

Echoes of Calvary

Weekly Newsletter - 16 | 26th Apr - 02nd May '2026

Dear family in Christ,

Grace and peace to you as we enter the **Fourth Week of Easter**. As we continue to live in the light of the resurrection, this week gently reminds us that we are not walking this journey alone. The risen Christ is not distant—He is our Shepherd, guiding, protecting, and leading us into abundant life.

In a world filled with many voices, distractions, and uncertainties, Easter calls us to listen for the one voice that truly leads us—the voice of Jesus.

Scripture of the Week

“My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.” — John 10:27

This Week's Practice: Listening to the Shepherd

Lifestyle of Jesus: A Life that Guides and Leads

Jesus describes Himself as the Good Shepherd—one who knows His sheep personally and lays down His life for them. This image is deeply comforting. It reminds us that we are known, cared for, and never abandoned.

A shepherd does not drive the sheep from behind but leads them from the front. His voice becomes familiar, trusted, and life-giving. The challenge for us is not whether Jesus is speaking—but whether we are truly listening.

This week, we pause and ask:

- What voices am I listening to most in my daily life?
- How can I become more attentive to the voice of Jesus?
- Where might He be leading me right now?

The Good Shepherd does not lead us into fear, but into peace, purpose, and life.

Events that happened in 18th week (26th Apr –2nd May) of 2026 to seek the fruit of the Word sown in your daily prayers:

Sunday Services on 26th Apr'26:

1st Service: This worship, prayer, and message emphasize that true spiritual renewal begins with a broken and contrite heart—one that acknowledges sin, sincerely repents, and accepts Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, opening the door for the Holy Spirit to transform lives and lead believers into victory and peace.

Bible Reading and imp references: Psalm 34; Psalm 51, John 16:8

Key points:

- ✓ Centrality of Jesus Christ as Creator, Savior, and the only way, truth, and life for all humanity.
- ✓ Continuous worship and praise are essential, expressing gratitude for God's power, faithfulness, and goodness.
- ✓ God's grace alone sustains, protects, and strengthens believers in every situation of life.
- ✓ Prayer is a vital daily practice that builds relationship with God and strengthens spiritual life.
- ✓ A broken and humble heart is necessary to experience God's presence, healing, and restoration.
- ✓ Confession of sin is essential, as hidden sin leads to spiritual dryness and separation from God.
- ✓ True repentance brings cleansing, renewal, and restoration through God's mercy.
- ✓ The Holy Spirit convicts of sin, guides believers, and empowers transformation and holy living.
- ✓ Delaying repentance hardens the heart and weakens spiritual life.
- ✓ Spiritual healing may involve pain, but it leads to complete restoration and growth.
- ✓ Biblical examples like King David highlight the power of repentance and restoration.
- ✓ Biblical examples like Joseph demonstrate faithfulness and trust in God during trials.
- ✓ God examines the heart and knows every thought, intention, and action of believers.
- ✓ Hypocrisy and outward religiosity without true repentance hinder spiritual growth.
- ✓ God's Word is life-giving, healing, and essential for guidance and transformation.
- ✓ Living in reverence and fear of God leads to protection, wisdom, and spiritual stability.
- ✓ Active participation in church life strengthens faith, unity, and spiritual growth.
- ✓ Fellowship and mutual prayer support build a strong and united spiritual community.
- ✓ Teaching children and the next generation God's Word is essential for lasting faith.
- ✓ Every believer is called to serve in God's kingdom, regardless of the role or position.
- ✓ Trust in God is necessary even in uncertain and difficult situations.
- ✓ Spiritual vigilance and discipline protect believers from sin and temptation.
- ✓ Self-examination is necessary to maintain a sincere and growing relationship with God.
- ✓ Dependence on God's grace is greater than reliance on human strength or ability.
- ✓ Spiritual growth is a continuous process and should not become stagnant.
- ✓ Transparency and honesty before God allow the Holy Spirit to work freely.
- ✓ Daily preparation through prayer and worship deepens fellowship with God.
- ✓ God's love remains constant, offering forgiveness and new beginnings to all who return.



2nd Service: This is a multilingual worship with the sermon delivered in English, Tamil, and Hindi. The message affirms that God's love is gracious, compassionate, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. It is love that patiently sustains sinners, offers complete forgiveness, and calls for a wholehearted response. The message presents a deep reflection on the nature of God's love, rooted in Scripture and illustrated through real-life experiences and personal testimony. It encourages believers to understand the depth of God's mercy and to live lives that are worthy of His boundless grace.

Bible Reading & imp references: Psalm 103:8; Jeremiah 3:12-14.



Key points:

- ✓ Central truth is that Jesus Christ is full of compassion, grace, patience, and everlasting love, and His nature never changes toward those who seek Him.
- ✓ God's love is not temporary or conditional, but eternal and unchanging, reaching even the most broken and undeserving people.
- ✓ God does not deal with people according to their sins but shows mercy and removes their guilt completely when they repent.
- ✓ God's compassion is deeply personal and tender, like a mother caring for her child, showing patience even in human weakness.
- ✓ Human beings are fragile and prone to failure, yet God handles them with care, understanding their limitations.
- ✓ God's patience is intentional, giving time for repentance instead of immediate judgment, showing His desire to save rather than destroy.
- ✓ Repentance is the key to restoration, as God is always ready to forgive and restore those who return to Him sincerely.
- ✓ God's forgiveness is complete removing sin entirely without holding it against the person again.
- ✓ God's love is greater than human love, surpassing even the strongest relationships and remaining constant through all situations.
- ✓ God continues to call people back even after repeated failures, showing His persistent and pursuing love.
- ✓ God's mercy is greater than His anger, and His anger is controlled and purposeful, not impulsive like human anger.
- ✓ God's love reaches even the worst sinners, proving that no one is beyond redemption when they turn to Him.
- ✓ Ministry and Christian life should reflect this same love by reaching out to broken, rejected, and sinful people.
- ✓ Serving God brings purpose and vitality in every stage of life, even in old age, showing that spiritual life never retires.
- ✓ Faithfulness to God brings long-term impact & blessings that extend to future generations.
- ✓ God's blessings are not only material but eternal, including peace, joy, righteousness, and spiritual inheritance.
- ✓ Worship creates an atmosphere where God's presence is experienced, bringing renewal, strength, and spiritual victory.
- ✓ Spiritual victory comes through faith and dependence on God, not through human effort or strength.

VBS 2026, Calvary Church Chennai: Calvary Church Chennai joyfully conducted its Vacation Bible School (VBS) 2026 from April 27–29 under the inspiring theme **“I Will Serve the Lord.”** These three blessed days created a vibrant space where children could **discover, grow, and shine** in their walk with God.

Each day was filled with lively worship, action songs, memory verses, creative crafts, and inspiring missionary stories. Through interactive skits, Bible-based teaching, and engaging activities, children were encouraged to build a strong foundation in prayer and the Word of God.

The sessions emphasized key spiritual values such as **discipline, obedience, submission, salvation, and faith**, helping children understand the importance of living a Christ-centred life from a young age.

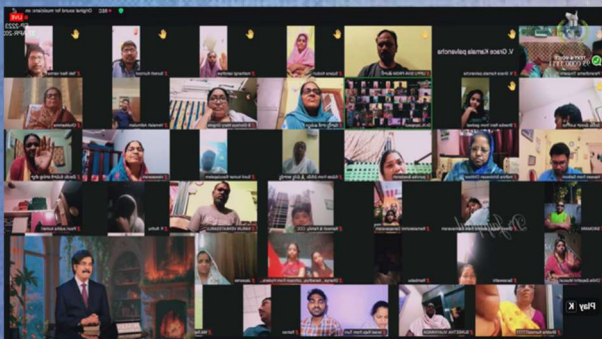
It was a joyful and enriching time as children experienced God’s presence, learned biblical truths, and were equipped to grow as young witnesses for Christ.



Weekly Zoom Live interaction session on Monday 27th Apr'26: The weekly Zoom fellowship continues to be a blessed time of global connection, where believers gather to receive guidance and encouragement. Participants from both Telugu states as well as Hyderabad, Canada, Qatar, and Dubai joined in today’s session, sharing heartfelt testimonies of healing, spiritual renewal, and answered prayers. Each testimony stood as a living witness to the power of God’s Word and the faithfulness of Christ.

Testimonies of Faith— Real-Life Experiences:

- ✚ Some participants have followed the message for over 15 to 20 years.
- ✚ Specific healings are reported, such as successful heart operations and recovery from kidney transplantation.



- ✚ Several individuals mention family members' spiritual growth and challenges, including prayer for marriages and children’s education.
- ✚ A participant from Brazil expresses gratitude for spiritual blessings despite geographical distance.
- ✚ Another testimony includes a young man’s transformation through faith, highlighting the role of scripture in overcoming personal struggles.

Takeaways from the session:

- ✓ God's Word is living and active, and it is the primary source of strength, direction, and transformation in a believer's life.
- ✓ Jesus Christ is the only way to God, the ultimate truth, and the giver of eternal life, with no alternative path to salvation.
- ✓ Spiritual growth requires intentional participation, not passive listening, including prayer, scripture reading, and active engagement.
- ✓ Believers must trust God's faithfulness even during suffering, uncertainty, and unanswered questions.
- ✓ Salvation is based on faith and personal relationship with God, not rituals, certificates, or external labels.
- ✓ The resurrection of Jesus assures believers of eternal life beyond physical death and victory over sin.
- ✓ Scripture is the foundation for overcoming doubt, fear, and confusion, providing clarity and truth.
- ✓ Hypocrisy and double mindedness weaken faith, while integrity and sincerity strengthen spiritual life.
- ✓ Believers are called to live as witnesses, sharing the gospel and reflecting Christ in daily life.
- ✓ The return of Jesus is certain and near, requiring believers to live in readiness, holiness, and vigilance.
- ✓ Personal struggles, including health, family, and career challenges, are addressed through prayer and trust in God.
- ✓ Faith grows through long-term commitment, consistent practice, and perseverance in spiritual disciplines.

Mid-week Worship on 29th Apr'26:

Today's prayer session was held after the VBS, uniting everyone in thanksgiving and seeking God's continued guidance and blessings. Today's message affirms that God is eternal, unchanging, and deeply involved in our lives, calling believers to worship, grow in faith, and trust in His steadfast love. It points to the hope of Christ's return and invites all into a personal relationship with Him.

Bible Reading and imp references: Psalm 34; Psalm 51, John 16:8

Key points:

- ✓ God is eternal, uncreated, and sovereign over all creation, existing beyond time as the beginning and the end.
- ✓ Jesus Christ is the centre of faith as Lord, Savior, healer, and restorer, through whom all spiritual life flows.
- ✓ God's love is unchanging, unconditional, and remains constant despite human weakness, failure, or changing circumstances.
- ✓ Worship is a personal, transformative encounter with God that brings renewal, strength, and closeness to Him.



- ✓ Creation reveals God’s wisdom, power, and glory through its order, design, and vastness beyond human understanding.
- ✓ Faith is essential to overcome doubt, suffering, and unanswered questions, trusting God beyond what is seen or understood.
- ✓ Doubt often comes from human limitation or circumstances, but God’s presence and truth remain unchanged.
- ✓ God remains faithful and present even when His actions are not immediately visible or understood.
- ✓ God’s forgiveness is complete, and He restores those who sincerely return to Him, showing mercy beyond human standards.
- ✓ The parable of the prodigal son reflects God’s unconditional love and readiness to restore every repentant person.
- ✓ God is personally involved in every life, knowing and caring for each individual in detail.
- ✓ Human life is limited and changing, but God’s nature, promises, and character never change.
- ✓ God has given humans free will, and choices determine spiritual direction and consequences.
- ✓ Spiritual growth comes through deeper understanding of God, not just surface-level belief.
- ✓ Examples like Job show that faith must remain strong even during suffering and loss.
- ✓ God’s wisdom and plans are higher than human reasoning and must be trusted fully.
- ✓ Nature reflects God’s provision, care, and intentional design for sustaining life.
- ✓ Believers should not turn away from God due to temporary struggles or unmet expectations.
- ✓ Community worship, prayer, and fellowship strengthen faith and build unity among believers.
- ✓ Teaching children and youth in God’s Word builds strong foundations for lifelong faith.
- ✓ Faith should continue across generations, impacting families and future lives.
- ✓ God reveals Himself through scripture, which provides truth, guidance, and understanding.
- ✓ Believers are called to live with reverence, humility, and awareness of God’s greatness.
- ✓ Faith requires perseverance and consistency, especially during difficult seasons.

Sunrise Service – Chennai (ECR Beach Front) 1st May’26: A blessed sunrise

service was held today along the serene ECR beach in Chennai, where believers gathered by the seashore to reflect on God’s creation, His infinite love, and His mighty power. The peaceful atmosphere created a beautiful setting for early morning worship, prayer, and spiritual renewal.

The service emphasized the importance of daily dedication and spiritual discipline, especially through consistent morning prayer and praise. Drawing from **Isaiah 60**, the message highlighted the powerful theme of light overcoming darkness—reminding believers that fear, sorrow, and despair are replaced by hope, salvation, and God’s divine presence.

Believers were encouraged to awaken from spiritual slumber and rise as lights in the world, holding on to God’s promises that sorrow is temporary, but joy comes in the morning.



As the sun rose and the sky transformed, it symbolized a spiritual transition—calling each heart to experience renewal, restoration, and the manifestation of God’s glory in their lives.

Highlights and Reflections:

- **Spiritual Light vs Darkness:** The dominant metaphor throughout is the contrast between spiritual darkness (fear, despair, isolation) and divine light (hope, joy, salvation). Believers are called to awaken from spiritual sleep and walk in God’s light.
- **Prayer and Worship:** Emphasis on consistent, heartfelt prayer and worship as means to receive anointing, renewal, and breakthrough.
- **Bible as Source of Light:** Regular study and meditation on Scripture, particularly Isaiah 60 and Psalms, are vital for spiritual growth and overcoming darkness.
- **Community and Discipline:** Unity in worship, disciplined conduct, and mutual support within the faith community are essential for effective ministry.
- **Transformation and Testimony:** Personal testimonies of God’s healing and intervention serve as powerful encouragement and evidence of God’s ongoing work.
- **Responsibility for Next Generation:** Strong focus on nurturing children spiritually, protecting them from worldly influences, and preparing them as future leaders.
- **God’s Sovereignty and Care:** Repeated affirmation of God’s intimate knowledge, care, and plans for each believer, symbolized by the metaphor of countless grains of sand.
- **Call to Authentic Faith:** A challenge against superficiality and complacency in the church, urging believers to genuine surrender and active participation in God’s work.
- God’s intimate knowledge and plan for each individual begins before birth.
- Every believer has a unique, indispensable role in the body of Christ, akin to parts of an engine.
- Faithful service requires cooperation, humility, and reliance on prayer as spiritual fuel.
- Ministry demands sacrifice, perseverance, and a willingness to serve in all capacities, including small or unseen roles.
- Spiritual growth is a lifelong journey, involving correction, encouragement, and shared experiences.
- Financial stewardship is both essential and sacred in ministry, requiring faithfulness and integrity.
- Families and communities are central to God’s kingdom work, with Christ as the core of family life.
- Spiritual freedom and integrity are non-negotiable for authentic ministry.
- Prayer and personal surrender are vital for overcoming spiritual lethargy and fulfilling God’s calling.

Friday Fasting Service 10th Apr’26: Despite the early morning Sunrise Service held from 4:00 AM to 9:00 AM, the evening fasting prayer was faithfully conducted at Calvary



Church. Believers gathered with a burden to intercede, praying for requests received from across the globe through WhatsApp and direct calls as part of the regular fasting prayer ministry. The session reflected on the power and results of prayer, emphasizing that faith, fasting, and prayer

together bring divine intervention and victory in every situation.

Bible Reading and imp references: Revelation 5; Psalms 2:8; Malachi 4:2; Mark 1:32-34; Mark 5: 11-17; John 4:39; James 4:1; Psalm 34; Psalm 51, John 16:8

Key points:

- ✓ Worship God sincerely from your heart, expressing love and gratitude in every way.
- ✓ God's Word must be the foundation of life, guiding every decision, thought, and action.
- ✓ Jesus Christ alone is the way to salvation, and a personal relationship with Him is essential.
- ✓ Prayer is a daily conversation with God that brings strength, clarity, and transformation in life.
- ✓ Consistent prayer and faith invite God's protection, healing, and breakthroughs.
- ✓ True spiritual growth requires daily Bible reading, prayer, and obedience, not just belief.
- ✓ Faith must be lived out through actions, not just spoken or claimed.
- ✓ Repentance and a sincere heart are necessary for real change and spiritual renewal.
- ✓ Salvation is by grace through faith, not by rituals, traditions, or outward identity.
- ✓ The Holy Spirit empowers believers to grow, pray effectively, and live a holy life.
- ✓ Spiritual battles are real, and victory comes through faith, prayer, and God's Word.
- ✓ Negative thoughts, fear, and anxiety must be replaced with God's promises and truth.
- ✓ Trust God completely, even in difficulties, delays, and unanswered prayers.
- ✓ God provides for every need when we depend on Him with faith.
- ✓ Worship must be genuine, heartfelt, and centred on God, not routine or formality.
- ✓ Unity and fellowship with other believers strengthen faith and spiritual life.
- ✓ Every believer is called to share the gospel and live as a witness for Christ.
- ✓ Worldly distractions weaken spiritual life, so focus on eternal values over temporary things.
- ✓ Live a holy and watchful life, always ready for the return of Christ.
- ✓ Trials and suffering produce growth, maturity, and deeper faith in God.
- ✓ God's grace is sufficient to forgive, restore, and sustain every believer.

Upcoming Events to add in your daily prayers:

- Weekly Zoom Live interaction session on Monday in Calvary Prathidwani.
- Wednesday Fasting Prayer — 7:00 PM.
- Friday Fasting Prayer — 7:00 PM.
- Calvary Kids time — Saturday, 7pm onwards on zoom.
- Sunday services – 8am and 1pm onwards.

Need to Plan:

- Get-togethers in different states of India.
- Youth meeting to conduct out of station.
- Family Retreat to be planned.
- Orphanage visits and street ministry as per the yearly plan.

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

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