

# SUNDAY LINE and World Ministries



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*Caring for children around the world*

July 2017

Note: The next newsletter will be mailed in September.

## Calcutta Mercy Ministries:

*Kolkata, India*

**with Founder Huldah Buntain and President Bonnie Long**

### STRONG NATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Huldah Buntain was recently in Calcutta to celebrate the 100th anniversary celebration for the Assemblies of God of North India. She comments, "I was so happy to see hundreds of national pastors attend this celebration from the 16 states of North India. However, I was even happier to know that out of the hundreds of pastors present the largest number were from the three States where we have our Bible Schools that Sunday Line is helping to support."

The graduate pastors from these Bible Schools not only have opened churches in unreached villages, but also have initiated schools. It is educating the children that bring the families to church and to the Lord. Calcutta Mercy Ministries now have over 1000 churches planted by the graduates of the rural Bible Schools in the languages of 5 different States.

### A DIFFERENT DAY

It is a different day now in India than when Huldah and her husband, Mark, arrived in 1954. At that time there were more missionaries than national pastors and leaders. Now, under the new administration, no new missionary visas are being



granted. Many who apply for a visa are granted only a week or 10 days in the country with the written restriction: "Cannot participate in any religious activities."

Though India is a democracy and honours all religions, it is necessary to have services, guest speakers and special events take place only in the churches. Outdoor crusades and tract distribution is no longer possible. However, it is possible to have Chapel services each morning in their schools, hospitals and with their church staff. Anyone can come to the services and can accept the Lord, but all activity must take place within the churches.

Having a strong national church with strong leaders allows the ministry in India to continue to grow and develop to meet the divergent needs of the people.

## BREAKING THE CYCLE: PROVIDING HOPE

Once finished, Hope House will provide a home for girls who were born into the red-light neighbourhoods of India. They will have a home in which they can live away from their high-risk environment, go to school, play safely in their inner courtyard and grow up with a brighter future. Still needed to complete the facility is a water treatment system, a security fence around the pond and some essentials to equip the kitchen and residence. Believe with Calcutta Mercy Ministries that finances will become available to bring the home and classrooms to full operational capacity with funding for staff, teachers, food, medical care and other maintenance costs.

*Top: Hope House Residence & Classrooms  
for the girls*

*Middle: Interior Courtyard for Safe Play*

*Bottom: Young girls, like these,  
will have a future and a hope.*



# MAY THE NAME OF THE LORD BE PRAISED!

Key Scripture: **Job 1:21**

*"Naked I came,  
and naked I will  
depart"*

One book in the Old Testament concerning whose background we know almost nothing for certain is the book of Job. We do not know the author, although some think that it might have been Moses. We do not know the precise time frame in which the account takes place, although some believe that it could have been during the patriarchal age. We do not even know exactly where Uz was.

However, the book of Job is part of the inspired Scriptures and therefore contains a message from God. And, so, this month, we want to look at **Job 1:1-22** and see what we can learn from Job.

Job understood the principle that is stated so often throughout the scriptures. He had just lost everything, but he still knew that life is more than food and the body more than clothing. (**Matthew 6:25b**) He recognized the truthfulness of Paul's statement, "**For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain that we can carry nothing out.**" (**1 Tim. 6:7**) So many people react to crisis and tragedy by asking, "Why me?" blaming God for their pain, and even turning away from the Lord.

C.S. Lewis once remarked when asked, "Why should the righteous suffer?" His answer was: "Why not? They're the only ones who can handle it." We also can rejoice when Paul says God will not test us above that we are able to bear.

Yet in the midst of all his suffering Job continued to acknowledge his dependence on God. Later he

would say: "**Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him.**" (**Job 13:15**) Job had no idea why all this was happening to him, but he continued to trust God. And notice what Job did, or rather did not do: "**In all this Job did not sin nor charge God with wrong.**" (**v. 22**)

The big question that people have asked through the years is why does God allow bad things to happen? Like Job, we do not always know the answer to that question. We may not always understand why, but there are some things of which the Bible assures us:

**"For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us...And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose."** (**Rom. 8:18, 28**)

Thus, we can be assured that God does have a plan whether we recognize it or not. With this attitude, then, we can use the trials of life to draw nearer to God and to let Him use them for our good, "**Knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience**" (**James. 1:2-4**). Suffering can either make us bitter or better; Job's example encourages us to let it make us better.

As the world continues to spiral downwards in these troublesome times we need to pray more than ever before for a fresh breath of God's Spirit to bring new life to the church and to every Christian to fully place our trust in God more than ever.

As we look at this passage we see that Job realized that his life was totally in the hands of God.

Ever since the beginning of human history, much of mankind has believed that they are in the hands of someone or something more powerful than themselves.

People from every walk of life understand that as much as we try, we cannot control many things. Farmers know that no matter how carefully they sow their seed and cultivate their fields that their harvest is totally dependent upon the sun and the rain which they cannot control.

People don't wake up expecting to hear that their spouse has fallen out of love and wants to call it quits. Families don't live their daily lives expecting to have someone tell them that their son or daughter has just been killed by a gunman.

The earthquakes, the tsunamis, the storms that send destruction every year, the senseless shooting of innocent children in grade schools, the suicidal bombings and destruction of innocent people are all a sad reminder that we are not in control.

People do not wake up expecting to have earthquakes...people do not wake up expecting to have accidents...people do not wake up expecting to get sick, or to have a heart attack...and no one wakes up expecting to get shot. A few weeks ago, no one attending a concert in Manchester, England expected to be blown up or injured by a suicidal bomber. Innocent children and teenagers were attending a concert and having a wonderful time when suddenly a suicidal bomber put a sad ending to the lives of innocent kids.

The patriarch Job understood that his life was totally dependent upon God. Job was a man who revered God, and seemed to have it all together. He had wealth, a good reputation, and many children. Then one day it all went sideways. Four times in this short passage we read that a messenger came to Job bearing really bad news.

Just one of those messages would be enough to ruin our day for a very long time...Job had a quadruple whammy in just one day.

His immediate response to his calamity was that he fell down and worshipped God and declared: **"Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I will depart."**

**The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; may the name of the LORD be praised."**

As the story of Job continues, it continues to get even worse! In chapter 2, Satan is allowed to strike Job himself with painful boils, although again the Lord limited the devil and did not allow him to take Job's life. Even Job's wife turned against him, telling him to curse God and die, and his friends who came to comfort him began to accuse him of some terrible evil to deserve what he got. **"Miserable comforters are you all!" (Job 16:2)** Yet through it all, Job did his best to remain faithful to God and was rewarded in the end. **"And the Lord restored Job's losses when he prayed for his friends. Indeed the Lord gave Job twice as much as he had before." (Job 40:10)**

The book of Job is God's inspired answer to the issue of suffering in life. Again, in this life we may never fully understand all the whys, but there are some conclusions that we can reach based upon what God has revealed in His word. Whatever happens, God is still there, He is still in control, and He always cares for us. **(1 Peter 5:7)** He may not necessarily remove the difficulties that we face, as was the case of Paul's thorn in the flesh, **(2 Cor. 12:8-10)** however, as we stay faithful to place our trust in Him, He will bless us and finally one day when we leave this old world and its system behind, God will glorify us, with the promise that **we shall receive the everlasting crown of life.** **(Revelation 2:10)**

**Thank you, once again, for your  
faithfulness to share in prayer and  
support in making a difference in the  
lives of children around the world.**

**Blessings in Christ,**

*Pastor Roman  
and Pat Kozak*

