



“Oh Come, Let Us Sing to the Lord”

Around 35 youth learned to sing these words in the Venite (Psalm 95) in our first music training event last week. Psalm 95 is an invitation to worship that Christians have historically sung before or during morning prayer.

The goal of this music program in Sri Lanka is simple: help Christians sing God’s word. It’s a simple yet powerful object. Because the more unified, the more beautiful, the more “theirs” that their singing of God’s word is, the more they will be encouraged and built up by that word, and the more they will have a clear, strong proclamation of that word to their neighbors.

The very simplest path to attaining this goal is to sing the Scriptures. The Bible is full of songs that God’s people have been singing for thousands of years. The more we sing God’s word, the more it will become a part of our daily life, a part of who we are.

So that is our primary objective with the music program. When youth showed up last week, if any one of them had been asked to stand up and sing Psalm 95, they wouldn’t have known where to start. But after several hours working with them over two days, they sang it strongly with one voice. You could hear the words clearly, and it sounded like they truly believed what they were singing. Some of the young men actually knew the music well enough to teach others to sing it.

The event last week was about more than one song, however. We laid the groundwork for future music teaching. We even identified a few individuals with high musical aptitude who might carry on



teaching the music after we are gone. On top of all that, we think the youth actually had some fun. We are praying that God is working a love for His word in their hearts along with a love for music.

The Lord blessed this initial music training event. We pray that the youth will come to the next and be committed along with us to developing edifying Christian music here in Sri Lanka. We thank you, our dear supporters, for your commitment also to the proclamation of the Gospel here in Sri Lanka.



After the training, we visited brother "Raja," one of the senior evangelists for the CELC, at his home near Nanu Oya.



Thank you for your prayers and support!



Please Pray for Us

That the Lord would bless the youth who came last week with a desire to sing God's word.

That the Lord would bless these new relationships with the Tamil youth, so that we would be a blessing to one another.

Give Thanks For

Our continued good health.

The overwhelming success of the music training last week.

Consider

Adding us to your congregation's mission budget as a *Together in Mission* partner. For more information, call 888-930-4438.

Visiting with us over a video call in your bible study, day school, Sunday school, Women's group, etc.

Starting or renewing financial support for the Lord's mission in Sri Lanka.

To support the LCMS through our work, you may send your gifts to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
P.O. Box 66861
St. Louis, MO 63166

Make checks payable to The LCMS.

Write "Vanderhyde-Sri Lanka" in the memo line.

You may also send your gifts to:

Mission Central
40718 Highway E16
Mapleton, IA 51034

Make checks payable to Mission Central.