

INDIA CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY PROGRAMS FOR 2017

Sunday School Breakfast	March 18
Fellowship Night	April 15
Charity Lunch	April 30
Sunday School Field Trip	May 27
Family Breakfast	June 03
Retreat	July 14-16
VBS	July 17-19
Mission Trip	Aug 01-07
Picnic & Cookout	Aug 12
Sunday School Anniversary	Sept 16
Charity Night	Sept 30
Thanksgiving Day Service	Nov 25
PYPA VBS	July 05-07
PYFA Conference	Aug 11-13
IPC Eastern Region Convention	Oct 06-08
PCNAK	June 29-July 02
IPC Family Conference	July 27-30

ICA SUNDAY SERVICE

Sunday Service @ 9:30 am & 10:45 am
Sunday School @ 09:30 am

INDIA CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY

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WELCOME TO ICA SUNDAY SERVICE

Date : March 12, 2017



WEEKLY ICA VOICE

THIS WEEK'S MEETING

WEDNESDAY - NIGHT PRAYER @ 07:30 PM AT ICA

FRIDAY - FASTING AND PRAYER @ 10:30 AM AT ICA

SATURDAY - SUNDAY SCHOOL BREAKFAST @ 09:00 AM

SATURDAY - PRAYER MEETING @ 07:30 PM AT ICA

Ushers: Raji Mathew & Lesley Abraham

CHURCH HOME TEAM IN CHARGE THIS WEEK :

Varughese C. John & Family

WEEK OF 03/19/2017

P. A. Sam & Family and Jacob Alexander & Family

God's vs. Caesar's

Bro. P A Samuel

I filed my tax return last week. Like many others I face the process of tax filing with mixed emotions – anxious whether I have to pay more and a little hope that I might get a refund. No matter what, tax is a sure thing and there is no escaping that.

Most people are delighted to get a tax refund. This is the time when some people indulge in some of the luxuries of life and some just waste away the money. Many do not take a moment to think and realize that this is not a gift or free money but only getting back what they have paid in advance or in excess of what was due. Yes, there are some who get free money as tax refund (a misnomer). People pay in advance without much complaint to receive part of it back later. God has promised me great rewards, but how delighted am I to get those? How willing am I to give to God in advance to get his rewards? His promise is not to give me back in part, but to give me a good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over. The promise of the U.S. government could fail; still I have great faith of its promise. The promise of God will never fail; still I am a little hesitant to take him at his word. I need to change my attitude.

I do not and cannot make any excuses or arguments with IRS about paying my dues. However, when it comes to paying into the kingdom of God I have many arguments and excuses as others have. Should I pay the tithe, less than that or more? Should I tithe of my gross income or net income? My employer doesn't ask me any question; they just take certain percentage of my gross income that belongs to Caesar. They don't ask where to apply those funds – Washington gets its share and Albany gets its share – they then use as they see fit. When paying to God's kingdom I have my own allocations to various places and the instructions on how to use it.

I cannot argue with the taxman that I don't have enough after all my expenses to pay my dues. But with God I may attempt to make such a case. Surprisingly it seems like God is fine with that, however I am the loser in this deal. Like the government he wouldn't force me to pay, but I forfeit the attendant blessings of my cheerful giving. Oh, at that thought, I will not be blessed even if I give much, if it is not done cheerfully. Remember the widow with two small coins?

To give or not to give, how much and when- they are all our decision, God doesn't force it upon us. He has given us guidelines and more importantly promises of blessings to a cheerful giver. Giving to God does not come from compulsion like paying taxes but from love and our relationship with him. The members of a household serve each other out of love. We ought to serve God out of love (in intense love) and sharing our resources, not just money but every resource we have, should

be an act of love.

By the way, I got my federal refund yesterday. But my greatest refund and reward is yet to come and I hope it will be soon, my ears are itching to hear the trumpet!

Prayer Needs:

- ◆ Spiritual growth ◆ Healing
- ◆ Financial security
- ◆ Marriage of children in our community

Please pray for Sam and Mathew Ponnolil's father who is hospitalized in Orlando.

Tensions in Lahore are running high after the Feb. 23 attack that killed more than ten people and injured many more. The confusion and lack of information given to the public are adding to the uncertainty and distress. All church and NGO run hospitals and schools have been cautioned by the government and security organizations across the country to be on high alert.

Bible Reading Plan Week 11

Day	Bible Passage	Pray for
March 12, 2017	Joshua 23-24	Plainview
March 13, 2017	Judges 1-3	Paramus
March 14, 2017	Judges 4-5	Williston Park
March 15, 2017	Judges 6-8	Bellerose
March 16, 2017	Judges 9-10	Yonkers
March 17, 2017	Judges 11-13	Franklin Square
March 18, 2017	Judges 14-16	Smithtown