I know with all my heart, His wounds have paid my ransom - Stuart Townend

IBF CCLI# 11159068

#### 11

And can it be that I should gain, An int'rest in the Saviour's blood? Died He for me, who caused His pain? For me, who Him to death pursued? Amazina love! how can it be. That Thou, my God, shouldst die for me? (x2)

'Tis myst'ry all! Th'Immortal dies; Who can explore His strange design? In vain the firstborn seraph tries, To sound the depths of love divine. 'Tis mercy all! let earth adore, Let angel minds inquire no more. (x2)

He left His Father's throne above. So free, so infinite His arace, Emptied Himself in matchless love, And bled for Adam's helpless race. 'Tis mercy all, immense and free; For O my God, it found out me! (x2)

Long my imprisoned spirit lay, Fast bound in sin and nature's night; Thine eye diffused a quick'ning ray, I woke, the dungeon flamed with light; My chains fell off, my heart was free, I rose, went forth, and followed Thee. (x2)

No condemnation now I dread: Jesus, and all in Him, is mine! Alive in Him, my living Head, And clothed in righteousness divine, Bold I approach th'eternal throne, And claim the crown, through Christ, my own. (x2)

 Charles Wesley IBF CCLI# 11159068

#### 12

Look, ye saints! The sight is glorious: See the Man of Sorrows now: From the fight returned victorious, Ev'ry knee to Him shall bow:

Crown Him! Crown Him!
Crown Him! Crown Him!
Crowns become the Victor's brow,
Crowns become the Victor's brow.

Crown the Saviour! Angels, crown Him! Rich the trophies Jesus brings; In the seat of pow'r enthrone Him. While the vault of heaven rings: Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown Him! Crown the Saviour King of kings, Crown the Saviour King of kings.

Sinners in derision crowned Him,
Mocking thus the Saviour's claim;
Saints and angels crowd around Him,
Own His title, praise His name:
Crown Him! Crown Him!
Crown Him! Crown Him!
Spread abroad the Victor's fame,
Spread abroad the Victor's fame.

Hark! those bursts of acclamation!
Hark, those loud triumphant chords!
Jesus takes the highest station;
O what joy the sight affords!
Crown Him! Crown Him!
Crown Him! Crown Him!
King of kings, and Lord of lords!
King of kings, and Lord of lords!
— Thomas Kelly

#### 13

I love you Lord, And I lift my voice To worship you, Oh my soul, rejoice Take joy my King In what you hear May it be a sweet, sweet sound In your ear.

- Laurie Klein IBF CCLI# 11159068

IBF CCLI# 11159068

#### 14

Give to our God immortal praise!

Mercy and truth are all His ways; Alleluia! Alleluia! Wonders of grace to God belong, Repeat His mercies in your song. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Give to the Lord of lords renown, The King of kings with glory crown; Alleluia! Alleluia! His mercies ever shall endure, When lords and kings are known no more.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

He saw the Gentiles dead in sin, And felt His pity work within; Alleluia! Alleluia! His mercies ever shall endure, When death and sin shall reign no more.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

He sent His Son with pow'r to save, From guilt, and darkness, and the grave;

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Wonders of grace to God belong, Repeat His mercies in your song.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

— Isaac Watts IBF CCLI# 11159068

#### 15

O Blessed Saviour! Is Thy Love So great, so full, so free? Fain would we give our hearts, our minds Our lives, our all, to Thee

We love Thee for the glorious worth Which in Thyself we see We love Thee for the shameful cross Endured so patiently

No man of greater love can boast Than for his friend to die; Thou for Thine enemies wast slain! What love with Thine can vie?

Though in the very form of God, Which heavenly glory crowned, Thou didst partake of human flesh, Beset with sorrows round

Thou wouldst like sinful man be made In everything but sin, That we as like Thee might become, As we unlike have been.

Like Thee in faith, in meekness, love In every heavenly grace, More of Thine image daily gain, Till we behold Thy face.

O Lord! We treasure in our souls The memory of Thy love; And ever may Thy Name to us A grateful odour prove.

— Joseph Stennett IBF CCLI# 11159068

#### 16

O blessed Lord, what hast Thou done! How vast a ransom paid! God's only well beloved Son Upon the altar laid!

The Father, in His willing love, Could spare Thee from His side; And Thou couldst stoop, to bear above At such a cost, Thy bride. While our full hearts in faith repose Upon Thy precious blood, Peace in a steady current flows, Filled from Thy mercy's flood.

What boundless job will fill each heart Our every grief efface, When we behold Thee as Thou art, And all Thy love retrace.

Unseen we love Thee, dear Thy name!
But when our eyes behold,
With joyful wonder we'll proclaim,
The half hath not been told!

— Mary Peters
IBF CCLI# 11159068

#### 17

Saviour, we remember Thee! Thy deep woe and agony, All Thy suff'ring on the tree, Saviour, we adore Thee!

Calvary! O Calvary!
Mercy's vast unfathomed sea,
Love, eternal love to me.
Saviour, we adore Thee!
Darkness hung around Thy head,
When for sin Thy blood was shed,
Victim in the sinner's stead.
Saviour, we adore Thee!

Jesus, Lord, Thou now art ris'n! Thou hast all our sins forgiv'n; Haste we to our home in heav'n. Saviour, we adore Thee!

Soon, with joyful, glad surprise, We shall hear Thy word – Arise! Mounting upward to the skies. Glory, glory, glory!

Saviour, we Thy love adore;
We will praise Thee more and more;

Spread Thy name from shore to shore! Saviour, we adore Thee!

— S. T. Francis
IBF CCLI# 11159068

#### 18

Majesty, worship His Majesty Unto Jesus, be all glory honor and praise

Majesty, kingdom authority flow from His throne

Unto his own, his anthem raise So exalt lift up on high the name of Jesus

Magnify, come, glorify Christ Jesus the King

Majesty, worship His Majesty Jesus who died now glorified King of all Kings

— Jack Hayford IBF CCLI# 11159068

#### 19

To God be the glory, great things He hath done.

So loved He the world that He gave us His Son.

Who yielded His life an atonement for sin.

And opened the Life-gate that all may go in.

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the earth hear His voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the people rejoice! O come to the Father thro' Jesus the Son,

And give Him the glory, great things He hath done.

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,

To ev'ry believer the promise of God; The vilest offender who truly believes, That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,

And great our rejoicing thro' Jesus the Son;

But purer, and higher, and greater will be

Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

— Fanny J Crosby IBF CCLI# 11159068

#### 20

Alas, and did my Saviour bleed? And did my Sov'reign die? Would He devote that sacred head, For such a worm as I?

At the cross, at the cross, where I first saw the light,

And the burden of my heart rolled away, (rolled away,)
It was there by faith I received my siaht,

And now I am happy all the day!

Was it for crimes that I have done, He groaned upon the tree? Amazing pity! Grace unknown! And love beyond degree!

Well might the sun in darkness hide, And shut his glories in, When Christ, the mighty Maker died, For man the creature's sin.

But drops of grief can ne'er repay, The debt of love I owe: Here, Lord, I give myself away, 'Tis all that I can do!

— Isaac Watts IBF CCLI# 11159068

#### 21

Jesus! the very tho't of Thee, With sweetness fills my breast; But better far Thy face to see, And in Thy presence rest.

No voice can sing, no heart can frame,

Nor can the mem'ry find,
A sweeter sound than Thy blest name,
O Saviour of mankind!

O hope of ev'ry contrite heart,
O joy of all the meek,
To those who fall, how kind Thou art;
How good to those who seek!

But what to those who find? Ah! This, Nor tongue, nor pen can show, The love of Jesus! what it is, None but His loved ones know.

Saviour, our only joy be Thou, As Thou our crown shalt be; Be Thou, O Lord, our glory now, And thro' eternity.

— Bernard of Clairvaux IBF CCLI# 11159068

#### 22

Jesus, Name above all names, Beautiful Savior, Glorious Lord, Emmanuel, God is with us, Blessed Redeemer, Living Word.

— Naida Hearn IBF CCLI# 11159068

#### 23

O the deep, deep love of Jesus, Vast, unmeasured, boundless, free; Rolling as a mighty ocean In its fullness over me. Underneath me, all around me, Is the current of Thy love; Leading onward, leading homeward To my glorious rest above.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus, Spread His praise from shore to shore; How He loveth, ever loveth, Changeth never, never more; How He watches o'er His loved ones, Died to call them all His own; How for them He intercedeth, Watcheth o'er them from the throne.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus, Love of ev'ry love the best;
'Tis an ocean vast of blessing,
'Tis a haven sweet of rest,
O the deep, deep love of Jesus,
'Tis a Heav'n of Heav'ns to me;
And it lifts me up to glory,
For it lifts me up to Thee.

— Samuel I Francis

#### 24

He is Lord, He is Lord. He is risen from the dead And He is Lord. Every knee shall bow, Every tongue confess That Jesus Christ is Lord.

— Unknown IBF CCLI# 11159068

IBF CCLI# 11159068

#### 25

My Jesus, I love Thee, I know Thou art mine.

My Rock and my Fortress, my surety divine,

My gracious Redeemer, my song shall be now:

If ever I love Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

I love Thee because Thou hast first loved me,

And purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree; I love Thee for wearing the thorns on Thy brow:

If ever I love Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

I'd love Thee in life, I would love Thee in death.

And praise Thee as long as Thou lendest me breath,

And sing, should the death-dew lie cold on my brow:

If ever I love Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

And when the bright morn of Thy glory shall come,

And children ascend to the Father's glad home,

I'll shout, with Thy likeness impressed on my brow,

If ever I love Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now
— William R. Featherston
IBF CCLI# 11159068

#### 26

Lord Jesus Christ, we seek Thy face; Within the veil we bow the knee; Oh, let Thy glory fill the place, And bless us while we wait on Thee.

We thank Thee for the precious blood, That purged our sins and bro't us nigh; All cleansed and sanctified to God, Thy holy name to magnify.

Shut in with Thee far, far above, The restless world that wars below; We seek to learn and prove Thy love, Thy wisdom and Thy grace to know.

The brow that once with thorns was bound,

Thy hands, Thy side, we fain would see; Draw near, Lord Jesus, glory crowned, And bless us while we wait on Thee.

— Alexander Stewart IBF CCLI# 11159068

#### 27

Gazing on the Lord in glory, While our hearts in worship bow, There we read the wondrous story, Of the cross, its shame and woe.

Ev'ry mark of dark dishonor, Heaped upon the thorn-crowned brow.

All the depths of Thy heart's sorrow, Told in answ'ring glory now!

On that cross, alone, forsaken, Where no pitying eye was found; Now, to God's right hand exalted, With Thy praise the heav'ns resound!

Did Thy God e'en then forsake Thee, Hide His face from Thy deep need? In Thy face, once marred and smitten, All His glory now we read.

Gazing on it we adore Thee,
Blessed, precious, holy Lord!
Thou, the Lamb, alone, art worthy—
This be earth's and heav'n's accord.

Rise our hearts, and bless the Father, Ceaseless song e'en here begun; Endless praise and adoration, To the Father and the Son!

— C. Thompson IBF CCLI# 11159068

#### 28

Majestic sweetness sits enthroned, Upon the Saviour's brow; His head with radiant glories crowned, His lips with grace o'er flow, His lips with grace o'er flow.

No mortal can with Him compare, Among the sons of men; Fairer is He than all the fair, Who fill the heav'nly train, Who fill the heav'nly train.

He saw me plunged in deep distress, And flew to my relief; For me He bore the shameful cross, And carried all my grief, And carried all my grief.

To Him I owe my life and breath, And all the joys I have; He makes me triumph over death, And saves me from the grave, And saves me from the grave.

Since from His bounty I receive, Such proofs of love divine, Had I a thousand hearts to give, Lord, they should all be Thine, Lord, they should all be Thine.

— Samuel Stennett IBF CCLI# 11159068

#### 29

Jesus, our Lord, with what joy we adore Thee,

Chanting our praise to Thyself on the throne.

Blest in Thy presence, we worship before Thee,

Own Thou art worthy and worthy alone.

Lord, Thou art worthy: Lord, Thou art worthy;

Lord, Thou art worthy, and worthy alone!

Blest in Thy presence, we worship before Thee,

Own Thou art worthy, and worthy alone!

Verily God, yet become truly human Lowe than angels to die in our stead How hast Thou long promised Seed of the Woman

Trod on the serpent and bruised his head!

How didst Thou humble Thyself to be taken,

Led by Thy creatures, and nailed to the cross?

Hated of men, and of God, too, forsaken,

Shunning not darkness, the curse and the loss.

How hast Thou triumphed, and triumphed with glory,

Battled death's forces, rolled back every wave!

Can we refrain, then from telling the story,

How Thou art victor o'er death and the grave?

— Tauy Cleave IBF CCLI# 11159068

#### 30

For the bread and for the wine, For the pledge that seals Him mine, For the words of love divine, We give Thee thanks, O Lord.

Only bread and only wine, Yet to faith the solemn sign, Of the heav'nly and divine! We give Thee thanks, O Lord.

For the words that turn our eye, To the cross of Calvary, Bidding us in faith draw nigh, We give Thee thanks, O Lord.

For the words that tell of home, Pointing us beyond the tomb, "Do ye this, until I come!" We give Thee thanks, O Lord. Till He come we take the bread, Type of Him on whom we feed, Him who liveth and was dead! We give Thee thanks, O Lord.

Till He come we take the cup; As we at His table sup, Eye and heart are lifted up! We give Thee thanks, O Lord.

— Horatius Bonar IBF CCLI# 11159068

#### 31

Thou art the everlasting Word, The Father's only Son, God manifestly seen and heard, And heav'n's beloved One.

Worthy, O Lamb of God, art Thou, That ev'ry knee to Thee should bow!

In Thee, most perfectly expressed, The Father's glories shine, Of the full Deity possessed, Eternally Divine!

True image of the Infinite, Whose essence is concealed; Brightness of uncreated light, The heart of God revealed.

But the high myst'ries of His Name, The creature's grasp transcend; The Father only (glorious claim!) The Son can comprehend.

Yet loving Thee, on whom His love, Ineffable doth rest, Thy members all, in Thee, above, As one with Thee are blest!

Thro'out the universe of bliss, The center Thou, and Sun, Th'eternal theme of praise is this, To heav'n's beloved One.

Josiah ConderIBF CCLI# 11159068

#### 32

Jesus is coming! sing the glad word! Coming for those He redeemed by His blood,

Coming to reign as the glorified Lord!

Jesus is coming again!

Jesus is coming, is coming again!
Jesus is coming again!
Oh, shout the glad tidings o'er mountain and plain!
Jesus is coming again!

Jesus is coming! the dead shall arise, Loved ones shall meet in a joyful surprise,

Caught up together to Him in the skies; Jesus is coming again!

Jesus is coming! His saints to release; Coming to give the warring earth peace! Sinning and sighing and sorrow shall cease: Jesus is coming again!

Jesus is coming! the promise is true: Who are the chosen, the faithful, the few.

Waiting and watching, prepared for review?

Jesus is coming again!

— Daniel W. Whittle

IBF CCLI# 11159068

#### 33

In Christ alone my hope is found He is my light my strength my song This Cornerstone, this solid Ground Firm through the fiercest drought and storm What heights of love, what depths of peace

When fears are stilled when strivings cease!

My Comforter my All in All Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone! - who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe!
This Gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied For every sin on Him was laid:
Here in the death of Christ Llive

There in the ground His body lay Light of the world by darkness slain Then bursting forth in glorious Day Up from the grave He rose again! And as He stands in victory Sin's curse has lost its grip on me For I am His and He is mine -Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till he returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

— Keith Getty & Stuart Townend

34

IBE CCLI# 11159068

The love of God is greater far,
Than tongue or pen can ever tell;
It goes beyond the highest star,
And reaches to the lowest hell.
The guilty pair, bowed down with care,
God gave His Son to win;
His erring child He reconciled,

And pardoned from his sin.

Oh, love of God, how rich and pure! How measureless and strong! It shall forevermore endure – The saints' and angels' song.

When hoary time shall pass away,
And earthly thrones and kingdoms fall;
When men who here refuse to pray,
On rocks and hills and mountains call;
God's love, so sure, shall still endure,
All measureless and strong;
Redeeming grace to Adam's race—
The saints' and angels' song.

Could we with ink the ocean fill, And were the skies of parchment made:

Were ev'ry stalk on earth a quill,
And ev'ry man a scribe by trade;
To write the love of God, above,
Would drain the ocean dry;
Nor could the scroll contain the whole,
Tho' stretched from sky to sky.

— Frederick Lehman, Claudia L. Mays

IBF CCLI# 11159068

#### 35

Glory to Thee, Thou Son of God most High,

All praise to Thee! Glory to Thee, enthroned above the sky,

Who died for me;

High on Thy throne, Thine ear, Lord Jesus, bend

As grateful hearts now to Thyself ascend.

Deep were Thy sorrows, Lord, When heaven frowned; Gethsemane! Bloodlike Thy sweat, Lord, falling to the

ground

So heavily;

Dark was the night, but heaven was darker still,

O Christ my God! – is this the Father's will?

Thorns wreathed Thy brow when hanging on the tree,

Man's cruelty!

Why lavish love like this, O Lord, on me?

Thou lovest me!

Would that my soul could understand its length,

Its breadth, depth, height, and everlasting strength!

Thy precious blood was freely shed for me

On Calvary

To save me from a lost eternity; Glory to Thee!

Nor death, nor hell, nor things belowabove

Can sever me from Thy eternal love.

Like shoreless seas, Thy love can know no bound:

Thou lovest me!

Deep, vast immense, unfathomed, Lord profound,

Love, I love Thee!

And when above, my crown is at Thy feet.

I' praise Thee still for Calvary's mercy seat.

— Unknown IBF CCLI# 11159068

#### 36

There is a redeemer, Jesus God's own Son Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy one Thank you, O my Father for giving us Your Son And leaving Your Spirit till the work on earth is done. Jesus my Redeemer, Name above all names Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy one.

When I stand in glory,
I will see His face
And there I'll serve my King forever,
In that Holy place.

- Melody Green IBF CCLI# 11159068

#### 37

Lamb of God! our souls adore Thee, While upon Thy face we gaze; There the Father's love and glory, Shine in all their brightest rays; Thy Almighty pow'r and wisdom, All creation's works proclaim; Heav'n and earth alike confess Thee, As the ever great "I AM."

Lamb of God! Thy Father's bosom, Ever was Thy dwelling place; His delight, in Him rejoicing, One with Him in pow'r and grace; Oh, what wondrous love and mercy! Thou did'st lay Thy glory by; And for us did'st come from heaven, As the Lamb of God to die.

Lamb of God! when we behold Thee, Lowly in the manger laid, Wand'ring as a homeless stranger, In the world Thy hands had made; When we see Thee in the garden, In Thine agony of blood— At Thy grace we are confounded, Holy, spotless Lamb of God!

When we see Thee, as the Victim.

Nailed to the accursed tree,
For our guilt and folly stricken,
All our judgment borne by Thee.
Lord, we own, with hearts adoring,
Thou hast loved us unto blood;
Glory, glory everlasting,
Be to Thee, Thou Lamb of God.

Lamb of God! Thou now art seated, High upon Thy Father's throne; All Thy gracious work completed, All Thy mighty victr'y won.

Ev'ry knee in heav'n is bending, To the Lamb for sinners slain;

Ev'ry voice and harp is swelling, "Worthy is the Lamb to reign!"

— James G. Deck

IBF CCLI# 11159048

#### 38

Behold, what love, what boundless love.

The Father hath bestowed,
On sinners lost, that we should be,
Now called the sons of God!

Behold, what manner of love! What manner of love the Father, Hath bestowed upon us, That we, that we should be called, Should be called the sons of God.

No longer far from Him, but now, By "precious blood" made nigh; Accepted in the "Well-beloved," Near to God's heart we lie.

What we in glory soon shall be, It doth not yet appear; But when our precious Lord we see, We shall His image bear.

With such a blessed hope in view, We would more holy be, More like our risen, glorious Lord, Whose face we soon shall see.

— Robert Boswell IBF CCLI# 11159068

#### 39

O Christ, what burdens bowed Thy head!

Our load was laid on Thee; Thou stoodest in the sinner's stead– To bear all ill for me.

A Victim led, Thy blood was shed; Now there's no load for me.

Death and the curse were in our cup— O Christ, 'twas full for Thee! But Thou hast drained the last dark drop,

'Tis empty now for me.
That bitter cup – love drank it up;
Left but the love for me.

Jehovah lifted up His rod— O Christ, it fell on Thee! Thou wast sore stricken of Thy God; There's not one stroke for me. Thy blood beneath that rod has flowed: Thy bruising healeth me.

The tempest's awful voice was heard, O Christ, it broke on Thee;
Thy open bosom was my ward;
It bore the storm for me.
Thy form was scarred,
Thy visage marred;
Now cloudless peace for me.

For me, Lord Jesus, Thou hast died, And I have died in Thee; Thou'rt ris'n: my bands are all untied, And now Thou liv'st in me. The Father's face of radiant grace, Shines now in light on me.

— Anne R. Cousin

#### 40

Faithful forever You are faithful
Father to the fatherless
You uphold the one who feels forsaken
You are faithful God
Faithful forever You are faithful
Lover of the wounded heart
You defend the poor and the forgotten

#### Chorus

And I will sing to the Maker of heaven and earth

God You reign forever and Your love will endure

Faithful and true is the name of the Lord

You are faithful God

You are faithful God

Faithful forever You are faithful Shelter for the fragile soul You lift us up You hold us all together You are faithful God

Chris Tomlin, Christy Nockels, Ed Cash, Nathan Nockels IBF CCLI# 11159068

#### 41

Thou life of my life, blessed Jesus, Thou death of the death that was mine.

For me was Thy cross and Thine anguish,

Thy love and Thy sorrow divine; Thou suffered the cross and the torment,

That I might forever go free-A thousand, a thousand thanksgivings, I bring, blessed Savior to Thee!

For me Thou hast borne the reproaches.

The mockery hate and disdain: The blows and the spittings of sinners, The scourging, the shame and the pain;

To save me from bondage and judgment,

Thou gladly hast suffered for me A thousand, a thousand thanksgivings, I bring, blessed Savior to Thee!

O Lord, from my heart I do thank Thee
For all Thou hast borne in my room,
Thine agony, dying, unsolaced,
Alone in the darkness of doom;
That I in the glory of heaven,
Forever and ever might be
A thousand, a thousand thanksgivings,
I bring, blessed Savior to Thee!

— Ernst C. Homburg
IBF CCLI# 11159068

#### 42

Redeemed how I love to proclaim it Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb Redeemed through His infinite mercy His child forever I am

#### Chorus

Redeemed redeemed Redeemed redeemed by the blood of the Lamb Redeemed redeemed

Redeemed and so happy in Jesus No language my rapture can tell I know that the light of His presence With me doth continually dwell

His child and forever I am

I think of my blessed Redeemer I think of Him all the day long I sing for I cannot be silent His love is the theme of my song

I know I shall see in His beauty The king in whose law I delight Who lovingly guardeth my footsteps

# And giveth me songs in the night

— Fanny Jane Crosby | J. Daniel Smith | William James Kirkpatrick IBF CCU# 11159068

#### 43

Thou Son of God, eternal Word, Who Heav'n and earth's foundations laid,

Upholding by Thy word and power The universe Thy hands have made.

#### Refrain

We worship Thee, all glorious Lord, Forever be Thy name adored! We worship Thee, all glorious Lord, Forever be Thy name adored!

As Lamb of God, Thy path we view, Thy Father's will Thy whole delight; To Calvary we trace Thy way, Each step of Thine, with glory bright. [Refrain]

For us thine untold sufferings there, For us the darkness and the woe, In love, transcending all compare, Thou, Lord, for us to death didst go. [Refrain]

4. Exalted to the Father's throne, With glory and with honor crowned, All at Thy glorious name shall bow, As Lord of all by each be owned. [Refrain]

— Inglis Fleming
IBF CCLI# 11159068

#### 44

What gift of grace is Jesus my redeemer

There is no more for heaven now to give

He is my joy my righteousness and freedom

My steadfast love my deep and boundless peace

To this I hold my hope is only Jesus
For my life is wholly bound to his
Oh how strange and divine I can sing
all is mine

Yet not I but through Christ in me

The night is dark but I am not forsaken For by my side the Saviour he will stay I labour on in weakness and rejoicing For in my need his power is displayed

To this I hold my Shepherd will defend me

Through the deepest valley he will lead Oh the night has been won and I shall overcome

Yet not I but through Christ in me

No fate I dread I know I am forgiven The future sure the price it has been paid

For Jesus bled and suffered for my pardon

And he was raised to overthrow the grave

To this I hold my sin has been defeated Jesus now and ever is my plea Oh the chains are released I can sing I am free

Yet not I but through Christ in me

With every breath, I long to follow Jesus

For he has said that he will bring me home

And day by day I know he will renew me

Until I stand with joy before the throne

To this I hold my hope is only Jesus All the glory evermore to him When the race is complete still my lips

#### shall repeat

Yet not I but through Christ in me

#### Ending

When the race is complete still my lips shall repeat

Yet not I but through Christ in me Yet not I but through Christ in me

- Jonny Robinson | Michael Farren | Rich Thompson IBF CCLI# 11159068

### 45

Who has held the oceans in His hands

Who has numbered every grain of sand

Kings and nations tremble at His voice

All creation rises to rejoice

#### Chorus

Behold our God seated on His throne

Come let us adore Him

Behold our King nothing can compare

Come let us adore Him

Who has given counsel to the Lord Who can question any of His words Who can teach the One who knows all thinas

Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds

Who has felt the nails upon His hand

Bearing all the guilt of sinful man God eternal humbled to the grave Jesus Savior risen now to reign

— Jonathan Baird | Meghan Baird | Ryan Baird | Stephen Altrogge

#### IBF CCLI# 11159068

#### 46

What love could remember no wrongs we have done

Omniscient all knowing He counts not their sum

Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore

Our sins they are many His mercy is more

What patience would wait as we constantly roam

What Father so tender is calling us home

He welcomes the weakest the vilest the poor

Our sins they are many His mercy is more

What riches of kindness He lavished on us

His blood was the payment His life was the cost

We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford

Our sins they are many His mercy is more

# Chorus

Praise the Lord His mercy is more Stronger than darkness new every morn

Our sins they are many His mercy is more

- Matt Boswell | Matt Papa IBF CCLI# 11159068

# 47

I once was lost in darkest night

Yet thought I knew the way The sin that promised joy and life Had led me to the grave I had no hope that You would own A rebel to Your will And if You had not loved me first I would refuse You still

And spoke Your name into the niaht Then through the darkness Your loving-kindness Tore through the shadows of my soul The work is finished the end is written

But as I ran my hell-bound race Indifferent to the cost You looked upon my helpless state And led me to the cross And I beheld God's love displayed You suffered in my place You bore the wrath reserved for me Now all I know is grace

Who could imagine so great a mercy What heart could fathom such boundless grace The God of ages stepped down from glory To wear my sin and bear my shame

Jesus Christ my living hope

Chorus Hallelujah all I have is Christ Hallelujah Jesus is my life

The cross has spoken I am forgiven The King of kings calls me His own Beautiful Savior I'm Yours forever Jesus Christ my living hope

Now Lord I would be Yours alone And live so all might see The strength to follow Your commands Could never come from me O Father use my ransomed life In any way You choose And let my song forever be My only boast is You — Jordan Kauflin IBF CCLI# 11159068

Hallelujah praise the One who set me free Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me You have broken every chain

There's salvation in Your name Jesus Christ my living hope

# 48

How great the chasm that lay between us How high the mountain I could not climb In desperation I turned to heaven

Then came the morning that sealed the promise Your buried body began to breathe Out of the silence the Roaring Lion Declared the grave has no claim on me (REPEAT)

Chorus

# Jesus Yours is the victory whoa

Ending
Jesus Christ my living hope
Oh God You are my living hope

— Brian Johnson | Phil Wickham IBF CCLI# 11159068

#### OBJECTIVES OF THE IBE

- 1. To foster spiritual fellowship among the Indian Brethren sojourning in the United States and Canada.
- 2. To encourage and edify the believers through systematic teaching of God's inerrant word.
- 3. To minister to the ever growing spiritual needs of the young people and help build healthy relationships in their homes.
- 4. To stimulate involvement of Indian Brethren living in the US and Canada by raising their level of awareness regarding the Gospel work in India.
- To provide a forum for the Lord's Servants from India to challenge the Indian believers to pray more effectively for the specific needs of the field of their labor.
- 6. To help the development and nurturing of spiritual gifts among the Indian Brethren.
- 7. To impart timely spiritual truths to various age groups with a view to build them up in the most holy faith.

Please see **www.ibfus.org** or write to us at **info@ibfus.org** for more information.

# COMMITTEE MEMBERS

#### **Spiritual Advisory Committee**

Thomas Chacko - Pittsboro, NC Samuel Mathew - Hartsdale, NY George P. John - Carrollton, TX Babu Kunjummen - Northlake, TX

#### **Executive Committee**

Elson Abraham - Lewisville, TX
George Abraham - Staten Island, NY
John George - Sudbury, MA
Shaji George - Lawrenceville, GA
Jaby Jacob - Hicksville, NY
Regimon Kallinkal - Garnet Valley, PA
George Mathew - Lake Forest, IL
Mathew Sebastian - Mississauga, ON
Jebby Tommy, Washington TWP, MI
Srinivasa Tumati - St. Louis, MO
Abraham Samuel - New Hyde Park, NY
George Varghese - Lee's Summit, MO
Mathews C. Varghese -New Hyde Park, NY

### REGISTRATION TIMES

Please note that the registration desk will be open during the following times. If you or your relative or friend is arriving at another time, please call the following numbers to have someone come and help you check in.

Wednesday 01:00pm - 06:00pm

If your party arrives at night, please contact IWU Security at (765) 661-5432 and they will let you in to your assigned room.

(586) 945-5615

## **GENERAL NOTES**

Jebby Tommy

Please also note the following numbers if you need to reach someone:

Jebby Tommy (586) 945-5615
George Abraham (917) 297-4090
George Mathew (847) 530-7170
George Varghese (443) 636-0324
John George (617) 605-3212
Jaby Jacob (516) 277-4067
Regimon Kallinkal (267) 252-9830

- Please be courteous at all times to the IWU staff and students.
- If you require any assistance while on campus, please talk with one of the committee members or call the numbers above.
- Please park in only designated areas.
- Vehicles are not to be driven on pathways or walkways.
- Pedestrians have the right of way at all times.
- Please settle your account in full the day that you arrive on campus.

# SINGSPIRATION

Singspiration sign up is for children under 21 years and as time permits. Contact Bro. Regimon Kallinkal at rkallinkal@yahoo.com or 267-252-9830

### PRAYER TIME

Designated prayer time 6:30-7:15am at Student Center Jones A. Brothers and sisters are encouraged to form small groups and pray.

#### **IBF 2019 CONFERENCE SURVEY**

Please take 10 minutes after the conference to fill out the IBF 2019 survey at https://www.ibfus.org/survey. You may also use the QR code and take the survey using your smart phone or tablet.



https://www.ibfus.org/survey

#### FRFF TIME

During free time and the evening fellowship times, the Gymnasium is available for your use. Each person must sign a waiver and bring to the IBF registration desk prior to use. You are welcome to use the following facilities: basketball courts, volleyball courts, Indoor walking track, racquetball courts, rock climbing wall, outdoor tennis courts. You can borrow equipment (if available) in the Gym entrance desk upon leaving an id.

# Index

General Program	2	30. For the bread and	79
Children's/Youth Program	8	27. Gazing on The Lord	78
Workshops	9	14. Give to our God	
Plenary Session I	11	35. Glory to Thee, Thou	81
Plenary Session II	14	2. Great God of wonders!	
Plenary Session III	17	3. Hail Thou once	70
Plenary Session IV		24. He is Lord, He	77
Plenary Session V	24	46. His Mercy is More	86
Evening Session I	28	10. How deep the Father's	73
Evening Session II		13. I love you Lord	74
Youth Session I	32	33. In Christ Alone My	
Youth Session II	35	32. Jesus is coming! Sing	80
Workshop 1	38	29. Jesus our Lord with	79
Workshop 2		22. Jesus, Name above all	77
Workshop 3	44	21. Jesus, the very thought	
Workshop 4	50	37. Lamb of God	
Workshop 5	54	48. Living Hope	87
Workshop 6		12. Look, ye saints,	
Workshop 7		26. Lord Jesus Christ, We	78
Men's Meeting		28. Majestic Sweetness sits	78
Sister's Meeting		18. Majesty, worship His	76
Hymns	70	8. Man of Sorrows!	72
Objectives of the IBF		25. My Jesus I Love	77
General Notes	90	16. O blessed Lord, what	
		15. O Blessed Saviour! Is	74
		39. O Christ what burdens	83
#. HYMN		23. O the deep, deep	77
5. Abba, Father! We		17. Saviour, we remember	75
6. According to Thy	71	34. The Love of God is	81
20. Alas! and did my	76	36. There is a Redeemer	82
47. All I have is Chrisit	86	31. Thou art the	80
11. And can it be that	73	43. Thou Son of God	
4. Behold! A spotless		19. To God be the glory,	
45. Behold Our God	86	7. When I survey	
38. Behold what love		44. Yet not I but through Christ.	
1. Come Thou fount of	70	The same of the sa	
9 Crowned with thorns	70		

40. Faithful forever ......84