



# **TLM Daily Devotions**

**February 2018**





## Abide in Me; I will Abide in You – Part 1

**The Scripture** John 15: 1-17

**The Context** Jesus is preparing his disciples for the tough times ahead of them. They need to be ready for the persecution they would face for sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ. When the disciples are abandoned by the world, Jesus will still be their source of strength. Soon after this Jesus would be arrested and crucified. The disciples would no longer have him with them to teach them and protect them. They need something to rely on in his absence. There were no documents that recorded his promises and exhortations. *So, Jesus gives them an image and a message through that.*

### The Imagery

Jesus's illustrations are from the world around us. That makes it easy for us to relate to them and continuously remind us of the words he spoke. The vine and the branch imagery was particularly relevant for the life of the disciples in the days to come. *Every time I look around in nature; a tree or a branch, I am reminded of my relationship with Jesus.* Nature speaks out loud who is Jesus and who am I in Him.

### The Relationship - symbiotic

*"Abide in me; I abide in you"* is an amplification of the final "I am" statement in John's Gospel. It connects to the "Great I am". The triune God is brought together in this illustration. God, The Father has sent Jesus the Son of God (the vine) for me (the branch) to abide in Him and the Holy Spirit (the Counsellor) who guides (prunes) me in faith and wisdom to bear fruit for Jesus. It symbolises the symbiotic relationship between the Creator and myself through Jesus Christ.

*"Abide in me; I abide in you"* is an invitation and greatest exhortation in the Bible (Mike Bickle). It is said that out of 120 times it appears in the New Testament, the Greek word 'menw' is used as "abide" 61 times, "remain" 16 times, "dwell" 15 times, "continue" 11 times, "tarry" 9 times, "endure" 3 times, and still in other ways 5 more times. The central concept seems to be to remain stable, to continue in a place ie., in Jesus Christ.

A tree (vine) creates and nurtures the branch. The branch survives and grows because it is an integral part of the tree. The tree is primary and the branch secondary. The branch *grows organically* from its source, the tree. It needs the nutrients from the tree to sustain itself. The branch is dead apart from the tree; no value except being used as firewood. We are *dependent* and not self-sufficient. Self-sufficiency has taken away more people from God than any other belief system. The Holy Spirit prunes my ego so that I continue to depend on God. We cannot remain in Christ with our strength. Me and Jesus are inseparable, existentially linked.

The *sustenance* of the disciples is not the theology, doctrine, historical facts, miracles, provision, security, safety but the very person of Jesus Himself, His atoning sacrifice out of love for a sinful man. Like the life-giving juices, love of God that nourishes us. His love is my nourishment, my life line. The relationship is one out of love. It is an organic relationship and not based on knowing about Jesus but a relationship based on experiencing his grace, mercy and love. How do we draw our strength from Jesus? By being obedient to His commands, remaining in prayer and enjoying His presence. Obedience to Jesus' commands gives me the opportunity to draw the power from Him.

*Abiding in Christ is the greatest struggle a Christian faces.*



## Abide in Me; I will Abide in You – Part 2

*John 15: 1-17*

### **The Purpose – bear fruit of love**

Being productive is foundational to God's creation. *The tree is known by what the branches do.* A stunted branch has no purpose served. It must sprout leaves, flowers, fruit etc. Without manifestation of love, I do not bring glory to God. It means active engagement with the outside world. The theory must be practiced. Do what He wants us to do in this world, "love each other, as I have loved you". Love is an action word, not passive. It arises from the saving grace of Jesus Christ.

The love Jesus gives is the investment. There must be a return on investment. The Good news is not Good unless it is shared. There must be a manifestation of God's love. Without that one is only receiving God's love and appropriating it for one's own selfish ends and not using it for expansion of God's kingdom. Share the love of God. What the world desperately needs is love, then and now. Our love should bring not a transient change in the hearts of people to receive Jesus but a permanent one, to grow in faith in Him. It is a continuous process of sowing love in our relationship with others in the name of Jesus. Love edges out E(dge) G(od) O(out) and brings back God into man's life.

Being fruitful, then, is manifesting Christ in our lives. The fruit is being Christ like. When we bear fruit, there is joy in others, in oneself and in God.

*We are the messengers to reveal God's grace and love.*

A Christian is like the branch which has the spirit of Christ in him. The goal is to bring glory to Almighty God. There is a grand purpose. Bring people to God, restore their relationship with Him. Win a harvest of souls for Jesus.

**Dr PLN Raju** - Former Director (Resource Mobilization) . The Leprosy Mission Trust India - New Delhi -9971002766



## Psalm 9

*For the director of music. To the tune of "The Death of the Son." A psalm of David.*

<sup>1</sup> I will give thanks to you, LORD, with all my heart;  
I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.

<sup>2</sup> I will be glad and rejoice in you;  
I will sing the praises of your name, O Most High.

<sup>3</sup> My enemies turn back;  
they stumble and perish before you.

<sup>4</sup> For you have upheld my right and my cause,  
sitting enthroned as the righteous judge.

<sup>5</sup> You have rebuked the nations and destroyed the wicked;  
you have blotted out their name for ever and ever.

<sup>6</sup> Endless ruin has overtaken my enemies,  
you have uprooted their cities;  
even the memory of them has perished.

<sup>7</sup> The LORD reigns forever;  
he has established his throne for judgment.

<sup>8</sup> He rules the world in righteousness  
and judges the peoples with equity.

<sup>9</sup> The LORD is a refuge for the oppressed,  
a stronghold in times of trouble.

<sup>10</sup> Those who know your name trust in you,  
for you, LORD, have never forsaken those who seek you.

<sup>11</sup> Sing the praises of the LORD, enthroned in Zion;  
proclaim among the nations what he has done.

<sup>12</sup> For he who avenges blood remembers;  
he does not ignore the cries of the afflicted.



## Psalm 9

*For the director of music. To the tune of "The Death of the Son." A psalm of David.*

<sup>13</sup> LORD, see how my enemies persecute me!  
Have mercy and lift me up from the gates of death,  
<sup>14</sup> that I may declare your praises  
in the gates of Daughter Zion,  
and there rejoice in your salvation.

<sup>15</sup> The nations have fallen into the pit they have dug;  
their feet are caught in the net they have hidden.

<sup>16</sup> The LORD is known by his acts of justice;  
the wicked are ensnared by the work of their hands.

<sup>17</sup> The wicked go down to the realm of the dead,  
all the nations that forget God.

<sup>18</sup> But God will never forget the needy;  
the hope of the afflicted will never perish.

<sup>19</sup> Arise, LORD, do not let mortals triumph;  
let the nations be judged in your presence.

<sup>20</sup> Strike them with terror, LORD;  
let the nations know they are only mortal.



## Are you hungry?

- Are you spiritually hungry?
- Are you living off bottled vitamins instead of wholesome nutritious fresh spiritual food?
- Have you got a desire for more of God? I was thinking of Christians the following thoughts came to me:

1. What a **special** group of people. *1 Peter 2:11-12 NIVUK "Dear friends, I urge you, as foreigners and exiles, to abstain from sinful desires, which wage war against your soul. Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us."*

2. What a **mixed** group of people. *Revelation 7:9 NIVUK "After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no-one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands."*

3. What a **precious** group of believers trying to stabilise and get the best out of their Christian walk. *Revelation 19:9 NIVUK "Then the angel said to me, 'Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!' And he added, 'These are the true words of God.'"*

4. Some, if not many, are **battle wary**. If there is an absence of **desire** for holy things & ways:

- It's an indication of a spiritual problem.

**Desire is will in action.** It's a deep seated craving for more of God in the power of Holy Spirit.

**Faith is desire in action.** It's progressed beyond a longing for more of God to adding action to desire.

A heavenly appetite is proof of a renewed heart & evidence of a healthy spiritual life. *Matthew 5:6 AMP "Blessed and fortunate and happy and spiritually prosperous (in that state in which the born-again child of God enjoys His favour and salvation) are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness (uprightness and rightstanding with God), for they shall be completely satisfied! "*

*Isaiah 55:1-2 NIVUK "Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost. Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labour on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and you will delight in the richest of fare."*

*1 Peter 2:1-3 NIVUK "Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation, now that you have tasted that the LORD is good."*

### Steps to satisfy spiritual hunger:

#### 1. Recognise your present position of where you are with God

- A few ideas on how to measure or establish your position in your relationship with our Heavenly Father, Jesus & Holy Spirit

## 1.1 Spending time with God

- What do most of us enjoy doing? Talking, having a chat, chilling with others...
- Prayer is talking to God!
- How much time & how often do you spend **quality** time with Him?

## 1.2 The Word

- Reading & studying the Word
- From Holy Spirit to yourself - interpersonal revelation Holy Spirit in you?

## 1.3 Your testimony

- Talking about your relationship to God with others - your testimony

**2. Receive from God** *Psalm 51:10 Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me." Mark 11:24 "Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours."*

It's very important, as **believers**, to make a **conscious act** to receive what God has for us.

*John 1:11-12 "He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God"*

## 3. Respond & react

So often after Jesus had ministered to people He said: "Go"

- Can I say: Do something about your situation - put your faith in action! Let your desperate desire become your action.

**Dan Izzett** - Zimbabwe. Retired pastor. I was diagnosed with lepromatous leprosy in 1972. Served on TLMI board for eight years and on the Zimbabwe board for 15 years. I now serve on the ALM board and do advocacy for them.



## The scroll and the lamb

Don't try to remember, it's not an Aesop's fable! It's from *Revelation 5,1-14*.

The scroll written on both sides is the revelation of God's plan for the world. Everything is planned, God is not surprised of what happens in the world and even in my life. He holds everything in his hands.

In verse 2, the question asked is not only "Who is worthy?" – because in Jesus-Christ we find again our dignity of God's children, but "Who is worthy to break the seals and open the scroll?"

No one was found – no one is able to fulfill God's plan to save the world. So there is no hope anymore. As John, we can only cry.

When we are in a difficult situation, a dead end in our life, there is a time to cry but then, maybe with the help of someone else, we have to lift up our eyes to the Lord (cf Psalm 121) to realise that with him there is the solution.

Good news (or Gospel!) – the Lion of Judah is the one able to open the scroll. Jesus, King of kings conquered sin, death and Satan. Then John saw a lamb (verse 6) – but it was said a lion! What could a lamb do!? Jesus, the lamb of God sacrificed himself to offer salvation to everyone.

The victory was not gained by force but by suffering and death on the cross.

And when he had taken the scroll, they fell down before the Lamb and they sang a new song (verses 7-9).

I join them with some words of worship (you can sing your own prayer) :

*Oh Jesus you are worthy to be praised, I love you, I adore you.*

*Thank you for your sacrifice, thank you because you saved me.*

*"Jesus purchased for God persons from every tribe and language and people and nation. He has made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God" (verses 9-10).*

The Gospel is not for an elite, not just for some people who deserve it. To be part of a kingdom is related to my identity. It is not related to what I do but to who I am, it's a grace.

*"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast." Ephesians 2.8-9*

When we accept Jesus as our Saviour, we become part of God's people, his Church. We belong to a community of men and women from different cultures and backgrounds united in Christ.

As priests of God, we have privileges and responsibilities. We have access to God's presence at any time. God entrusts us the mission to witness his Kingdom in the world and to be intermediaries between him and men.

*We are called to be channels of blessings for people around us!*



## 'Blessed'

*Psalm 1:1, Psalm 34:8, Matthew 5:1-12, John 13:17, (etc.!).*

I have a habit of signing off cards and e-mails with the word '*Blessings*'. Years ago I was taught (in an English-speaking culture) to conclude a friendly letter with '*Yours sincerely*', -or a more formal one with '*Yours faithfully*'; but in this age of electronic communication, things seem more 'casual', less formal! But on the other hand, '*with love*', or '*love and prayers*' is not always appropriate!

So I write, '*Blessings*'... but what do I mean? I also tend to say "*Bless you*" to those I meet who are kind and helpful, -but I must be careful not to use these words casually!

"Bless", and related words, is a common Bible expression. See, for example, Psalm 34:8, or the words of Jesus in John 13:17. Two things come to mind as I think about it. One is that we're told by the writer to the Hebrews that "*the lesser person is blessed by the greater*" (7:7). That is based on the story of Abram and Melchizedek in Genesis 14, where Abram gave Melchizedek a tithe, and Melchizedek *blessed* Abram. The lesser, Abram, is blessed by the greater, Melchizedek, and the Hebrews writer is raising the intriguing idea that Melchizedek was a precursor -an 'archetype' - of Christ. So perhaps only God can truly bless!

I hope I'm not putting myself on some kind of pedestal by presuming to 'bless' anyone; -traditionally we looked to those 'higher' than ourselves, parent or priest or whoever, to 'give us their blessing', like Isaac mistakenly giving his blessing to Jacob! I certainly don't mean to elevate myself, but I want to bring something of God into a greeting!

The other thing that comes to mind is that Jesus uses a related word nine times in succession in his "Sermon on the Mount" (Matthew 5), beginning "*Blessed are the poor in spirit...*". Jesus uses it in exactly the same way as in Psalm 1:1 "*Blessed is the man who...*". I don't know about any of the many other languages used in our TLM family, but in English that phrase is very hard to translate! Some English versions of the Bible translate it as "*Happy are...*", but that doesn't get it deeply enough. The best equivalent is a bit wordy; it would be something like, "*Oh the happy situation of those who are... poor in spirit...*" and so on, -which seems odd! Why are they in a happy situation or state? It's because God has a special place for those who suffer and struggle, or who are reckoned to be (if you'll pardon the expression) 'losers', in the world's terms. And he has a special place for those who hang onto him, when all around are turning away (as in Psalm 1 and Matthew 5:11).

So, the highest Being has great regard for the lowest, -or those who *think* themselves the lowest, or who are *treated* as such. And that makes them '*blessed*'; they're in a 'happy situation' before God, although it may not feel like it here and now!

And I'm not thinking of myself highly if I say "*Bless you*" or sign off with "*Blessings*". I just want people to know that they're valued and loved, most significantly by God, *especially* when they're down, or when they're struggling to be His child against the stream. I think as God's children we can all convey to others that sense that they are special too!

So... ***Blessings!***

**David Beazley** began involvement with The Leprosy Mission in 1992 when he came as Minister to a Church near the International Office in Brentford. He acted as an informal 'chaplain' to the Office, and served on the International General Council for some years. At the same time he became a member of TLM England and Wales Board, serving as Chairman for six years and on various committees. He now pastors a Church in South-West England part time, freeing time for TLM as a volunteer speaker and continuing on the E&W Board. He chaired the Spiritual Ministry MAWG, and is also able to serve TLMI by leading retreat days and other such things as opportunity allows.



## Perfect Love Casts Our Fear

*„There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear.” 1 John 4,18*

I recently read a news story about a tiger in a Russian zoo. Every day he was fed by putting a live animal into his enclosure and he would hunt it down. One day a young goat was brought in. This young animal had never met a tiger before.

The zoo staff were amazed to see that the goat showed no fear, but approached the tiger and playfully butted him. The tiger, too, began to play with the goat, and the two went on to become friends.

Animal psychologists determined that this unusual behaviour was because of the absence of fear in the goat!

Often our prejudices and reservations about those who are different from us arise out of our own insecurity and perhaps if we can change our attitudes, our fear can transform into friendship, if not love. And we can lose our fear only as we trust in God to guide us in interaction with others.

Prayer: Lord, help me to overcome my fear of those who seem different from me, and see them as your children. Amen.

**Dr Joyce Ponnaiya** - I am a pathologist and worked for many years, till my retirement at the Christian Medical College and Hospital in Vellore, India. Apart from my academic appointment, I have served as the Principal (Dean) of the college and later as the Director (CEO) of the organisation. From 2006 to 2011 after retiring from CMC, I worked as Consultant Pathologist at the Schieffelin Institute of Health Research and Leprosy Centre (SIHR &LC), at Karigiri in India. Thereafter, I continue to work at Karigiri in an honorary part-time position as pathologist. I have served on the Board of Governors of both the TLM India Trust and TLM International.



## For reflection

Should I worship Him from fear of hell, may I be cast into it.

Should I serve Him from desire of gaining heaven, may He keep me out.

But should I worship Him from love alone, He reveals Himself to me, that my whole heart may be filled with His love and presence.

**Sadhu Sundar Singh** missionary, India (1889-1929)



## Psalm 10

<sup>1</sup> Why, LORD, do you stand far off?  
Why do you hide yourself in times of trouble?

<sup>2</sup> In his arrogance the wicked man hunts down the weak,  
who are caught in the schemes he devises.

<sup>3</sup> He boasts about the cravings of his heart;  
he blesses the greedy and reviles the LORD.

<sup>4</sup> In his pride the wicked man does not seek him;  
in all his thoughts there is no room for God.

<sup>5</sup> His ways are always prosperous;  
your laws are rejected by<sup>[b]</sup> him;  
he sneers at all his enemies.

<sup>6</sup> He says to himself, "Nothing will ever shake me."  
He swears, "No one will ever do me harm."

<sup>7</sup> His mouth is full of lies and threats;  
trouble and evil are under his tongue.

<sup>8</sup> He lies in wait near the villages;  
from ambush he murders the innocent.

His eyes watch in secret for his victims;

<sup>9</sup> like a lion in cover he lies in wait.

He lies in wait to catch the helpless;  
he catches the helpless and drags them off in his net.

<sup>10</sup> His victims are crushed, they collapse;  
they fall under his strength.

<sup>11</sup> He says to himself, "God will never notice;  
he covers his face and never sees."

<sup>12</sup> Arise, LORD! Lift up your hand, O God.  
Do not forget the helpless.

<sup>13</sup> Why does the wicked man revile God?  
Why does he say to himself,  
"He won't call me to account"?

<sup>14</sup> But you, God, see the trouble of the afflicted;  
you consider their grief and take it in hand.  
The victims commit themselves to you;  
you are the helper of the fatherless.

<sup>15</sup> Break the arm of the wicked man;  
call the evildoer to account for his wickedness  
that would not otherwise be found out.

<sup>16</sup> The LORD is King for ever and ever;  
the nations will perish from his land.

<sup>17</sup> You, LORD, hear the desire of the afflicted;  
you encourage them, and you listen to their cry,

<sup>18</sup> defending the fatherless and the oppressed,  
so that mere earthly mortals  
will never again strike terror.



## Psalm 12

*For the director of music. According to sheminith. A psalm of David.*

<sup>1</sup> Help, LORD, for no one is faithful anymore;  
those who are loyal have vanished from the human race.

<sup>2</sup> Everyone lies to their neighbor;  
they flatter with their lips  
but harbor deception in their hearts.

<sup>3</sup> May the LORD silence all flattering lips  
and every boastful tongue—

<sup>4</sup> those who say,  
“By our tongues we will prevail;  
our own lips will defend us—who is lord over us?”

<sup>5</sup> “Because the poor are plundered and the needy groan,  
I will now arise,” says the LORD.

“I will protect them from those who malign them.”

<sup>6</sup> And the words of the LORD are flawless,  
like silver purified in a crucible,  
like gold<sup>[c]</sup> refined seven times.

<sup>7</sup> You, LORD, will keep the needy safe  
and will protect us forever from the wicked,  
<sup>8</sup> who freely strut about  
when what is vile is honored by the human race.



## Living our values every day: Compassion

The Old Testament and the New Testament contain the same message: **GOD IS GOD OF COMPASSION**

### Old Testament: The story of Jonah

Jonah is commanded by God to go and speak to the people of Nineveh. The message God gives him to preach is a hard one. Jonah runs away from this great responsibility, but God runs faster!

Where is the compassion? The people of Nineveh are the enemies of God's people. They are persecuting Israel, but God loves them. God is so concerned for the people of Nineveh that He will go to the greatest lengths to save them.

God sees injustice and evil in Nineveh. He wants to do something about it. But He wants more than anything for people to turn from the evil to Him. It is not His desire that any should perish. *"The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance."* 2 Peter 3:9

God can see below the surface, He can see into the heart. He can see that there is a life that is ready to be saved; that has the potential to be saved; that can be saved.

There is no-one that God does not love. There is no-one in this world who can't change as a result of the meeting, knowing and following the Son of God. *"When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he had compassion and did not bring upon them the destruction he had threatened."* Jonah 3:10

Jonah did not share God's compassion for Nineveh (Jonah 4)

**Reflect:** How often do I write off people because of what they have done? Maybe you think they deserve what is happening to them? Today pray for them and ask God to allow you see them as He sees them, to have compassion for them. Matthew 5:44

### New Testament: Jesus heals a man affected by leprosy

There are many examples, but let's reflect on the one that speaks directly to our own ministry as The Leprosy Mission. *"Then Jesus, moved with compassion, stretched out His hand and touched him, and said to him, 'I am willing; be cleansed.' As soon as He had spoken, immediately the leprosy left him, and he was cleansed."* Mark 1:41-42

Jesus' compassion had an immediate effect on the man, but also an impact on those around him and his family. Compassion changes people and changes communities. That is the business we are in.

In the busy-ness of strategy development, project management, advocacy campaigns and fundraising campaigns, it can be easy to forget that what drives us is not targets written down in black and white, but compassion for individuals and communities affected by leprosy.

Allow yourself to be moved by compassion. Let compassion shape your choices today and every day



## The Great Invitation

*"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:25)*

Are we weary and burdened with unavoidable circumstances? Are we burned out with continuous toiling and sweating? Are we living in constant confusion in this chaotic world, struggling with our own power to carry out endless and insipid responsibilities? Don't we say sometimes with our own mouth that we believe in God's unbelievable power of the Holy Spirit is available for us? Don't we know that our life can be a great channel of blessing that can accomplish unthinkably great work of God in His way as we commit ourselves completely depending under His grace and guidance?

But when we find ourselves being trapped in the life situation, where we are being torn apart with tears and being worn out gradually, then how do we respond to Christ's great invitation to have rest that surpasses all human understanding? He calls each one of us to come unto Him so that our restless souls could find inexplicable rest. Jesus can give us that same rest which He enjoyed while going through all sorts of crisis. He was always in calm and composed knowing the fact that the reality would come out and there would be no success without suffering and no crown without cross.

Are we heavy laden with the affairs of this transient life? Those unexpected affairs, which are not under our control, that make us frightened and frustrated then let's come to Him right away trusting that He always has the best thing to give to us. He is the great Physician who can heal even the deepest wounds of our life. Moreover, whatever needs we have, He knows everything before we tell Him, whatever burden we may be carrying right now. But again the choice is in our hand whether to accept that invitation gladly and have life of peace and tranquility or reject it in unbelief and have life of chaos and confusion.

There is always something special when we are invited to come. Whether it is an invitation to come to a wedding, a graduation, a birthday party, a nice dinner, or some other type of celebration the invitation makes it special. It means that someone desires our presence. It makes us feel good to know that we are wanted by someone! So, we should be thankful that Jesus Christ invites us and calls us with an everlasting and unfathomable love. That tells us that He cares about us! His invitation to come unto Him is a person rather than to an institution, to a religion, and to a place. His promises I will give you rest that is evident because we often live restless life. We keep ourselves busy with so much affairs of this world that we really forget to live relaxed and calm life. So, let's always remember that we can have life in peace and harmony in Jesus Christ who always has the best plan and provision for us under the sun.



## Parable of the Good Samaritan

*Bible passage: Luke 10:25-37,*

I was at a conference when a thoughtful theologian changed my thinking about this parable which has been repeated so many times by both Christians and non-Christians alike.

What do I know about the parable? Like many parables, it starts with a question from someone else and ends with a question from Jesus. We know it well – there is a man who is attacked. There are the robbers that ambush him. Then come the parade of people, the Priest, the Levite and the Samaritan. Finally we leave the injured man with the innkeeper. I know too that often the question we are asked at the end of the parable is the same as Jesus asks: ‘Which of those was a neighbour to the injured man?’ I know we’re all supposed to chorus ‘The Samaritan’ and there is often a lesson about how the Jews and Samaritans were much like Israel and Palestine today. They were not good neighbours.

The question the theologian put to us was this: what if we are ALL the characters in this parable? This could be a useful reflection for those of us who have heard the story so many times that we miss some of the impact. Which bits of us are the darker parts of our nature that ambush and waylay our intentions? Which bits of our personality are likely to gloss over things and pass on the other side where we could offer help, or ignore the things that are hurting us? How can we increase our inner Samaritan, our compassion, the best of us? Where do we need to rest in the Inn and give ourselves room to rest?

As part of our ministry to others, it is sometimes necessary to develop ourselves and have a well of both empathy and compassion we can draw upon. I would encourage all of us to spend some time knowing ourselves some more – our inner characters, so that we can allow our Lord to speak into that, to develop and grow the best of us. To offer up the robbers inside of me to be put to death with all that holds me back. To grow my good Samaritan and carry Jesus’ mercy. I have been given much grace and mercy - I can offer it to others. So when my God and Father calls me and I ask ‘When did I do these things for you, Lord?’ He can say *‘Anything you did for the least important of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me’* (Matt 25:31-46)

**Jonathan Tsang** — IT and Extranet coordinator, TLMI



## OVERCOMING – Part 1

Satan is our Enemy Nr1, who prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour (1Pet 5:8).

Satan uses pain/pleasure to make us stupid/ blind/ miserable/ etc – forever!

But we don't have to be ignorant/ outwitted by his devious strategies (2Cor2:11).

We know God is sovereign over Satan!

The devil is on "God's Leash" here on earth.... he can do no more than God permits (Job2:6)!

The devil however, still has a strange purpose in the world – BUT his complete defeat is coming!

As God is readying us for heaven, He is allowing us to experience spiritual warfare on a daily basis:

God calls it – FIGHTING THE GOOD FIGHT OF THE FAITH (1Tim6:12; Rev2:10; 1Pet1:7)!

Here are some of Satan's strategies and 'designs' to upend us:

- 1) Satan lies, and is the father of lies (John 8:44)
- 2) Satan blinds the minds of unbelievers (2Cor 4:4)
- 3) Satan masquerades in costumes of 'light and righteousness' (2Cor 11:13-15; Matth 7:15; Philp 1:9).
- 4) Satan does mesmerising 'signs and wonders' (2Thes 2:9; Matth 24:24).
- 5) Satan tempts people to sin (Matth 4:1-11; 2Cor 11:3)

The sinful nature is present in every human being (Rom 3:23).

Time spent in sin is forever wasted!

Usually a little sin leads to more sin!

My sin NEVER pleases God, but always grieves Him!

My sin will inevitably invite the discipline of God upon me!

My sin places a great burden upon my spiritual leaders!

My sin always brings heaviness upon my own soul!

My sin always makes me to be a lesser person than I should be!

Others – like my family members – suffer on account of my sin!

My sin allows the enemies of God to rejoice!

My sin disqualifies me from spiritual leadership!

My sin will keep others from getting to know Jesus Christ!

My sin undermines Jesus' work for the world on the Cross!

My sin will militate against me experiencing the Holy Spirit anointed life!

God chooses not to hear the prayers of those who persist in sin!

*Psalm 66:18 – "If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, The LORD would NOT have listened."*



## OVERCOMING – Part 2

Pray for people to see their sin as God sees it (Is 59:2).

Pray for their hardened hearts to soften (Ezek 36:26).

Pray for them to recognise the kindness of God (Rom 2:4).

Pray for them to have a desire for God's Word (Matth 4:4).

Pray for God's Word to do surgery in their heart (Hebr 4:12).

Pray for the consequences of their sin to become clear to them (Psalm 51:3,4).

Pray for people to speak Truth into their life (James 5:19,20).

Pray they realize, ONLY GOD CAN SATISFY THEIR DEEPEST NEEDS (Psalm 107:9).

Pray for them to KNOW HOW MUCH GOD LOVES THEM (Eph 3:17-19).

Pray for them to REPENT (Matth 3:2; 2Cor 7:9-11).

Don't pray for God to annihilate or break them (1Pet 4:8).

Don't pray for them with a critical or judgemental spirit (Matth 7:3-5).

There is NO SIN TOO BIG FOR GOD TO FORGIVE ( John 19 ; 1John 1:9)!

6) Satan plucks the Word of God out of peoples' hearts/ chokes faith (Mark 4:1-9,15).

7) Satan causes sicknesses and diseases (Luke 13:6).

8) Satan is a murderer (John 10:10).

9) Satan fights against the plans of ministers and missionaries (1Thes 2:17,18).

10) Satan accuses believers before God (Rev 12:10).

*Conclusion: Satan will NOT win...God is SUPREME... we will OVERCOME in the Lamb !*

*Rev 12:11-"And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony,  
for they loved not their lives even unto death." - Amen.*



## Psalm 13

*For the director of music. A psalm of David.*

<sup>1</sup> How long, LORD? Will you forget me forever?  
How long will you hide your face from me?

<sup>2</sup> How long must I wrestle with my thoughts  
and day after day have sorrow in my heart?  
How long will my enemy triumph over me?

<sup>3</sup> Look on me and answer, LORD my God.

Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep in death,  
<sup>4</sup> and my enemy will say, "I have overcome him,"  
and my foes will rejoice when I fall.

<sup>5</sup> But I trust in your unfailing love;  
my heart rejoices in your salvation.

<sup>6</sup> I will sing the LORD's praise,  
for he has been good to me.



## Psalm 14

*For the director of music. Of David.*

<sup>1</sup> The fool says in his heart,  
“There is no God.”  
They are corrupt, their deeds are vile;  
there is no one who does good.

<sup>2</sup> The LORD looks down from heaven  
on all mankind  
to see if there are any who understand,  
any who seek God.

<sup>3</sup> All have turned away, all have become corrupt;  
there is no one who does good,  
not even one.

<sup>4</sup> Do all these evildoers know nothing?

They devour my people as though eating bread;  
they never call on the LORD.

<sup>5</sup> But there they are, overwhelmed with dread,  
for God is present in the company of the righteous.

<sup>6</sup> You evildoers frustrate the plans of the poor,  
but the LORD is their refuge.

<sup>7</sup> Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of Zion!  
When the LORD restores his people,  
let Jacob rejoice and Israel be glad!



## A Goodly Heritage

*Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness and who seek the Lord: Look to the rock from which you were cut and to the quarry from which you were hewn; (Isaiah 51:1 NIV)*

We arrived at Chikankata in August 1968, a young and enthusiastic couple on the threshold of life. Chikankata, with its hospital, school and leprosy settlement had become a well known mission in southern Zambia. Its influence extended far beyond its 200 hectares.

Enthusiastic, yes, but also slightly wary, wondering how we would be accepted in a country vigorously opposed to the apartheid policies of our native South Africa. 'We don't judge you by where you come from,' said the hospital chaplain, 'But by how you are.' That was wise counsel.

One of the people we were introduced to early on was the local headman: Chikankata, affectionately known as Charlie. Sitting on a low stool in his village, he wanted to know of my background. I told him a little of the family history which included a reference to my maternal uncle, Alf Erikson. As divisional leader for The Salvation Army in the then Northern Rhodesia he had been commissioned to find a suitable location to establish a mission. Charlie remembered those negotiations with his own uncle in the 1940s. 'We wanted the mission to be here,' he said.

And then the penny dropped. 'You are the rightful heir,' he exclaimed. 'We Tonga people inherit not from our fathers, but from our mother's brother.' None of that was planned, but in that discovery our relationship was secured.

I would pay frequent visits to Charlie, and he was often round the hospital. When it came to erecting the fence a few years later we walked sections of the perimeter of the mission together.

Sanctions against Rhodesia prevented my uncle from ever visiting Chikankata again, but I was able to tell him how it had developed. I told him about Chikankata, the man.

A few years later my uncle asked me to look at a swollen knee. I suspected it was merely osteoarthritis, the legacy of walking in search of the place that would become the mission, perhaps? I was wrong. Sadly he died of tuberculous meningitis, originating from a tuberculous knee that had probably resulted from drinking unpasteurised milk from local cattle.

I mourned his death, but with thanksgiving. I have a goodly heritage.

**Paul du Plessis** - After a lifetime of service with The Salvation Army, South African born Paul and his wife, Margaret, have retired in the UK. Paul has had a number of honorary roles with TLM dating back to his work at TLM Field Representative for Zambia in the 1970s when based at Chikankata Hospital



## A Shared Name

*A good name is more desirable than great riches; to be esteemed is better than silver or gold. (Proverbs 22:1)*

Our first-born was carefully named, loved and cherished. There were family links with the name: Catherine Ann. She was barely two when our second child was born. He was named Alan John. Within 24 hours of birth we realised that all was not well, and although immediately loved and well cared for by those who attended him, five days later he was buried in the mission cemetery at Chikankata. It was a devastating experience for us. Another five years were to pass before we could rejoice in the birth of our third child. The names we gave him once again had family links: André Mark.

But that was out of keeping with the ancient tradition of the people with whom we lived and worked. When a child is born after the death of an infant who has not cut the first tooth, the Tonga custom is that the child is given the name 'Cheelo'. This means ghost. Apparently the thought was that if that child also dies, the parents are told it was only a ghost, and the sense of grief might be reduced. A cheelo also becomes the object of joking and teasing. Fortunately André survived and there was great rejoicing all round. Even the women of the congregation attached to the leprosarium took delight in holding him in their arms, dancing round singing: 'Our Cheelo!'

A few days after André was born I met headman, Charlie Chikankata as he wandered through the hospital. He stopped to ask me about our newly-born son, concluding with the question: 'What's his name?'

I replied: 'Well by your custom he shouldn't have a name - he's just 'Cheelo'.

Charlie responded like a shot: 'O, don't follow any of our old customs. Give him a name. And if you can't think of one, give him mine! It's 'Kanankamana,' he told me. And then with a twinkle in his eye explained it's meaning: 'the one who stands tall and gives orders to others.'

That name is not on his birth certificate, but the news spread quickly. In the local area our son was called 'Kanankamana'. Four decades later André smiles about it. He doesn't seem to mind the name.

When Charlie died they would not proceed with the funeral until two-year-old André was brought to the village. The name had bound them together, if only in the minds of the local people.

Some of us are given nicknames. I've had a few in my lifetime. And there are endearments we acquire. They all add to our sense of identity and well-being. And for many of us, as people of faith, we claim, or are given the label: Christian.

It's an extra name of which we should be proud. It's a name that is both good and desirable.

**Paul du Plessis** - A former TLMI vice-president, Dr Paul du Plessis spent twelve years at a Salvation Army hospital in southern Zambia.



## On Behalf of Others

*Surely he took up our pain, and bore our suffering, .... and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.*  
(Isaiah 53, 4, 6 NIV)

It was my first day as medical officer-in-charge at the Chikankata Hospital, 1 May 1970. A colleague called me to the paediatric ward where a number of children appeared desperately sick. Heel pricks revealed brown, not red blood. We quickly concluded that it must be poisoning of some kind. It turned out to be methaemoglobinaemia due to sodium nitroprusside in rehydration fluid. We administered methylene blue and most of the children affected recovered dramatically, but not before five had died.

We called the police and the state pathologist. News spread quickly and soon a large crowd gathered. When the police read out the names of the deceased children the crowd erupted, rioting and attempting to attack staff. The face of one of the mothers being restrained by police, preventing her from reaching me, remains in my mind. We were told to hide and not to emerge from our homes till next day.

The night passed without incident and next morning I walked warily but confidently to the hospital chapel. There he was at the door - headman, Charlie Chikankata. 'I've come to apologise on behalf of my people,' he said to me. 'I know it was an accident'. He was 'bearing the sins of others'. We fully expected the hospital to be empty. It wasn't. None had left.

Forensic investigations continued for six weeks, revealing that the problem was in the pharmacy. No criminal charges were to be laid, but as having overall responsibility I had to accept the blame. I was told by the investigating officer that I needed to reprimand staff and ensure better supervision. Civil proceedings concluded with an out-of-court settlement. The burden of leadership weighed heavily. I also had to 'bear the sins of others'.

A couple of years later a mother entered the outpatients consulting room, a child on her lap. I looked up at her. I recognised the face immediately. The last time I'd seen her was on that fateful day. It was she who had tried to attack me because of the death of her child. 'However can you come back here?' I asked her. 'Where else could I go?' was her response.

This child recovered.

**Dr Paul du Plessis** - A former TLMI vice-president, Dr Paul du Plessis spent twelve years at a Salvation Army hospital in southern Zambia.



## A Rhodesian Landmine

*I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust." Surely he will save you from the snare of the fowler ... (Psalm 91:1-2. NIV)*

Situated as we were at a mission hospital in southern Zambia it was inevitable that the late 1970s Zimbabwe liberation war would spill over into areas near us. And it did. There had already been several incidents. We lived with uncertainty, but were undeterred by the unpredictable. The work needed to carry on.

That day in late 1979 we received a message from the local police that the mobile clinic team had detonated a landmine. I felt the blood drain from me as I listened. We immediately arranged two vehicles and emergency supplies to proceed along the route we knew they would take. Halfway down the pass into the Zambezi valley we discovered that it was not our vehicle, but a truck transporting maize, that had been blown up. We found the team safe and well at the clinic. They'd gone to visit. 'The fighting is close by. You must get out of here as soon as possible,' was the instruction. So off we set, three vehicles in convoy.

Half way up the pass, just a few metres from the other landmine it happened. The third of the vehicles caught the blast, was thrown into the air and burst into flames. The driver, Alan, and passenger, Mike, escaped unhurt.

Leaving the burnt-out vehicle, and still somewhat numbed by the experience we proceeded to the mission. Relief was palpable. One of the first people to come and see us was headman, Charlie Chikankata. If we felt troubled, he looked it. 'There,' said Alan, searching for something meaningful to say, 'It'll take more than a Rhodesian landmine to kill me,' he remarked. Charlie looked at him, paused for a moment, then shook his head vigorously. Wagging a finger at Alan he said slowly and with great emphasis: 'No, no. It was God!'

If that was the message the mission intended to convey by all its programmes and activities, then it had succeeded. At least with this one man had grasped that.

That evening we gathered in a service of thanksgiving. The scripture: Psalm 91.

**Dr Paul du Plessis** - A former TLMI vice-president, Dr Paul du Plessis spent twelve years at a Salvation Army hospital in southern Zambia.



## On Friday

On Friday's I often pray for "friends".

Paul prayed for a number of things for people he ministered too, so I've adopted a few to pass on. God bless you my friend.

- I thank God for each one of you.
- Lord fill with your wisdom and knowledge.
- That my friends would be full of hope.
- May they would live in peace and unity.
- May they be strengthened with spiritual power from Holy Spirit.
- Holy Spirit teach them to abide in Christ
- Let there be growth in their love for others.
- Let righteousness and purity be hallmarks in their lives.
- Let there be an overflow of praise and thanks to God.

**Dan Izzett** - Zimbabwe. Retired pastor. I was diagnosed with lepromatous leprosy in 1972. Served on TLMI board for eight years and on the Zimbabwe board for 15 years. I now serve on the ALM board and do advocacy for them.



## Psalm 15

*A psalm of David.*

<sup>1</sup> LORD, who may dwell in your sacred tent?  
Who may live on your holy mountain?

<sup>2</sup> The one whose walk is blameless,  
who does what is righteous,  
who speaks the truth from their heart;

<sup>3</sup> whose tongue utters no slander,  
who does no wrong to a neighbor,  
and casts no slur on others;

<sup>4</sup> who despises a vile person  
but honors those who fear the LORD;  
who keeps an oath even when it hurts,  
and does not change their mind;

<sup>5</sup> who lends money to the poor without interest;  
who does not accept a bribe against the innocent.

Whoever does these things  
will never be shaken.



## Psalm 16

*A miktam of David.*

<sup>1</sup> Keep me safe, my God,  
for in you I take refuge.

<sup>2</sup> I say to the LORD, "You are my Lord;  
apart from you I have no good thing."

<sup>3</sup> I say of the holy people who are in the land,  
"They are the noble ones in whom is all my delight."

<sup>4</sup> Those who run after other gods will suffer more and more.  
I will not pour out libations of blood to such gods  
or take up their names on my lips.

<sup>5</sup> LORD, you alone are my portion and my cup;  
you make my lot secure.

<sup>6</sup> The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;  
surely I have a delightful inheritance.

<sup>7</sup> I will praise the LORD, who counsels me;  
even at night my heart instructs me.

<sup>8</sup> I keep my eyes always on the LORD.  
With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

<sup>9</sup> Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices;  
my body also will rest secure,  
<sup>10</sup> because you will not abandon me to the realm of the dead,  
nor will you let your faithful<sup>[b]</sup> one see decay.

<sup>11</sup> You make known to me the path of life;  
you will fill me with joy in your presence,  
with eternal pleasures at your right hand.



## God is my Refuge!

### *Psalm 11*

Sometimes we feel overwhelmed and fearful because of the demands of daily living, the pace of life, unfair treatment, unexpected hardship, prolonged illness or suffering.

There is no safer place, nothing more valuable in this life and nothing on offer in this world that can compare with the intimate presence of God – seeing his face.

This psalm records the advice of friends of David, who see the power and underhandedness of the enemy, encouraging him to flee to the mountains. In the years before he became king, David lived the life of a fugitive. He was regularly hunted by King Saul and lived in constant danger. David would not heed their advice to flee, as he had already put his unwavering trust in the Lord. The Message puts it in this way: “I’ve already run for dear life straight to the arms of God. So why would I run away now when you say, ‘Run to the mountains...’

When it feels like the foundations are being destroyed (like an upsurge of evil in our community or society), what can the righteous do? The righteous in the Old Testament is a reference to the people of God who seek to honour Him and do his will. They live in a restored relationship with the Lord and their neighbours. They seek to faithfully fulfil the obligations of these relationships, remembering that power and authority (of whatever kind) are meant to be used to bless and not exploit.

In response to the fearful cries of his associates and their urgent promptings for him to flee, David remembers that God is King and on his heavenly throne. He sees everyone (Prov. 15:3) – judgement belongs to Him alone.

David ends this psalm with a reminder that the Lord is faithful and that He loves justice. The powerless will look to Him for protection, the oppressed for redress and the needy for help. When in relationship with Him, we will see his face, i.e. the special freedom to have access to the heavenly King – being in his presence.

Even in the most difficult of times in your life you can experience the intimate presence of God.

He is your refuge and you have access to his presence.



## Your Spiritual Core

Your spiritual core is made up of four values: intimacy, identity, integrity, and humility. These develop as separate entities within your "sit place with God," as well as work together to help you in becoming all that you were destined to be and do.

In your **identity**, it is important that you believe who you are *in Christ*. God states that *you are very precious, chosen, holy, dearly loved, and a people belonging to Him*. Believing these truths and so many more is your identity because you are created in the image of God. Believing and trusting in this identity is essential for creating a strong spiritual core.

**Intimacy** has already been presented in the value of sharing your voice (thoughts and feelings) openly and truthfully, pausing to receive His care and comfort, and then listening to God's voice of truth, and taking a hold of His grace in order to trust and obey the words He speaks to you regarding your relationships and circumstances. Psalms 34 expresses this beautiful imagery of intimate relationship.

**Integrity** is presenting to the world that what they hear and see match, that your private life matches your public life. No discrepancies. The world needs to see the good fruit of your integrity in truth, goodness, righteousness, gratitude, humility, and reverence to God.

**Humility** is the fourth value that is needed to strengthen your spiritual core. It is the pathway that leads out from your spiritual core of identity, intimacy, and integrity to fulfill your role in the kingdom. With a strong spiritual core, humility is the spiritual pathway to serve others with your *vision* (your purpose on earth) and *mission* (the ways you walk out your vision). Everything God works in you is for the purpose of overflow to others. As He has loved you, so love one another. Commit to fulfilling your role in the kingdom to declare God's grace to others.

### Reflection

**First, define** your identity. If there are any discrepancies in what God says about you, replace them with the truth. Live loved. Live out those words for you and the world to see and enjoy! You are His beloved!

**Second, develop** a strong core of all these values. Spend time with God in the Word, applying all He speaks to your personal life. Let integrity be worked through and through, reflecting God in your words, choices, and responses. Serve others in humility, bending low and lifting up one another. Humility is the essence of love.

**Third, declare your vision and mission.** Write out your vision statement that you believe God gave to you when He created you and then list the ways you desire to walk out in mission that vision statement.

*Taken from the Bible app YouVersion*

Submitted by **Helen Walton**, Community Development Manager at TLMEW since June 2015



## Volunteers recruited!

*“Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?” Isaiah 6,8*

This verse of Isaiah sounds like a real job announcement: Here is a job, suitable candidates are welcome! Let us go through the main steps of this recruiting process!

1. Who is the announcement coming from? - It is made by the Almighty God himself!
2. What is the job about? There is always much to do! *“The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few!” (Luke 10,2)*
3. Who are expected to come? - Those who are ready and willing! They are the volunteers! *„And I said, “Here am I. Send me!” Isaiah 6,8* – this is characteristic of the volunteers’ attitude! *„Send me! Just tell me where and what.... I am ready to go and do what you say!”*
4. What is needed from the candidates? - I see from the younger generations what a big job it is putting together all the needed certificates, diplomas, degrees, publications, presentations, references, etc. for a job application! Applying for God’s announcement needs different skills:
  - a.) humility. This is a key principle! The founder of TLM Hungary, Rev. Dobos, had a brilliant test for filtering humility. Whenever a new volunteer-candidate arrived offering his/her skills the wise minister warmly embraced the person and asked him/her to sit down and paste stamps on the pile of envelopes... Often a former director or high-level person disappointedly left : “As a former senior in my job I came for something qualified!” But those who humbly accepted this low level task and had patience, soon stepped up to the mark and got qualification!
  - b.) faithfulness is needed. Not just flaming enthusiasm, temporal excitement! But the spirit of steadfastness, as this matches our Lord’s attitude to us! He is faithful! Silent and firm dedication in a certain issue always moves the cause forward much more than rapid and loud promises!
  - c.) Joy. What a great temptation is to complain about being exhausted, overused, martyring! “Why are others not coming? If we were more, the portion for each would be less!” Heartfelt joy is a sign of blessedness and pure heart!
5. What is the reward of volunteering?
  - a.) The spirit of freedom. Volunteering on the call of God is not a “must”. Nor an obligation. But the freedom of “I may do so”. A free choice, above any expectation or burning need. Therefore volunteers are very rich people, who know about and practice the inner freedom of selfless offering, giving!
  - b.) We are called *‘co-workers of God’ (1 Cor 3:9)*. Being ‘employed’ even at a lower level at XY firm of a great repute: what an honour! But how much more it is to be “colleagues”, co-workers of the Almighty God in His Kingdom! All those offering themselves on the ‘announcement’ and invitation of the Lord, are given this honour!
  - c.) Volunteers’ reward is the possibility of doing what they truly love. As for decades volunteering in TLM I know by experience what a passion and satisfaction, heartfelt joy and pushing force is to do what I LOVE! It is never a charge! But above the normal work, the joyful “plus”! But *“his word is in my heart like a fire, a fire shut up in my bones”* - fire to go and do and never regret doing it!
  - d.) But the real and most precious reward is put aside and promised to be given in heaven. On earth there is no payment, no sufficient amount of thanks for those who voluntarily offer themselves.

*“Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labour IN THE LORD is not in vain.” 1 Kor 15,38*

**Marta Risko** – country leader TLM Hungary. Thankful for the many dedicated volunteers!



## Authors in Alphabetical Order

## Textuarium

Anne-Claude Jonah	6 February		Psalm 1,1	7 February
Dan Izzett	5, 23 February		Psalm 9	3, 4 February
David Beazley	7 February		Psalm 10	10 February
David, King of Israel	3,4,11,17,18,24,25 February		Psalm 11	26 February
Helen Walton	27 February		Psalm 12	11 February
Jannine Ebenso	12 February		Psalm 13	17 February
Jonathan Tsang	14 February		Psalm 14	18 February
Joyce Ponnaiya Dr	8 February		Psalm 15	24 February
Marta Risko	28 February		Psalm 16	25 February
Otto Kingsley	15, 16 February		Psalm 34,8	7 February
Paul du Plessis Dr	19, 20, 21, 22 February		Proverbs 22,1	20 February
Raju Dr PLN	1,2 February		Isaiah 6,8	28 February
Ruth Shrestha	13 February		Isaiah 51,1	19 February
Sadhu Sundar Singh	9 February		Isaiah 53, 4,6	21 February
Theo de Villiers	26 February		Matthew 5,1-12	7 February
			Matthew 11,25	13 February
			Luke 10,25-37	14 February
			John 15,1-17	1,2 February
			1 John 4,18	8 February
			1 Peter 2,11-12	5 February
			1 Peter 3,9	12 February
			Revelation 5,1-14	6 February

**The Bridge** - TLM Daily Devotions

Editor: Marta Risko - Theological lector: Allan Ekstedt - Grammar proof: Christine Osman, Mo Lewis.