

September 2011

Dear friend in Jesus,

I have gone through some difficult times in the last four months. Satan tried to frustrate me through my daughter's educational need, serious sickness of my extended family members, and opposition in the ministry etc. However, such things did not affect my outward performance. I was busy as usual but I was certainly disturbed inwardly. There was no motivation to write any update to you all. I just did whatever came on my way. I still need some renewal (servicing and oil change!). Please do continue to pray for me.

1. Biblical Preaching & Counseling (Aug 8-12): In partnership with NECTAR, Asangla and I conducted a training program on Biblical Preaching and Counseling in Shillong. 23 young leaders aspiring to become missionaries attended it. One of the participants, a Hindu convert, was emotional on the last day. He said, *I have been Christian for last six years but no one mentored me the way TLA has done it.* One lady said, *I have done Counseling degree but I have now learned how to counsel and what to counsel.* We could also present Bible dictionaries, Commentaries, and Counseling books to some deserving participants.

To see pictures from the training, please visit the web:

https://picasaweb.google.com/aklama1147/BiblicalPreachingAndCounselingSeminar2011?authkey=Gv1sRgCIXr__bF09PgIg

2. The First Consultation (Sept 1-3): Theological education in the most seminaries in northeast has become an academic exercise. With the sponsorship from TLA and in partnership with the OCI, the Eastern Theological College of Jorhat hosted the first Consultation. The principals and the faculty members from 8 seminaries (total 22) came to discuss the practical steps toward making the Theological Education relevant to the Churches. They resolved to meet next year to follow up their decision in bringing changes in their curriculum and teaching methods.

To read my paper please visit the source: http://www.cbcnei.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=144:the-challenges-of-theological-education&catid=37:articles&Itemid=81

To see pictures please visit:

<https://picasaweb.google.com/aklama1147/MiniInstituteOfNEIndia?authkey=Gv1sRgCLHXvMTN6PH9Qg#slideshow/5659663165541809634>

3. The Secretaries Retreat in Manipur (Sept 9-12): It was wonderful to see the secretaries come together in order to strengthen each other. All the secretaries of 29 associations under Manipur Baptist Convention met for three days in Longol Baptist Church to make necessary resolution. I had the privilege to encourage them spiritually every night ministering from the Word of God.

To see pictures please visit:

<https://picasaweb.google.com/aklama1147/MBCSeretariesRetreat2011?authkey=Gv1sRgCLTOa2d7ayBsgE>

4. The India Mission Association Conference (Sept 16-18): It was a unique privilege for me to represent the Churches perspectives on Missions in the India Mission Association Conference. About 250 para-church organizations met in Hyderabad to consider how to connect with the Church. Most mission works are done by para-church agencies in India, but the scenarios in the northeast India is different. The Churches in the northeast under CBCNEI are more mission minded. My paper was focused on the role of the para-church organizations in empowering the Churches for missions.

To read my paper please visit the source: http://www.cbcnei.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=143:the-church-and-the-mission---connected&catid=37:articles&Itemid=81

To see pictures please visit:

https://picasaweb.google.com/aklama1147/IndiaMissionAssociationConference2011?authkey=Gv1sRgCIW_mcPP57PoiwE

5. Arunachal Leaders Family Retreat (Sept 22-25): Asangla and I had wonderful time with the leaders and their families during the Family Retreat in Arunachal. About 20 families came to consider their family life in the light of the Word of God and also to spent time together in casting the vision for the Churches in Arunachal.

To see pictures please visit:

<https://picasaweb.google.com/aklama1147/ABCCLeadersFamilyRetreat?authkey=Gv1sRgCKfJ8ovNIZbPiQE>

6. Biblical Preaching & Counseling (Sept 27-29): After the Family Retreat in Arunachal, we had only one day in between to do our laundry. The next day we were on the road for 8 hrs to Ampatigiri village where more than 70 pastors, deacons, women and youth leaders were waiting to learn from us the art of Biblical Preaching and Counseling.

We enjoyed our ministry with them for three days. One of the pastors commented, *I wish I was taught in my seminary all these valuable practical lessons. I have been pastors for 18 years without such knowledge. Thank you for coming and teaching us.*

These types of comments give us lots of energy. We feel like hitting the road again and go to the rural area and strengthen the Churches with the Word of God.

To see pictures please visit:

https://picasaweb.google.com/aklama1147/BiblicalPreachingAndCounselingTrainingForKriMaVI?authkey=Gv1sRgCP6y56_a8ejalgE

We thank you for enabling us to do what we are doing. *Without your prayers and support, ministry would not be easy. Thanks to you all.*

Please pray for the activities this year:

6.7 **Oct** : Medical Board
10 : ETC Board
16 : CLC Board Meeting
17-19 : Leaders Training Program
20-21 : EC Meeting
26 : Thangal Naga Women Retreat
28-30 : Annual Conference of EGF in Jharkhand, Ranchi
1-6 **Nov** : EFI Leaders Retreat, Goa.
18-20 : Silver Jubilee of State EGF-Arunachal, Balinong
24-25 : AGM/EC Meeting CASA, Delhi
30 : Northeast India Christian Council Leaders Consultation, Shillong
9-12 **Dec** : Silver Jubilee of RNBA, Tamenglong
17-18 : Centenary Celebration of Talui Baptist Church, Talui, Manipur

Please do send us your prayer requests. We would like to pray for you as well.

Sincerely yours in Jesus.

ak and asangla