



MAR 2023

Reach Out

MONTHLY MAGAZINE OF SARJAPUR ROAD METHODIST CHURCH | AN EXTN OF KMC



CROSS

Call to Repentance



LENT

2023

A Season of Renewal



LENTEN MEDITATIONS

(Every Friday at 7 pm)

03/03/2023 - JOHN 3:22-30

Speaker: Rev. Alfred S. Raju

HE MUST BECOME GREATER,

I MUST BECOME LESS

10/03/2023 - JOHN 6:41-51

Speaker: Rev. Calvin Ambler

NO ONE CAN COME TO ME UNLESS

THE FATHER DRAWS THEM

17/03/2023 - JOHN 9:1-13

Speaker: Rev. Sunil Raj

WHO SINNED?

24/03/2023 - JOHN 11:45-54

Speaker: Rev. Andrew

CHIEF PRIEST CALLS FOR

THE MEETING OF SANHEDRIN

31/03/2023 - JOHN 15:1-8

Speaker: Mr. Samuel Prathap

I AM THE TRUE VINE

HOLY WEEK MEDITATIONS

(Evenings at 7 pm; except Palm Sunday)

02/04/2023 - MARK 11:1-11

PALM SUNDAY (9 AM) | Rev. Sukumar

JESUS' TRIUMPHANT ENTRY

03/04/2023 - LUKE 4:1-13

Speaker: Rev. Mohan Kumar

JESUS TESTED IN THE WILDERNESS

04/04/2023 - JOHN 12:1-11

Speaker: Rev. Ebenezer

JESUS SAID, "YOU WILL NOT ALWAYS

HAVE ME"

05/04/2023 - MATT. 21:12-17

Speaker: Mrs. Prema Sunderraj

JESUS ENTERED THE DEN

FOR CLEANSING

06/04/2023 - MAUNDY THURSDAY

COMMUNION | Speaker: Rev. Alfred S. Raju

CHRIST - THE LIFE GIVING BREAD

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

07/04/2023 | 12:00 PM

CROSS: SELF GIVING LOVE

MEDITATION ON 7 WORDS OF

JESUS ON THE CROSS

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE

COMMUNION | 09/04/2023 | 9:00 AM

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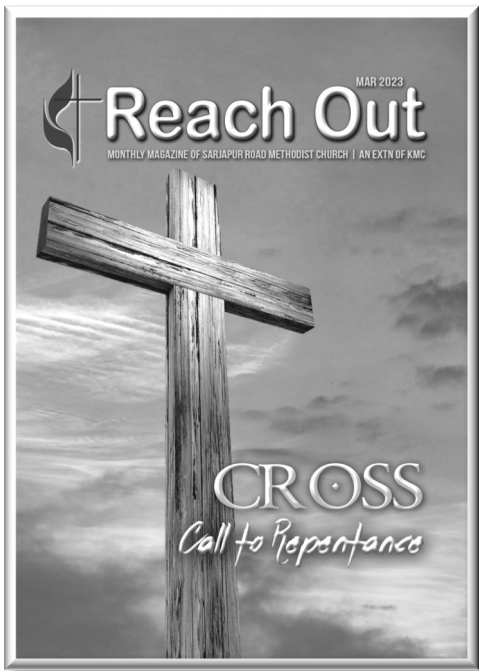
CELEBRATING LIFE IN JESUS

SARJAPUR ROAD METHODIST CHURCH

BESIDE ST. PATRICK'S ACADEMY, KODATHI GATE, BANGALORE - 560 035 | LIVE STREAM OF ALL SERVICES AVAILABLE ON WWW.SRMCBLR.ORG

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MISSION STATEMENT

"To be obedient, cheerful, compassionate, humble stewards of God's Word and resources, in utter dependence upon God through prayer, so that we as a congregation and those we reach out to, will experience transformation through the saving grace of God and grow as Christ-centered people, guided by the Holy Spirit."

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE:

9:00 AM

PASTOR:

Rev. Alfred Sudarshan Raju

Mobile: +91 98445 64695

Email: alfredsraju86@gmail.com

SARJAPUR ROAD METHODIST CHURCH

Beside St. Patrick's Academy, Kodathi Gate, Bengaluru - 560 035.

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PASTORAL LETTER



Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, Greetings to you all in the matchless name of our Lord and saviour Jesus Christ. It brings immense joy and pleasure to write to you all through this newsletter once again. God has been good to each one of us. I deem it a blessing to me and my family to serve you all in Sarjapur Road Methodist Church. I hope and believe that we had a wonderful month of celebrating God's faithfulness and meditating his word week after week. As we enter the season of Lent, as I was praying and seeking God's guidance for the theme, God enabled me to think on the lines of Cross of Christ. Therefore, the theme for this month would be, **Cross: Call to Repentance**.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the holy season that calls for introspection, repentance, and reconciliation. This 40-day period, which is an allusion to the separation of Jesus in the desert to fast and pray, is adopted for Lent. The 40-day period of repentance is also analogous to the 40 days during which Moses repented and fasted in response to the making of the Golden calf. Ashes were used in the ancient times to express grief. Cross continues to be the sign of hope for its calls for repentance, reconciliation, and peace. Cross that as was a sign of shame, guilt, punishment, and death has been transformed into a sign of forgiveness, reconciliation, hope and life. Cross displays victory rather than defeat. Ephesians 2:16 says that, Christ has reconciled us to God and with one another through the Cross. He has nailed the hostility to the cross so that we may not live in conflict with God or with fellow beings.

The Cross of Christ reminds us the life, suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ to redeem the entire human race from the clutches of sin and death. The term 'vicarious' refers to something that is experienced in the imagination through the feelings and actions of another person. Here, we are called to experience the sufferings of Jesus on the Cross in our imagination. However, we must realize that this is not only a mental exercise but also through our actions. As Martin Luther, in his commentary on the sermon on the mount remarked, *"it is not your duty to creep into a corner or into the wilderness, but to come out briskly, if you were therein, and offer both your hands and feet and your whole body for use... in short you should have such a hunger and thirst for righteousness that will never diminish or cease or cannot be satiated, so that you care for nothing else, only so that you may*

accomplish and maintain what is right, despising on the other hand everything that hinder you. If one cannot make the world altogether pious, let him do what he can."

As we enter the season of Lent with *hope* and *determination*. Hope, that God's grace may touch us and Determination to engage seriously in the work of moral and spiritual renewal. We do this so that we may live our Christian faith with greater integrity and celebrate the Lord Jesus' death and resurrection with true joy. I believe that the rivers of grace, which never run dry, flow even more abundantly in this holy season. We should all be cleansed by sin and refreshed in mind and spirit.

The term used for lent in different languages emphasize various aspects of this penitential season. 'Quadragesima' in Latin, points to the forty days that Jesus fasted and battled against temptations in the desert. The Italian 'Quaresima', the Spanish 'Cuaresma' and the French 'Careme' has the same meaning that of Latin. The English word 'Lent' refers to gradual lengthening of daylight in the northern hemisphere, as we embrace spring and leave winter behind. For most of us, overcoming sin and learning to live better are a gradual process, not accomplished overnight, so the English word seems appropriate. St. Leo the great wrote: *What Christians should be doing at all times should be done now with greater care and devotion, so that Lenten fast enjoined by the Apostles may be fulfilled not simply by abstinence from food but above all by the renunciation of sin.*" The great challenge in Lent is to address sin our lives and seek the forgiveness offered by God on the Cross through Jesus Christ.

I urge all of us to have a focused approach towards the lenten season this time. As a laser beam's effectiveness is seen when its power is concentrated on one point, let us focus on the sin that needs to be eliminated from our lives. The sin of criticizing others, a refusal to reconcile with someone, a prejudice against people of another religion, lying, a sin of purity or other form of self-indulgence. We must desire to be rid of it. We need an honest talk with ourselves to see if we want to do God's will or not? Then we must admit that we have not been able by our efforts to overcome that sin. In fact, as Paul says, we are enslaved by it. We must implore God's help each day in our prayers.

I encourage all of us in this season of lent, to spend time in prayers, meditation and to be transformed within through the help of God. Let us also make an effort to be reconciled with our fellow beings. May the season of Lent bring us the joy and happiness to each one us as we spend time in fasting, prayer and repentance. May God bless us all!!!

Yours in Christ,
Rev. Alfred Sudarshan Raju (Pastor, SRMC)

PRAISE & PRAYER

Praise God

- ♦ Praise God for His grace, as we meditated on the theme “**Christ: The foundation of the Church**” during the month of February.
- ♦ Praise God for the ministry of **Rev. J. Uday Kumar**, for helping us participate in Holy Communion and also bringing the word of God unto us, during the month of February.

Remember and Pray

- ♦ Continue to pray for our Bishop N. L. Karkare, Madam Kamal Karkare, Executive Secretary Rev. David Nathaniel, Conference Treasurer, Rev. Mathew George M., District Superintendent Rev. Sebastian Ravikumar. Pray continuously for the Bangalore Regional Conference and that God’s will be accomplished through the conference.
- ♦ Pray for our dear Pastor, Rev. Alfred Sudarshan Raju and his family. Also, kindly keep our extended Pastoral team & their families at KMC; Rev. Mathew George, Rev. Daniel Ezra Naveen, Rev. John Shikamani and our Pastorate Committee members and their families in prayers.
- ♦ Pray for the **Lenten Season** and all the services and meetings planned during this time.
- ♦ Pray for the SRMC Sunday School, children & teens ministry. Pray for wisdom and health for all teachers and volunteers, for the media team and for the technical challenges that are involved.
- ♦ Pray that God may raise people in the Church and outside, who can own the Project – ‘**Arise, let us build**’ and support in building up the place of worship at Sarjapur Road. Please pray for the right decisions to be taken going ahead.
- ♦ Pray for the Management Team of SRMC and their families as they help in various activities of the church.
- ♦ Pray for the Bible Study group, Worship team, Men's & Women's fellowships, Sunday School, Choir and all the volunteers who are striving hard to serve and raise resources for our Church.
- ♦ Pray for the sick, elders, widows and the poor, who need help in

our church. Pray also for all the families that you remember at our Church.

- ♦ Pray for all the families who are still suffering due to the effects of Covid, that God may give them strength to cope and hope to move ahead.
- ♦ Pray that God may reveal His Plan for us in this locality and that the SRMC family may become a channel of blessing in this vicinity.
- ♦ Pray for SRMC to become a separate Pastorate, as decisions to that effect would likely be taken in this year.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **PASTORAL CARE** is available through the Church, you can avail the services by speaking to the Pastor personally.
- **REACH OUT** is the in-house magazine of SRMC and you are welcome to contribute your stories, missionary stories, testimonies, activity pages for children and other articles. You also have the opportunity to suggest the theme for the next Month and related resources.
- Please continue to support through your **tithes**, faithfully every month. You can offer **offerings and tithes** by utilizing online payment options given in our website (www.srmcblr.org) or cash. It is only through your contributions that we can build the Kingdom of God. Giving is a sign of a good Disciple.
- **Lent Meditations Calendar** is published. Please do prayerfully attend and participate in this Season of Renewal. (*Page 2*)
- **SRMC VBS 2023** will be held in the month of April. Kindly get in touch with members of the VBS team for more information. (*Page 23*)
- **Humble request:** Please be consistent in your attendance to the Church. This will help you to grow spiritually and it will also help the Church to grow both Spiritually and Missionally.
- Participate in the **activities** of the **wings of the Church**. Women's & Men's fellowships, Choir, Worship Team, Church Bible Study, can be chosen from.

A PHENOMENAL BLESSING!

W*hen God is doing something phenomenal, something extraordinary, something truly earth-shaking—you have to be part of it!*

When the Magi saw the star in the heavens, they had to follow it. When Peter and John heard that the tomb was empty, they ran to see. When the Holy Spirit empowered the disciples at Pentecost, they turned the world upside down.

Is God doing something phenomenal today? I believe He is— and it's much like what He did in the days of King Josiah.

Let me take you back to the history!

Josiah's grandfather Manasseh had plunged his people into a pool of idolatry and occult practices, including child sacrifice. But the Lord made him realize his folly and he humbled himself before the Lord. But the people still worshipped in the high places built by Manasseh.

Tragically, Josiah's father, Amon, "trespassed more and more" (2 Chronicles 33:23).

Out of that moral sewer, Josiah ascended the throne at the young age of eight. Can you imagine the boy looking at himself in the mirror wearing all that royal regalia with his oversized crown? Most eight-year-olds wouldn't stand still long enough to put on all that clothing and wear the itchy stuff! But Josiah wore it with honor, and, more importantly, "he did what was pleasing in the LORD's sight" (2 Kings 22:1–2)!

His mother, Jedidah, must have guided him in godliness. Josiah had no Scriptures—his wicked predecessors had lost or destroyed all copies. So among Josiah's only spiritual signposts were memorized Scriptures recited to him by Jedidah

Talk about phenomenal parenting!

At age sixteen, "Josiah began to seek the God of his ancestor David" (2 Chronicles 34:3).

God continued to move in Josiah's heart, and by age twenty, the courageous king was ready to be a part of God's reformation of the nation. Starting in Jerusalem, Josiah set out to purify the land: He ordered that the altars of Baal be demolished. . . . He also made sure that the Asherah poles, the carved idols, and the cast images were smashed. (34:4)

Then Josiah swept through the rest of the country: He destroyed the

pagan altars and the Asherah poles, and he crushed the idols into dust. (34:7) He crushed the idols. Nothing left but dust—now that’s phenomenal cleaning!

Next, Josiah appointed to his “cabinet” men who had caught his passion, supporters whom he mentored. With shared vision, they restored the temple— phenomenal team building! In the process, the priest Hilkiah found a dusty scroll: the “Book of the Law of the Lord” (34:14). Perhaps the only remaining copy — a phenomenal discovery!

Keep in mind that like Martin Luther, Josiah initially had no written Scripture to rally his reformation. But then there it was! How precious the melody of God’s truth must have sounded! Josiah wept as he heard it read, tearing his clothes in repentance over how his nation had neglected God’s Word.

Do you remember the first time the Bible impacted you? Did your heart sing and tears flow? Finally, you had truth! Finally, you had the light! Finally you had something you could rely on to help you know what to do next.

Josiah certainly knew. He gathered the nation and read “the entire Book of the Covenant” (34:30). He “pledged to obey the LORD by keeping all his commands, laws, and decrees with all his heart and soul” and required everyone to make a similar pledge (34:31–32). Then Josiah hosted the biggest Passover the nation had ever experienced.

What phenomenal obedience!

Can you imagine the entire world worshiping God and celebrating the Lamb? Don’t you ache to be a part of something so phenomenal?

Well . . . you can!

Judah wouldn’t have experienced reformation without Josiah’s team . That team couldn’t have been built if Josiah hadn’t chosen to think and act biblically. And he couldn’t have done that if Jedidah had not done her part in teaching her son God’s truth. The phenomenal happens through our daily faithfulness to align our thoughts with God’s — to think biblically in order to act biblically . . . and so fulfill our role in God’s plans.

As you read in the news something absolutely phenomenal is happening, and you can be part of it! The Father is drawing people to the Son for true redemption and eternal hope. Never miss it! Never doubt it! Be part of God’s Phenomenal Blessing today!

Yours in His love,
Mrs. Prema Sunder Raj

PRAYER POINTS FOR UPCOMING SRMC VBS 2023

- Praise God for all the volunteers who have willingly come forward to help with the VBS.
- Praise God for enabling us to conclude on the curriculum and other resources.
- Pray that God may protect and provide good health for each and every volunteers and their family members.
- Pray to God that He May inculcate a spirit of oneness and enthusiasm to serve the little children.
- Pray for the confirmed VBS dates, that may God's favour be there , right from the beginning day until last day event,especially weather,traffic and other logistics.
- Pray that more children may join this year, that we may be able to cater children from different faiths.
- Pray fervently for each and every child who is going to be part of the VBS , for their health, provision, commute. Pray that God's love may transform them and they may shine for His glory.
- Pray that God the provider, shall supply all our financial and material needs for VBS and in His time.
- Pray for the volunteers who are planning to attend the Vbs training.
- Pray that we may find favour in the eye of all the people whom we approach for refreshments, logistics, stage decor.



We believe in the power of small groups, clustered based on locations, where we can learn, build and grow each other in the Lord. Please contact Pastor, to find out who your NFG representative is, and join the SRMC family, for Godly meditations and discussions, birthday/anniversary wishes and a wholesome, fruitful fellowship.

Please continue to support SRMC's vision of a wholesome and God-loving Faith Community in this part of the city. You can send in your tithes/offerings to the Church by scanning this QR code. May God bless you abundantly.



SRMC 11th ANNIVERSARY

19 FEB 2023





SRMC CONGRE



GATION 2023



SIGNIFICANCE OF LENT

*The **season of Lent** starts on **Ash Wednesday**, Mar 6 this year, is a Christian festival in preparation for **Easter**. Many Christians have overlooked this important time of fasting and penitence, and need to be reminded of its origins and significance.*

LENT – OR LENTENTIDE – extends over a 46-day period beginning on Ash Wednesday and ending on the eve of Easter. The word Lent probably comes from the Anglo-Saxon “*lencten*”, meaning spring, and the German Lenz meaning the time when the days lengthen.

The six Sundays in Lent are not actually a part of Lent, so the Lenten season itself is 40 days. Sundays, being weekly commemoration of the first Easter, have always been excluded from this fast season. The date of Ash Wednesday is determined by the date of Easter. The day before Ash Wednesday, called Shrove Tuesday (from shrift or confession) was a time for carnivals in the Middle Ages. Feasting took place: to have a last fling before the fast started and also to use up such food as was prohibited during Lent.

The name “Ash Wednesday” comes from the medieval custom – continued in the Roman Catholic Church – of sprinkling ashes on the heads of penitents on this day. Originally these penitents appear to have been persons under church discipline who wished to be reconciled to the church before Easter. The ashes were a public acknowledgement of their penance. Later the ceremony of the reconciliation of penitents fell into disuse and the practice arose of marking the heads of all the faithful with an ashen cross as a visible symbol of the penitential season which began on this day. Thus it became a general custom no longer confined to those under suspension or excommunication.

Lent developed from two sources. The first was a period of fasting which preceded Easter in the early church. The second was the period of preparation prescribed for candidates for baptism. Since the early church was an “underground movement”, candidates were carefully screened and there was a long period of preparation.

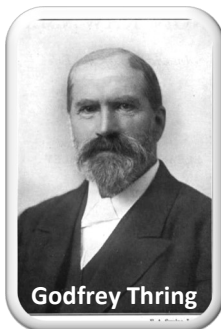
A fasting period of 40 days was required – the length of which was suggested by our Lord’s fasting on the way to the Mount of God. Eventually, this period of preparation for baptism evolved into a general period of preparation for Easter to be observed by all Christians. The Lenten season, then, is a period to prepare for keeping Easter worthily.

- Mrs Joyce Foster

Acting Editor of Methodist Message in 1970

Hymn History | CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS

Crown Him with Many Crowns is an 1851 hymn with lyrics written by Matthew Bridges and Godfrey Thring and sung to the tune 'Diademata' by Sir George Job Elvey. Bridges (1800-1894), like several others of his era, started in the Anglican Church and then, following the lead of John Henry Newman (1801-1890), became a Roman Catholic.



Godfrey Thring

This was the time of the Oxford Movement in England. The Oxford Movement centered on, according to hymnologist Albert Bailey, “claiming for their Anglican Church lineal descent from the original Apostolic Church.” In pursuit of this, adherents to the movement studied the ancient history of the church, its doctrine, and especially its liturgy. In doing so they discovered a wealth of Greek and Latin hymnody from the earliest centuries of the Christian church. Dated from 1833 with a sermon by John Keble, the movement gained steam under John Henry Newman. The earliest years of the movement were given to translations of Greek and Latin hymns by such important figures as Edward Caswall (1814-1878) and John Mason Neale (1818-1866). Wanting to share in the rich hymnic tradition of the Protestant Church, former Anglican poets now converted to Roman Catholicism such as Frederick Faber (1814-1863) and Matthew Bridges began writing original hymns.

Bridges was born in Essex, England and left the Church of England to become Roman Catholic in 1848, just three years after John Henry Newman had taken that course. He lived his latter years in Quebec, Canada, returning to England before his death. He published two small volumes of hymns, *Hymns of the Heart* (1847) and *The Passion of Jesus* (1852). “Crown him with many crowns” was published in the second edition of *Hymns of the Heart* in 1851 in six, eight-line stanzas. According to Methodist hymnologist Fred Gaely’s research, the stanzas appear under the title “In capite ejus, diademata multa, Apoc. xix. 12” (“His [the rider of the white horse] eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems; and he has a name inscribed that no one knows but himself.”)

Once the hymn appeared in the *Appendix* to the first edition of *Hymns Ancient and Modern* (1868), the monumental hymnal of the Oxford Movement, its future was assured.

The original six stanzas mention six crowns: “Crown him . . . the Lamb upon the throne” (stanza one) drawn from Revelation 22:1;

“Crown him the Virgin’s Son” (original stanza two); “Crown him the Son of God” (original stanza three); “Crown him the Lord of Love” (original stanza four); “Crown him the Lord of Peace” (original stanza five); and “Crown him the Lord of Years” (original stanza six).

Hymnology scholar J. R. Watson, notes that, “During the 1870s, objections were made to Bridge’s words, perhaps because of the complex references to the Blessed Virgin Mary.” Godfrey Thring (1823-1903), an Anglican priest, composed a new version and published it in his *Hymns and Sacred Lyrics* (1874). The *United Methodist Hymnal*, like many others, combines a stanza of Thring’s text (stanza two) with three from Bridges’ original.

A good or even a great text does not survive without a stirring tune. DIADEMATA (meaning “crowns”) is the tune that was written by **Sir George Job Elvey** (1816-1893) for this hymn in 1868. Watson agrees with most when he observes, “[DIADEMATA] makes a magnificent setting for the text, march-like and joyful without ever becoming mechanical or strident.” The popular tune appears four times, each to a different text, in *The UM Hymnal*.



Matthew Bridges was born in Essex, England on 14 July 1800, the youngest son of John Bridges of Maldon, Essex; the Rev. Charles Bridges, a priest of the Church of England. He matriculated at Magdalen Hall, Oxford in 1831. Bridges' career as an author began with his poem Jerusalem Regained at the age of 25 in 1825. Later in life, Bridges lived for a time in Quebec, Canada, but returned to England and died in Sidmouth, Devon on 6 October 1894 at the age of 94. He is buried there in the cemetery of the Convent of the Assumption.

Godfrey Thring was educated at Shrewsbury School and graduated in 1845 from Balliol College, Oxford with a BA. He was ordained in the Anglican Church. Thring died in 1903 and was buried in Shamley Green, Surrey, England.

Sir Elvey was knighted on 24 March 1871. The last important public event in which he took part was the marriage of Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany at St. George's Chapel on 6 May 1882. In June of that year, he resigned his post as organist. After some years spent in retirement he died at the Towers, Windlesham, on 9 September 1893.

Compiled by Joel Dubba
(umcdiscipleship.org | [Wikipedia.org](https://en.wikipedia.org))

TOTAL LOVE

Mark 12:33

King James Version

And to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love his neighbour as himself, is more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.

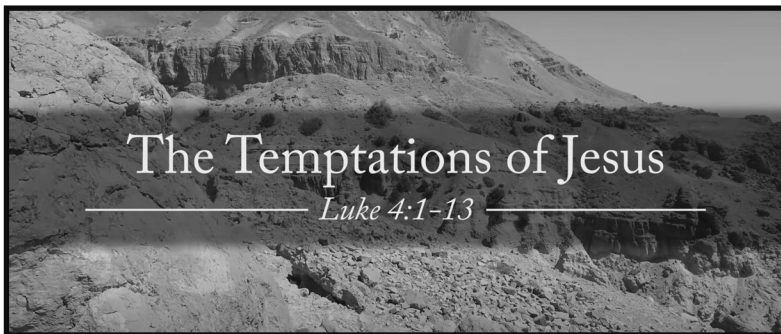
Renewing your love towards God each and every day is very important. You have to prove your love to God who has called you by your name and pulled you out of the miry clay of sin. The Lord demands total love from you and not a divided one. The Lord says you should love Him with all your heart and with all your understanding, with all your soul and with all your strength.

These Lenten days do not waste time but each and every hour, spend time at God's feet, to renew yourself and shed unwanted thoughts. You cannot serve God and the world, either you should love God *or* the world. Kneel down before the Lord your God and ask Him to remove unnecessary things to which you have been giving importance which at times makes you feel defeated.

Dear friend, do you realise your responsibility to the Kingdom of God? Do not take God's Word lightly, but rather say to Him, "*Here am I, Lord, I will love Thee.*" The battle may be severe but you will win like Christ.

Saints of God, gird up your loins and be prepared for a battle between flesh and blood. By the grace of God you will win and Satan will be defeated. This Lenten season is given to you as a great privilege because your sins are cleansed and unwanted habits are removed. May God grant you a healthy life with a soul that looks unto God always.

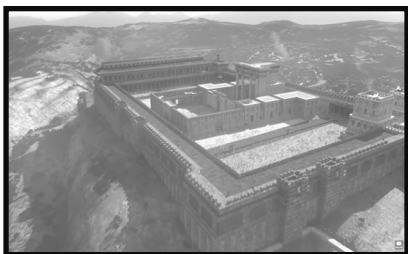
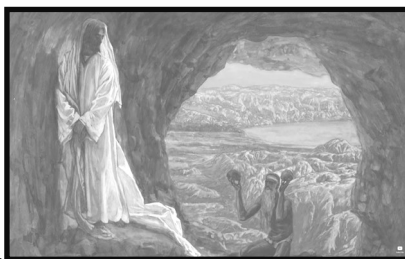
Written by Rev. Dr. J. Samuel Sudhakar
(Excerpt from the book "*My Daily Strength*")



The story of Jesus' 40 days in the wilderness and his temptation by Satan is one of the most iconic and significant stories in the Christian faith. It is a momentous event that marks the beginning of Jesus' public ministry, and serves as a powerful lesson about the importance of spiritual discipline, faith, and resistance to temptation.

According to the Gospel accounts, after Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist in the Jordan River, he was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to fast and pray for 40 days and 40 nights. During this time, he was confronted by Satan, who presented him with three temptations.

The first temptation that Satan presented to Jesus was to turn stones into bread. Jesus had been fasting for 40 days and was hungry, so this would have been a tempting offer. However, Jesus responded by quoting scripture, saying, **"Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God"** (Matthew 4:4). This response shows Jesus' deep knowledge and understanding of scripture, and his unwavering commitment to following God's will.



The second temptation that Satan presented to Jesus was to throw himself off the pinnacle of the temple, and let the angels save him. Again, Jesus responded by quoting scripture, saying, **"You shall not test the Lord your God"** (Matthew 4:7). This response shows Jesus' refusal to put God to the test, and his willingness to trust in God's

protection and provision.

Finally, Satan offered Jesus all the kingdoms of the world, if he would worship him. This was the most audacious temptation of all, and Jesus responded by saying, ***"Get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve"*** (Matthew 4:10). This



response shows Jesus' complete devotion to God, and his rejection of the false promises and temptations of worldly power and glory.

The story of Jesus' temptation in the wilderness is rich with symbolism and meaning. One of the most significant themes is the idea of spiritual discipline and the importance of resisting temptation. Jesus demonstrated incredible spiritual discipline by fasting and praying for 40 days, and he was able to resist the temptations that Satan presented to him. This shows us that it is possible to overcome our own temptations and weaknesses through spiritual discipline, prayer, and faith in God.

Another important theme is the idea of faith and trust in God. Jesus was able to resist Satan's temptations because he had a deep faith and trust in God. He knew that God would provide for him and protect him, and he refused to compromise his faith in order to gain worldly power or prestige. This shows us that we too can rely on God's strength and guidance in times of trial, and that our faith can help us overcome even the most daunting challenges.

The story of Jesus' temptation in the wilderness also serves as a reminder of the power of scripture and the importance of knowing and understanding God's word. Jesus was able to resist Satan's temptations by quoting scripture and using it to defend himself. This shows us that the Bible is a powerful tool in our spiritual arsenal, and that we can use it to resist temptation and stay true to our faith. It also emphasizes the importance of studying and meditating on scripture, in order to deepen our understanding of God's will and to strengthen our faith.

The story of Jesus' 40 days in the wilderness and his temptation by Satan is a powerful and enduring story that has resonated with Christians for centuries. It teaches us important lessons about spiritual discipline, faith, scripture, humility, and the dangers of pride. As we face our own temptations and challenges in life, we can draw strength and inspiration from this story and from the example of Jesus himself.

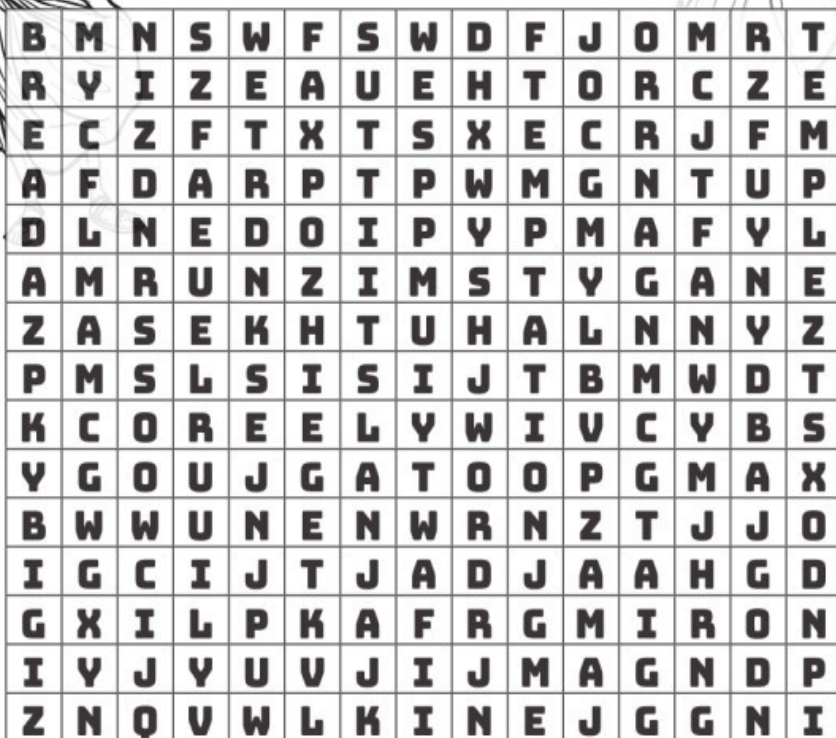
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BIBLE WORD SEARCH – MAR 2023



THE TEMPTATION OF CHRIST JESUS

Discover the hidden words.



Word Bank

FORTY
MOUNTAIN
SATAN
WORD

GOD
TEMPLE
WORSHIP
ANGELS

BREAD
TEMPTATION
JESUS
STONES



BIBLE QUIZ | ANAGRAMS

Identify these Bible Names & Places from the given Anagram:

1. SAZURAL

2. JANTANOH

3. SARABBAB

4. LASOME

5. MACUSDAS

6. BADONEEG

7. PENUCARAM

Answers in next month's Reach Out



SRMC VBS 2023



IT'S THAT TIME OF THE YEAR!



MARK THE DATES:

13 APR '23 TO 22 APR '23

*Children! This summer,
Get ready for some SPACE!*

**CONTACT SRMC VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
TEAM FOR MORE DETAILS**



CROSS: A Call to Repentance

SARJAPUR ROAD METHODIST CHURCH

Pulpit Calendar

"The time has come and he said, The Kingdom of God us near,
Repent and believe the good news." Mark 1:15

March 2023

1st Sunday | 05/03/2023 | 9 AM

COMMUNION SERVICE | WE ARE CLEANSED BY CHRIST
EUCCHARIST | ZECH 13:1-9, MARK 1:40-45

2nd Sunday | 12/03/2023 | 9 AM

FORGIVENESS IN CHRIST

GEN. 4:8-16, MARK 2:1-12

3rd Sunday | 19/03/2023 | 9 AM

ACCEPTANCE IN CHRIST

HOS. 2:14-23, MATT 15:21-28

4th Sunday | 26/03/2023 | 9 AM

REDEMPTION IN CHRIST

EXODUS 3:1-13, LUKE 13:10-17

All services are LIVE STREAMED on www.srmcblr.org

SARJAPUR ROAD METHODIST CHURCH

Besides St. Patrick's Academy, Sarjapur Road, Bengaluru