RAMABAI MUKTI MISSION

October – November – December

1962
**Our Christmas Prayer**

_O Son of God Incarnate,_
_We worship Thee this morn._
_Thy majesty Thou laid'st aside,_
_To suffer Thou wast born._
_'Twas to a stable lowly
_Shepherds and wise men came,_
_To kneel in adoration,_
_And praise Thy holy Name._

_We, too, would kneel before Thee,_
_Thou Saviour of mankind._
_And offer Thee our hearts, our lives,_
_In Thine own love to bind._
_Then send us forth with burning hearts_  
_To those who know not Thee_  
_That they with us may worship,_
_And men Thy glory see._

_Since that bright morn when angels_  
_Sang praises at Thy birth,_  
_The sons of men from many lands_  
_Have sounded forth Thy worth._
_Now we await Thy coming;_  
_Complete Thy church we pray._  
_O keep us watching, faithful,_  
_'Till that redemption day._

—By Gladys Fletcher
What –

Another

Girl?

By

Mrs. Howard McMillen

One sentence has greeted me wherever I have been in the past few months. "You must have a boy this time." Here in India, every mother's heart yearns for at least one son among her children. Who would take over the farm, or the business, or would provide for the parents in their old age, if there were no son?

To neighbours and friends, our family of girls seemed incomplete without a boy. However, we reasoned, Mukti is made up of families of girls. And ours is a "Mukti Family," too! Jewel, our 13-year-old, expressed it this way: "You know, if it is a boy, everyone in Mukti will be just thrilled. But if it's a girl, everyone will be disappointed—but US!"

Our hearts and home were prepared then, when on October 14th, God gave us His choice—another girl, Cynthia Joy, to love and cherish, to care for and train.

"A little child shall lead them," the Scripture says, and truly one can learn many lessons from a baby. She depends on me for her very life and strength—do I in such faith trust my heavenly Father for daily life and strength? She trusts me to know her needs and give her what is best—do I believe that my heavenly Father is conscious of all my needs and yearns to give me His best? She knows that I love her and plan for her—do I live in the assurance that He loves me and has planned for me, that His glory might be revealed?

This precious, good and perfect gift from above, we have as a trust. "Take this child and nurse him for me and I will give you your wages." Exodus 2:9. What is our part? To raise this one to be an obedient child, to love and trust in the Saviour and to give her heart and life to Him. What will be our wages? "Discipline your (daughter) and (she) will give you rest, (she) will give you delight to your heart." Proverbs 29:17. What a blessed promise, what a satisfying reward—to have one who is a delight to our souls. This will be our wages if we are faithful to our trust.

"Lo, children are a heritage of the Lord"—yes, even girls.

"Of all God's gifts both great and small,
A little child is best of all,
She brings with her God's love and grace,
The joy of heaven's in her face,
And wealth and jewels are naught beside
The presence of a little child."
His Place For
By Elsie

"Who went in the way before you, to search out a place to pitch your tents in..." Deut. 1:33

"Finally you have come again to our village after such a long time! We have forgotten now what you told us about your God. Are you going to put up your tents here and teach us more?" These questions were recently put to us when we re-visited a place where we had set up our camp some years ago. How we wish it were possible to go to the same place each year, but what about the other areas to be reached?

Time and time again as we go into the villages with the gospel, these burning questions are asked us. Yet there are so many villages to visit, that we cannot possibly go more often than we do, in order to reach all.

There are hungry hearts in every area around us, waiting to hear more about the Saviour. Soon it will be time to set up our camp again. We are looking to the Lord to guide us to the place of His choosing. Every area seems to be beckoning us to come. How we need your prayers.

Hungry hearts waiting to hear.

Bible women giving out the word in the villages.
The Evangelistic Camp

Rohrer

in these days, for His guidance! Lord willing, we will be going out to camp the first week of January for a six-week period.

Will you not pray earnestly for the missionaries and Bible women who will be giving out the Word? Pray that we may be clean and empty

channels through which the Word may go forth in power. Pray also that the hearts of listeners may be receptive to the message and that there may be a great in-gathering of souls for His glory.

As God went before the children of Israel in showing them where to pitch their tents, so we know that He is able to direct us in the coming camping season. Will you be an intercessor for us, as Moses was for the people? We need you to stand with us in prayer as we press on in the spiritual battle to rescue souls for Christ. Let us work together in these days, while opportunity affords, for the extension of His kingdom here in India.

Some of the Mukti Bible women and Adrienne Mocatta.

Virginia Nicholson and Elsie Rohrer with evangelistic group during a previous camp.
We share with you a few impressions of a new missionary from New Zealand, Avice Rutledge, who has already so completely settled into her ministry in Mukti that it is difficult to think of her as a "new" missionary. Besides her language study, she works in the accounts office and is caring for Miss Nicholson's Gol Moher Family.

Two-and-a-half months in Mukti have flown by. Twenty language lessons have been struggled with, but this is just the beginning, and I am told "the best is yet to be."

Personally, I am very fond of all animals and insects, but shortly after I arrived in Mukti, I was puzzled as to why they were going to pray for a "mouse" at prayers after supper. Instead, we prayed for "pouse" which I discovered means rain!

In Genesis, chapter 11, we read that God brought confusion amongst the people by making them speak different languages. But nothing is too hard for God, and what He used as a punishment when the hearts of the people were turned away from Him, He can make a blessing if we are walking in His paths. In these early days of language study, the matron of my family has been coming to my room for prayer every afternoon. She reads a portion of Scripture and prays in Marathi, while I pray in English, but instead of "confusion" there has been forged a "bond of unity" in the Lord.

Right in the centre of Mukti is the church, which was built by Pandita Ramabai in the shape of a cross. On Sundays the women missionaries all wear saris, and follow the eastern custom of leaving their shoes outside the door of the church.

As we enter there, our thoughts are carried to Psalm 84:4 "Yea, the sparrow hath found an house, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, even thine altars, O Lord of hosts, my king and my God."

During the nesting season the sparrows continue to flit back and forth before us, building their nests as we worship the Lord on Sunday

(See pg. 8)
PRAISE AND PRAYER NOTES

New missionaries

PRAISE - We praise the Lord for answering prayer for a new missionary couple. Neil and Ruth Wescombe from Australia are expected to arrive in Mukti on December the 20th. Neil has had electrical mechanical training and experience, and Ruth has had nursing and kindergarten experience, so we praise the Lord for calling them to Mukti.

PRAYER - Remember them as adjustments must be made to a new land, a new people, a new language and many new situations.

Language success

PRAISE - For the reward of diligent study and the prayers on Heather Johnstone's behalf. We praise the Lord that she passed her first Marathi language examination with good marks.

PRAYER - Continue to pray for her as she proceeds with her study and prepares for the next examination. Remember Laura MacFarland and Avice Rutledge, too, as they prepare for their first examination.

A new daughter

PRAISE - For Cynthia Joy, the lovely new daughter born to Mr. and Mrs. Howard McMillen.

PRAYER - They will appreciate your prayers for this new little "Bud" to nurture for Him, and for the three sisters as they study, away from their parents, at the Sunset School for missionaries' children in Nasik.

Rain

PRAISE - For some good showers that we have looked for eagerly and prayed for expectantly. The crops are looking quite good as a result, and it has also relieved the water situation some in the wells.

PRAYER - We need more water in the wells in order to complete and use the new sanitation facilities which are being installed. There is also a great need for cement which is very difficult to obtain, in order to complete the project.

Christmas

PRAYER - Our hearts are full of gratitude to God for all who send gifts and cards and ribbons for our children. May God bless each one who has a share in making Christmas full of gladness for these children.

PRAYER - Christmas will soon be here and we ask that you might pray with us that in all our preparations and all through the Christmas season the Son God - the heavenly Father's love gift to the world, may be the centre of all our activities, and to whom all hearts may be drawn.

Crisis days in India

PRAYER - Pray for our land of India and its leaders during these days of crisis and national need. May the prayers of God's people be used to strengthen and bring guidance to the leaders, and cause the purposes of God to be fulfilled for His glory.
mornings. Will you join with us in praying that Psalm 84 might be the individual prayer of each girl and woman in Mukti, that as our hearts cry out for the living God, we might long to come together and praise the Lord in His house, so that the joy of the Lord will truly be our strength for the task of spreading the gospel in this part of India?

Although the children spend most of their time inside the walls of Mukti, our Sunday afternoon walks afford an opportunity for them to witness to the village people round about. A few weeks ago as we walked across the fields, we met a woman standing on a raised platform in her field. All day long she stood with a David’s sling in her hand, chasing the birds away from her field of grain. After she had shown us how to use the sling, she sat on the platform and listened to the children singing choruses in Marathi. Then one of the matrons prayed, and Lillian Doerksen told her the gospel story. Please pray for this woman who has heard the message of salvation that she might not only hear the Word, but also receive it with gladness.

By Avice Rutledge.

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