



Gilgal Times

2019

The Year of Anointing



Faithful He Has Been ...

When we look back at this past year, all we can say is, 'Faithful He has been'. As we prayed and entered into a new year, we all entered with a lot of hopes and dreams and desires. And as we come to the end of this year, maybe we achieved all that we dreamed, maybe we couldn't but we are all here and that is by His grace. We began the year discussing the Fruit of the Spirits each month. As a church we have gone through a lot. This past year was filled with a lot of emotions, there were moments where we cried, where we laughed, and a lot of moments where we praised God, because through it all, he was good to us. As a church we have gone through a lot. This was a year we saw a great growth in our church. As the months went by our attendance grew, and every new person who walked through our doors went back blessed. As the year is coming to an end, let us take a stroll down memory lane as we look back at the months that have passed us by and the events that we had.

January - The Month of Love

The theme of the year 2019 is Anointing, and the first month was the month of Love. We learned that we can't please God unless we replicate the love, he gave us with our fellow beings. For love triumphs everything, Love rejoices with the truth.

This month we had our Anniversary Programme held on the 27th. An evening of Music, Dance, Word, Celebration and Fellowship. The congregation came together as our members performed various items and the evening ended with the celebration of our talents for the glory of God.

February - The Month of Joy

The shortest month of the year spoke of Joy. We learned that Joy is the infallible presence of God, we learned that pain and sufferings are the uninvited fellow passengers of this journey called life and we as Christians need to be joyful in midst of all this. We held on to Joy even when things didn't go our way. Though many trials and troubles surrounded us, we chose Joy.

On the 16th, we had a Family Seminar. We were blessed with two Family Counsellors who took a Session for us, reminding us once again the importance and beauty of family.

March - The Month of Peace

On the third month we read about Peace. In a world shook with violent attacks, chaos and pain all around, the world was crying for peace. The peace of God is not just given to us in our wearing situations but rather it ought to abide in us and we keep it.

On the 30th, we had our Living Flame. An 8-hour Corporate Worship Session. From the time we began, the Holy Spirit was moving in the place and spoke to those who came, through Songs, Word and Prayer. Those who came, left being blessed and filled with the presence of God.

April - The Month of Patience

On the fourth month we read about Patience. We learned that patience is not just a virtue to be admired, but a gift that helps one reach toward being the new creation we are in Christ and one step close to the perfection he is bringing us toward every day.

From 11th to 13th, we conducted our Vacation Bible School. It was attended by many children around us. They learned songs, stories from the Bible, Art works etc. The VBS was a great blessing by the grace of God and the tireless efforts of our Sunday school teachers. The children left to their homes on the last day, with a better understanding of God and other important life lessons.

On the 20th, we had our Church Outing. We had an amazing time of fun, games, food and fellowship in the SABC Campus. We had a blessed time meeting together, spending time playing various games, taking part in multiple activities, playing sports and having a scrumptious meal. The time of fellowship was a blessing to all those attended and we left for home wishing the day hadn't ended.

May - The Month of Kindness

The Fifth month we read about Kindness. We were reminded that we are placed in this world not just to live our own lives in our selfish worlds, thinking and caring about our own family. As children of God living in this world, we have responsibilities and we need to win the world with kindness. Because kindness is an important trait for a child of God, because as a Christian we have tears to wipe, sorrows to comfort, wounds to stitch, pain to sooth, and a broken world to heal and it is only possible with kindness.

On the 5th, we had our Ethnic Sunday. We dressed in our ethnic attire and bought together a celebration of diverse cultures and traditions. Together as a church we celebrated the fact that there is unity in diversity through our attires.

June - The Month of Goodness

The sixth month we read about Goodness. Within every human nature is an amazing potential for goodness. Jesus Christ, our perfect example is the model and definition of Goodness. He not only taught us how to be good, he also showed it to us. And as his children it becomes our obligation and a command, he gave us, to do good unto others. We grasped the importance of doing it out of the goodness of our heart and not just because it is a command.

On the 16th we conducted our Bible Quiz. Post Sunday Worship Service, we began our Quiz, divided into 8 teams, the competition was fierce. Various rounds of multiple questions were asked and all the teams performed well and as the competition came to an end, along with the points on the Scoreboard, our knowledge of the scriptures also multiplied.

July - The Month of Faithfulness

The seventh month we read about Faithfulness. We understood that faithfulness has to do with being committed to something. God is committed to his plan which he began to realize all those eons ago, and as we pass through a rough patch, don't forget that it is all part of God's elaborate plan. To each and every one of His children God has made a promise and as he sticks to his plan, He shall fulfil in due time what he has promised. For He is faithful.

On the 9th, Pastor Denny and Family returned to Bangalore after their time in USA. As the result of the prayer of the church, they had a safe journey and they landed at the Airport. God was faithful to them and kept them safe, the times they were away from us. It was a delight to have Pastor join us for our Service the following Sunday.

On the 21st, we had our Potluck Sunday. An afternoon of delicious food and fellowship. Delicacies from across the world, Cuisines that fills the stomach and the heart was served and it was a blessed time of fellowship and everybody left happy and with extra kilos.

August - The Month of Gentleness

The Eighth month we read about Gentleness. We were reminded once again that Gentleness is an important quality a child of God must have, so that we will be able to bring changes to the way we are conditioned to live. For gentleness is the ability to bear reproaches and slights with moderation, and not to embark on revenge quickly and not to be easily provoked to anger, but to be free from bitterness and contentiousness, having tranquility and stability in the spirit.

On the 15th, as the nation celebrated its independence, we as a church joined together for the Karnataka Flood Relief. Necessary items of different types were collected and bought to church where it was sorted and arranged and packed for transportation. The church is thankful to all those who contributed for this cause, as it was a comfort and help to many people.

On the 24th, we had our Musical Evening. A blessed evening of Music and word, we had many people attending this event, with a few of them attending for the first time. All those who came were blessed by the music and the word that was spoken that evening. The performances by our choir was spectacular and it gifted us a memorable evening. And from this month we moved our Carmel Prayer to Saturday's, we started with a few people and God has now blessed with the church coming together and praying for various needs of the church. The Carmel Prayer still continues to be the biggest support system for the church.

September - The Month of Self-Control

On the 9th month we came to Self-Control. We were reminded once again from the Epistle of James that we need to practice self-control and to live a life that is fitting for the calling that is upon us and on that would make God proud.

On the 7th, we had our second edition of the Living Flame of this year. Attended by many, the different worship sets, led by our different members were a great blessing to all those attended. Time was spent for prayer, where we interceded for the various requests. Everybody who came was touched by the Holy Spirit, and the efforts of our Worship team was commendable.

From the 23rd to the 28th, we conducted a Bible Class on the subject of Holy Spirit. It was attended by many and was a blessing to all those who came. Our understanding of the Holy Spirit was revisited and the classes were informative and spirit filled. The classes ended with a tarry meeting.

October - The Month of bearing the fruit of the Spirit

On the 10th month as we draw closer to the end of the year, we focused on how to bear the fruit of the Spirit. We reminded ourselves once again that God is not asking for a perfect life. But all he desires of us is that we live a life that displays the fruit of the spirit, and if we bear the fruit, it will be visible to those around it.

On the 2nd, we had our first ever Mission Outreach. We had around 35 members coming together to church, and we divided ourselves into 8 teams, and after a small orientation and prayer we set out to a common meeting point, and from there we were introduced to our respective areas and team and from there we all parted ways and went on to our areas. Our 8 teams, visited 7 areas and the testimonies that came from all those teams were

reassuring and encouraging. Every team had a blessed time and a memorable experience and everybody at the end of the day went home, with a fire that was ignited in them on that day, and with a desire to do more of such outreach.

November - The Month of Forgiveness

The 11th Month as the door of 2019 is slowly shutting on us, we once again pondered upon the Christian characteristic of Forgiveness. We are witnesses of everything Jesus did on the cross, he chose to forgive his killers. We serve a God who didn't just ask us to forgive, but showed us through his life. When we start to lead a life like Jesus, to forgive and to forget those who wronged us, that is when we can be more alike to Christ.

On the 1st of November, the Sunday school students had their outing. It was a time of relaxation and fun for the children and teachers alike. We visited a petting zoo, and the children enjoyed their time there and the made some friends in that zoo.

December - The Month of Anointing

It's the last month, and this year was the Year of Anointing and we ended the month by looking more closely on what we have been thinking the past years. An anointing of God flowed through his people and we were touched by it and we are encouraged and blessed by it. The Spirit of the Lord is upon all of us and he has anointed us for greater things.

On the 7th of December, we had our Evangelism Training. A fire that was ignited on the Mission Outreach day, has motivated us to conduct a session to better equip ourselves with the fundamentals of Evangelization. The sessions were very practical and encouraging and was a blessing to all those who attended.

On the 14th, we conducted our Christmas Musical, 'Here Is Hope'. It was a great blessing for those who attended. The birth of Jesus was presented with the help of Music, Video and Choreography. It was Visual experience through the birth of Christ. The performances by the Choir and the Choreography team was commendable.

And the days to come are filled with a lot of events. We have our Missions Outreach coming up next week, which will be followed by Carol Rounds, and Inter-Area Carols, and on the 25th we have our Christmas Programme, followed by a 3-day fasting prayer as we prepare for the next year.

We have not just come to the end of this year; we are at the end of a decade. A decade that will go down in the history books. We have witnessed major events, from Political Uprisings and Changes to natural disasters that shook us, violent attacks that left us in tears, revolutions in different fields that made us happy. Through it all, one thing remained and that is God's faithfulness. When we look back at the year and the decade, all we can say is 'Faithful He Has Been' and as we start this new journey with our eyes on the future, all that we can say with utmost confidence is that....

.... Faithful He Will Be



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