

July 23, 2020

Dear Ministry Partners,

For a long time, I was very reluctant to share the challenges we have been encountering due to COVID-19 Pandemic thinking that it would be over quickly. We have been locked down and under curfew since March due to Covid-19 Pandemic. Unfortunately, we are in containment area as community transmission of corona virus just began and positives are increasing every day. But we are praying and hoping that this Pandemic will end soon and normalcy will be restored, hopefully in September 2020.

But now I felt the need to share to you our struggles as it's social, religious, emotional and economic impact is longer and worse than we have anticipated. On top of that, Government of Manipur is likely to extend lockdown and curfew in the entire State till August 31, 2020.

1. The church committee was forced to cut the salaries of all our 50 church employees (pastors, evangelists, church planters, missionaries and office staff) to 50% from April due to a drastic drop in giving as majority of our church members are daily wage earners and migrant workers.

(a) We have been paying only 50% of their salaries since March 2020. However, when there is a special and emergency need, we collect donation amongst us.

(b) Pray that COVID-19 Pandemic will go away soon and that we all can live a normal life and have a normal ministry soon!

(c) Pray that during these challenging times the Lord will supply all our needs according to his riches in glory through his people.

(d) Our one month financial need to pay a full salary to our 50 church workers is \$15000.00. We are praying that the Lord will supply all our needs for the coming months.

2. Covenant Children Home/orphanage and Agape Babies Home/orphanage: You will be interested in hearing how we fight back corona virus and its effects BUT since my Newsletter is getting lengthy I will rather put it in my next Newsletter.

3. The challenges of COVID-19 Pandemic is further compounded by no revenue coming in from the month of March due to forced closure of all our income generating educational institutions (Rayburn High School, Covenant High School, Singngat High School and Rayburn College). Our Government ordered us not to take fees as during closure of schools nor parents are willing to pay school fees when no class is conducted. We have tried online teaching but it is accessible to hardly 25% of our students. It does not work for us at this time!

(a) Our institutions are totally dependent of fees received from students while our churches and orphanages are partially dependent on the same, which we have not received since March.

(b) There are 240 employees in our four institutions which cost us \$54000.00 monthly just for salaries.

(c) Now, we have exhausted all our savings by paying 50% salary to all the 240 employees for the last 4 months (March to June). We have nothing left to pay them hereafter.....

(c) I am not asking for any financial help but I ask you for your fervent prayers that COVID-19 PANDEMIC with all its evil and devastating effects will stop and we can start our regular ministry soon.

3. Urgent & Special Prayer Request for Pastor and Missionary Mang Hangsing and Family:

As I write, Pastor Mang, our dear missionary and pastor is now in ICU in a private hospital in Gauhati with the support of a ventilator fighting his last battle with corona virus. Actually, Pastor Mang and his family were on their way home from Cambodia Mission Field in an evacuation flight on 10th July, but were stopped at Gauhati Airport, an hour away by flight from home, due to high fever and difficulty in breathing, and was taken immediately and directly in an Intensive Care Unit for treatment. He is 46 years old with a young family. Please pray to our miracle working God:

- (a) for a quick healing on Pastor Mang that God will hear our prayers for his healing.
- (b) for his young family in a private quarantine centre, for safety and extra grace from God.
- (c) for all his contacts that the Government is tracing them for quarantining.
- (d) for a huge medical treatment bill which cost an average of \$500 every day.

This is so tragic! SOS...

Pastor Mang and family



Pastor Mang in an ICU



Thank you for your many prayers and faithful partnership in the ministry.

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