

But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness and all these things will be given to you as well. Matt 6:33

Blessed New Year and Greetings from everyone here at Miqlat !

Miqlat is stepping into the 16th year since inception and we are grateful for your prayers, love and support, throughout the years.

We started off our year with few heartbreaking relapses and spiritual unrest. Yet, it is also a reminder that we can only do what we can within our limits and that God's Word sown in hearts will lead them back to God.

STRONGER TOGETHER: Building & Strengthening Community Relationships

Miqlat Ministry together with the Village Councils/student/ Youth and Churches of Seluophe/Singrijan and Khopanal Villages elaborately commemorated International Women's day. It started from 2nd March till 7th March 2020, with traditional backstrap weaving training in partnership with NEIDA, essay competition, workshops for village council leaders/ women & children/ students & Youth/ Church leaders and Spring fest .

It was truly one of its kind and a step towards building a Stronger community Together.

* We are grateful to God for the success of the wonderful weeklong event. Thank you all who prayed, participated and encouraged us.

* We are also very grateful to God for the new addition of our team member Viqheli as the house mother of the residential program. Viqheli comes with many years of experience both in the field and in her association. We believe her experience will both bless and empower the girls and ministry richly.

A PRAYER ANSWERED

Last December, ten of us went to Darjeeling & Sikkim for a holiday. A time to treat ourselves with nature's amazing beauty, rejuvenate, retrospect, pamper ourselves and be away from the hustle bustle of life. It was one such memorable journey where we felt God's presence and favour on us.

Visit to Nathula Pass in Sikkim was in our list of destinations, and our guide told us that only 75 vehicles are allowed permit per day and there are already more than hundred taxis in queue. So, there is a high probability that we may not get too. As we looked around to park our vehicle, which was already crowded with tourist taxis waiting for permit, we began to pray for God's intervention. For many in our group, it was their first trip so we were really looking forward. As we prayed we also sang the song, "God will make a way, where there seems to be no way."

Minutes passed by, nothing happened. We continued to pray and amazingly, God answered our prayers, and we got the permit! We prayed a thanksgiving prayer and headed for the much awaited Nathula Pass

God is in control

At present, the whole world is shaken by covid-19, and in many ways fear has gripped us. With the lockdown, for once it was like the clock had stopped. The world came to a standstill. For the first few days of lockdown, every morning, I used to hear my neighbours telling each other, "Aji toh ki koribo nah, iku bi koribole nai," (What shall we do today, there is nothing to do).

With social distancing being imposed, one can only acknowledge that technology indeed is a blessing! With our Miqlat team, we continued our daily devotion with video conference/calls. It was a wonderful experience! It was also an encouragement to see many Churches doing live telecast of the worship services to reach out to its members. God is still on the move.

This lockdown also reminds us of the early Christian community house churches where they gathered to have fellowships and the fact that the a Church is not only a structural building but in actuality it is the fellowshiping of believers. Many people acknowledged that this lockdown has given the opportunity for many families to even have meals together and pray together. This is an excerpt from a whatsapp message from a friend,

"The Bible is so relevant to our present situation. Its amazing! Take a look at John 9:4, "We must work the works of Him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. All work must cease at one point and this verse reminds me of when I took my works for granted-when I postponed my works for the next day, because I was lazy, when I complained; when I work without joy or gratitude. What a realization! Work is a privilege and it is a gift from God. Had I known better I would have worked giving my best for my living God and for His glory."

How true it is !

In the midst of all the chaos and unrest, let us continually seek the face of God and renew our relationship with Him. Above all, let us also be assured that the God who created the universe and us still in control.



Saiful, a Muslim young man was one of our construction worker. Like any other worker, he was also



working under a supervisor. During one of the holidays he went home and did not return to work. Initially, we didn't pay attention. But later, he called our caretaker to tell us that he has become a Christian and for which his family and co-workers disdain him and even refused to let him work. After trying to stick around with some people and not getting the support he needed, he realized that the only place he will be accepted and embraced was the Miqlat Ministry. So he came back to us. We sure did receive him wholeheartedly but we also knew this was not enough. He has a very curious heart and mind to read and learn the Word of God. With no formal schooling, this is not easy for him. He became a part of the Miqlat Family and we loved him and he loved us. But we were also praying that God will open ways for him to grow, learn and be nurtured by people who are from similar backgrounds. God did open ways. He was able to do a week training with other Muslim converts and get connected with people reaching out to the Muslim community. Very soon (hopefully after the

lockdown and situation comes to normal) he will be going to a farm to stay with a former Muslim Mullah who will mentor and nurture him in his journey of faith .in God. Walk along with him through prayers as he continue his journey of knowing God. Saiful also help us understand what it really means to be "Salt and Light" as Christians. He said we were different and we call him by name and respected and loved him. Sure we are called to be the walking Kingdom of God.

Prayers :

*Journey with Saiful in prayer

*with this lockdown, some of the most affected people are also the daily wagers of which many of the girls/women we reach out to falls under this category. Everyone is reaching out to respond in the best way possible. Pray that God will continue to open ways, provide resources and open hearts to seek Him at such a time.

- Pray for safety and providence as we pray and plan to do the second round of delivery to the girls/women we reach out to sometime the end of this

"If you believe in Jesus nothing can take you of the planet until you finish your assignment. At such a time, what a great comfort it is to be reminded that God holds everything and He is in control. So even in our despair, let us allow God and His Word to overpower us and not the fear of the virus which is scaring us away even to be good neighbors. We sure have to be careful but not shut our hearts for we are called to be salt and light everyday of our lives.

You all stay safe, take care, enjoy family time and get drunk in His Word and may this quarantined season be your 'high mountain' experience that once you get down from the mountain you are all reay to devour the world with Him and for Him.

Once again thank you all for not giving up on us, trusting us and faithfully walking along side us this many years. Thank you for your love, your calls, messages, criticism and sometimes indifferent attitude. It only makes us want to do better and be better.

Thank You!
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