

Miqlat Christmas Tidings!

As the year 2009 comes to a close, I want to thank each of you who have faithfully journeyed with us through prayer, giving, encouragement, advices and support. 2009 has been a great year for Miqlat Ministry both in spiritual, physical and social aspect. As we retrospect, we realised that there was never a month that we were free of challenges and hardships. With the dawn of 2009, we encountered deaths of our women, shame, accidents, sickness, sleepless nights in hospitals, and all sorts of things which we wish had never come our way. But today as we look back, we are all the more thankful to God for we realise that had it not been for all such situations, we would have never been able to make it to this point as a team. Today, we see ourselves more refined, more organised, matured, and compassionate. Four women left us, but God brought four more to fill the gap. We just feel we have triumphantly lived the year, and we prayerfully prepare and look forward to celebrate Christmas. During this 2009, we have also seen a lot of growth and love for God in the lives of many of the women. Each woman has a story, a testimony to share, but this Christmas I would like to share with you about Hagar (name changed) so that you will be encouraged to know that your prayers, your giving and your support are not in vain, but its changing lives and souls. Hagar is a gift to us and we want to share this gift to you.

Hagar married when she was only 16. Her husband was a drug addict and an alcoholic. She was forced to go and beg not money to buy heroine for her husband. If she failed to bring it, he would make her naked, drag her out in the cold, and beat her. Her life was filled with fear. She never get to experience the joy of being a wife, a mother. One particular day, her husband said that he'll take her out. She was so happy because they never get to go out together. But he also told her that when they go out, she should not react when people touch her breast and her body. She was not happy with the idea, but agreed out of fear. Can you imagine...where he took her? To a bar where people were drinking and partying. He made her sit among his friends who then forced her to drink. This 16-year-old child had never drank before, so she got fully knocked down. I don't know how many glasses of wine and beer she drank. The next day she woke up, and found herself in a strange room with a stranger next to her. She realised she had no clothes on her body. In shame and anger, she cried out, but no one responded. She did not find the courage to go home, so for a month, like a homeless child, she slept in a half-constructed building. She then mustered her courage and went home, but was kicked out by her husband who had given her away to a stranger to meet his addiction need. Where will a young frightened girl go???? Not knowing where to go and what to do, Hager finally gave herself into the hands of the stranger whom she found sleeping next to her. Life became meaningless for her, and she started to indulge in drugs, alcohol, and even to the extent of the flesh trade.

As she shared her story, I was getting goose bumps, but I also saw very clearly that this is not the kind of life she pictured as a young girl, or as a woman. Today she is 37 years old, having wasted half of her life in darkness, married three times, aborted five babies, walked the streets naked in a full drug trip, But she humbly admits that she has tasted all the horrible things of life, and she don't want anybody to walk that path. She said never in her 37 years journey had she enjoyed sex for she was always used to satisfy someone else's desires. I'm not surprised by her broken marriages, nor the many unborn babies she aborted though I feel so sad for what she has done to five lives. People who know her are surprise to see Hagar as she is today. They tease her saying she will go straight to heaven. Indeed she will, for she is a special child of God who has embraced God not only in her life, but in all her walks of life. She is a different person today, a person living with dignity in the light of God.

Until last year, she had the utmost difficulty to reach out, but today she is the most effective one in reaching out to people. She goes beyond her situation to extend help, to support and pray with people who are suffering and struggling like her. At times I feel overwhelmed with the responsibility and also the burden God has laid in me, but when i see people like Hagar and so many others like her, I cannot thank God enough for this opportunity. We rejoice with Hagar this Christmas, and I'm sure the angels in heaven are rejoicing too. For the people of Nagalnd ,1st December is a big day where people love to party and make merry welcoming the new last month of the year. Hagar told me that for the first time in her life, she spent 1st December on her knees in prayer. How can I ever think of giving up when I hear such powerful testimony?

This is just one story. We have so many testimonies like Hagar's, and we feel honored to be able to share with you what the Lord is doing through this humble ministry. I know the best gift we can give to you is the life-changing testimony of these women, so I hope you'll be blessed to receive this Christmas gift from Miqlat family. Once again "THANK YOU" so much for your faithful partnership all this time. We look forward to working together even the following year. So until the dawn of 2010, it's "thank you", and lots and lots of blessings from the Miqlat Family.

Before we all go home for Christmas, we want to share our blessings on the 19th of December when we will celebrate pre-Christmas at Miqlat. You are all more than welcome to be part of our celebration both in prayer and also by your presence. It will be highly appreciated!

The office will be closed from the 20th of December 2009 until the 10th of January 2010, so keep us in your prayer even as we treat ourselves with a three-week break. Also, continue to pray for the girls as they go back home, many to reconcile with their families and some to meet families whom they haven't seen for ages. They need your prayer and my prayer to take such a bold step.

See you in 2010 with more updates. Wishing you all a Christ-centered Christmas and a prosperous New Year !!!

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