

Come and hear, all ye that fear God, and I will declare what he hath done for my soul. Psalm 66:16 ... a deeply held conviction that we make our lives harder than they have to be. ... An excerpt from my [Mission Statement](#).

Greetings to you! I hope that you had a wonderful Fourth of July; we did. We spent the day with some friends that are close in heart and proximity; it was a very relaxing day. We spent time in Thanksgiving, remembering the sacrifices of so many that we can live in this nation, once squarely under God. He surely has not removed His hand of grace from us.

This month I will tell you from the woman's perspective how God delivered a pastor that we love. His wife, Flori is a cherished friend of mine. Also I will tell you how to prepare good tea for a crowd and how it can be done with ease! Among the crumpets offered is a web site that you should know about. As always, I encourage you to find time to share a laugh with someone you love; it may be just what they need.

Thank you for your feedback as I develop this newsletter for you, to be a refreshment for your day. Your comments are helpful to me.

Securi-Tea

And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep. Acts 7:59,60

These words flashed through Pastor Prasad's mind as he lay, being mercilessly kicked, punched and cursed; he did not think he would survive this beating and realized he was not intended to as he heard one man say that he was dead and that they should leave. Dozens of men took their turns beating this man, in groups of about a half-dozen at a time; they waited to have their turn to beat upon this small and gentle pastor.

For over a year Pastor Prasad ministered at this home weekly, an invited guest, to disciple a small group that had come to Christ a year earlier. In their excitement to learn more about the Man, Christ Jesus, they invited Pastor Prasad. Occasionally others came to learn too. Some of them did come to Christ for eternal life too. Though this home was in a village where there were no other Christians, he never had been threatened before.

Pastor Prasad's dogged determination brought him to his scheduled Mangalore Baptist Bible Institute class the following morning. Over the following days, we rejoiced for though he looked atrocious, he suffered no serious internal injuries. This very faithful man would survive the attack.

The work in India continues to grow. Those that profess faith in Christ are a small minority but are very much reviled, though, once again by a small minority. There are those though that would incite them to riot and malicious activities. The adversary is always lurking, but time and time again, when trouble mounted and appeared that it was growing and could become very big, it was as if "The Wagon Train" was formed into a circle where a hedge of protection prevented utter destruction to us, to the work. It has always been my husband's challenging exhortation to us that we must endeavor to live as righteously as we can, cheating no one that the cause of Christ be not blasphemed, but also in keeping with the thought that we are simply stewards of the Lord's work, that He will honor us by fighting our battles for us. Time and time again He has been faithful to protect and even honour our "little faithfulness" in ways that we could never have done ourselves. He has shown great care of the work in India and of each of us too.

The men that have been given to the work in India, and their wives, are fully remarkable. Each has shown a great level of faithfulness and integrity. As with each person ever born, they have areas that the Lord is refining, yet they have never been overtaken with the weak area and the testimony of the pastors remains strong within their communities.

The physical deliverance of this man was not all the Lord did for us. Pastor Prasad chose not to press charges though we did know who some of the men were. Within weeks, the news of this attack spread.

Chief Ministers from throughout the country got involved and were very vocal. Many arrests were made and subsequent articles were published reminding people that India would remain a place of religious freedom. The laws of India protect our people but those who do not believe would encourage others who generally spend their lives in slothful living to earn a few rupees or some are bought with hard drink in order to incite them to fight for "their religion".

Since the birth of [Gospel Light Baptist Mission India](#), we have endeavored to be sensible and never careless with our faith in God, to make decisions that would increase likelihood of safety. We have tried very hard to avoid carelessly offending the very people we have gone to win, souls that our LORD died for. India has anti-conversion laws in place and we have never broken them. It has been our prayer since our very first trip that we would be faithful to give the Gospel to those seeking truth, believing a verse found in the Old Testament. Jeremiah 29:13 *And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.* All throughout the word, people are seeking to find that which will fill the God-given void within their life, as if our lives were puzzles; only **One** piece will fill the space where our heart is. Our securi-tea is in Jesus Christ.

As the trauma from this attack is over, the "troops" quickly regain their position and carry on, sharing Christ with all who will hear, then training them to give this good news to those in their grasp. We have little doubt that another attack will come in one form or another but our battle cry remains, "Greater is He".



Offering of Crumpets:

An important web-site to visit; twins needing prayer. You will be shocked to read of this travesty! <http://www.RememberMyBonds.com>

A wonderful challenge from the **Book of Books** ...
Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the LORD, till he come and rain righteousness upon you. Hosea 10:12

While traveling the highways, we saw ... One church's marquis proclaimed "Jesus is LORD"! The church next door had a sign too. It read, "Do you know Him?" (*this was seen on Hwy 10 on the way to Texas.*) It left us thinking.

Did you know that the popular drink today referred to as "Chai-tea" translates to "Tea-Tea: chai is an Indian word meaning tea; it is not a type of tea, **but tea**. Spiced Indian tea is called Masala tea, *masala* meaning mixture, usually referring to spices.



The Writing is on the Wall

This is one of my favorite pictures, a calligraphy done by a dear friend as a gift especially for us in 1996. From Isaiah 32:18, it is a promise that God's people will live peaceably. This beautiful picture is somewhat warped and damaged. I dug it from the wet ashes days after our home burned and held it close knowing that God's promises are true even in the midst of a burned out shell of our house. The house burned; our home remained intact!

Walk through your home; find something you feel good about in every room, whether it is a memory or a thing within that makes you feel good. You will begin to develop a feeling of thankfulness for your house; think about how you can make it feel more like a home. What needs to change? Do you like to walk in the front door of your home? Why? Why not? Don't allow yourself to become overwhelmed if your home has become cluttered and disorganized. While not everyone learned to keep a tidy home, everyone can learn to do it. There are some incredible websites and books that will teach you step by step how to rid your house of the clutter that keeps it from feeling like your home. I will recommend some sources to help you do just that in next month's letter! This month I encourage you to meditate on the spirit of your home. There is a power in the Bible that is often overlooked, perhaps because of a lack of faith. The very words of God possess power; we may not always use the best verse to share a Biblical truth with someone, but a Bible verse has supernatural power that our words cannot. "*A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver*". Isn't that just a beautiful word picture, full of grace, and found in my Bible in Proverbs 25:11. Each word of Scripture is pure because it comes from a pure source; our words will never have that kind of power. Every room of my home has Scripture within and I would humbly tell you that this is why our home is happy; the words are all grace and this is so important when I am not. It is very simple to write a Bible verse and frame it, or create something on your computer. Here is one you may copy, created with my computer, click on [Isaiah 32:18](#) and simply print it out on your favorite paper. You may frame it or just tack it inside a cabinet that you frequent, as friends that know me know that this is a habit of mine. Sprinkling of the Word of God throughout a home changes its very spirit.

Most experts will tell you that to have a beautiful home, the first thing needed is a good cleaning; I think that the first thing we need to do is to get Bible verses on the wall. In doing so, the next steps will likely come more easily. You will find within Deuteronomy some precious teaching for the Jews; God spoke to them as His children. As joint heirs, we are His also, so I believe these verses are important to me and my family too. "***Therefore shall ye lay up these my words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes. And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt write them upon the door posts of thine house, and upon thy gates: That your days may be multiplied, and the days of your children, in the land which the LORD sware unto your fathers to give them, as the days of heaven upon the earth.***" These verses are found in Deuteronomy, chapter 11, verses 18 to 21.

Another verse that is often on my mind in regards to our home is a quotation from David, who knew something about looking at things he should not. It is "*I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: I hate the work of them that turn aside; it shall not cleave to me.*" Psalm 101:3 The first part of this verse is very important (as is the second! But for now, I am thinking on the *simplici-tea* of the first part!) Periodically I walk through my home, physically or mentally and think about what is there. Is there anything that would cause shame to me or to my Saviour? Would I watch a certain television program if He were sitting beside me? Read a certain book? Most generally I would find a thing that I would not do or have if He were present ... Oh! But wait! I invited Him to dwell with me many years ago and He promised He will never leave me. He is here, the perfect, sinless Christ Jesus is with me and gives me the peace that passes all understanding. His mercies are new every morning. His compassions never fail. He is faithful to be with me when I need Him, but the Lord Jesus is with me even when I'd just as soon not have Him be part of a sinful thing; I take Him there with me. This truth is very real to me in my life and I have conveyed it to my daughters. Because we believe it, we do not have to feel ashamed of what is in our home, apart from a few cobwebs up in the corner, but I am okay with that too, after all they are in kings palaces too! When a home is cleaned out of wicked and questionable things, it becomes a haven, a refuge to all who enter.

I remember a home that I visited occasionally as a child; it was always cluttered and somewhat dusty but it appealed to my senses and now I know why. This home was clean in important ways and there was always a welcome, without apology for the disarray. A verse comes to mind here too from Proverbs 14:4. *Where no oxen are, the crib is clean: but much increase is by the strength of the ox.* They were a strong family, always working. While the level of clutter would be overwhelming for me to live in, it was enjoyable to visit. It was a testimony of the work that they did.

Lord, help me to keep my home a place where you would be pleased to dwell, but a place where we can work to do the work that is ours to do. Might it always be a place that is welcoming to others too, that they might sense that you dwell among and within us. In your altogether lovely name, Jesus, Amen.

Making a Really good cup of Tea

For one or for 50

For a good cup of tea, you really do need good tea and good water. Make sure that the tea has not been in your cupboard for over a year or stored in a container exposed to air and light. If you do not have filtered water, I'd suggest boiling your water for about 10 minutes and then chilling it; it will taste better. One of the most difficult things about having a tea party for a crowd is keeping the tea hot, fresh and flowing. I make a couple of concentrates, usually a "decaf" and a regular black or oolong tea. Green teas are another option. The choice is yours! For a large party, it is good to have helpers that have been trained to serve the tea personally to each guest. On one occasion the teens were especially delighted to help! They said they never saw women drink so much tea! It was good for them to see grown women giggling and laughing together as it was surely good for us.

Follow these simple rules for perfect results:

1. Preheat teapot by rinsing it out with hot water.
2. Use one tea bag or teaspoon of tea for each cup.
3. Bring freshly drawn cold water to a full rolling boil and pour over the tea.
4. Brew for three to five minutes.

To serve a large crowd: Make a hot tea concentrate: Bring 1-1/2 quarts of cold fresh water to a full rolling boil. Remove from heat and immediately add 1/4 pound loose tea (or 1/4 pound tea bags) Stir to immerse leaves. Cover. Let stand 5 minutes. Strain into teapot until ready to use. (This makes enough concentrate for 40 to 45 cups; double recipe for 85 to 90 cups of tea.) When ready to

serve: Bring out a potful of piping hot water. Pour about 2 Tablespoons of concentrate into a cup and fill cup with water.

To make perfect iced tea: Follow the rules for hot tea but use 1 and 1/2 times as much tea to compensate for the ice cubes. *Example: Use 6 tea bags for 4 glasses of iced tea.*

To make iced tea by the pitcher: Use this easy open saucepan method. Bring 1 quart of freshly drawn cold water to a full rolling boil in a saucepan. Remove from the heat and immediately add 1/3 cup loose tea or 15 tea bags. Brew 5 minutes, uncovered. Stir and strain into a pitcher holding another quart of freshly drawn water. Do not refrigerate. Pour over ice cubes when ready to serve. Makes 2 quarts of tea.

Another thing to consider for a drink buffet. Seems everyone like something different in their iced-tea and sugar does not dissolve well in cold tea, so I have a pitcher of old-fashioned Simple Syrup on hand for those that prefer old-fashioned sugar!

Simple Syrup

Sugar adds very little volume when added to water.

2 cups water

1 cup sugar

Bring water to a boil in a small saucepan. Pour in sugar. Stir until sugar is completely dissolved. Remove saucepan from heat and allow contents to cool. Refrigerate in a sealed container until ready for use.

From the Abundance of My Heart ...

Everywhere I look, people are clambering for some new thing. My mind wanders up to Mars Hill. The idols there were for every taste and if you did not know which God you wanted to worship, there was always 'the unknown God.' There is nothing new under the sun; nothing I have given in this letter is new; the deceptions around us are nothing new. In the Garden, Satan tried to change God's Words and he continues trying today. The old ways are good for me and my family. We love the laws in the old Testament and yet rejoice in Christian Liberty! It is in our liberty that we choose to embrace so many of the "old ways", the ways that call for modesty, for service, for church attendance, for giving. The list goes on and on. The law was given to help the Jews and we believe that many of the principles for life can benefit us today. We do not wear a cloak of maliciousness as described in I Peter toward those that do not agree; we just do what works for us. Christian Liber-Tea! A truly wonderful cup of tea!

Our "people" in India are enjoying their newfound liberty as they learn of the simplicity that is in Christ. Soon we will be returning to a whole new group of Christians that have been introduced to the God that was once unknown to them. Until we leave we will be traveling, reporting to churches that have been so faithful to us, but also visiting new churches with the hope that they will want to invest in the precious people of India. We are often asked what we need before we leave. This year we need more discipleship material as there are more churches. I am still in need of Betty Lukens flannel graph. I need to purchase multiple copies of a Chick Publication about Roman Catholicism; it has been a tremendous help to us. If you would like to help with these needs, you may send a check to GLBMI in c/o our church. Under memo, just mark what it is for. Our church mailing address is:

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And I will walk at liberty: for I seek thy precepts. Psalm 119:45

Next Month ...

Happiness
(Felici_Tea!)



Taking the mystery out of Crumpets; I will tell you how to make them!



If you know of a lady that would like to receive this newsletter, please ask her to email me at

Simplici-TeaMe@Encouragements.us

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