

**May 27, 2024**

**Dear Lewis Memorial Baptist,**

We greet you in the most precious Name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

We praise God for His grace, mercies, provision, and protection over all these months since we last wrote you our prayer letter. God is good, and He is taking care of us. If it were not for God and His goodness toward us, who called us according to His foreknowledge unto salvation and to serve Him, we would not be able to make it a single day (Rom. 8:29).

Since the beginning of this year, I (Joel) have been preaching on the theme of **Knowing God at Logos Bible Church**, Saipan. The last Sunday, we learned about the "mercy" of God. After meditating on the text from Psalm 103:8-14 and Exodus 34:6-7, comparing and contrasting other attributes of God and the Scripture, God taught us through His holy Word that without HIS mercies, there would not be humanity. Because none deserves life but death (Rom. 6:23). However, God, who is the "Father of mercies" (2 Cor. 1:3), spared us and provided us a way out by "carrying/forgiving" (Exodus 34:7) our iniquities. The Hebrew term used for "forgiving" is "*nāśā'*," which has the idea of "carrying something away." In Isaiah 53, we learn that God has *carried* away our sins *upon Himself*, in the *Person of His Son*, our Lord, Jesus Christ. What a privilege that we have to be called children!

## **Ministry Matters**

Over the past months, the Wonderful and Mighty God allowed us to serve Him

through Church ministry. I (Joel) have been teaching and preaching the Word. We have invited some to come and join our service and fellowship. Some stopped by, and some did not come. But that is ok! As I have mentioned before, most of the people here are "Christians." By that, I mean they are "Roman Catholic." When we evangelize, we hear they already believe in Jesus as their God. Therefore, they resist listening to anything else. However, we have also learned that some of them do not care about God or what happens to them after they die. They want to enjoy life and not be bothered by "religion." In our opinion, they are NOT missing the "religion"; they have a lot of religion here, but they are missing the "relationship" with Jesus Christ. It is sad to see how people's minds are blinded.

However, we are praying that God would open their hearts to the Gospel message and that they would believe in Jesus as their God and Savior. We are also praying that God would add more people to His Church. Please join us in prayer about soul-winning.

As we have been praying to reach this community with Christ, we learned that many youth, teens, and college-age students live without hope. Some of them are struggling with depression, fear, isolation, and other emotional issues. Some kids are taking "pills" to control their bodies from various reactions. However, what we see in all this is the "spiritual issue."

As we pray about this matter, we feel burdened to reach them with the Word of God through counseling and mentoring.

We see that kids are simply wandering everywhere. Some of them have given themselves to drugs and other activities. We want to reach them prayerfully and attempt to bring them to the Lord. We need your prayers in this matter.

How are we going to reach? We plan to start a ministry called **Fearless Minds: Facing Your Fears Through Faith in Jesus**. Why? Because only **Jesus** can set them free from any bondage. This ministry could also open doors for us to meet their family members, which may create an opportunity to lead them to the Lord. So, we humbly ask you to pray.

We are also praying and asking God to provide another person to join us in the ministry since he could reach out to more communities along with me. We need to use people who are aware of the local communities.

We thank the LORD for His provision; we finally received the Church Board (name). However, it will take some time to fix it on the wall. We have to adjust the length of it because it was made a little longer than the original dimensions.

## Family Matters

We thank God for our son, Enoch Jeremiah. We celebrated his 5th birthday on May 6th. He will be going to school soon, which aches my heart. It's not that I don't want him to go to school, but that he will grow up quickly, and I will miss his little things. Of course, his mother also feels the same way, but she is more excited than me :)

Enoch is the greeter at our Church; he opens doors for all and makes sure all of them are in the Church before he closes the door again. He will turn the lights on and turn

them off before leaving! He also memorized Psalms 1, 15, 23, 100, and 117. He is currently learning Psalms 91 and 103. He also sings out LOUD! He knows what hymns he likes and makes us sing just those in family prayers. Please pray for him!

Stellah and I are doing well by God's grace. Please pray for us, our health, and our needs to be met by the Lord.

## Prayer Requests

1. Please pray for our families in India. We would like to see them soon, Lord willing.
2. Please pray for Church growth.
3. Please pray for the Church Business License. It will take a month or more to get the license. The government offices here are slow.
4. Please pray for our personal and ministry support. We need to raise \$2280 per month. I am unsure how to raise such an amount besides praying and asking God to help us. We are in no way talented in raising funds. Please pray and share our needs with others. We understand it takes a lot of work to raise funds, and it might help if we are "in person" visiting churches. However, we are unsure when it would be possible for us to visit the United States.

If you need any information from us, please feel free to contact us.

Thank you for your prayers and support!

In Christ,

The Madasus

