



JUBILEE MEMORIAL BIBLE COLLEGE

JUBILEE NEWS

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

LIVE BY THE SPIRIT, BE LED BY THE SPIRIT



Motto

In His Steps (1 Pet 2:21)

Year Theme

Live by the Spirit, be led by the Spirit" (Gal. 5:25)

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Our theme for this academic year is “Live by the Spirit, be led by the Spirit” (Gal. 5:25). In Ephesians 1:13-14, Paul discusses the work of the Holy Spirit in the life of a believer, and three observations can be made here. Firstly, the Holy Spirit is a promised gift to believers. It is given personally to all believers, and their bodies become the home of the Holy Spirit. In the Old Testament context, God dwelt in the Most Holy Place in the temple or tabernacle. In the New Testament, the Word became flesh and dwelt among the people. Through Jesus Christ as the Savior, a person receives the Holy Spirit and their body becomes the temple of the Holy Spirit.

Secondly, the Holy Spirit is the seal of our salvation. It serves as a sign of ownership, indicating that believers belong to God. Paul emphasizes in Romans 8:9 that anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to Him. The seal also signifies protection, assuring that believers now belong to God and will be under his care until He takes complete possession of them.

The third aspect is that the Holy Spirit is the guarantee of our inheritance. The Greek word used for “guarantee” is derived from trade/business, referring to a down payment or first instalment. The Holy Spirit is like a deposit or pledge of the full inheritance that awaits believers as members of God’s family. May we be striving

to live by the Spirit and be led by the Spirit, embracing the presence and guidance of the Holy Spirit in every aspect of our lives.

Our journey continues, and Jubilee completed 36 years of existence by August 15. Great is God’s faithfulness, and we praise Him for our graduates who are working in different parts of the world. We extend our congratulations to the new office bearers and committee members of the JMBC Alumni Association who took charge in the month of July. This academic year, 23 new students joined various courses. Our students represent 17 denominations and 15 states of India. Our goal is to see that every student has a personal vision for their life, and we make efforts to help them through personal mentoring. We are delighted to welcome two new faculty members to the team, one in the Old Testament department and the other in the English department. Two other faculty members are currently pursuing their Ph.D. studies.

During the summer, our students had ministry exposure as they went to different parts of the country for their internship. We also have weekend ministry activities around our campus where they engage in ministering among children, migrant workers, and local churches. Our online courses in Tamil and English are in progress and we aim to equip laypeople for effective witnessing. We look forward to your continuous prayers and support in our journey.

In Christ,

Rev. Dr. Prakash Abraham Mathew

FACULTY RETREAT

JMBC commenced the new academic year with a faculty retreat held from the 1st to the 4th of June. The faculty team, accompanied by their families, devoted three days to prayer, meditation, and learning at the Medical Mission Sisters, Shambahanur in Kodaikanal. The resource person was Mr. J. S Anbu, a former Director of CIM, Trainer, and ex-Regional Coordinator of the Haggai Institute. The sessions held during the retreat served as a profound period of soul-searching for every participant. These sessions compelled us to contemplate the sincerity of our calling and the depth of our commitment to following the Master. The primary focus was on striking a harmonious balance between stewardship and spirituality. The retreat proved to be an occasion for confession and the renewal of our dedication to follow Jesus, our Lord. Moreover, it provided an invaluable opportunity to strengthen the bonds between each other, fostering a sense of unity among the participants.



NEW STUDENTS

In June 2023, 23 new students arrived from 10 Indian states representing 11 denominations.



ENGLISH ONLINE PROGRAM

JMBC is delighted to announce the launch of the English Online Program in our college called “Jubilee Online Theological Studies”. The program is aimed at catering to the needs of laypeople and the wider community. By God’s grace, we have 18 candidates from different parts of the world. The primary objective of introducing the English Online Program is to make theological education accessible to common people, removing barriers of time and location, enabling them to deepen their understanding of theology and spiritual matters.

Through this English Online Program, we envision a world where individuals from all walks of life can come together, engage in meaningful discussions, and deepen their understanding of God’s Word. We invite everyone to join us in this transformative journey of exploration and enlightenment. Together, let us embark on a path that leads to a deeper connection with our faith and a broader understanding of the Word of God.



FRESHERS WELCOME

The Freshers’ Welcome Program for the academic year 2023-24 took place on the 23rd of June. The event commenced with an opening prayer led by Rev. Justin Paul. During the program, Mrs. Gethzia Magdaline shared insights from the Word of God, providing inspiration to the new students by discussing the divine calling. Principal Rev. Dr. Prakash Abraham Mathew extended a warm welcome to the fresh batch of faculty members and students. He offered words of encouragement, setting a positive tone for their journey ahead. The event featured a series of performances presented by both the new students and those returning.



SUMMER INTERNSHIP

During every summer vacation, the Practical Ministry Department of JMBC organizes Summer Internships for the second year and final year students of B.Th and MDiv. Each student must go to either a church, a mission field or any other place of ministry and serve under a Christian leader for 30 days. This gives them a great opportunity to observe and learn from a senior minister, to practice what they have learnt in their classrooms and library, and to develop their ministry skills. The supervisor can observe the ministry of the student under him/her and provide much-needed encouragement and corrections. We encourage our students to have at least one cross-cultural internship exposure during their studies at JMBC. During April and May of 2023, our internship students were able to travel to various states of India and serve in different churches, mission fields, Vacation Bible Schools (VBS), Mission Schools etc. We praise God for the ministry of our students in different parts of the country. Kindly pray that our students would continue to serve others and develop their God-given ministry skills for the glory of God.



SPIRITUAL RENEWAL CONFERENCE



Jubilee experienced a captivating and refreshing period during the Spiritual Renewal Conference held from the 21st to the 23rd of July 2023. The esteemed guest speaker for the event was Dr. Joji George Abraham, Academic Dean at the ACTS Academy of Higher Education in Bangalore. His presentations were centered around the theme “The Transformation Imperative: What Does God Intend to Do With Me?” Throughout the conference, he delivered six thought-provoking expositions, exploring deep into this theme and its implications for personal growth and spiritual development. The conference served as a platform for the Jubilee community to renew their commitment and connection to the Holy Spirit, driven by a shared goal for a life of holiness. The three-day event undoubtedly left a profound impact, on spiritual growth and transformation among the Jubilee family.



JMBC WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP



The JMBC women's fellowship was started with the intention of helping the women in the community to delve deeper into the scripture so that they have a clear understanding of its meaning and implications. Along with this we also felt the need for supporting each other through prayer and fellowship.

This year, Mrs. Christy Justin has taken up the responsibility of leading the ministry. Currently, we meet twice a month for

Bible study and prayer. The women are also divided into groups of two which meet twice a month for sharing and prayer. Apart from this, we also visit the sick among us and those of us who are celebrating their birthdays and wedding anniversaries and pray for them.

We have been meeting regularly for the past 3 years. The Bible study sessions have given the women a platform to discuss, interpret and raise questions regarding the given passage. In addition to this, supporting each other with prayers has been a great blessing for us. The two-by-two sessions have strengthened interpersonal relationships and enabled the women to come out and share their concerns with a friend. Altogether, it has been a great blessing. In the coming months, it is our great desire to reach out to the women in the surrounding villages with the gospel. We earnestly seek your prayers for the growth of this ministry and for God's guidance and help in starting the outreach ministry.

JUBILEE PUBLIC SCHOOL

Jubilee Public School (JPS) is a ministry of Jubilee Memorial Trust, offering a value-based school experience that enables children to have a safe, nurturing and interactive environment. We strive to demonstrate God's love and concern for children by providing activities that promote the holistic development of a child. The school boasts a dedicated team of nine highly skilled teachers who are not only proficient in their respective subjects but also passionate about ensuring that the students receive the best possible guidance and support to unlock their full potential. JPS also has two efficient non-teaching staff who play a vital role in the smooth operations of the school. The academic year 2022-23 was a blessed year for JPS in terms of academic and non-academic affairs. We were successful in conducting formative and summative assessments, Parent Teachers Meeting and a wide range of competitions and celebrations to cater for the talents, needs and abilities of each child. JPS stands as a testament to the transformative power of education when combined with individual attention and strong values. With a team of dedicated Trust members, educators and many praying hearts, the school continues to uphold its commitment to provide a quality education that goes beyond the textbooks, preparing students to face the challenges of life with integrity and wisdom.



NEW FACULTY MEMBERS



Greeting in Jesus' name! I am **Samuel T. Thawngkhanlian** from Lamka, Manipur. I am the oldest of four siblings. Being brought up by devout Christian parents I was active in Sunday School, church services and read the entire Bible cover to cover. I thought all these made me a good Christian. But, as I grew older, I realized these things just could not bring peace to my heart. I felt empty and struggled spiritually. I constantly prayed to God and it was in 2004 that God answered my prayer. That year I accepted Christ Jesus as my Lord and personal Savior.

When my 10th standard result was out, my mother told me that she and my father had dedicated me to serve the Lord as the first fruit from God. And it was the reason that I was given the name Samuel. However, the idea of pursuing theological studies and serving God full-time did not occur to me at that time. But my life took an unexpected turn when I experienced a personal calling from God in the last semester of my B. Sc studies. God firmly spoke to me of His providential Call when I was having my personal devotion from Matthew 6:33, "*But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.*" On that morning, I also recollected my mother's words and I surrendered my all being to God, embraced the Call and committed my life to His service.

The Call let me venture into a new journey. I started to pursue theological studies at Grace Bible College, Manipur, where I completed my Master of Divinity studies in 2016. Later, I was involved in the Eimi Christian Fellowship, Hyderabad between 2017 to 2020. Then I pursued a Master of Theology in Old Testament from SAIACS, Bangalore and graduated on 1st April 2023. I am passionate about equipping, building, and raising individuals who will impact and transform the church and society at large. I am thankful and excited that God has paved the way for me to JMBC, Chennai to initiate the vision He has bestowed upon me. And I am thrilled to serve in JMBC as I could align myself with its vision and mission. I request you to kindly pray for me and my ministry at JMBC. I give all glory to God for leading and guiding me on this journey. Thank you and God bless you!

I'm **Gethzie Magdaline**. I'm from Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu. I grew up in a Christian family. But my real encounter with Christ happened during my teenage years. I was usually left alone by my peers. So, in that loneliness, I began to go to the school chapel alone and started praying often. And that's when I accepted Jesus as my best friend and savior. I got baptized at a BYM (Blessing Youth Mission) Camp. And there I felt God calling me for full-time ministry, and I committed myself there.

I went on to earn degrees of M.A. (Eng) from Karunya University, Coimbatore, and M.Ed. & M.Phil. (Eng) from Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli. My opportunity to join the ministry came after I got married to John Fredrick David in the year 2019. We joined the ministry of JMBC in the year 2022-23 when Fredrick joined as a Lecturer in the New Testament Department. And by God's leading, I am able to join JMBC as Faculty in the English Department this academic year. Together, we want to teach and mentor students of Seminaries/Theological Colleges, to help in their transformation as future servant-leaders and thereby contribute to the edification of the church and society at large. Fredrick and I are blessed with a 3-year-old boy, Tom Aaron, who joined Jubilee Public School this year. Please remember us in your prayers.



MISSIONARY PROJECT SUNDAY



On Sunday, August 13th, 2023, the Missionary Project Sunday for the academic year took place. During this event, the faculty, staff, students, and campus children all made a faith commitment (pledge) to provide support for needy missionaries who are engaged in front-line missions.

The overarching purpose of this project is to train the community in giving to the missions and to provide support to missions through sacrificial giving. This year's Missionary Project Sunday featured Mr. C C. Philip, the Director of Aastha Kiran in Tambaram, as the guest speaker. Our target for this year is set at ₹1,15,000. We humbly request your fervent prayers to help us achieve this goal, enabling us to distribute much-needed assistance to God's devoted servants who are in need.

COLLEGE DAY: THANKSGIVING SERVICE



Jubilee completed 36 years on August 15, 2023. A thanksgiving service was conducted and Rev. Varghese Philip shared God's word along with his memories about JMBC. Rev. Varghese Philip and his family served JMBC in different capacities from its inception. Rev. K. S. James (Graduate 1991; President, JMBC Alumni Association) and Ms. Rukhmani Bai (Graduate – 2017; Andaman and Nicobar) shared their experiences with JMBC through pre-recorded videos. We remembered the people who served JMBC in different capacities. We express our gratitude to all our prayer partners and supporters for their unwavering support throughout these years.

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

JMBC celebrated the 77th Independence Day of India. The social and cultural committee organized a flag-hoisting ceremony at the college. Eva. K. V. Mathew hoisted the flag and gave a short speech on the significance of embracing the freedom that Christ graciously provides. Mr. Mathew has served as an evangelist in different parts of Karnataka, along with the Mar Thoma Church and presently staying on the campus along with his daughter Mrs. Christy (wife of our faculty member, Rev. Justin Paul).



PRAISE GOD FOR:

1. The new students admitted to our B.Th and M.Div Programs
2. The challenging Spiritual Renewal Conference for the Community
3. His provision in meeting the financial needs of the college
4. The healing that we experienced from health issues
5. The ministry of our graduates who are working in different parts of the world
6. The prayer partners and supporters of the college

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

1. God's presence and guidance in the life of each one of us, the faculty, staff and students
2. Students to develop a personal vision for their lives
3. The needed finance for the functioning of the college
4. The graduates who are working in different parts of the world
5. The family members of the students who are yet to know the Lord
6. The functioning of the Jubilee Public School