POEMS OF THE MONTH

Wait, let me help you! -Simon Zachariah

Small mouse in the forest heard a cry! Saw a big lion trapped in a heavy net. Small mouse told the big lion loud, Wait, wait, it's my turn to help you!

Big lion humbled himself and obeyed. Small mouse with a big heart worked. Small mouse knew what he could do. The small and the big became equal! *** *** *** *** *** ***

Thought to ponder

Change is a challenge for many, But if there is no change in this world, There won't be any butterflies, only eggs! There won't be any flowers. only seeds!

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കള്ളന്റെ കഴുത -സൈമൺ സഖറിയ

കള്ളൻ കള്ളൻ! നാട്ടുകാർ ആർത്തു കൂവി. കള്ളൻ എങ്ങോട്ടോ ഓടി, കണ്ടില്ലാര്തം. ജനം വേഗം തിരഞ്ഞോടി നാലുപാടും കണ്ടതോ മുന്നിൽ കള്ളന്റെ കഴുത മാത്രം!

ഒരു പടുവ്വദ്ധൻ ആ കഴുതയിൽ കണ്ണ നട്ടു, രാത്രി വരെ അയാൾ കൂടെ കാവൽ നിന്നു വിശന്ന കഴുത മെല്ലെ കള്ളന്റെ വീട്ടിലെത്തി ബുദ്ധിയത്രേ മനുഷ്യന്മ ദൈവദാനം! 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 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.

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Channels of Glory Inc. 404 Laurelwood Drive, Bloomington, IN. 47401 USA

Ph. 812-333-3159 Email: administrator@channelsofglory.org

Visit us on the web: channelsofglory.org



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A Newsletter

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Next time he needs a thorough cleaning!

NEWS FROM THE CHANNELS



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

As you all know, there are wars happening in many places in the world right now. When I think of a war, it is like the relationship among the children in a family. Once I met a father of a poor household and he was selecting only small sweet potatoes from a basket. When I asked him the reason for selecting small ones, he said: "You don't know how difficult it is to serve food equally to all the children in my family!" In the same way, when we think about the nations of the world, it is impossible to provide natural resources, and contribute to their other needs equally to satisfy everyone.

I grew up in a big family. Older children had a responsibility to take care of the younger ones. Recently when I was financially helping a girl, I told her to help other needy people around her. First she didn't know the real meaning of the word "needy". I told her that everyone is in need of something. It may be a comforting word, or be service to others or even offer a pleasant smile. In the action of giving, there will always be two parties. One, the giver,

and the second, is the receiver. The action always has to be initiated from the side of the giver. The needy person does not know whether the giver has what he wants. When the giver sees and recognize the need of a person, he will know whether he can fulfill the need of the other person. I have heard an incident that happened in the life of India's former prime minister. One day her son took her to meet his future wife, Sonia Gandhi. Indira Gandhi noticed that a button on Sonia's shirt was about to fall off. Indira Gandhi took a sewing needle from her handbag and fixed the button for her future daughter-in-law. This incident demonstrates the exact interaction between the giver and the receiver. So it is our duty to look around and see the needs of people around us. Then when we find someone in a need, we should look into our heart to find out whether we are able to provide for their need. I have met some special people in my life who do small things for others. These special people may be much smaller and feel insignificant compared to the potential of the receiver. Many of us might have seen the birds cleaning up the ears of large animals.

The concept of "Pen Pals" once was a great activity between some adults and the needy children in other countries. Few lines of encouragements, old greeting cards, varieties of postal stamps were enough to cheer up the children of the third world countries. But we always should remember that any giving activity starts from the 'Giver' that is, 'You'.

As I told you before it is not easy to start the giving process. In many games, the start of the game is called "Service!" Many of the receivers later become the givers in those relationships. So it is very important to look into our own treasures and find some trinkets to help our givers. In India for every festival rich people used to distribute snacks and sweets to their workers. But instead of being at the receiving end, workers also bring some small things to their employers. I still remember for every Onam (a festival in Kerala) one goldsmith in his old age, used to bring a small set of brass tooth pick and an ear wax remover to my uncle.

It will be a humbling experience when we receive anything from others. When we started this organization many people warned me about the misuse of funds by some less fortunate people. But the real truth is: 'it is very hard to be at the receiving side'. So unless someone is in real need, no one will accept the help from anyone.

Let me share with you one of my own experiences. Recently I dropped my credit card in a grocery parking lot. As many of you may know, I can't bend down and pick up something from the floor. No one saw my situation and I waited there in the parking lot looking for some help. It was a very humiliating experience! Finally I found some stranger passing by and I humbled myself, and requested help. He did help.

Sometimes God puts us in such situation to teach important lessons. So let us look around and find people, animals, birds, who may need your timely help. If we cannot help, at least talk about it to others and create awareness in others so that someone will rise up to the occasion and do God's will. Even in those war zones!