



# Year 2018

## From the desk of Chairman

Indeed, the Lord has been good to us and His faithfulness endures forever.

As we reflect with gratitude in our heart as the year 2017 comes to an end and as we step into the new year of 2018 in faith, we thank the Lord for his goodness in each of our lives.

During the year 2017, some of our dear brethren (Pastors, Leaders and Church members) underwent severe trial for their faith in Jesus. We salute you, for you have been tested and found faithful. The New Life Family will continue to uphold you in our prayers. We now enter the New Year with a greater resolve to continue to serve God with all our hearts.

Across India, various ministries and churches have been and may continue to face adverse and hostile situations as in the days of the book of Esther. This is nothing new and we have been forewarned by our saviour himself that "in the last days, many tribulations and trials will come but we will overcome".

We believe that in response to the current circumstances, God would expect us to respond and not react. As we look at the scriptures in the book of Esther, God unveiled a strategy to face the situation.

### **1. God expected his people to RESPOND SPIRITUALLY.**

Battles that we face are won in the spiritual realm before we see the manifestation of the victory in the natural. We are called to fast and pray just as Esther asked Mordecai to "Go and Gather the people to fast and pray". While Haman schemed to destroy Mordecai, God spoke to the King at night to honour Mordecai.

### **2. God expected his people to RESIST DISCOURAGEMENT AND STAY IN UNITY.**

Discouragement is a choice that we have as a response to every situation that we face. As we lay our trust in God in whose hands lie our unknown future, God will execute his plan that he has already ordained that we should walk in them. When we get discouraged, we miss the God given vision and begin to focus on things that deviate us from our primary call. The people of God had to be united as the impending threat to life was over the entire Jewish population.

### **3. God expects his people to RELEASE RESOURCES FOR THE KINGDOM.**

Kingdom living is demonstrated when God's people begin to live and share resources with an **open heart, open mind and an open hand**.

*Each of you should give what you have **decided in your heart to give**, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. 2 Cor 9:7*

*For if there be first a **willing mind**, it is accepted according to that a man hath, and not according to that he hath not. 2 Cor 8:12 – 14*

*There will always be poor people in the land. Therefore, I command you to be **openhanded** toward your fellow Israelites who are poor and needy in your land. Deut 15:11.*

Finally, in closing we are aware that there are many Haman's today and we call upon the entire New Life Fellowship Churches to join hands together as never before. I would like to acknowledge that many of you are already doing so and I appreciate you for the same. Respond Spiritually, Resist Discouragement and Release Resources to the kingdom, as we pray for one another, help one another and enter the New Year with a great expectation that "He who has been faithful, is faithful and will forever be faithful to us".

Wishing you, your family and all the members of our churches, a very blessed new year.

With Love and Blessings.

**Johnson Samuel**  
**Chairman**

**New Life Fellowship Association**