

Echoes of Calvary

Weekly Newsletter - 36 | 14th Sep - 20th Sep '2026

Dear family in Christ,

Grace and peace to you as we enter the **Week of Growing in Holiness**. As we learn to listen to God and walk in obedience, we are gradually being shaped into the likeness of Christ. God does not call us merely to change a few outward behaviours; He desires to transform our hearts, our thoughts, our attitudes, and our entire way of life.

Holiness is not about appearing perfect before others. It is about belonging completely to God and allowing Him to continually shape us according to His will.

Scripture of the Week:

"But just as He who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do." — 1 Peter 1:15

This Week's Practice: Becoming More Like Christ

Lifestyle of Jesus: A Life of Holiness and Love

Jesus lived a life completely devoted to the Father. His holiness was not distant or cold. It was expressed through love, compassion, truth, purity, forgiveness, and obedience. He welcomed sinners without approving of sin. He spoke truth without hatred. He showed compassion without compromising righteousness. His life revealed what it looks like when a human life is completely surrendered to God.

As followers of Christ, holiness begins within. Our thoughts influence our words, our words influence our actions, and our actions gradually shape our character. Therefore, we must allow God to examine the hidden areas of our lives—the attitudes, habits, desires, relationships, and choices that others may never see.

This week, we pause and ask:

- Is there an area of my life that I am keeping away from God's control?
- Are my thoughts, words, and actions becoming more like Christ?
- What habit or attitude is God asking me to surrender?
- Am I more concerned about appearing righteous before people or becoming holy before God?

Holiness is not about becoming someone we pretend to be.

It is about becoming the person God is shaping us to be.

Events that happened in 37th week (14th Sep – 20th Sep) of 2026 to seek the fruit of the Word sown in your daily prayers:

Mid-week Prayer, Wednesday 16th Sept'26: Does God Know You?

Today's midweek prayer focused on what it truly means to follow Jesus Christ and live according to God's will. Based on Matthew 7, the message called for cleansing, spiritual renewal, and a genuine relationship with Christ. The teaching on the **narrow gate**, the warning "**I never knew you,**" and the wise and foolish builders reminded us that church attendance, ministry, preaching, or outward religious activity cannot replace a surrendered life built on Christ, His Word, and His will.



The message also emphasized personally knowing the Lord through prayer and fellowship, carrying the burdens of others through intercession, and faithfully fulfilling God's calling without seeking popularity or recognition. The examples of the Samaritan woman, Jeremiah, and Paul encouraged a life of witness, prayer, obedience, and faithfulness. Everyone was challenged to examine their lives and ask: "**Do I truly know the Lord? Does He know me as His own? Is Christ really the foundation of my life?**"

Bible Reading & references

Matthew Chapter 7 was read repeatedly and meditated upon, with its teachings being referred to throughout the sermon.

Job 19:25

John 4

Jeremiah 1:4–5

1 Corinthians 3:10–11

Key notes from message

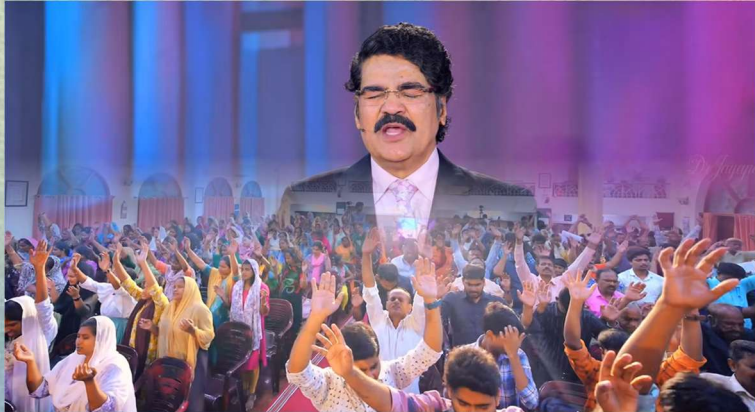
- ✓ God doesn't look at the quantity of your work, but at the quality of your work.
- ✓ By doing God's work, you are not helping God; God is giving you an opportunity to serve Him and watching how honestly and faithfully you do that work.
- ✓ Don't compare your ministry with somebody else's ministry; every person has a different calling from God.
- ✓ Know why God has called you and live for the purpose for which He has called you.
- ✓ The success of ministry is not measured by the size of the crowd, popularity or recognition.
- ✓ A servant of God must do what God says whether people respond or not.
- ✓ People may praise you and recognize your work, but the important question is whether God is pleased with your life and service.
- ✓ You may do many things for God and still need to ask, "**Does God know me?**"

- ✓ Calling “**Lord, Lord**” is not enough; doing the father’s will is what matters.
- ✓ Being connected with a church outwardly is not the same as having your name written in the Book of Life.
- ✓ Knowing about Jesus is different from knowing Jesus personally.
- ✓ You must personally know the Lord, communicate with Him, share your burdens with Him and know His heart.
- ✓ Prayer is also a ministry; faithfully praying for others is valuable service before God.
- ✓ When people give you their prayer requests, carry their burdens faithfully and continue to pray for them.
- ✓ Your personal prayer life is necessary if you want to know the Lord personally.
- ✓ The Christian life is a narrow way; it requires commitment, discipline and perseverance.
- ✓ Two people may look the same outwardly, but their foundations may be different; the storm reveals the foundation.
- ✓ Build your life on Christ, His Word and His will, rather than on your own ideas and self-will.
- ✓ Your fruit will reveal what is really inside your heart.
- ✓ God wants your whole heart and your whole life, not just one portion of it.
- ✓ Receiving salvation is one thing; maintaining the new life God has given you is another thing.
- ✓ God is more interested in the condition of your heart than in your religious activities.
- ✓ Do the work God has given you without seeking recognition, because the glory belongs to God.
- ✓ Paul did not build his ministry around publicity; Christ was the foundation of his ministry.
- ✓ Whatever you build in ministry, build it carefully on Christ.
- ✓ The most important question is not how people see you, but, “How is my life before God?”
- ✓ God does not need our work; He gives us the privilege and opportunity to work for Him.
- ✓ Even when God does not give immediate results, remain faithful to what He has entrusted to you.
- ✓ A person can be very active in ministry and still miss what God desires if the heart is not right before Him.
- ✓ The real test of our Christian life is whether we are pleasing God, not whether we are pleasing people.

Friday Fasting Service 18th Sept'26:

A Call to Deep Prayer – Revival, Souls and the Next Generation

Today's fasting prayer was a strong call to focused and deep prayer, with a special burden for souls and the younger generation, **especially Gen Z and youth**. The message



encouraged everyone to move beyond routine prayer and seek God with spiritual hunger, perseverance, holiness, and a genuine burden for those who are lost. The church was challenged to pray earnestly for families, ministries, children, young people, unreached places, and those who have become spiritually cold, while

recovering the unity and burden of praying together.

A strong emphasis was also placed on keeping **love for Christ** at the centre of all service, giving, sacrifice, and ministry, rather than seeking recognition or personal benefit. The younger generation was highlighted as facing many distractions and worldly influences in the digital age, creating an urgent need to pray for them, reach them, restore those who have wandered, and help them use their God-given abilities for His purposes. The gathering called for the church to wake up, deepen its prayer life, carry a greater burden for souls, and faithfully use the time and opportunities God has given.

Bible Reading & references

The second chapter of 2 Timothy was read repeatedly and meditated upon, with its timeless teachings woven throughout the sermon.

Matthew 6:33	John 14:6	Galatians 4:19	Philippians 3:13–14
Luke 17:32	Luke 15:11–24	1 Kings 18:36–38	Matthew 4:1–11
Daniel 1:8	Genesis 39:7–12	Genesis 22:9–12	2 Timothy 2:22

Key notes from message

- ✓ God is calling His people out of a nominal Christian life into genuine spiritual revival.
- ✓ A changed heart must be surrendered to God so that it can produce spiritual fruit.
- ✓ Prayer must come from the depths of the heart and not merely be a repetition of words.
- ✓ True prayer requires spiritual labour, burden, perseverance and earnestness.

- ✓ Fasting prayer is a time to pour out our hearts before God and earnestly seek Him.
- ✓ The church must recover the prayer burden, unity and spiritual fellowship that marked the earlier days.
- ✓ Church gatherings must not become a routine of coming, singing, listening and going home.
- ✓ The church must move from outward activity and religious routine into genuine spiritual life.
- ✓ Being saved is not the end; we must continue growing and become more like Christ.
- ✓ The Gospel must reach those who have not yet heard and places where Christ is not known.
- ✓ Children must be taught God's Word from a young age and prepared to know and serve the Lord.
- ✓ Women must be strengthened to become prayer warriors and active participants in God's work.
- ✓ The abilities, knowledge, strength and talents of young people must be directed into the right channel and used for God.
- ✓ Young people must become good soldiers for Christ instead of becoming slaves to worldly activities.
- ✓ Young people must examine their lives and ask what they are doing, what they are achieving and why they are living.
- ✓ The youthful years are passing and cannot be brought back, so they must be used for God.
- ✓ Temporary pleasures must not be allowed to destroy the future.
- ✓ Young people must resist sexual temptation, addictions, drugs, alcohol, vulgar speech, vulgar music and corrupt influences.
- ✓ Daniel, Joseph, Isaac and Timothy were presented as examples of young people who stood for God.
- ✓ Parents must carry a spiritual burden and pray earnestly for their children.
- ✓ The church must reach the present digital generation and rescue young people whose attention, talents and abilities are being captured by worldly influences.
- ✓ Those who have wandered away from God must come to their senses and return to the Father's house.
- ✓ God must have the first place in our lives, our time, our possessions, our abilities and everything we have.
- ✓ Whatever God has entrusted to us must be taken seriously and faithfully carried out.
- ✓ Believers must bear one another's burdens and participate in supporting the work of God.
- ✓ God's people must not wait for someone else to take responsibility for His work.

- ✓ The Word of God must be allowed to break hard hearts and bring people to genuine repentance.
- ✓ Revival must begin in individual hearts and then spread to families, young people, ministries and the whole church.
- ✓ The Holy Spirit must bring purity, spiritual fire, strength and boldness into the lives of believers.
- ✓ Every opportunity and every remaining moment must be used faithfully for God's work.
- ✓ The nearness of the Lord's coming should create urgency to preach the Gospel and complete the work entrusted to us.
- ✓ The work of God must continue through our children and young people and must not end with our generation.
- ✓ Prayer must become a way of life, with God's people continually carrying the burdens of souls, families, churches and ministry before Him.

Sunday Worship on 20th Sept'26: 1st Service:

A Warning from God: Will You Listen, Obey, and Remain Faithful to His Word?

Today's first worship service was conducted in English, Telugu, and Hindi, focusing on the powerful account of the man of God in 1 Kings 13. The message reminded us that the messenger may not be important, but **the message from God is of utmost importance**. God's warnings are also an expression of His love, and we should not seek only encouragement and blessings while refusing correction. The man of God initially stood firmly on God's command, but later allowed the words of another prophet to influence him, reminding us to test every spiritual claim against the Word of God and remain faithful to what God has spoken.

The message carried a special warning to the younger generation about worldly influences through friendships, food, entertainment, social media, and the trends of the world. Everyone was encouraged to remain disciplined, distinct, and firmly rooted in God's Word, seeking His will in decisions concerning career, marriage, relationships, and every area of life. The examples from 1 Kings 13 also challenged parents, older believers, and spiritual leaders to become a **godly influence rather than a stumbling block**, while encouraging young people to faithfully follow God's calling.



Bible Reading & references

Chapter 13 from the I Kings was read repeatedly and meditated upon, with its timeless teachings woven throughout the sermon.

Galatians 1:8 1 Corinthians 6:19 Acts 9:6–17 Philippians 3:13–14

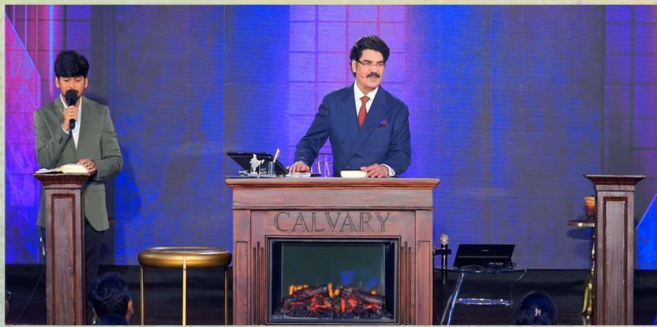
Key notes from message

- ✓ The name of the messenger is not important; the message that God gives through him is important.
- ✓ When God speaks through His Word, we must listen carefully and recognize that He is speaking to us.
- ✓ The Gospel and the Word of God are good news when we accept and obey them, but rejecting God's Word brings serious consequences.
- ✓ God may send warnings and correction because He loves people and wants them to turn from their wrong ways.
- ✓ We should not seek only encouragement and blessings while refusing warnings and correction.
- ✓ A leader's spiritual condition can affect the people under his influence and even the wider nation or community.
- ✓ God expects His servants to obey His instructions exactly, even when obedience is difficult or requires personal sacrifice.
- ✓ We must not change or compromise God's Word to make it convenient for ourselves.
- ✓ We should ask God before making decisions and seek His will in every area of life.
- ✓ We must not allow food, comfort, gifts, money or personal desires to control our obedience to God.
- ✓ Our body is the temple of God and must be brought under spiritual and personal discipline.
- ✓ Young believers must learn to remain separate from ungodly influences rather than simply following the trends of the world.
- ✓ Social media and digital influences can affect young people without them realizing it, so believers must be careful about what influences their thinking and decisions.
- ✓ A believer must learn to stand alone for God rather than depend on the approval or influence of others.
- ✓ We must test what we hear from preachers, prophets and spiritual leaders against the Word of God.
- ✓ A person may have previous ministry experience and still become spiritually careless, so past faithfulness must not replace present obedience.

- ✓ We must not allow impressive testimonies, miracles, spiritual claims or religious experiences to replace the authority of God's Word.
- ✓ If God has truly given a message to someone, He is able to communicate His will clearly and consistently.
- ✓ We should never believe a different message simply because someone claims that an angel or God spoke to them.
- ✓ There is danger when believers move from one church to another continually looking for something new instead of growing in a disciplined fellowship where God's Word is preached and prayer is practiced.
- ✓ We must follow Jesus Himself rather than following blessings, miracles or personalities.
- ✓ We must not look back or return to the things from which God has called us away.
- ✓ Small acts of disobedience can eventually produce very serious consequences.
- ✓ The influence we have on others can either bring them closer to God or lead them away from Him.
- ✓ Parents must examine their own lives because their children are greatly influenced by what they see in them.
- ✓ Believers should influence others through their life, obedience, prayer, God's Word and God's love.
- ✓ Young people must not become slaves to food, drinking, mobile phones, relationships or other worldly attractions.
- ✓ Prayer must not be neglected while we spend excessive time eating, drinking, socializing and pursuing worldly activities.
- ✓ Fasting and prayer should have a genuine place in the life of a believer.
- ✓ Our Christian faith must become practical obedience to God's Word rather than merely something we hear.
- ✓ We must honor and care for our parents while they are still alive instead of waiting until later and regretting what we failed to do.
- ✓ The greatest outward change is not a changed face or appearance but a changed heart, changed thinking and changed decisions.
- ✓ We must repent whenever we realize that we have gone in the wrong direction and return to Christ.
- ✓ Our lives should leave a godly influence on the next generation rather than becoming a source of spiritual harm.
- ✓ We must remain faithful to God until the end and carefully guard the salvation and calling entrusted to us.

2nd Service: What Are You Passing to the Next Generation?

Today's second worship service was conducted in Telugu and Tamil, with a strong focus



on the influence of family traditions, the transforming power of Christ, and the responsibility of one generation toward the next. The message encouraged everyone to examine whether the traditions and patterns passed down through generations are pleasing to God or merely empty ways of life. It reminded us that our lives, choices, and

habits can influence others, especially children, and that true transformation begins when we allow Christ to change our own lives.

The message also emphasized our identity as **children of the covenant** and the importance of building our lives on God's Word, prayer, and spiritual discipline. Parents were reminded that children learn not only from what they are taught but also from what they see in their parents' lives. Everyone was encouraged to remain faithful in the journey of faith, look beyond earthly blessings toward eternity, and intentionally raise the next generation in God's ways so that they may become spiritually different and faithfully follow Christ.

Bible Reading & references

Chapter 1 from 1st letter of Peter was read repeatedly and meditated upon, with its timeless teachings woven throughout the sermon.

Genesis 12:1–3

Genesis 17:7

Romans 4:11–12

2 Timothy 4:7–8

Luke 16:22

Galatians 3:29

Acts 3:25

Deuteronomy 8:3

Key notes from message

- ✓ We should examine the traditions and ways that have been passed down to us from our ancestors. Every generation passes something to the next generation, and we must be careful about what we are passing on.
- ✓ Some of the ways we follow may have been inherited from our parents and grandparents without us even realizing it. We should not continue an inherited way simply because it has been followed for generations.
- ✓ Our lives must be changed by Christ rather than simply continuing the old patterns of life.
- ✓ The faith of one person can have an influence that continues through generations.
- ✓ God's blessing and His covenant are not limited to one generation.

- ✓ We should not depend upon human strategies, crooked methods, schemes and cleverness instead of following God's ways.
- ✓ Our lives can influence others either towards what is good or towards what is wrong.
- ✓ Children can display spiritual understanding and wisdom even from a young age.
- ✓ We must ask ourselves what kind of influence our life is having on the next generation.
- ✓ We should not live as though this present world is all that exists. Faith looks beyond the things that are seen in this present world.
- ✓ Our goal must be to reach the heavenly kingdom and remain faithful until the end.
- ✓ We must know whose children we are and remember our identity as children of faith and of God's covenant.
- ✓ We should not allow our Christian faith to remain only as a philosophy, doctrine or belief. The Word of God must become part of our daily life, not merely something that we hear.
- ✓ Just as the body cannot live without physical food, the spiritual life cannot continue properly without the Word of God.
- ✓ God's children should be different from the people of the world in the way they live.
- ✓ What we receive from God must be passed on faithfully to the next generation.
- ✓ Parents must recognize the spiritual responsibility they have towards their children.
- ✓ The next generation should not merely inherit our traditions; they should see genuine faith and the Word of God being lived out in our lives.
- ✓ We must continue in faith and remain faithful to God until the end of our journey.
- ✓ The life we live today can leave a spiritual mark on the generation that comes after us.

Upcoming Events to add in your daily prayers:

- Monday, Zoom live session – 9:00 PM
- Get-together, **Pune**, 23rd September 2026.
- **Sunrise service** at 4am, Chennai – 02nd Oct'26
- Wednesday Fasting Prayer — 7:00 PM.
- Friday Fasting Prayer — 7:00 PM.

**May the Lord teach you His ways and strengthen you
to walk as Jesus walked! Amen!**

**With love,
Dr. N. Jayapaul,
Calvary Church Chennai.**