

An Update from our Partner in Ministry, Pastor Abraham Emmanuel The Nazarene Mission, Colombo, Sri Lanka

Seasonal greetings to you, your family, and your church in the mighty name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. I would like to extend my heart felt gratitude to the continuous prayers and financial support you have provided us to do ministry in this part of the world. The year of 2019 was a year of moaning for many Sri Lankan, especially for Christians, and year of seeing God's hand of protection. On the day of Easter, there were several bombings in churches and hotels around the island, killing 259 individuals and over 500 were injured. Even though the evil tried to destroy us, our sovereign God protected us. Following the incident, I was asked to join the delegation team and met leaders from all the denominations to discuss about the work moving forward.

Moreover, the North Colombo Senior Pastors Fellowship of National Unit organized a fasting and prayers for the nation of Sri Lanka at St Andrew's Church, Colombo. Many attended the meeting and the capacity was full, which led us to create an overflow area in the premises. In addition, the Prime minister of Sri Lanka organized an award ceremony -- Agasaw Prathibha 2019 -- to appreciate the Christian leaders for their work. I was blessed to attend the ceremony and receive an award as well.

This Christmas season we were able to do two programs in remote areas of Sri Lanka.

Children's program - Boragas

The Boragas branch church and the Colombo church together organized a half day program for children of Boragas. Around 90 children from the church and from the local area attended the program -- most of them were not Christians. The program included time for worship, games, and a short preaching. The theme of the program was based on 1 John 4:4 -- You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. We saw God's hand working in there and many children accepted Christ as their personal Saviour. It was a great platform to spread the good news to many who did not know of God. End of the program we gave the children a Christmas gift and lunch. This day was successful because of God's grace because on the day of the program there was uncontrollable rain. We were worried for the children because they come from very poor conditions and there is very limited transportation facilities in the mountain area. It was very difficult for us to get to the location, however, in faith we went to the place and the rain subsided. Please click on this link to see all the pictures from this day.

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ln3vwsrcom3iwyb/AAQhg7szD2hmSH7KO6LOYALa?dl=0>

Charity program - Mannar

Every Christmas the Colombo church conducts a charity event to the marginalized people in Sri Lanka. This year we went Mannar to visit and help an orphanage. Mannar is approximately 335 km north from Colombo -- a remote war torn town. We visited 'Anpu Sahotharar Illam', an orphanage, which houses 20 boys aged 6 - 18 who are either orphans or from families who are unable to take care of them for various reasons. The orphanage is run by Pastor Rajahan -- a Muslim convert. They provide shelter, food, and education. The orphanage does not receive government funding and relies on donations. On the 2nd of January, 2020, we visited the location and the Pastor showed us that the children did not have proper fans in there rooms; and tables and chairs to study. So, we decided to provide them with 6 fans, pillows, and 2 study tables and 4 benches. We were also able to spend time with the children and speak to them. The children and the Pastor was very grateful for the donations.

Please click on this link to see all the pictures:-

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/mciqhtgy93ddq1j/AADO3_nuTs3Mlue2OD5Kpwl7a?dl=0

I sincerely like to thank you for the continuous support you have provided. For support like yours helps us to reach vulnerable people in Sri Lanka and share the love of God and His salvation.

May God bless you richly in the 2020.

Yours in His service

Pastor Abraham Emmanuel