

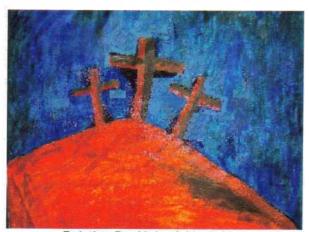
# Channels of Glory

A non-profit domestic corporation committed to promote the education and well-being of underprivileged children and adults.

Registered in the state of Indiana. (Est. 2005)

Donations are Tax Exempt from Federal Tax.

## A Newsletter Vol. 4. No. 2. September 2009



Painting By: Neha & Noah Mattapallil

There they crucified Him; and they also crucified two other men, one on each side, with Jesus between them. Pilate wrote a notice and had it put on the cross. "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews," is what he wrote.

John. 19. 18



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### NEWS FROM THE CHANNELS



## <u>Channels of Glory –</u> <u>Letter from Dr. Simon Zachariah</u>

Get it? ....Got it! ... Good!

One time this was a common joke among my colleagues at work. The joke is that we may often think we are good communicators, while actually we are not. Sometimes we think, that just because the listener says "Got it", we've communicated an idea perfectly, even though he really may not have understood it. In fact we may even respond saying "Good". Many times when we hear about the sufferings of others, we just try to sympathize with them as if we understood it fully. But later, when we ourselves go through the same experiences, we have to admit that we did not understand them at all. I have heard the story about a boy, who lost one of his hands in an accident. He didn't want to meet anyone except his close family, thinking that no one could really understand the sadness he was going through. One day a minister from a nearby parish tried to visit this boy. His mother warned the minister that the boy did not want to meet any one. But the minister insisted that if they let him see the boy for one minute, the boy would change his mind. So the mother agreed to open the door for one minute so that the boy could see the minister. As the door opened, the minister waved his right hand towards the boy

and said "My son, I know how it feels". The boy immediately noticed that the minister just waved the sleeves of his white robe, and that the minister too, had lost his right arm! The boy ran towards the minister and hugged him tightly. He finally felt comforted to see someone who could understand his pain and sadness. We hear a lot about burns, and we take it so lightly. But when one drop of hot oil accidentally falls on us, we start seeing things differently. When some thing happens to our family members, we begin to see things differently and we are willing to donate money, time, blood and even our precious body parts. We do not have to wait for something to happen to us or to our loved ones, to understand the pain and suffering around us. Each individual going through difficult circumstances is a precious person in the sight of God. When we look with the eye of compassion, we can easily put away all our prejudice, judgments, criticism, and discrimination, to understand, sympathize, forgive and help others. While I watched the Mattapallil children painting 'The Three Crosses' for our front cover of this issue we were researching about the three crosses which are often seen beside the highways throughout the United States. What we found on the internet is that they were put up by a man named Bernard Coffindaffer who had a vision to "plant crosses". He raised money for this cause and planted 1,864 trios of crosses. Although he died in 1993, his crosses are now cared for by the people who own the land or by nearby churches who "adopt" the crosses. When Jesus was crucified, the thief on the right side of Jesus could really understand the love behind the sacrifice and personally feel the pain of a man with out sin.

Many parents are lucky to have healthy and intelligent children. But some others raise children who are not healthy or become seriously ill after a certain age. Recently we got

a request from a father whose infant (4 months) is suffering from a heart problem. In order to enquire about the case, we talked to a person who has a very young granddaughter. He could easily understand the seriousness of the situation. He explained that the child's father spent hundred thousand rupees, obtained from pledging his house, for the treatment of his infant daughter. Recently we got another request from the parent of a 19 year old boy who suffers from cerebral palsy. All they need is a few hundred dollars to construct an accessible toilet for him. Another young man wrote to us that four years ago a bag of cement fell on his neck while he was working to support his high school education. Since his father spent all they had (including their house) they are in debt and now all the family members are living in a temporary shack. The young man is paralyzed neck downwards and he says that on rainy days, the roof of this shack leaks so much, that his sister gets tired of moving him around in order to find a dry spot to lay him down. But in spite of his pathetic condition, he is so hopeful of getting a college education and he asks the same question to each and everyone that visit him "Don't you think that one day I'll be able to get a college diploma?"

Some parents are lucky to have intelligent children who secure admission to professional courses by merit. But imagine the anxiety and worry of parents and their children about continuing their education in the midst of poverty while other siblings are still in school. Some students hear about Channels of Glory through other students who received prior help and apply directly without their parents' knowledge. In the meantime they continue to pray and worry about their exams, their family, or their health.

A month ago, we received a request for help from the mother of two teenage boys. Since we could not identify the health condition of the mother, we requested them to produce the prescriptions and diagnosis from competent medical doctors. But to our dismay, we found out that even the educated community does not hesitate to take advantage of the illiterate and in the process even to try to make it profitable for them. The darkness of pain and suffering is all around us. Do we have our lamps trimmed and ready to show them the way?



Happiness shone like the sun before me Longing to grasp it, I ran toward it Suddenly I realized that I had passed it I had passed it...

Happiness shines like the sun behind me Casting a long shadow before me...

-- Joe Uthup.

# Gift from God

#### By: Dr. Simon Zachariah

I asked for a flower from God He gave me a branch of thorns But I planted it, watered it And eventually I got a rose bush.

I asked for a pearl from God He gave me an oyster in seaweeds But I nurtured it in some sea water And one day I found a shining pearl

God wants our trust and sweat To make wonderful things He created the Garden of Eden But He made man to care for it.



# സാദ്ധ്യതകൾ

(സൈമൺ സഖറിയ)

പൊളിച്ചു കളവിൻ മുളംകൂടുകളെ വളർന്നു പൊങ്ങട്ടെ തൈകൾ ആയിരം

വെട്ടികളവിൻ വൻ തണൽ മരങ്ങളെ വെട്ടത്തിൽ വളരട്ടെ പുവുകൾ ആയിരം

പൊളിച്ചു കളവിൻ കുരുവി തൻ കൂടുകൾ പറന്നു പൊങ്ങട്ടെ കുരുന്നുകൾ ആയിരം. We are extremely happy to let you know that Channels of Glory, Inc. is exempt from Federal Income Tax under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Channels of Glory, Inc. is also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devices, transfers or gifts under section 2055, 2106 or 2522 of the Code.

Also please note the following details for your tax purposes.

Accounting period ending: December 31 Public Charity Status: 509 (a) (2)

Effective date of exemption: June 2, 2005

Contribution deductibility: Yes

Please send in your generous contribution for this noble cause.

You can also help us to locate needy individuals around you or in India. Please ask them to submit an application showing their need.

The needs are many. Please remember all the activities of Channels of Glory in your prayers. Yes! We need your prayers!

# കൂടെ പോരുന്നോ എൻ കൂട്ടുകാരാ

-സൈമൺ സഖറിയ

മുപ്പിരി കയറു കൊണ്ടു ഒരാളെ ബന്ധിച്ചിടാം ഇരുമ്പു ചങ്ങല കൊണ്ടും ഒരാളെ ബന്ധിച്ചിടാം ഭീതിപ്പെടുത്തിയും ഒരാളെ നമുക്കു ബന്ധിച്ചിടാം സ്നേഹം കൊണ്ടു എല്ലാവരെയും ബന്ധിച്ചിടാം

സ്നേഹത്തിൻ ബന്ധനം എനിക്കാനന്ദമേ!