

LANKA MISSION MESSENGER

March – April, 2012

Dear Friends,

I greet you in the name of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ!

It is always good to send you a short report to you to letting you know of my situation. And I am sure many of you are wondering what is happening in Sri Lanka. While you will have read the first issue of the Lanka Mission Messenger (LMM), this new installment reveals slower progress.

Family:

We are doing well by the grace of God. We are preparing to move to Vavuniya and my wife has applied for her transfer to Vavuniya hospital. Moving to an unknown town and leaving our relatives and friends is very hard for us, but we know we are losing temporal ties for the Lord's kingdom. Spiritually, our family is encouraged through reading many good books and from advice from godly ministers from abroad. Perhaps we don't always realize how important books are, and we may mention this in numerous LLMs, but in an area of isolation, the written word becomes our constant source of spiritual food. Let us not forsake good literature. Some of the Scottish ministers and members are very kind to us – sending us emails and phone calls. We are very much appreciative of those people who remember us, and I am sure many remember us in secret. Please keep us in your prayers.

Ministry:

These days I am doing some preparation for the ministry. (1) Mainly I am working on the registration of our mission work in SL – a legal requirement. I met the lawyer with Mr Ranjan and our Mission will have to be registered as a Trust. (2) I am engaged in producing a singable version of the *Psalms* in Tamil. Psalm translation work is very slow as we would expect, and it is better that we get the translation right rather than reaching a particular number. Ten Psalms are now available. (3) The other main matter is a place to stay. As some of you know, I went many times to find a place with my friends in Vavuniya. Finally we found one good house. This house has an upstairs (two stories), and the owner promises us to rent the upstairs for Rs 20,000/= (£110). The agreement is we have to give Rs 300,000/- (£1500) as a deposit – this money will be returned when we leave the house. The owner has received a transfer and he would rather that the whole house be rented by one person – but while this would be ideal for us, the cost is too high, which has left us very disappointed. He did not say NO to us yet. If he does not find someone else, I personally believe that he will rent the place to us. We are however looking at other accommodation as well, and with my wife's transfer to consider the situation is not entirely easy for us at present.

Prayer request :

1. Place for us to stay and worship
2. Psalm translation work
3. Registration for church
4. Wisdom to work in the new place
5. Wisdom to share the Gospel with really poor and need people.

Parthee and Dino

Note: Sharing with us your concerns, plans advice, and any experience of church planting would be most welcome.