JAMES 2:1-14.

James is writing to the Christians scattered to different places as a result of the persecution at Jerusalem. He knew the condition and the spiritual practises of these churches, and therefore he issues the following reminders and warnings in Chapter 1: (1) James encourages them to continue thinking of the New Birth through the Word of truth. This New Birth (born again/regeneration, etc) is the seed upon which everything else grows; or the foundation upon which everything else is built. (2) He tells them that they can expect trials, but they can find supernatural joy because of the supernatural life implanted in them through the New Birth. (3) He warns them of the danger of self-deception, i.e., hearing God's Word and not doing it. We have to hear, understand and obey. (4) He warns them of the danger of the tongue. The tongue can bring down the fire of Hell itself; the tongue can also bring the glory of Heaven down. (5) He affirms that true faith and spirituality results in a life of holiness and service to others.

Chapter 2. Favouritism is sin.

In chapter 2 James turns his attention to another evil that is destroying the Church. This great evil is called "favouritism". James clearly calls it sin. Jesus was known by His enemies as a man who showed no favouritism or partiality (Luke 20:22). And if we claim to follow Jesus, we also cannot show favouritism. There different kinds of favouritism, and all of them are sin:

- Racial/tribal favouritism (Acts 10:34).
- Favouring the rich over the poor (James 2).
- Favouring the poor over the rich. (Leviticus 19:15).
- Denominational favouritism. The Baptist believers cannot stand the Charismatic believer and the Charismatic think all the Baptist believers are dead. This is sin.

Our Brokenness before God.

The House Churches in James' times may have been perfect in obeying the other commandments of the Law, like for example, the command not to murder or commit adultery. But James insists that if we break one of the commandments, we break it all. We cannot say that because we have not committed adultery or murder, we are better than people who commit these sins. The churches in Judea and Samaria had committed the sin of favouring the rich people over the poor, and therefore are corrupted and evil like any other government that time. The Law is like an egg or a glass. If we break one part we break it all. It may be a small crack in the corner, or a big crack right through the middle, the whole needs to be replaced.

This replacement is called the "new birth" or "regeneration", prophesied in Ezekiel 36:26. God promises to replace our spirit and heart. When we put our trust in Him, He puts the seed of New Creation within us.

We are also like an egg or a glass. If we are broken, we are broken. We cannot do patchworks and repair ourselves. No piecemeal solution or effort will do. Our whole spirit and heart needs to be replaced. God promises to do that when we come before Him and put our trust in Him.

If you are born again, God has already replaced your spirit and heart with His perfect Spirit (Ezekiel 36:26). You don't need to repair or improve yourself, because you will never succeed. You only need to seek ways and means to release the Spirit within you. Ask God to lead you through this process.



June 11, 2017; Vol. XII, Issue 22

y Church

VISION statement of the City Church:

City Church seeks to honor and worship Jesus Christ as Lord and the only God; and to build the Body of Christ (The Church) with all who love Him as disciples, proclaiming Him as the Savior to all nations.

AIMS of the City Church:

Worship: To Worship God and exalt His name together as a Church.

Fellowship: To build the body of Christ with all who love Him through mutual sharing, help and growth.

Evangelism: To witness for Christ both by proclamation and by lifestyle so as to cause others to experience God's great salvation.

Discipleship: To establish members as disciples of Jesus Christ through systematic Bible Studies and teaching and equip them for effective service.

Mission: To send out people in obedience to God's call and command to reach the un-reached for Christ.

Sunday Service

Leader : Ajung Hesso

Speaker: Pastor Kedo Peseyie

Ushers : Wewa-ü Mero

& Orenvungi Yanthan

Flower : Merenla Odyuo Keyboard : Vizolenuo Solo

Praise & Worship

Welcome & Announcement

Reading: Psalm 103

Hymn No.116 : My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Offertory

Message

Hymn No.140 : 'Tis So Sweet to Trust in

Jesus

Benediction

PRAYER

- Pray for the **Sunday School Bible Camp** from <u>June 26-28</u>. Pray for God's leading and wisdom upon all the Sunday School Teachers as they plan and prepare for the Bible camp. And for the children and their parents, pray that they will be able to provide good atmosphere in the family so that the spiritual seeds sown during this camp will grow and bear fruit, and not die out.
- Pray for the Indian Christians serving in the government and other services like the media and business establishments, that they may be strengthened in the faith and be bold in standing for Christ and testifying to the name of Jesus Christ. With many hostile forces rising against Christianity in India, we need to uphold our Christian brothers and sisters in other parts of country.
- Pray for all our worshippers here at City Church, that along with the progress of our new church building project, all of us will also grow spiritually. Pray that God will work mightily in our church.

Everyone is invited to the tea fellowship after the worship service.

Psalm 103

Praise the LORD, my soul; all my inmost being, praise his holy name.

Praise the LORD, my soul, and forget not all his benefits who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit and crowns you with love and compassion,

who satisfies your desires with good things

so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

The LORD works righteousness and justice for all the oppressed. He made known his ways to Moses. his deeds to the people of Israel:

The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love.

He will not always accuse,

nor will he harbor his anger forever; he does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth,

so great is his love for those who fear him:

as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our

transgressions from us.

As a father has compassion on his children,

so the LORD has compassion on those who fear him:

for he knows how we are formed he remembers that we are dust.

The life of mortals is like grass,

they flourish like a flower of the field; the wind blows over it and it is gone, and its place remembers it no more.

But from everlasting to everlasting the LORD's love is with those who fear him.

and his righteousness with their children's children—

with those who keep his covenant and remember to obey his precepts. The LORD has established his throne in

heaven. and his kingdom rules over all.

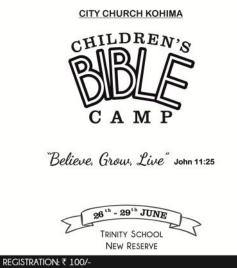
Praise the LORD, you his angels, you mighty ones who do his bidding, who obey his word.

Praise the LORD, all his heavenly hosts, you his servants who do his will.

Praise the LORD, all his works everywhere in his dominion.

Praise the LORD, my soul.

DISCIPLESHIP CLASS, 6th June 2017



Nagamese Fellowship

Be Content (1 Tim 6:6): God knows everything we need in our life, let us come before the Lord our God as He is the author and perfecter of our life. As a child of God or the servants of God sometimes we forget our father who is in heaven.

1. Our God is great God

- He is the creator of the world.
- Godliness with contentment is great gain.

2. He can give us all our needs.

- Be satisfied what we have with us
- Commit our life in the presence of God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Thursday Women fellowship every Thursday @ 5pm.
- To avail transportation for Sunday service, contact Myingthungo Humtsoe @ 9402936043/8794172936.
- Children's choir practise every Saturday at 4pm.
- Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study, 5pm 6pm.
- The church office request those who are to submit the gist of sharing/ message to the office may do so through Mr. Toshi by *e-mail* or in person latest by Friday.

Sunday, May 28th, 2017

Tithes: ₹ 88,700 Offering: ₹ 9,440 Thanksgiving: ₹ 2,000 Mission: ₹ 4.000 Building Fund: ₹ 2,66,000

> Nagamese: ₹ 305 Total: ₹ 3,70,445

Music Concert

Music Concert in Aid of Church Building Construction was organized on 4th June at RCEMPA, Jotsoma. There were altogether 9 artists and our very own Children Choir blessing everyone present with their God given gift and talent. In addition to music, attractions of the evening also included food stall with varieties of delicious food and also the Photo booth where everyone got a chance to be a star for the Day. It was a blessed and successful concert. We thank God for His hand of blessing and everyone who came forward with a helping hand and contributed generously.

Freewill Offering - ₹ 3,38,917/-

Food Stall - ₹ 1,10,850(approx.) - ₹ 10,000/- (approx.) Photo Booth

- Music Committee