



BOOK XXVI

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FRAGRANT OR FOUL?

(Lessons from the life of Dinah)

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EVENTS

World Sunday School Day - 3rd Girl Child Sunday -17th

St. Andrew's Day 30th

Bible study - Wed.

Women's Fellowship Sat

P & W Practice – Sat.

Dearly Beloved!

Greetings in the precious name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ!

At a time when parents are perplexed as to how to raise their boys and girls, here is the story of a girl child, whose life throws light as to how Christian Birthdays/Wedding culture counters the surrounding one. The Bible tells us about Dinah in Genesis 34. She was a young girl who went out 'sightseeing' in a foreign city called Shechem. Shechem was a culturally and religiously foreign place to this young girl, who belonged to a Yahweh – worshipping family.

> Dinah was the great granddaughter of Abraham, a man of supreme obedience to God. As a reward for the obedience of Abraham, his descendents were blessed of God, as recorded in Genesis 12:1-3.

> The Abrahamic generation would be a blessing to all people on earth and the people who bless them would be blessed.

> The Abrahamic descendents were nomadic. Their moving around was also the plan of God. God wanted this nomadic group to be "Yahweh-carriers." They

fragrance of their one God – Yahweh.

background, it was foolish of Dinah to of Dinah went ahead with their plan. go around a sinful city to see "women."When the men were all still in pain Shechem of that city saw her and from the circumcision rite, the brothers violated her. Dinah never expected that massacred all of them. Violence and because she thought that she could take abuse against a woman and malicious care of herself but she could not.

Choices and Struggles

How often have we thought that Behaviours and Attitudes we can take care of ourselves but have miserably failed? Dinah could not take abusive to women and violent behaviour care of herself in acquaintance with a with evil intentions. The Bible exhorts individual Yahweh-minus community. Foolish choices can lead to honest in our contacts. For this we need gigantic spiritual struggles. To make an attitudinal change. You were taught the right choice, we therefore need with regard to your former way of life, wisdom and discernment in us which to put off your old self, which is being can be given to us so freely by God corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be only. For God says, "I will instruct you made new in the attitude of your minds; and teach you in the way you should go; and to put on the new self, created to be I will counsel you and watch over you." like God in true righteousness and (Psalm 32:8)

After violating Dinah, the young man wanted to marry her! It would righteous and just, in places where we have sounded fair to Dinah's ears; but would otherwise need to be violent. He poor Dinah! Shechem had a malicious helps us not to be abusive. intent in the marriage proposal. He thought through the marriage, he could grab the livestock and all of the property of Dinah's father, Jacob for him and his family.

Dinah's brothers were enraged at the wav their sister was violated by Shechem. They devised a hidden plan which also was not right. They agreed to the marriage contract on the condition that the male members of the city should undergo circumcision. This

were supposed to bless people whom they said was as an identification rite for they came into contact with, with the family of Shechem to identify with the Yahweh worshippers. When the Given the Yahweh-centered men of Shechem did that, the brothers intentions led Shechem and his family to be wiped out!

The scripture is against men being or us to be nonviolent in our behaviour and holiness. (Ephesians 4:22-24).

Only Jesus can make us truly

Fragrant or Foul?

Dinah had to lead the rest of her life as a victim of lust and violence. Looking at Dinah and the stench of the bloodshed in the city, Jacob lamented to his children: "You have brought trouble on me by making me a stench to the Canaanites and Perizzites, the people living in this land," Genesis 34:30. A family which ought to have blessed others and be a fragrance became a stench to the people!

BIRTHDAYS				
01	Baby Jordan Stevens	14	Baby Andrew Harsha	
01	Master Tom Premsagar	17	Mrs. Naina John	
04	Baby Emily Ann Libin	18	Mrs. Pramila Hublikar	
06	Mrs. Shaila Birnur	19	Dr. Shirley Salins	
10	Dr. (Mrs.) Deborah Augustine	21	Mr. P.E. Johnson	
11	Mr. Y. Jaya Jyothi Prakash	21	Baby Keren Norah Johnson	
12	Mr. Lesley Birnur	23	Dr. Renate Samuel	
12	Mrs. Edna Dharamshi	24	Miss Y. Barbie	
13	Mr. Darryl Lawrence	25	Mrs. Suneetha J. Hanagal	

May the Grace of God enfold you, the love of Christ uphold you and the Spirit of truth set you free, this birthday and always.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

01	Mr. & Mrs. Wilson Joseph	12	Mr. & Dr(Mrs.) Amit Samuel
06	Mr. & Mrs. Kumar M	21	Mr. & Mrs. Leslee S. Sullad
09	Mr. & Mrs. A. Solomon	24	Mr. & Mrs. J. Bhasme
11	Col. & Mrs. E. J. Birnur	25	Mr. & Mrs. S.B. Hannikeri
11	Mr. & Mrs. John Swaraj		

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY! Congratulations on another year spent in togetherness. Wishing you Love and Laughter for the years to come.



FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS

3rd Mr. Sydney Gandhi & family

10th Mr. & Mrs. E.J. Birnur & family

17th Mr. & Mrs. Lesley Birnur & family.

24th Dr. (Mrs.) Shirley Salins & family.

30th St. Andrew's Day – CHURCH

!!! ATTENTION !!!

As most of you are aware we were planning to start our own Church website, that dream is soon going to be a reality. We want to thank the Almighty for all the efforts that are going in to see the dream come true. Plans are afoot to launch the website on St. Andrew's Day.

We request members to share any letters/documents/photographs connected to events relevant to Church History (will be duly returned). Photos of past Bishops and Pastors and any important event are welcome.

"My priority in life." Around 40 were heart touching. students from our church and other * I had a good time in this retreat. churches attended the retreat.

and Pastor Benjamin Songhar, in two * A very nice gathering for youth to separate sessions, brilliantly connected spend time in God's presence and to the theme through the Word of God. know right priority in life. They raised some pertinent and thought- * My first priority in life is "God" then provoking questions which gave our all other things. vouth the real picture about themselves; * One day youth retreat was really who they are in Christ, their purpose a blessing, the Word of God was and priority in life.

take active part in the Great * We expect once again the same Commission to reach out to their generation. The retreat was beautifully planned and executed by Bro. Franklin and Sis. Gloria. They organized fun time with games and that helped make new friends. Some were excited to reconnect with their offline friends. ** Altogether it was fun and a meaningful time for Youth.

A glance at some of the comments by students reflects the quality time spent at the Youth Retreat understanding the purpose and priority in life.

A one-day Youth Retreat was * It was really a spiritual day with lot organized on 8th October with the theme *of fun and worship*. *The messages*

Through the messages, I came to know Guest speakers Pastor Chinnababu mv true priority and mv value in life.

enlightening and I got the The speakers challenged the youth to **opportunity to meet new friends.**

program to be conducted. Thank you.

* I really enjoyed the youth retreat. It was very good and enjoyable. The theme of the retreat "My Priority in life" was very interesting. The speakers were very good.

The youth retreat was really refreshing and inspired us to do more for God and His glory. Games were really fun and we learnt a lot.

It is our **ea**rnest desire to see Gen Z standing in the gap to reach the world.

Gloria Franklin

NEWS

As we near the end of 2019, we have some exciting events lined up in the month of November, preceding Advent and the joyous Christmas Season.

- * November 3rd will be celebrated as the World Sunday School Day. Bro. Chinnababu will be the guest speaker for the occasion.
- Childrens Day will be celebrated on 10th November with various sports and competitions like singing, Bible quiz, painting, memory verses etc for the children
- * Nov. 17th is Sunday for the Girl Child. Mrs. Ottilie Anban is the guest preacher.
- * St. Andrew's Day will be celebrated on Nov. 30th. Programme details will be announced in due course. Mrs. and Mr. VijayKumar Dandin, Secretary, CSI-Karnataka Northern Diocese will be the chief guest and grace the occasion.

How can we lead a life of fragrance? By livingThe Bible says, "Live a life of love, word." (Psalm 119:9). iust as Christ loved us and gave Himself up for us as a fragrant offering also need to live a life of love and have and sacrifice to God (Eph 5:2), but to spread the knowledge of Christ to thanks be to God, who always leads us their children and others. This way we in triumphal procession in Christ and smell fragrant to the people and to God. through us spreads everywhere theAs a spiritual descendant of fragrance of the knowledge of Him, for Abraham and as a recipient of the we are to God the aroma of Christ Abrahamic blessing, do we smell among those who are being saved and fragrant? "May our sons flourish in those perishing (2 Cor 2:14-15).

young generation through the life of pillars, carved to beautify a palace" Dinah. Following the Biblical norms (Psalm 144:12) be our prayer for helps a young person to be children ...The psalmist asks, "How communities. fragrant. can a young person stay on the path of purity?

according to vour

Christian parents and communities their youth like well nurtured plants, I take this opportunity to warn our may our daughters be like graceful in our families

Rev. Dr. Murphy W. Soans

GENERATION Z-TECH

and 2015. Email, to them is an ancient and larger questions of life." outdated technology. Amazon is an online retailer and not a river in South America.

Dr Tim Elmore says "Youth put technology in the same category as air and water. They cannot imagine living without being connected all the time."

What comes to our mind? We think about youth as daring, diverse, global, passionate, energetic and full of hope. These qualities make them a high potential for God's kingdom. But sadly, today's connected generation is disconnected with God.

Dr Jean Twenge says that "The move away from religion is no longer piecemeal, small, or uncertain; it is large and definitive. Many voungsters are thoroughly secular, totally disconn-

Generation Z are born between 1995 -ected from religion, spirituality, and the

This shows that our Gen Z is in the danger zone. What about Christian youth? Are they in the same boat? Can they stand as a bridge to bring their generation to God? How can they be a part of God's mission?

We see in Scripture how God used young men and women to redeem their generation like Joseph, Gideon, Daniel, Esther, Ruth, David, Jeremiah and many more. These young people were able to do greater work for God because they knew their God, their purpose and priority in their life. That motivated them to stand in the

As a community of God, we decided to give an opportunity for our vouth to reconnect with God and to know their purpose and priority in life.