

POEMS OF THE MONTH

Why this delay?

Simon Zachariah

How many pieces of chalk you had with you!
 What a big blackboard you had in front of you!
 What a great truth you had in your heart!
 Then why didn't you write it on the board?

What a nice megaphone you had in your hand!
 How many people waited to hear from you!
 What nice solution you knew to solve the problem!
 Then why didn't you shout it to them loud?

How many seeds you collected to plant!
 How many days it rained and soaked the earth!
 How much you wanted for a plenteous harvest!
 Then why did you hesitate to sow your seeds?

How many days and how many times you prayed!
 How eloquently you prayed with repeated words!
 How many people begged for your sincere prayers!
 Then why didn't you remember their names?

How many years you spent as a teacher!
 How many generations listened to your advice!
 How many years they searched for an example!
 How many got disappointed without seeing any!

How many smart men failed in their lives!
 How many wise men wasted their wisdom!
 How many opportunities passed you by!
 Why this delay my dear friend?

ഇല്ലായ്മയുടെ സന്തോഷം

-സൈമൺ സഖറിയ

ചെറുപ്പിട്ട കുട്ടി തട്ടിമുട്ടി വീണപ്പോൾ
 ചെറുപ്പില്ലാ വഴിപോക്കനു ചിരിയോചിരി!
 ഇല്ലാത്തവനു നഷ്ടപ്പെടാൻ ഒന്നുമില്ല
 ഉള്ളവനത്രെ നിധിയോർത്തോക്കിളവു
 ഉള്ളതു ദോഷമായാൽ ലാഭം ദുഃഖം മാത്രം
 ഇല്ലാത്തവനോ അതേറ്റം പരമാനന്ദം!

Channels of Glory – Letter from Dr. Simon Zachariah

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A Newsletter

Vol. 9 No. 1. 2014



**“Easow- The Good Shepherd who gave
 His own life for His sheeps”-
 Rinse & Tintu.**



**Channels of Glory –
Letter from Dr. Simon Zachariah**

We all agree on the fact that last winter was very hard on us. Every day on my way to work in the morning, I used to see many homeless people coming from the winter shelters to the ‘Shalom center’ where they can find a mailbox to receive their personal mail, fine food, warm place, hot shower, free internet, free counseling and above all the friendship of other fellow beings who go through the same situation. Many of these are the things we all take for granted in our lives; especially the loved ones to love, correct, criticize, and appreciate us in our daily life. The ‘strength’ of the ‘weak’ is always worth studying. You can see this from Mother Nature. The ants and bees are the best examples from the animal kingdom. The viruses, bacteria, and the small feeble roots are best examples from the plant kingdom. I used to wonder how these thin feeble roots come to the wells in

India piercing solid rocks. Togetherness and persistence give a lot of strength to everyone. So it is better to look out to see people who are going through the same problems like you and find strength in the togetherness, rather than sitting and caressing our wounds. Some people call it ‘positive attitude.’ Sometime ago I wrote a poem about “Washable school glue.” I always wonder about the people who find the positive side of everything so that they can market their product. As a matter of fact, glue which can be washed away is not good glue. But someone found its usefulness. Since I work for a pharmaceutical company, I always wonder how scientists can use the side effects of a medicine for the cure of a different sickness.

Once I heard a story of a less experienced shoe sales man who was sent to an under developed country. He gave a report like this: “There is no market for shoes here as no one wears shoes here.” Soon he was replaced with a smart shoe salesman, who sent an order for three shipments of shoes with a note: “No one has shoes over here, Please rush the order!” There is no use of worrying over the spilled or spoiled milk. Think positively, act promptly. I am constantly reminded of the famous two lines of the Malayalam poet Kunjunny. His poem reminds us that “We all run forward using two knees that only bend backwards.” It is always better to appreciate and use what you have rather than complaining about what you do not have. God created and placed us in places that He knows is best for us and He will provide the strength

and resources to fulfill our responsibilities. The only thing we have to do is to make the best use of every opportunity..

Since our organization completed nine years, I can clearly see the differences we made in the lives of many families. Children who have been helped by this organization are moving on to higher levels of education. Three people who were completely bedridden are now slowly taking a few steps. When we started helping some of them after seeing their photos, I thought they would never walk again. The best thing about our work is that everyone prays for each other. Hearing the prayers of the needy, our compassionate God is doing miracles in their families. In most families children are now capable of handling the family matters. Some families are concerned about their neighbor’s needs. One young boy voluntarily gave half of the amount of money we sent them to their neighbor who is suffering from kidney problems. This is a typical example of ‘those who have gone through the pain will always want to help others who are suffering.’ One cannot understand the pain of hunger while their stomach is full. People who have gone through certain problems can certainly understand the situations of others who are going through the same problems. That is why there is a need for telling others what we have gone through once. Only they can really console others who are going through the same problem. So let us come out of our shell and start serving others by consoling and supporting and not by sympathizing or feeling pity for them.