

31st January 2005

Dear Pastors and Co-workers,

Just a few lines to say Hi to you, your family and churches.

We reached India safely last month with all our luggages, without paying any customs at Bombay. Thank God for His keeping. Soon after reaching here in December we both took ill. The pollution hit us very hard. I am okay at present but my wife Molly had to be hospitalized due to infection in the pelvic and kidney. She had to go through a lot of tests including X-Ray, I.V.P, and Bladder Cystoscopy. She had heavy infection in the Bladder and Kidney with blood and excess pus cells in the urine. Well, after all the investigations of Urine-Culture and Biopsy, we were not able to detect the enemy. Everything was negative. So the doctor put her on antibiotics and she is feeling better but not altogether well. Meanwhile she needs to visit the doctor again, for further investigation. Do pray for my wife.

I am back again in the grove, preaching and teaching God's Word. Please pray for me. I have heavy loads of Bible College and Seminary teaching, and I am short of time. Our graduation is expected to be on the 1st or 2nd week of April 2005.

We visited Jawadhi Hills. The rains had washed away what mud was left on the roads and all we could see was jagged rocks jutting out. But by the grace of God we made the trip and visited those dear people. Please pray that the Government will bring some good officers into this region who, will have mercy on these roads, so that we can continue to visit these mountains with the gospel.

The water situation is very acute in Tirupattur. In the city, rains had failed and underground water is drying up. Charles and Abigail have no water in their well. They have to fetch the water from outside common well. Our house-well is not getting enough water either. The college girls too have no water. In fact there are very few wells in Tirupattur that has not dried up. But thank God the Grace Baptist School for the Hearing & Hearing Impaired is still having water. We are all being supplied by them. It is a sad sight to see people with vessels standing in long lines for water in the town of Tirupattur. It has become imperative for us to move out of the town into an area with plenty of water. We have been on the look out for that 5 acres of land. Please pray and contribute for the purchase of this property.

By next week we will be having our copying (Xerox) machine. In our next letter we will be sending you a picture of the same.

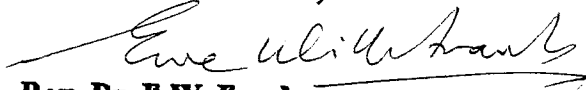
The Kuramberi church cannot be built till summer, as all my staff are busy with teaching in the School and College.

Thank you once again for helping us with the copier and kuramberi church building.

Some of you dear pastors of churches have taken us on for support and we are thankful. But our monthly income is still short of \$2,000/- so, we are in dire need of your support. Would you and your church consider us for support? The inflation has made every thing to go up in cost. We need to increase the salary of our staff. We have 28 staff at present. They are all looking up to us, but we are helpless to help them unless the Lord provides through your loving and gracious support.

I am including a poem that I wrote. I hope it will be a blessing to you. Love you all very much.

In the bonds of Christ,


Rev. Dr. E.W. Franks.

Prayer Request:

1. The 5 acres of land for School, College & Church.
2. An extra monthly support of \$2,000/- in our budget.
3. Need teachers & workers.
4. My wife Molly's illness.
5. Need much rain.

O God Deal More In Me Than Through Me

1. I cannot speak to others, unless God first speaks to me.
I cannot teach others, unless I myself am taught of God.
I cannot lead others into holiness until 'holiness becomes me'.
I cannot make others love 'The Word' until His Word is my daily bread.
O God, deal more in me, than through me.
2. I cannot love others until I realize God's love to me.
I cannot make others love their enemies until enmity ceases in me.
I cannot make others 'to forgive' until, as a vessel of mercy, I first trust.
I cannot make others fragrant with Christ until the "alabaster" I break on Christ.
O God, deal more in me than through me.
3. I cannot make others to sacrifice until I myself become a sacrifice.
I cannot help those that suffer until I myself suffer for Christ.
I cannot ask others to give until, with me, is left nothing more to give.
I cannot make others unselfish until I myself am 'poured out' like Christ.
O God, deal more in me than through me.
4. I cannot make others soldiers of Christ until "scars of battle" I reflect.
I cannot make others give up their 'treasures' until my only treasure is 'Christ'.
I cannot make others cease from self until I cease from my own conceit.
I cannot make others labor until I am "faint, yet pursuing" for Christ.
O God, deal more in me than through me.
5. I cannot make others meek, until my own self-will, I detest.
I cannot make others thankful until my own unworthiness I confess.
I cannot make others humble until, to God's sovereignty, I first submit.
I cannot induce true values in others until eternal values I possess.
O God, deal more in me than through me.
6. I cannot make others think "Scripture-sense" until I cease from my own 'common sense'.
I cannot make others spiritual until, in me, "the fruits of the Spirit" ripen.
I cannot make others trustworthy until my own suspicions I forsake.
I cannot make others sing with praise, until I myself sing out with heart, broken.
O God, deal more in me than through me.
7. I cannot break others, until I myself am broken by God.
I cannot help 'shipwrecked-ones; until I myself on Christ am "ship wrecked".
I cannot get others to repent, until I myself change my mind.
I cannot make others dead to the world, until I myself am from this world weaned.
O God, deal more with me, than through me.
8. I cannot make others "Christ-like", unless I myself am like Christ.
I cannot make others close to Christ, until my 'only love' is Christ.
I cannot make others conscious of Christ, until I unconsciously reflect Christ.
I cannot make others 'devoted to Christ' until my passion is only Christ.
O God, deal more with me, than through me.