

SUNDAY LINE AND WORLD MINISTRIES



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Caring for children around the world

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PREM SEWA - Home for Boys and Girls

*Thoughts from Frank Jeulich, Founder
Nagpur & Manjari, India*



Children on their way to school



Frank Jeulich

A stream of kids walking by the house greet me with 'Good morning Bhai sahib' in a seemingly endless refrain. Their happy grins, like the rays of the sun, warm my heart. A stray cloud for a moment covers the sun and it seems as if laughter suddenly dies and joy becomes subdued. My mind, like that of the wind, turns away from leaves, flowers and wind to other concerns – the concerns that just walked by my gate and others like them, scattered over the compound. A cloud brought about by remembering disturbing media reports about exploited kids, of atrocities against kids, malnourished kids and actually starving kids impresses itself on my heart. Such tremendous needs! Yet in spite of the need, the number of children in the boys' home has decreased in keeping

with the decline in income or run-away food prices.

Then the cloud passes and cheerfulness and laughter reasserts itself. I gaze over the playground. The view that my bay window offers me seems daily the same. Kids running about; kicking balls, catching balls, shooting marbles, running with a kite, yelling, screaming and laughing; the games change with the change of season but the kids seem the same. But that

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LIVING A LAME LIFE

Key Scripture: **John 5:6-9; 14-15**

“Do you want to get well?”

Our devotion this month is centered on the story of the healing of a lame man recorded in the gospel of **John 5:6-9; 14-15**.

Jesus had come to Jerusalem to celebrate a feast of the Jews ... it was the Sabbath day and Jesus came to a sheep market pool called the Pool of Bethesda (meaning the House of Mercy). The pool was known as a place where people sometimes would get healed. They believed that an angel occasionally would come and stir the waters and the first one to get into the pool would receive their healing. Jesus sees a man lying near the pool that had been lame for 38 years and asks him what would seem a very silly question: **“Do you want to get well?”**

The lame man replied: **John 5:7: “Sir, I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me.”**

Verse 8-9: Jesus tells him: **“Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.”** At once the man was cured; he picked up his mat and walked.

The first thing that this man did right was that he admitted that he had come to the end of himself and realized that he needed help. What man needs to understand is that we all need fixing ... we all need help. People plan, people save, people strategize ... and like the lame man they are living, but it is a lame life.

Every Sunday morning there are millions of people lying around their own pool. Their pool may be their television sets ... or playing sports ... or shopping ... or fixing up their homes; others have pools of just doing nothing. Everyone seems to have a good pool, but

in the end their pool will never give them what they really need.

Sadly this even applies to the church of today.

Today there are millions of people going to lame churches and still living lame lives. The church, my dear friends, was never designed to be a dead pool of water. The church was designed to be a house of healing ... a house of power ... a house of liberation. It was designed for those that were spiritually sick to come and be made well. It was designed for the dying to come and be made whole. It was to be a place of life where its water would heal the sick and raise the dead, an ever flowing river of life for everyone to receive God's life giving water.

Jesus asked the lame man: **“Do you want to get well?”**

The lame man answered: **John 5:7: “Sir, I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me.”**

Jesus tells him: **“Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.”** At once the man was cured, and the same day was the Sabbath day.

The first people that complained about what Jesus had just done on the Sabbath Day were - you guessed it - the religious people in charge of the pool. Instead of being joyful about the lame man's healing, the religious crowd accused Jesus of forgetting the sanctity of God's Day. They were arguing about the do's and the don'ts of the law and while they were arguing about what Jesus had just done Jesus quietly walked away.

Today, many churches are still arguing about the do's and the don'ts ... and it has failed to see that Jesus has quietly walked away; yes, Jesus has left the church!

That day the Bethesda pool had a visitation from God, but not many were ready. That

day, Jesus showed up and the religious leaders argued about the do's and the don'ts.

The question that I have for us today is: If Jesus were to show up today would the church be ready to receive Jesus?

Verses 14-15 tell us how this story ends:

“Later Jesus found him at the temple and said to him, ‘See, you are well again. Stop sinning or something worse may happen to you.’ ”

Jesus said: “stop sinning”. Stop sinning by placing your faith in a dead pool. **Stop placing your faith in religion with its do's and don'ts.** Stop living a lame life! Verse 15 tells us what the man then did.

“The man went away and told the Jewish leaders that it was Jesus who had made him well.”

My dear friends in Christ: The world is full of sick people that need to come to the Living Waters of Life. Therefore, let's do what the lame man did ... **let's go out and tell everyone that it is Jesus who can make us well!** Let's begin by praying for God to come and visit us

again ... and unlike the religious crowd...let's be ready to welcome Him when He comes!

Thank you for your continued faithful giving.

Blessings in Christ,

Pastor Roman

Book Corner . . .

The Sunday Line office has several copies of the CD “Faithfully Yours” by Bernice Gerard and Velma Chapman, capturing the highlights of various TV interviews. As well, Bernice’s book “The Holy Land...Guide to Faith” and Dr. Labib Mikhail’s book “Israel God’s Miracle Nation” are available. If you would like any of these materials, please contact the office and we will forward them to you: 778-294-4040.



The Watoto Children's choir delighted passers-by as they sang and shared short testimonies while at the Sunday Line Missions Fest booth the last weekend of January. It was great to connect with so many friends, supporters and colleagues and to see and hear all that God is doing throughout the nations of the world.



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Playtime

is an illusion, isn't it. Over the passing of time while here, the kids change; some more some less; some more subtle some more obvious.

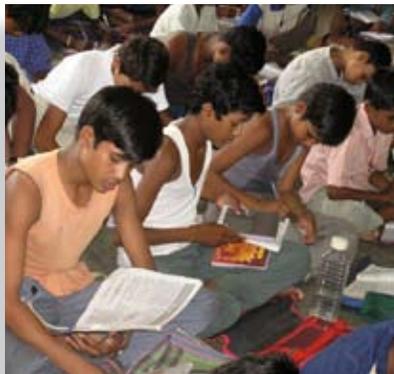
Our kids are scattered over many parts of India, holding many different positions, are employed in different jobs and many are serving God in various ministries. The reports we receive are often encouraging and so are the visits from kids who have passed through the hostel. Many are grateful for the help they received and claim they reached positions and have jobs because of what Prem Sewa did for them.

Christmas is a time of joy for the children though being happy seems

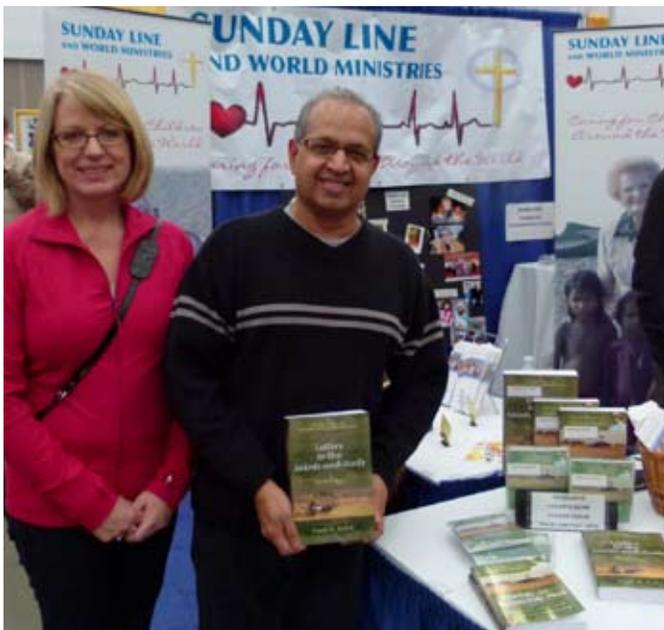
Christmas - a time of joy.

never far from them at any time; it is no doubt the good care they receive and the dwelling of the Spirit of God among us.

Though there are some decorations everybody is more inclined to put money into kids' tummies, into clothes to cover them to keep them warm, into toys in the shape of soccer balls, cricket bats and balls, countless marbles. Of course, the dentist's warnings forgotten, there are also plenty of sweets. The Christmas dinner is special and the kids treat it with the reverence it deserves – by utilizing every nook and cranny in their tummy – eating it all, and then – some more.



Studying hard



Frank's books were displayed at the Sunday Line MissionsFest booth in Vancouver by his Canadian representatives Errol and Myrna Desousa. Should you want a copy of his anthology "*Letters to the Saints and Aints*" or his autobiography "*Fearfully and Wonderfully Mad*", in either book or audio format, contact erroldesousa@gmail.com.

Tax receipts for 2012 have now gone out in the mail. If you have moved or are planning a move, please let us know so we can keep our records up to date. Thank you.