

POEMS OF THE MONTH

Today

-Simon Zachariah

Johnny is five years old this June
Today he climbed several steps
To visit his grandpa at his house
Grandpa was eating his porridge

He examined everything there
Read Bible verses on the wall
He read 'August 20, 2018' too,
He asked "what is that grandpa?"

August 20, 2018 is today my son!
Today is not yesterday or tomorrow.
It is full of possibilities, you know..
Let us do all the good we can- today!

തിരഞ്ഞെടുപ്പ്

-സൈമൺ സഖറിയ

ഒരു രൂപയുമായി ചന്തക്കുപോയി
മാങ്ങ പലതും തിരിച്ചു നോക്കി
തേങ്ങാ പലതും കല്ലുക്കി നോക്കി
ഒടുവിൽ കയ്യിലെ കാശു നോക്കി

നൂറു രൂപയുമായി പിന്നെ പോയി
സാരി പലതും വലിച്ചിട്ടു നോക്കി
ഷർട്ടുകൾ പലതും വിരിച്ചു നോക്കി
ഭിക്ഷ യാചിപ്പോനെ തുറിച്ചു നോക്കി

പലതുള്ളവനേ കുറെ തിരയാനുള്ളൂ
ചോദിച്ചതു ഒരു ആനയാണെങ്കിലും
ആമയാണെങ്കിലും മതിയെന്നു വയ്ക്കാം
പിറുപ്പിപ്പൂ വേണ്ട ദാനത്തിന്നു

Channels of Glory – Letter from Dr. Simon Zachariah

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Channels of Glory Newsletter
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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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-Aron Thankachan



Channels of Glory –
Letter from Dr. Simon Zachariah

The organization is getting older just like we are. When we were young we wished for many things. We wanted to buy many silly things. But as we get older, the list of the things we want get modified. Many things which we wanted are useless for us in the old age. When we get old, the common thing we want is Time. When we know there is not much time left for us in this world, we should prioritize the things according to their importance. Since we do not know the exact time left for each of us in this world, it is important to remove the unnecessary things from our 'to do list'. I remember the story of a greedy farmer. He asked the king for some land to do the farming. The king told him to take as much land as he wanted, but he had to mark the area which he choose and come back to the beginning where he started before sunset.

The man marked as he walked. Since he was greedy he thought to himself "I can take more". That greedy thought took him too far and finally before the sunset he could not reach the place where he started. When he reached, it was too late and he collapsed there and died. The king gave six feet of land for that greedy man's burial. This story shows the importance of using our time properly, and prioritizing the important things in life. In order to do that we have to learn to be victorious in our temptations. All the students in a class are taught by the same teacher; they all learn the same syllabus. But when they write the examination each one has to answer the questions individually. In the same way, in life we are faced with different kinds of temptations which steer us away from God. Some questions may be easy for some students; but the very same questions may be difficult for others. In life, some people are tempted by money, for some others, their weakness may be food or even fear. So in order to win in life, we have to remove the unnecessary things from our baggage and put the necessary or essential things in our life. If we plan and discipline ourselves we should be able to use the rest of our life time in a meaningful way. If you develop the habit of spending some time alone with God, you will find out what are the most essential things to be done in our short life.

This reminds me of a small incident that happened in a passenger bus in India. One lady got into a bus with several bags and she was unknowingly rubbing those heavy bags on a lady standing nearby. Seeing the awkward situation, a bystander told this

lady to express her difficulty to the lady carrying the bags. That lady said with a smile "It's Ok. I am travelling only a very short distance....and why I should give her a hard time for such a small thing". In Malayalam there is poem which gives the same meaning. It says: "We were not together when we were born; we will not be together when we die; so why can't we get along for a short while, when we live together". I wish that this attitude of tolerance and acceptance will become more prevalent. This will make us peace makers and help us see the "good" in others. We all might have heard the story of a lump of clay and a dry leaf. Both of them met each other and found out that they were on a pilgrimage to the same destination. So they decided to keep company to each other. Soon it started raining and the lump of clay cried out for help. The dried leaf covered the clay and saved it from rain. Later a wind started to blow away the leaf. This time the lump of clay protected the leaf by its weight. Finally one day the rain and the wind came at the same time...You can imagine the rest. The leaf flew away and the lump of clay melted away.

So while we are in this world let us help each other and shout to others "pass it on!" We are all lighted not only to shine, but also to light several candles, before we burn out. Let us speak comforting, and encouraging words to each other, instead of being critical. Let us ask God to help us to stay away from temptations and lead victorious and peaceful lives. May God give us the courage always to do what is right and important.