



Women's Breakfast



Saturday, June 21

@ 9:30 AM

All sisters are invited!

UPCOMING EVENTS JUNE - JULY

June 15	Father's Day Lunch after service
June 21	Women's Breakfast
June 30– July 2	PYPA VBS
July 12	Cookout & Picnic
July 18– 20	ICA Family Retreat

REMINDER: PLEASE SIGN UP FOR RETREAT



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**WELCOME TO
ICA SUNDAY SERVICE**

Date : June 08, 2014

WEEKLY ICA VOICE

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS

Wednesday, 7:30pm Prayer Meeting
Friday @10:30am Fasting prayer @ ICA
Saturday @ 7:00 pm Prayer Meeting @ ICA
Next Sunday Combined Service @ 9:30am
(Father's Day Lunch will be served)



Rise Up & Build

Ancient Israel had a tendency of turning away from God and going their own way from time to time. Since God is endlessly merciful and wanted to fulfill the promises given to Abraham he would be compassionate towards them and would raise up someone faithful to bring them back. Their slavery and exile would be for a season. At the appointed time he would restore them. When they were exiled to Babylon God promised that the exile would be for 70 years. Most of them forgot God's Word and his promises. Daniel and others who knew about his promises pleaded with God for their return and God used a heathen king to deliver them and build the temple and the city of Jerusalem.

This is not the story of just the ancient Israel; the modern day Israel, the church, I, can also tell the same story. Time and again we turn a little here, doubt God a little there, and lose our faith a bit and also boast in our success, achievements and strength. It is God's grace that he does not punish us as severely as he did to Israel. Our exile, not feeling the presence of God, is also set only for a short period. Then he in his mercy will embrace us back.

In the book of Nehemiah we read that Jerusalem was in ruins, its walls broken and gates burned with fire. So Nehemiah decided to go to Jerusalem. He wanted to repair the ruins and build the walls and the city. But it was not easy and he had to face much opposition and struggles. "Now it came about that when Sanballat heard that we were rebuilding the wall, he became furious and very angry and mocked the Jews." Neh. 4:1. The enemy did not like what he was doing and so the enemy did everything he could to prevent the building of the walls. He threatened the people, tried to attack them, tried to deceive and bring Nehemiah into dangerous situations, tried to influence the king and finally even tried for a compromise (with devious intentions, of course). At one point even the leaders of Judah said, "The strength of the burden bearers is failing, yet there is much rubbish; and we ourselves are unable to rebuild the wall." Neh. 4:10.

Yet, as we read several times in the book of Ezra, since the hand of their God was favorable to them they could finish the work in record time. "So the wall was completed on the twenty-fifth of the month Elul, in fifty-two days. When all our enemies heard of it, and all the nations surrounding us saw it, they lost their confidence; for they recognized that this work had been accomplished with the help of our God." Neh. 6:15, 16. We find one of the secrets for this success in chapter three. Each family or clan took upon themselves the responsibility of building

their portion of the wall. When each one decided to fulfill his own part the work was easy. And the hand of God was with them and he helped them.

We also go through the experiences of broken walls and burned gates. And when we try to build we also face the threats and trials of the enemy. Our very own life or the church life or the community could be in a broken situation and we probably feel we are not going to come out of this. But as long as there are some Daniels, Ezras, Joshuas, Zerubbabels and Nehemiahs things could be better. We should not be afraid of the threats, taunts and oppression of the enemy, but take courage in the Lord and start and continue to build; standing shoulder to shoulder and each one building his/her own part. The hand of God that was with the faithful of the old times will be with us too.

We can repair, rebuild and celebrate and we also can say about our enemy, "they lost their confidence; for they recognized that this work had been accomplished with the help of our God."

P.A. Samuel

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Valsamma John's mother

Ammini George, Babu Thannickal

Sue-Cancer patient (Friend of Alice Eapen)

Mariamamma Johny (Kunjumol)

Sam Mathew, Pr. Bally (Trinidad)

Shiny Chacko, Shiny Chacko's mother

Ms. Pearl Jacob (17 yrs. Leukemia Patient, Toronto)

Gene Hernandez (Friend of C.V. Varghese)

Please Pray For

Sis. Lizyamma Mathew (Bro. Baby Mathew & Lizyamma) and family as they are grieving the loss of her beloved mother.

Father's Day Lunch- June 15

Let us join together to celebrate and honor our fathers on this special day!